



Denmark



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Itineraries



2 WEEKS Denmark's Classic Hits

Denmark's compact size means that it never takes too long to get from A to B. To cover the classic sites, start in **Copenhagen** and soak up the riches (cultural, culinary, retail) of the capital. From there, it's a short hop west to **Roskilde** to investigate Denmark's royal and Viking heritage. Further west, **Odense** offers up fairy-tale charm in abundance and plenty of ways to connect with the city's famous native son, Hans Christian Andersen.

Stop in **Kolding** for a polished mix of the old and the cutting-edge, en route to history-soaked **Ribe**, Denmark's oldest town, oozing with chocolate-box appeal. Pause on the history lessons with a hefty dose of childhood nostalgia investigating Lego-themed treats in **Billund**, then some lakeside R&R in **Silkeborg** – go canoeing or take a cruise through the area's picturesque lakes. Squeeze in a quick hop north to luminous **Skagen** for art, beaches and fresh seafood.

Finish up in cosmopolitan **Aarhus**. The country's second city holds a few surprises, not least its rainbow-topped art museum. From Aarhus you could take a ferry back to northwestern Zealand.



Denmark in Detail

Got some time up your sleeve and a desire to delve deep into Denmark?

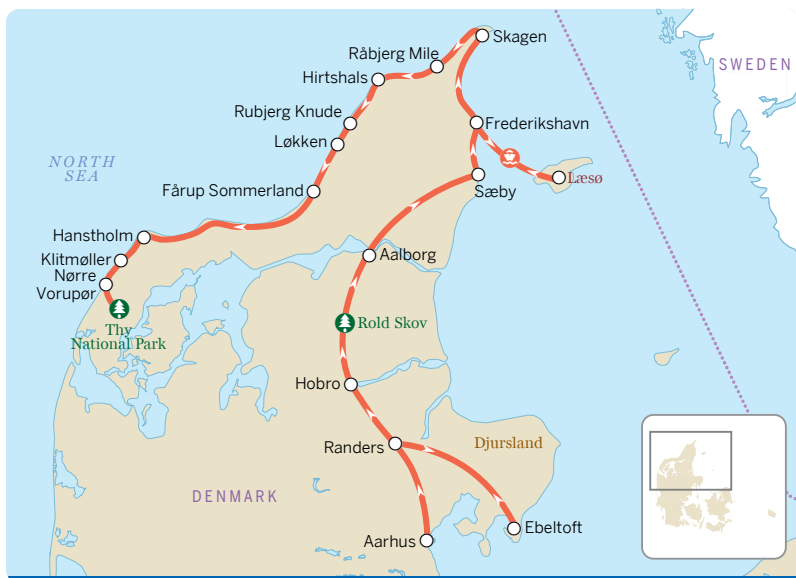
Allocate **Copenhagen** some quality time, adding day trips outside the capital to see superb modern art at the Louisiana Museum in **Humlebæk** and magnificent castles such as Kronborg at **Helsingør** and Frederiksborg at **Hillerød**. Heading south, potter about pretty, historic **Køge**, then catch a ferry out to the Baltic bombshell of **Bornholm** – spend a few days exploring the island's bike trails, sandy beaches and gastronomic treats. Return via Zealand to **Møn**, an enchanting island whose exalted white-chalk cliffs rise sharply above a jade-green sea.

Re-cross southern Zealand to Funen, where **Odense** celebrates home-town hero Hans Christian Andersen. Take time to visit the Viking-ship grave at **Ladby** and the Renaissance treats of **Egeskov Slot**, then sail to the friendly old seafaring island of **Ærø** where a day or two will recharge your batteries.

West-bound ferries via **Als** lead on to southern Jutland, where **Ribe** provides history lessons with a decidedly friendly face (mock Viking settlements, a night watchman's tour of the cobbled streets), plus some great birdwatching and fresh-air fun at the Wadden Sea National Park. Jump on a boat out of Esbjerg for the 12-minute trip to idyllic **Fanø**, and take a pause in the idyllic hamlet of Sønderho.

LEGOLAND Billund and the new Lego House at **Billund** squeeze remarkable creativity from the humble plastic brick. Then it's back to the west coast for North Sea kitesurfing at **Hvide Sande**.

From here, wend your way east via leafy, lakeside **Silkeborg** to **Aarhus** for top-notch museum-mooching and gourmet treats. The rejuvenated northern city of **Aalborg** warrants a stop for its Utzon architecture and a Viking burial ground, but arguably the best comes last at cinematic **Skagen**, hugging Denmark's northernmost tip. Make time to admire the artwork, indulge in fine seafood, soak in the mesmerising northern light and dip a toe in the angry seas.

2
WEEKS

Northern Exposure

For some off-the-beaten-track seaside R&R, the underrated further reaches of northern Jutland beckon, with plenty of quirky treats complementing sun, sea, sand and seafood. Start from **Aarhus**, with its fine dining, ace festivals and snazzy museums (particularly rainbow-topped AROS and head-turning Moesgaard), and head north, stopping in **Randers** for a man-made rainforested dome and a left-field dose of Elvis kitsch courtesy of a replica Graceland. With kids in tow, a detour to the safari parks and sandy beaches of Djursland is a must – but there's lots for grown-ups here too, particularly in the gourmet hotspots at Femmøller outside **Ebeltoft**.

Sleepy **Hobro** offers history in the shape of a 10th-century Viking ring fortress, while **Rold Skov** lets you cut loose on forested mountain-bike trails. **Aalborg** puts on its best face to impress you with a rejuvenated waterfront and the final design from revered architect Jørn Utzon. At sweet **Sæby** you can connect with Danish literature and go back for seconds at bountiful seafood buffets.

From **Frederikshavn**, catch a ferry to the island of **Læsø** to take a step back in time (salt baths optional). Next is **Skagen**, a delightful slice of seaside life with a stellar art museum, boutique hotels and alfresco dockside dining. Southwest of Skagen, the walkabout sand dunes of **Råbjerg Mile** let you know Mother Nature is still in charge, while in **Hirtshals** you can admire more of her handiwork at a huge aquarium. Check out the photogenic strand at **Løkken** and the precarious lighthouse at windswept **Rubjerg Knude**, then get your heart pumping with amusement rides and a waterpark at **Fårup Sommerland**.

Heading south, stop to inspect WWII-era bunkers and devour a fab lunch in **Hanstholm** before a visit to quirky 'Cold Hawaii' – the celebrated surfing village of **Klitmøller**, where you can get wet and windblown in various ways. Stop by the sea baths at nearby **Norre Vorupør** and take to some walking or cycling trails through the dune heaths of **Thy National Park**. You'll return to Aarhus with the cobwebs well and truly blown away.

1
WEEK

Southern Island Hopping

This meandering, slow-travel option offers rural retreats, quiet villages and plenty of salty island-hopping opportunities. From **Copenhagen** make a beeline for **Møn**, then cross **Falster** to **Lolland**. This trio known as Denmark's 'South Sea Islands' might lack any hint of a coconut palm, but they do offer a fine glimpse of rural Scandinavian island life: rolling fields, sandy beaches and rustic manor houses. Don't miss Møn's chalky cliffs, Falster's glorious Marielyst beach, and Lolland's family-focused parks and great farming estates.

A ferry brings you to **Langeland**, a sleepy stretch of green connected by road to Funen. From pretty Faaborg and from the yacht-filled harbour at **Svendborg**, a plethora of routes link the pint-sized islands of the South Funen Archipelago. The most enchanting is **Ærø**, well worth a visit for its maritime history, bike lanes, thatched farmhouses and postcard-perfect bathing huts. When you've had your fill, yet another ferry sails on from Ærø to **Als**, connected by road to **Sønderborg**. Now you're in the southeast corner of Jutland, with a whole peninsula to explore...

1
WEEK

North Zealand Gems

This easy, accessible circuit of north Zealand offers glam beaches, royal remains, fairy-tale castles, Viking ships and cutting-edge architecture.

Start in fjord-side **Roskilde** with its Viking longships and a millennium's worth of Danish kings and queens buried within the country's finest cathedral. North from here, magnificent Frederiksborg Slot dominates the unassuming town of **Hillerød**. It's hard to decide which is more impressive, the baroque interiors or the regal grounds.

For northern light and sunbathing Scandi-style, head to the chic bathing hotels of **Tisvildeleje**, the seafood restaurants of **Gilleleje** and the kitesurfing beaches of **Hornbæk**, where the young and gorgeous go to appreciate beauty, both natural and their own. Historic port **Helsingør** offers much more than simply the castle-home of existential ditherer Hamlet: don't miss its stunningly designed national maritime museum. A short, picturesque coastal drive along the 'Danish Riviera' leads back to **Copenhagen** via the Louisa Museum, noted for its architecture as much as for its vast collection of contemporary art.



Top: Cycling around
Copenhagen (p42)

Bottom: Harbour at
Svendborg (p179)



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Map Legend

Sights

- Beach
- Bird Sanctuary
- Buddhist
- Castle/Palace
- Christian
- Confucian
- Hindu
- Islamic
- Jain
- Jewish
- Monument
- Museum/Gallery/Historic Building
- Ruin
- Shinto
- Sikh
- Taoist
- Winery/Vineyard
- Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
- Other Sight

Activities, Courses & Tours

- Bodysurfing
- Diving
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Course/Tour
- Sento Hot Baths/Onsen
- Skiing
- Snorkelling
- Surfing
- Swimming/Pool
- Walking
- Windsurfing
- Other Activity

Sleeping

- Sleeping
- Camping
- Hut/Shelter

Eating

- Eating

Drinking & Nightlife

- Drinking & Nightlife
- Cafe

Entertainment

- Entertainment

Shopping

- Shopping

Information

- Bank
- Embassy/Consulate
- Hospital/Medical
- Internet
- Police
- Post Office
- Telephone
- Toilet
- Tourist Information
- Other Information

Geographic

- Beach
- Gate
- Hut/Shelter
- Lighthouse
- Lookout
- Mountain/Volcano
- Oasis
- Park
- Pass
- Picnic Area
- Waterfall

Population

- Capital (National)
- Capital (State/Province)
- City/Large Town
- Town/Village

Transport

- Airport
- Border crossing
- Bus
- Cable car/Funicular
- Cycling
- Ferry
- Metro station
- Monorail
- Parking
- Petrol station
- S-Bahn/Subway station
- Taxi
- T-bane/Tunnelbana station
- Train station/Railway
- Tram
- Tube station
- U-Bahn/Underground station
- Other Transport

Routes

- Tollway
- Freeway
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
- Lane
- Unsealed road
- Road under construction
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps
- Tunnel
- Pedestrian overpass
- Walking Tour
- Walking Tour detour
- Path/Walking Trail

Boundaries

- International
- State/Province
- Disputed
- Regional/Suburb
- Marine Park
- Cliff
- Wall

Hydrography

- River, Creek
- Intermittent River
- Canal
- Water
- Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
- Reef

Areas

- Airport/Runway
- Beach/Desert
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
- Glacier
- Mudflat
- Park/Forest
- Sight (Building)
- Sportsground
- Swamp/Mangrove

Note: Not all symbols displayed above appear on the maps in this book



OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Dublin, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

OUR WRITERS



Mark Elliott

[Funen](#); [Møn](#); [Falster & Lolland](#); [Zealand](#) Mark Elliott had already lived and worked on five continents when, in the pre-Internet dark ages, he started writing travel guides. He has since authored (or co-authored) around 60 books, including dozens for Lonely Planet. He also acts as a travel consultant, occasional tour leader, video presenter, speaker, interviewer and blues harmonicist. Co-researched with Wil Klass, Elliott's first published work was *Asia Overland*, a ludicrously over-

ambitious brick-thick opus covering a whole continent. Designed to aid impecunious English teachers get home cheaply from Japan, it was one of the first guides to help backpackers cross the then-new states of the former USSR. It garnered something of a cult following in its day.



Carolyn Bain

[Bornholm](#); [Central Jutland](#); [Northern Jutland](#); [Southern Jutland](#) A travel writer and editor for more than 20 years, Carolyn has lived, worked and studied in various corners of the globe, including Denmark, London, St Petersburg and Nantucket. Her Iceland obsession has led to her setting up a permanent home in Reykjavik. Carolyn's former base was Melbourne, Australia, but she was repeatedly drawn north to cover diverse destinations for Lonely Planet; from dusty outback

Australia to luminous Greek islands, by way of Maine's lobster shacks and Slovenia's alpine lakes. The Nordic region stakes a large claim to her heart, with repeated visits to Iceland and Denmark for work and pleasure. Carolyn also wrote the Plan, Understand and Survival Guide chapters.



Cristian Bonetto

[Copenhagen](#); [Around Copenhagen](#) Cristian has contributed to over 30 Lonely Planet guides to date, including *New York City*, *Italy*, *Venice & the Veneto*, *Naples & the Amalfi Coast*, *Denmark*, *Copenhagen*, *Sweden* and *Singapore*. Lonely Planet work aside, his musings on travel, food, culture and design appear in numerous publications around the world, including *The Telegraph* (UK) and *Corriere del Mezzogiorno* (Italy). When not on the road, you'll find the reformed

playwright and TV scriptwriter slurping espresso in his beloved hometown of Melbourne.

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