



PRINCESS

Adventures Ashore Port Guide

COPENHAGEN

About Your Port Guide >>

This is your guide to Copenhagen, specially prepared by Princess Cruises. This guide is intended to assist you if you are on a shore excursion, touring independently or doing both. Please note that the information provided is general in nature and is subject to change.



Denmark At A Glance >>

SIZE Approximately 16,639 square miles, slightly less than twice the size of Massachusetts

POPULATION 5,413,392 (July 2004 est.)

LANGUAGE Danish, Faroese, Greenlandic (Inuit dialect); English is predominant second language

CAPITAL Copenhagen

TYPE OF GOVERNMENT Constitutional Monarchy

CURRENCY Danish Krone (DKK)

TIME ZONE GMT + 2

An Overview of Copenhagen

As you glide into Copenhagen's beautiful harbor, it is quite appropriate that the first one to greet you is Hans Christian Andersen's "Little Mermaid." The Danes may be the most playful people in Europe, so it seems fitting that a symbol of fantasy and imagination should mark your entry.

Even the capital city has a "look" about it. Coppery green towers alongside gingerbread houses, inlets and millponds surrounded by willows, dozens of bicycles along cobblestone streets. There's something about Copenhagen that says, "People can relax and live well here; this place is home."

The Danish Vikings were once the scourge of Europe. They raided and held large areas of England, France and Spain. But then they discovered that they could also use their knowledge of the sea to trade peacefully, and they prospered. Built as it is, Copenhagen shows that the sea has always been the dominating element in its life. Founded in the 11th-century at the narrowest point on the Kattegat, the settlement was ideal for trade and water travel.

Most Danish kings have been named either Frederik or Christian, and a remarkable number of them have been wise and ingenious monarchs: good planners and builders above all. Most of the palaces, churches, and civic buildings here have enjoyed royal patronage, and some are still the property of the royal family. Eric of Pomerania built Kronborg Castle to collect taxes from ships passing through the Oresund. Shakespeare later wrote about it as "Hamlet's Castle," even though he had never visited Denmark.

The chapel and banquet hall are worth visiting, after a walk around the ramparts. More modern palaces also began as fortifications, but quickly evolved into places of great beauty.

The lovely Amalienborg Palace is the "official" royal residence during most of the year. It actually surrounds a square with four rococo pavilions of equal size, and a statue of King Frederik V in the middle. The flagstaff has a royal standard flying whenever the Queen is in residence, and there are ceremonial changes of the guard by soldiers in picturesque uniforms. Danish toy soldiers modeled after these guards are one of the country's most popular exports.

The Christianborg Palace is currently the seat of the Danish Parliament. More than three centuries old, it was the principal home of the Kings until 1794, and still has rich reception rooms for formal occasions. By long-standing custom, new monarchs continue to be proclaimed from the balcony overlooking Castle Square.

A late Renaissance masterpiece, the pretty Rosenborg Palace is home to the crown jewels. Also dating from the Renaissance is the imposing Frederiksborg Castle, the work of that great builder, King Christian IV. Christian also led Danish armies to fight in the Thirty Years War in Germany before the entry of the Swedes under Gustavus Adolphus. Finally, the Fredensborg Castle is a baroque import, built between 1719 and 1722. The surrounding grounds are a beautiful reminder that this was used primarily as a hunting lodge and a summer palace.

Some of the most delightful buildings in the city are visible from the waterfront. The canal district has never stopped being busy and fascinating. The Church of Our Savior has a unique tower with an outside spiral stairway leading to the top of the green pinnacle. The tower of the Borsen, the world's oldest active stock exchange, is even more intriguing: three green dragons have their tails twisted into a thin, graceful spire.

The Tivoli Gardens are a unique amusement park, similar to a permanent county fair. Shops, rides, cafes, flower stands, and musicians blend nicely, all set off with playful lights. The Tivoli presents a marvelous attraction, especially at night.



Things to see and do in and around Copenhagen

Copenhagen was founded in the 12th century. The city owes much of its charm to the buildings erected by Denmark's monarchs, and the city boasts a treasure trove of late-Renaissance and Rococo architecture.

Christiansborg Palace

The former royal palace is today the seat of Denmark's Parliament.

The Little Mermaid

The statue of Hans Christian Andersen's heroine is an internationally recognized symbol of Copenhagen.

Amalienborg Palace

The palace is actually four exquisite Rococo buildings facing one of the prettiest squares in Northern Europe.

Nyhavn

The streets around the old harbor are lined with open-air cafés, restaurants and 500-year-old gabled houses.

Stroget

Running from Old City Hall Square, this pedestrian street offers the finest shopping in Copenhagen.

Tivoli Garden

Copenhagen's pleasure gardens offers amusement park rides, open-air concerts, dancing and a host of cafés and restaurants.



More About Copenhagen

DOCKING

Your Princess ship docks in Copenhagen at Free Port Terminal which is approximately three miles from the city center. Please refer to the City Map for the specific location.

SHORE EXCURSION DEPARTURES

Passengers will meet at a specific location for each shore excursion departure. Please refer to your tour ticket and the Princess Patter for the correct place and time. Your Shore Excursion staff will be at that location to assist you.

TAXIS

Taxis are available pierside and throughout the city. Drivers speak English and accept local currency and U.S. dollars. Please inquire at the Tour Office for more information.

SHOPPING

Danish design has an international reputation for form and function. You'll find good buys in:

Housewares Glassware and stainless steel

Pottery and Ceramics Beautifully colored and crafted

Antiques and Silver Delightful treasures of all kinds

The best places to shop are the pedestrian-only Stroget and adjacent Kobmagergade, but wander down the smaller streets for the more unique stores. Please refer to the Copenhagen City Map for specific locations.

OPENING AND CLOSING TIMES

Post Office Central Railroad Station Post Office open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Banks Most banks are open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Thursday until 6:00 p.m.

Museums Generally open from 10:00 or 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 or 4:00 p.m. and are closed on Monday.

Shops Most are open weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Friday until 7:00 p.m., and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 or 2:00 p.m. Souvenir shops generally have longer hours.

LOCAL CUISINE

Food Specialties

Danish cuisine emphasizes fresh ingredients and skillful presentation.

Some recommended foods are:
Smorrebrod: Famous open-face sandwich, stuffed with mounds of meat or fish and pickle relish

Biksemad Cubed potatoes, bacon and beef pan fried and served with an egg

Aeggekage Fluffy bacon, tomato and cucumber omelette

Wienerbrod The original Danish pastry

You'll want to try a lavishly laid-out det store kolde bord or cold table, usually served at lunch only.

Drink Specialties

Denmark produces more than 50 beers; the best known are Carlsberg and Tuborg. Also try the snaps, the famous akvavit which is usually drunk with cold food.

It is always recommended that you drink bottled water while in port.

TIPPING

Suggested tipping is 10 to 15 percent for good service.

SOME USEFUL WORDS

Yes	Ja
No	Nej
Please	Var sa god
Thank you	Tak
Good morning	God morgen

PRINCESS CRUISES AGENTS

In case of emergency while you are ashore, please contact:

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Note: The information in this port guide is subject to change without notice. We apologize for any inconvenience, but Princess Cruises cannot accept responsibility for any such alterations. Thank you.



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