

A Royal City

Copenhagen is home to the world's oldest monarchy. The queen of Denmark, Margrethe II, has resided at Amalienborg Castle since 1972. The Danish kings have left their mark on the city of Copenhagen for nearly 1000 years. By far the most enterprising of the kings was Christian IV (1577-1648). Even today, 400 years later, the city still bears witness to his overwhelming desire to build. Rosenborg Castle, Børsen (the Stock Exchange), Rundetårn (the Round Tower) and the Nyboder district are among his most impressive achievements.

A Modern Metropolis

Despite its ancient history, Copenhagen is still a modern metropolis, but a metropolis with a difference. Here you'll encounter no towering skyscrapers; instead you'll find yourself in a relaxing atmosphere in a humanely proportioned city. However, the high-rises are coming, and the debate as to where these buildings might be located is as heated as the proposed buildings are tall. Distances in the city center are short, and most attractions and shops can be reached on foot.

Inner-City Neighbourhoods

The old neighbourhoods of the inner city are now reinventing themselves and are being revitalized with architecture, design and lifestyle. These days **Nørrebro** is truly one of the city's hottest quarters with a colourful mixture of ethnic minorities and young, trendy inhabitants, who congregate in the cafés in Sct.Hans Torv (Square) or in the charming neighbouring streets. Added attractions are a string of man-made lakes and particularly the cemetery, Assistens Kirkegård.

Vesterbro is the more provocative, colourful district. Until the mid-1990s Halmtorvet and Istedgade were known as the red-light district. But what used to be a rather tough and close-knit working-class neighbourhood is now an extremely trendy part of town – although the area nearest to the central station is still somewhat shady.

On Islands Brygge imposing new houses shoot up alongside old and spectacularly restored buildings – with stunning views across the harbour. A new bridge reserved for pedestrians and cyclists connects Islands Brygge to Sydhavnen on the other side of the harbour

Experience the Harbour

The Copenhagen waterfront is undergoing a revitalization of epic proportions. Ambitious building projects comprising residential housing, office space and new cultural institutions are being realized all along the harbour front. One of the architectural highlights is 'Den Sorte Diamant' (the Black Diamond), the new extension to the Royal Danish Library. During the summer, the harbour front is full of social life and cultural events around the clock, in part because the harbour is clean enough to bathe in. The harbour pool on Islands Brygge is one of the city's most popular attractions.