

**DON'T  
WORRY**

**WE  
SPEAK  
ENGLISH**

We know, Danish is a difficult language.  
This illustration means that you should  
feel free to speak to us in English. We will  
do our best to continue the conversation.



**LOOKING  
FOR  
LEISURE  
TIME  
ACTIVITIES?  
GET  
INSPIRED!**





# WHAT DO THE DANES DO IN THEIR FREE TIME?

Consistently ranked as one of the most liveable cities of the world, Copenhagen provides many opportunities to live an engaged, social, and active life that balances cultural and leisure activities with modern city living. And as the birthplace of “hygge”, Copenhageners might know a thing or two about having fun and making the most of their spare time.

Culture houses are scattered all over the city and are open for anyone who wants to experience or get involved with theatre, music, art, sports – or just enjoy a cup of coffee or a good meal. Public libraries provide access to all kinds of media in many languages – all free of charge. And the clean waters surrounding the city inspire Copenhageners to jump in for a swim in both summer and winter. Explore the many opportunities in this book, and visit the website if you want to read more about all the specific venues. You can open the website by scanning the QR code shown on the back of this folder with your smartphone camera.



# Swimming pools

When surrounded by water, it is not surprising that Copenhageners like to swim – albeit indoors in the colder months. Despite the cooler climate, Copenhageners like swimming regularly, with nine different indoor swimming pools catering for the whole family.

At each centre you can buy a single, multi-visit or season pass either online before, or at the door when you arrive. Swim some laps or try a spa, sauna or wellness experience. Swimming lessons and sporting teams are available too – just remember to bring your towel and follow the pre-bathing instructions.

# Outdoor swimming

When summer hits, Copenhageners take every chance to soak up the sunlight. Outdoor swimming pools, harbour bathing spots, and beaches are a great way to do this and stay cool while you keep active.

All over the city, there are different outdoor swimming locations, perfect for a hangout on a sunny day. Here, you will meet people of all ages – swimming in the water, playing ball games on the lawn, or reading a book. If you fancy a cold dip, beaches and some of the bathing zones are open to everyone throughout the winter too.





# Museums

For an inspiring day out and a chance to better understand your new home, why not try one of Copenhagen's museums? A rich showcase of the past, present, and future awaits.

Denmark's history, art, and culture takes the centre stage at four city museums. Learn about the life of Søren Kierkegaard at the Museum of Copenhagen, or surround yourself with modern art in the former St Nicholas Church - now home to Nikolaj Kunsthal. Paintings from the Danish Golden Age also await at the museum dedicated to Danish sculptor Bertel Thorvaldsen. Check entry prices and exhibitions online before you come.



# Culture Houses

Social and festive gatherings have been an important part of Danish culture since the Vikings. Now, neighbourhood Culture Houses offer places for cultural, social, and civic activities to continue – over coffee and cake.

Equal parts social and cultural, Danish culture houses are local spaces set up to provide residents chances to meet, build, and shape their local community together. Maybe you want to meet some new people or listen to some live music? Or just relax with a cup of coffee while you do your Danish homework? There are lots of opportunities to join events or even host your own with one of the many houses located around Copenhagen.

# Sports Centres

Danes are well-known for being active people – that is why Copenhagen is full of many different sports and recreation centres where you can join a wide range of team and individual sporting activities.

In each area of the city there are sports halls and leisure centres full of activities you can join - as part of a team or by booking a court or space for yourself to enjoy with some friends. Look online before you come to reserve a place or to find out what activities you can sign up for with a small registration or participation fee.





# Libraries

Copenhagen's 20+ libraries are not just full of books and learning, they are also home to events, clubs, workshops, and activities for all ages. With a free membership you can access it all.

Use your Danish NemID to quickly and easily set up your library account online and gain access to a network of over 20 different libraries across the city. Open to the public almost every day of the year, you can borrow books, DVDs, CDs and other learning, and leisure materials, and participate in a range of other activities, events, and meetups. Borrowing items is free and reservations can be made after hours online.



# Events and Festivals

Throughout the year, Copenhagen plays host to many different festivals and events. From neighborhood street-parties to how-to sessions on the Danish tax system, there is something on every month.

Being new to Copenhagen should not stop you from enjoying the many events and festivals it hosts every month. If you are new to the city, check the events' listing online and see how you get involved with networking meetups, information sessions, or even a volunteering fair – making friends and settling in is easy when you are having fun.



# 5 THINGS TO DO IN COPEN- HAGEN



## **COPENHAGEN HARBOUR CIRCLE**

Like biking or walking? Try the 13 km Copenhagen Harbour Circle, where you can use the recreational cycling and pedestrian path, while you enjoy the scenic blue harbour and the natural greenery of the city's south side. The route runs through 12 distinct areas of the city, and it lets you enjoy historic and architectural sights too.

## **FAMILY CLUB**

Family Club is a popular initiative for international families who want to get to know their home-away-from-home better and make friends. The social and cultural events are run by several public libraries in Copenhagen, and the events take place in different places throughout the city. All events are free of charge and they vary from film screenings to potluck lunches and story time events – they are all about having fun and getting to know each other. Members of the library staff and volunteers are in charge of the Family Club. Read more on Facebook.

## **RUNNING**

If you want to stay fit in Copenhagen, you can easily go for a jog. The whole city is flat and has routes through parks, along the harbor front with plenty of architectural landmarks along the way, at sandy beaches, or even in the spacious UNESCO World Heritage Site-deer park just a short train ride north of the city. Or run by the Little Mermaid! Many Danes frequently run in the parks and circle the three famous man-made Lakes. There are lamplit running routes in both Fælledparken and Søndermarken.

## **KNOW YOUR 'BRO - DIGITAL WALKING TOURS**

Would you like to enjoy a walk in the sun while getting to know your new home a little better? The free digital walking tours at [www.knowyourbro.dk](http://www.knowyourbro.dk) unfold the coolest neighbourhoods of Copenhagen through the world of Motes. Motes are local stories bound to specific places, revealing a new layer of your immediate surroundings. Each one locked until you get there.

## **BYOASEN**

Copenhagen has 125 outdoor playgrounds and 27 of those are staffed. ByOasen – Urban Oasis in English – is one of staffed playgrounds and it serves old and young citizens. The more than 100-year-old care center is surrounded by plenty of activities. Here children can pet hens, rabbits, goats, mice, and guinea pigs. A cheerful staff greets the visitors and cooks pancakes on bonfires, tells stories, plants vegetables, and plays ball. The huge greenhouse is open for everyone. Have a look at it on Facebook.