

## Bicycle Tours in Denmark: Cycling Copenhagen to Berlin

### OVERVIEW

A Northern European tour extraordinaire, cycling from one vibrant city to another, both renowned for their urban cycling culture among other things, our new Copenhagen to Berlin cycling tour promises to be a winner. Spend four days in Denmark, pedaling across some of the country's quintessential islands and along the Baltic Sea before traversing it to reach the "Continent." Connecting some of the most important trading towns of the Hanseatic League which from 1400-1800 dominated the trade routes and economies of the Baltic countries. Our ride in Germany touches upon several important cities including Hamburg which considers itself a trendsetter for the rest of Germany (perhaps all of Europe), and Lübeck (home of the Hanseatic League), Potsdam, and finishes with Berlin!

If this sounds great but you prefer a shorter tour, check out our Cycling Copenhagen to Hamburg or Cycling Hamburg to Berlin tours.



### HIGHLIGHTS

Copenhagen and its cycling path network, Beaches along the Baltic, Local breweries, Island of Møn, Lübeck - UNESCO World Heritage Site, Best marzipan in the world, Guided tour of Hamburg, The Iron Curtain, Birding opportunities, Lübeck - UNESCO listed, Potsdam's Sanssouci Palace, Boat ride into Berlin

### TOUR FACTS

<b>Includes</b>	The usual plus... Use of a quality 27-30 speed bicycle; 14 days, 13 nights' accommodation; 2 to 3 bilingual tour leaders; van support; all breakfasts, 9 dinners with wine; ferry crossings, guided tour of Hamburg, and Berlin
<b>Countries</b>	Denmark
<b>Begin/End</b>	Copenhagen / Berlin
<b>Arrive/Depart</b>	Copenhagen (CPH) / Berlin (BER)
<b>Total Distance</b>	757 km (467 miles)
<b>Daily Distance</b>	Average for 11 riding days 69 km (43 miles)
<b>Rating</b>	201 Mostly flat rides with some longer mileage days.

### DATES & PRICES

Dates	Price	Single Supplement*
Jul 16 - 29, 2016	\$5950	\$650
Aug 06 - 19, 2016	\$5950	\$650
Aug 13 - 26, 2016	\$5950	\$650

\*We are happy to match solo travelers who would like to share a room with someone of the same gender. If no match exists, due to hotel pricing, we will charge 50% of the single supplement rate. This fee will be collected at the time of the final payment. If a roommate assignment is available this fee will be refunded at the conclusion of the tour.



## Bicycle Tours in Denmark: Cycling Copenhagen to Berlin

### DAY 1

### Welcome to Copenhagen



**Highlights** Copenhagen considered the "most livable city and bike capital of the world"

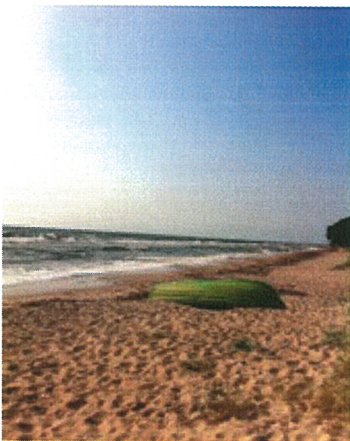
The Danes are well known for their love of cycling and cities all around the world are now trying to emulate their bicycling success. It really is a biking heaven with over 390 kilometers (241 miles) of designated bike lanes. The world also looks to Copenhagen for the latest innovations in design, architecture, fashion and savors the extraordinary culinary revolution that has taken place here over the last decade. Enjoy a welcome dinner tonight.

Distance: Test Ride. Meals: D

**Lodging** Hotel Kong Arthur

### DAY 2

### South Zealand



**Highlights** Kalvebod Fælled, Mosede Fort & Beach, Køge oldest half-timbered house in Denmark

Leave Copenhagen on one of its many extraordinary bike paths to the Kalvebod Fælled nowadays one of the biggest recreational areas around Copenhagen. Stop for lunch in Køge, a century old market town with an impressive medieval section surrounding the central square which is home to the oldest dated half-timbered house in Denmark. Continue cycling south to our hotel.

Distance: 75km (46 miles). Meals: B, D

**Lodging** Hotel Klinten

### DAY 3

### Island of Møn



**Highlights** Præstø Fjord and town, Baroque mansion of Nysø, Stege and Island of Møn

Continue pedaling south to Præstø Fjord and the small town of Præstø which began as a merchant village in the 14th Century. Stop in town to view the famous Nysø Mansion, one of Denmark's first and finest examples of baroque architecture built by a local merchant in 1673. Gather picnic supplies and keep cycling south before crossing over into the Island of Møn.

Distance: 76km (47 miles). Meals: B, D

**Lodging** Hotel Praestekilde

**Bicycle Tours in Denmark: Cycling Copenhagen to Berlin****DAY 4****Møn shuttle Oldenburg to Malente (June departure) or Eutin**

**Highlights** 4 different modes of transportation - car, train that goes on the ferry, and bike!

A short shuttle to the nearby train station gets you going this morning-you'll travel on the iconic Berlin-Copenhagen line which goes directly onto the ferry to cross the Fehmarn Belt to enter Germany. Continue by train across the Fehmarn Sund bridge to the town of Oldenburg where you'll switch modes of transportation to hop on your bike and pedal to our two night stay in this German lakes region. Enjoy your first night in Germany with some bratwurst and beer!

Distance: 39km (24 miles) Meals: B

**Lodging** Das Kleine Hotel Eutin; Hotel Holsteinische-Schweiz for June 12th departure.

**DAY 5****Loop ride in "Holstein Switzerland"**

**Highlights** Loop ride, rolling countryside and lakes, Plön

Your loop ride today is in this area of Germany, nicknamed "Holstein Switzerland" since it has some hills. In the 19th century it was very fashionable to go to Switzerland for vacations. We're not sure it quite fits its moniker as the highest "mountain" is only 550 feet! Pedal through an ever-changing landscape of the Young Drift moraines formed during the last ice age. Small woods alternate rapidly with hedged, arable fields and the terrain is characterized by its many lakes nestle amongst low hills. Enjoy Plön and its castle, take a boat ride along the many lakes or, for those not wanting to bike today, relax in town or at the hotel.

Distance: 58km (36 miles). Meals: B, D

**Lodging** Das Kleine Hotel Eutin; Hotel Holsteinische-Schweiz for June 12th departure.

**DAY 6****Malente or Eutin to Lübeck**

**Highlights** Lübeck - Queen of the Hanseatic

You'll bid farewell to the Baltic today. Ride along the beach and enjoy the waterfront of the Timmendorfer Strand before heading southwest inland to Lübeck. Before entering town, catch a free bike shuttle bus that takes you through the Herrentunnel underneath the Trave river. Lübeck referred to as the Queen of Hanseatic cities. Its extensive Brick Gothic architecture is listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. And make sure you enjoy Lübeck's beloved delicacy - one of the best marzipan's in the world made by Niederegger.

Distance: 54km (33 miles). Meals: B

**Lodging** Hotel KO 15

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#### DAY 7

#### Hamburg



**Highlights** Free and Hanseatic City, "Gateway to the world"

"The gateway to the world" might be a bold claim, but Germany's second-largest city and largest port (despite being located on a river 100 km from the coast) has never been shy. Hamburg has engaged in business with the world ever since it joined the Hanseatic League back in the Middle Ages, and this "harbourpolis" is now the nation's premier media hub and its wealthiest city.

We'll enjoy a special dinner this evening with riders who are doing the Hamburg to Berlin stage of the ride.

Distance: 68km (42 miles). Meals: B, D

**Lodging** Hotel Henri

#### DAY 8

#### Hamburg



**Highlights** Guided harbor cruise of the Hamburg Port

Enjoy a harbor cruise this morning before an optional ride and some free time to visit some of the local attractions like the impressive Rathaus (city hall) or one of the museums in the newly popular warehouse district. Or perhaps you'd like some shopping in the main streets around the train station, or a stroll along the Alster River and harbor to see the bustle.

Distance: Walking tour of Hamburg to the harbor. Meals: B

**Lodging** Hotel Henri

#### DAY 9

#### Lüneburg



**Highlights** Storybook German brick gothic town Lüneburg, town hall

Take a ferry out of Daily Hamburg and find yourself transported to another world - the "Alte Land" a rural paradise famous for its orchards. As the landscape changes we'll ride through the Lüneburg Heath, a nature reserve, on our way to Lüneburg town whose prosperity for centuries came from its salt. The town sat upon a massive salt dome which was mined, sold/traded throughout Northern Europe. While salt is no longer the primary economic driver, you can still enjoy it at the Salü Spa, which is bursting with saltwater pools and saunas, all with a salt motif!

Distance: 68km (42 miles). Meals: B, D

**Lodging** Hotel Altes Kaufhaus

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#### DAY 10

#### Lenzen



**Highlights** Elbe River, Iron Curtain, Baroque gardens at our lodging

The ride today rejoins the Elbe river and along a natural area of the Lower Saxony Elbtalau. In this natural surrounding, you may not even notice as you pass the old Iron Curtain and cross over into Mecklenburg Vorpommern. Tonight we'll sleep in the Castle of Lenzen, with a still impressive medieval tower and Baroque gardens. The Castle was donated by its owner to an environmental organization that runs it as a hotel and a conference center for environmental meetings.

Distance: 96km (59 miles). Meals: B, D

**Lodging** Burghotel Lenzen

#### DAY 11

#### Lenzen to Tangermünde



**Highlights** Elbe River Natural Areas, Tangermünde

You'll continue paralleling the Elbe River as you ride upstream (although you are riding south!). This area remains undeveloped because of its history as part of the Iron Curtain. It provided a natural barrier between East and West Germany. With unification Germany designated a majority of the area along the river as natural reserves some of which you'll cycle through today. Your destination is the former emperor residence of Tangermünde whose unmistakable flair casts a spell on all who visit. Enjoy the pool or spa in our castle hotel before dinner.

Distance: 95km (59 miles) flat. Meals: B

**Lodging** Schloss Hotel Tangermunde

#### DAY 12

#### Tangermünde to Brandenburg



**Highlights** Romanesque Jerichow "monastery", Havel river, guided visit of Brandenburg

Stop for coffee at the misnamed Jerichow Romanesque Monastery built in this location in 1148. The monastery is said to be misnamed because it was a church with a dormitory that housed secular priests who interacted extensively with the local population, not monks who lived in seclusion. Regardless, it is one of the most impressive examples of brick buildings in northern Germany dating from the Romanesque period and is aptly an important stop along the "Romanesque Road," a scenic route in this region that links all churches and cathedrals from 950-1250 AD which characterize the rise of Christianity in this region. Pedal on along the Havel River and its nearby lakes to enter the town of Brandenburg. This afternoon we'll have a guided visit of the town.

Distance: 73km (45 miles). Meals: B, D

**Lodging** Hotel Sorat Brandenburg



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### DAY 13

### Brandenburg to Potsdam



**Highlights** Havel River Bike Path, Sanssouci Palace and Park

More bike paths along the Havel River bring you to your destination of Potsdam, a royal residence for Prussian kings and the German Kaiser until 1918. King Frederick set-up his summer residence here in the 18th century to relax away from the pomp and ceremony of the Berlin court. The palace's name Sans Souci, translates to "without concerns". You'll pedal through the impressive park itself to reach our hotel in the center of town. Enjoy a visit to the town, palace and park before our celebratory dinner together.

Distance: 55km (34 miles). Meals: B, D

**Lodging** Hotel Brandenburger Tor

### DAY 14

### Berlin



**Highlights** Berlin guided visit

We'll transfer by bus from Potsdam to Berlin and go underground for a guided tour. Your cycling adventure is complete, but there is still much to enjoy in Berlin, one of Europe's most cosmopolitan cities with everything and anything for everybody -- Happy travels!

Meals: B