

Cycling Copenhagen to Berlin 16 –29 July, 2016

Day 1 – Meet in Copenhagen, test-loop ride through Copenhagen

over the last decade. Enjoy a welcome dinner tonight.

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

This evening's hotel:

Hotel Kong Arthur

T: +45 33111212

Nørre Søgade 11 DK-1370 Copenhagen

Tour Leader phone numbers:

Jessica: +49 01577 77 88 311

In an emergency call 112

<u>Fit Bicycles:</u> We'll meet this afternoon for brief introductions and a safety talk at 2 p.m. After that change into your bike gear and we'll fit bikes and have a warm-up ride for you. Check the welcome note in which group you are and at what time your bike fitting will be.

<u>Today's ride</u>: The test ride is a loop of 9.3 km and will take you along the most important sights of Copenhagen. So, make sure you take your camera with you.

Copenhagen: If you had dropped by Copenhagen in the eleventh century you would have found yourself looking over a quite small fishing hamlet, with some lazy cattle gazing back at you while chewing fresh green grass from the meadows around the village. The earliest accounts date from the twelfth century, mentioning Portus Mercatorum, which was really just a fancy Latin version of Købmannahavn. This has since been mangled into København in modern Danish, and even further mangled into Copenhagen in English, but all it really means is "merchant harbor."

So, **Københaven**, is the capital of Denmark and what a million Danes call home. This "friendly old girl of a town" is big enough to be a metropolis with shopping, culture and nightlife par excellence, yet still small enough to be intimate, safe and easy to navigate. Overlooking the Øresund strait with Sweden just minutes away, it is a cultural and geographic link between mainland Europe and Scandinavia. This is where old fairy tales blend with flashy new architecture and world-class design; where warm jazz mixes with cold electronica from Copenhagen's basements. You'll feel you've seen it all in a day, but could keep on discovering more for months.

Our test loop will take you along the **Botanical Gardens** that is an excellent place for a stroll in the beautiful park, and the classical palm house is a nice place to relax if it is cold outside.



Bicycling Venice to Florence June 05 - 12, 2016 Bike Across Italy - Venice to Pisa June 05 - 16, 2016

Just on the other side of the street is the **Rosenborg Palace** a small but pretty renaissance palace, surrounded by the lovely **King's Garden**, which is one of the most lively parks of the city. A closed-off wing of Rosenborg serves as barracks for the Royal Guard, and every day a detachment marches through the Copenhagen city centre between Rosenborg and Amalienborg for the changing of the guard.

Just before reaching the port we go past the beautifully preserved **Kastellet** citadel and then past the statue of Hans Christian Andersen's most famous character: The **Little Mermaid**. As we ride along the waterfront we come the four identical classicist palaces of **Amalienborg**, the main residence of the Danish royal family. The octagonal courtyard in the centre is open to the public and guarded by the ceremonial Royal Guard.

Heading a little further inland you'll see the massive dome of the **Frederikskirken** colloquially known as the **Marble Church**. This dome, with a span of 31 metres, is one of the largest in northern Europe.

And on the other side of the Copenhagen's port we see a fine example of modern Danish design: the new **Opera** house built by **Henning Larsen**, famous for his iconic buildings in Riyadh. Later you can catch a view of Copenhagen's latest iconic contraption, the **Royal library** known to locals as the Black Diamond, after its shiny polished black granite walls. Interior vault fresco by Per Kirkeby, and a nice enclosed garden area.

Before ending our loop we'll pass the **Nationalmuseet** housing many exhibits relating to Danish history, Viking weapons, Inuit costumes and stone age tools, the **City Hall** and the **Tivoli** amusement park — which is located smack in the city centre in a beautiful park surrounding a lake. Tivoli is especially beautiful at night when colored lamps light up everywhere.

Source: wikitravel.org/en/Copenhagen

Danish Lesson of the Day:

During the morning until noon, say "god morgen" (pronounced: "goo moorn")or during the whole day until the evening, say "god dag" (pronounced: "goo day") when greeting people.

The informal greeting "hello" is "hej".

"How are you?" would be "Hvordan har du det?" and would be pronounced like. "Vooren har doo de?"

If someone asks you "Hvordan har du det?", you can answer: "Fint, tak. Hvad med dig?", (Fint, tak. Ve me die?) Fine thanks, what about you?

København 1:15.000 M Ν 0 Guldberg Skole Peblinge Se Kirke Danner-PARSTEDS PARKEN CHRISTIANSH Langebrogade Stadsgraven Casino Copenhagen ESTERBA Dybbølsbr Capencabana Havnebad GASVÆRKS HAVNEN Skolen på slands Brygge Hf. Faste Batteri K J M N 0