Tips for visitors to Copenhagen

Restaurants

Royal Café
Amagertorv 6, www.theroyalcafe.dk

Part shop, part café, this eatery tries to incorporate everything that is essentially Danish. Opened in 2007, it was designed with the help of well-known companies such as beer-brewer Carlsberg, Bang & Olufsen and Fritz Hansen. Their menu centres around small open sandwiches called smørrebrød, a new take on smørrebrød Denmark’s version of a sandwich.

Nimb Louise
Tivoli Gardens, Bazarstorfsgade 5, www.tivoli.dk

A recent replacement of the former restaurant run by Thomas Hermark, one of Denmark’s most acclaimed young chefs, the Nimb Louise is one of the best places to find gourmet food in Copenhagen.

Shopping

Magasin du Nord,
Kongens Nytorv 13, www.magasin.dk

While Magasin has become one of Denmark’s leading department store chains, its main store at Kongens Nytorv square in Copenhagen is still a sight to behold. Inside the seven-storey classical building, you will be able to find everything from high street retail clothing to toilet paper. The store also owns a chocolate factory that, among others, creates sweet delights for the royal family.

Non Danish residents should ask for the occasionally granted 10 per cent discount.

Normann
Østerbrogade 70, normann-copenhagen.com

For those who fancy Nordic design, this almost 2,000-square metre shop was built for you. Set up in a former distillery and cinema, the Normann flagship store shop has been offering a wide variety of design and contemporary lifestyle products since 2005. Earlier this year, it was awarded the title of “most innovative store” by gia, an annual award by the International Housewares Association.

In addition to its Østerbrogade store, Normann sells products online via its web store.

Culture Night,
various locations, www.kulturnatten.dk/en/culture-night

On Friday, 12 October, the city will be buzzing with life when Culture Night is celebrated for the 20th time. Organised by the city council, this event will see over 500 cultural events taking place in churches, museums, galleries, exhibition halls and various political institutions. In addition, most shops will open their doors until midnight.

Events start at 17:00 and visitors need to purchase the Culture Kit in order to gain access to the events. The kit costs 90 DKK and can be bought in train stations, libraries and most cultural institutions.

Matisse
Doubles and variations

Following a successful run at the Pompidou Centre in Paris in summer, this exhibition of 53 paintings, 15 drawings and 22 photographs from nineteenth-century French impressionist Henry Matisse is currently on display at the National Gallery of Denmark. Special attention is directed towards how the artist repeated the same motif in series and pairs, while systematically varying the colours and modes of expression. The exhibition juxtaposes a wide range of these interrelated works, several of which have rarely been shown together since they left the artist’s studio.

The gallery is open daily (except on Mondays) from 10:00 to 17:00 and on Wednesdays from 10:00 to 20:00. Admission is from 65 DKK.

Christiansborg Palace,
Slotet of Stoltholmen, www.christiansborgslot.dk

This area near Copenhagen’s city centre has been the centre of controversy since the 1700s when people took over this former military complex and turned it into a free town. Accepted by the city government, the 850 or so resident-owners govern themselves according to the Christiania Law established in the late 1980s. Efforts to normalise Christiania’s legal status are still ongoing and have led to regular conflicts between residents of the area and the authorities. There are only a few places of interest but it is not very often that one gets to visit a micro-nation.

Tivoli Gardens, Central Station, www.tivoli.dk

The Tivoli Gardens is one of the oldest theme parks in the world and a must-see for anyone visiting Copenhagen. The park, covering more than eight acres in the city’s centre, hosts a number of old world amusement rides, including Denmark’s largest rollercoaster. With flower gardens and trees in the thousands, it is also a great get-away for tourists and Copenhageners alike.

Tips for international visitors

The cOPENhagen Card provides free entry to more than 70 museums and attractions throughout the greater Copenhagen region, including the National Gallery of Denmark, Tivoli Gardens, National Museum and more. In addition, the card offers free transport for free. The card is available from many vendors throughout the city. Prices range from 249 DKK (24 hours) to 699 DKK (five days).

Other resources

• www.visitcopenhagen.com
• www.lonelyplanet.com/denmark/copenhagen
• travel.nytimes.com/travel/guides/europe/denmark/copenhagen/
• www.visitdenmark.dk