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, Bercattofriafæde 5, www.tivoli.dk

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

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 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 designer and contemporary lifestyle products since 2005. Earlier this year, it was awarded the title of “most innovative store” by gaa, an annual award by the International Housewares Association.

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.

Sightseeing

The Little Mermaid
Langelinie promenade, www.mermaidsculpture.dk

Unveiled in 1913 as a gift to the city from the son of the Carlsberg brewery founder Jacob Jacobsen, this famous bronze statue just celebrated its first centenary last year. Today, it is not only Copenhagen’s most visited tourist attraction but has also become a symbol the Danish capital is recognised for by millions of people around the world. Sculptor Edvard Eriksen took his inspiration for the mythical creature from the fairy tale with the same name by Danish poet and writer Hans Christian Andersen.

This area near Copenhagen’s city centre has been a centre of controversy since the 1970s when people took over this former military complex and made it a free town. Accepted by the city government, the 850 or so residents 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.

Christiansborg Palace,
Setlet af Stoltholmen, www.christiansborgslot.dk

This twelfth-century palace, which hosts Denmark’s parliament and supreme court, among other political institutions, is frequently used by the Danish Royal Family for official occasions like state receptions. Some of the premises, including the Great Hall with its stunning tapestries that recount the country’s eventful past and future as well, are open to the public all year.

Three of the most interesting shops and restaurants, such as Relæ, run by internationally acclaimed chef Christian F. Puglisi from Italy. Another place well worth a visit is Restaurant, a small bar on Jægersborggade 52 that offers an extensive list of unique Italian and Baltic wines.

According to its website, the cuisine offers “a unique interpretation of the very best of Denmark, where old traditions are challenged and where the freshness of the products is maintained”. Critics have hailed the menu, which focuses on fresh fish and poultry.

Noma
Strandgade 93, www.noma.dk

Those with money to spend should sit down to a meal at the world’s best restaurant, which happens to be in Copenhagen. Situated in a former warehouse by the waterfront in Christianshavn, the two Michelin-starred Noma has been ranked tops worldwide by the Restaurant magazine for three years in a row. The food is New Nordic Cuisine, a movement, headed by Noma founder Claus Meyer and chef René Redzepi, that focuses on organic food, natural flavours and traditional food preparation techniques.

Jægersborggade
jægersborggade.com (Danish only)

This street north of the city centre, stretching from Nørrebyparken to Assistens Cemetery, boasts a number of excellent and interesting restaurants and shops, such as Relæ, run by internationally acclaimed chef Christian F. Puglisi from Italy. Another place well worth a visit is Restaurant, a small bar on Jægersborggade 52 that offers an extensive list of unique Italian and Baltic wines.

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 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 designer and contemporary lifestyle products since 2005. Earlier this year, it was awarded the title of “most innovative store” by gaa, an annual award by the International Housewares Association.

Retail

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.

Christiania
www.christiansborglot.dk

This area near Copenhagen’s city centre has been a centre of controversy since the 1970s when people took over this former military complex and made it a free town. Accepted by the city government, the 850 or so residents 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.

Christiansborg Palace,
Setlet of Stoltholmen, www.christiansborglot.dk

This twelfth-century palace, which hosts Denmark’s parliament and supreme court, among other political institutions, is frequently used by the Danish Royal Family for official occasions like state receptions. Some of the premises, including the Great Hall with its stunning tapestries that recount the country’s eventful past and future as well, are open to the public all year.

The premises can be visited daily (except on Mondays) from 10:00 to 17:00 during the winter season. Admission to the royal reception rooms, the ruins and the royal stables is 110 DKK.

Tivoli Gardens
between Blågulspaladene and Copenhagen Central Station, www.tivoli.dk

The Tivoli Gardens is one of the oldest theme parks in the world and a must 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