



News From Denmark

Christmas Spirit

Christmas in Denmark is the kind of old-fashioned celebration you never thought you could find in today's commercial world. Festivities begin as early as mid-November, so travelers can visit Denmark before the holiday and bring a little bit of Danish Christmas home with them. Among favorite activities are the Christmas markets at Copenhagen's Tivoli Gardens (Nov. 14-Dec. 30), in the Nyhavn canal district (Nov. 14-Dec. 22) and in the "free city" of Christiania (mid-December); the Royal Danish Ballet's performance of "The Nutcracker" at the historic Royal Theatre (Dec. 4-Jan. 4); and the annual delivery of Tuborg's Julebryg — a special Christmas beer that will arrive at bars and pubs by horse-drawn wagon on November 7.



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Design Spirit

Another beloved Copenhagen Christmas tradition is a visit to the beautifully decorated Christmas Tables at the Royal Copenhagen Flagship Store on Strøget, Copenhagen's premier shopping street. This year's guest designers are members of six Danish noble families who will set the tables in "Castle and Manor" style. While you're there, shop for beautiful Christmas ornaments and the legendary Royal Copenhagen Christmas plates, and be sure to visit the lower level where "seconds" are available for 20 to 50 percent off regular price.



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Humanitarian Spirit

When journalist and social reformer Jacob Riis published his book "How the Other Half Lives" in 1890, he lifted the curtain on the terrible living conditions in New York City's tenements. Although Riis is best known for his work in the United States, he was born in Denmark (the son of a newspaperman) and emigrated when he was 21. His photographs — among the first to employ the use of flash — are still shocking and heartbreaking today. See them at the National Museum of Photography in Copenhagen, Oct. 24-Jan. 24.



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Spirit of Discovery

Hop across the Øresund to the Skåne region of Sweden, where the city of Lund treats you to a capsule view of Swedish — and Danish — history.

Founded in the 10th century by Danish Vikings, the beautiful city of Lund, Sweden, has long been a site of historic and intellectual development. See it all on a leisurely walking tour that includes the 12th century cathedral, the superior university (largest in the Nordic countries) and the superb Botanical Gardens that offer visitors a taste of green all year round. Downloadable walking tour maps are available from the Lund Tourist Office.



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Media Contact

Christina Heinze Johansson
Manager Press & PR
Tel: 1 212 885 9724
E-mail: chj@visitdenmark.com
www.visitdenmark.com



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