

**Classic Copenhagen and Castles of North Zealand tour:** Your tour of the beautiful capital of Denmark will begin with pick-up at port in a comfortable A/C vehicle. You can sit back and relax as you enjoy your city highlights driving tour that will be your introduction to this charming and vibrant city.



### Nyhavn

Founded as a Viking fishing village in the 10th century, Copenhagen became the capital of Denmark in the early 15th century. Today, Copenhagen reigns as the premier capital of Northern Europe and is Scandinavia's most populous city and the center of the most dynamic region in Europe, the Øresund Region. The city is one of Europe's oldest capitals with an exclusive royal touch - the monarchy in Denmark is the oldest in the world.

**Copenhagen – one of those rare magical cities that simply oozes atmosphere - especially during the summer months. You will enjoy your visit to this magnificent Scandinavian Capital where, no matter where you go, spectacular photo opportunities abound.**

**Below is a brief introduction to just some of the visual treats in store on your amazing Wonderful Copenhagen Tour:**

### The Little Mermaid



The Little Mermaid is a bronze statue by Edvard Erichsen. It depicts the fairy tale by Danish author and poet Hans Christian Andersen, the story of a young mermaid who fell in love with a prince who lived on land, and often came up to the edge of the water to look for her love.

The sculpture is displayed on a rock by the waterside at the Langelinie promenade and was a present from brewer Carl Jacobsen (Carlsberg Breweries) to the city of Copenhagen.



**Exterior of Tivoli Gardens**



**Interior view of Tivoli at sunset**

**Tivoli Gardens** is a famous amusement park and garden in Copenhagen. Opened on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1843 it is the second oldest amusement park in the world and the second most popular seasonal theme park in the world. To fully appreciate the beauty of this historic park, you must visit after sunset when the park is aglow with its magnificent illuminations.



### **Amalienborg Palace:**

The Amalienborg Palace complex consists of four rococo palaces from 1750-1758 - and is the prime residence of the Danish Royal family.

The palace buildings are placed around an octagonal square with a equestrian statue of King Frederik V (1723-1766) in the center. The land around Amalienborg Palaces was acquired about 1602 by King Christian IV (1577-1648) and was located outside the ramparts of Copenhagen. King Christian IV known as the great architect and builder of Copenhagen used other parts of the acquired land to expand the city by building Rosenborg Castle (1606-24), Nyboder quarters and residence for the royal navy (1631-41), and The Citadel - a fortification

to protect the city against attacks from the Sound (1624).

### **Rosenborg Castle:**



**Knight's Hall**



**Royal Regalia**



**Crown Jewels**

**Nyhavn** is a 17th-century waterfront, canal and entertainment district stretching from Kongens Nytorv to the harbor front just south of the Royal Playhouse. It is lined by brightly colored 17th and early 18th century townhouses and bars, cafes and restaurants. Serving as a "heritage harbor", the canal has many historical wooden ships. The famous Danish writer H. C. Andersen wrote his first fairy tale in the house number 20 down the harbour in 1835; he ended his life in the house number 18. In between, he lived nineteen years in the number 67. Originally, Nyhavn was a place for sailors coming to Copenhagen, and the port was split into two parts – one naughty, and one respectable.



A royal hermitage set in the King's Garden in the heart of Copenhagen, Rosenborg Castle features 400 years of splendor, royal art treasures and the Crown Jewels and Royal Regalia. Rosenborg Castle was built by one of the most famous Scandinavian kings, Christian IV, in the early 17th century. Among the main attractions is the Knights' Hall with the coronation thrones and three life-size silver lions standing guard. Tapestries on the walls commemorate battles between Denmark and Sweden. The interiors are well-preserved and invite you to take a journey back in time. You can experience the king's private writing cabinet, his bathroom, and see wax figures of former royal inhabitants.

Rosenborg also houses an exquisite collection of Flora Danica and one of the world's finest Venetian glass collections, both set in tower chambers.

The crowns of the Danish kings and queens are kept in special vaults and are embellished with table-cut stones, enamel and gold ornamentation. The crown jewels primarily consist of four garnitures: a diamond set, a ruby set, a pearl set, and an emerald set – the emeralds being among the finest in the world.



**Kastellet**



**Old Wind Mill**

**Kastellet**, (citadel) is one of the best preserved star fortresses in Northern Europe. It is constructed in the form of a pentagram with bastions at its corners. Kastellet's ring of bastioned ramparts used to encircle Copenhagen but only the ramparts of Christianshavn remain today.

A number of buildings are located within the grounds of Kastellet, including a church as well as a windmill. The area houses various military activities but it mainly serves as a public park and historic site.



**Christiansborg Palace**, or **Christiansborg Castle**, is the seat of the Danish Parliament, the Prime Minister's Office and the Supreme Court. Also, several parts of the palace are used by the monarchy, including the Royal Reception Rooms, the Palace Chapel and the Royal Stables. The current Christiansborg Palace is just the last in a number of buildings which have been located at Slotsholmen in Copenhagen for more than 800 years.

Through the centuries, one building has been replaced by the next because of wars, modernisation urges and fires.

Since the fifteenth century, the various castles and palaces have been the power center of the kingdom, regardless of whether this power was executed by elected kings, hereditary kings or elected politicians.

The palaces served as the main residence of the royal power from the fifteenth century and up until 1794 when the Royal Family moved its residence to Amalienborg. The Supreme Court has had its premises at the various castles since its foundation in 1661. The Rigsdag (now the Folketing) moved into Christiansborg after democracy was introduced in 1849. Finally parts of the Prime Minister's Office moved to Christiansborg in 1968 while the rest followed in 1980.



**Kronborg Castle:** This is it – the actual castle that Shakespeare set Hamlet in! There are many mysteries surrounding Shakespeare and whether or not he ever visited Kronborg Castle is one of them. In Hamlet, Shakespeare called Kronborg Castle Elsinore. This has become the English name for Helsingør, the town where Kronborg is located. Hamlet's spirit is said to still roam the hallways of Kronborg.

Located north of Copenhagen, Kronborg Castle is one of northern Europe's finest Renaissance castles. It is located at the entrance to Oreound and was built in 1574-1585. Frederik II's Kronborg is at once an elegant castle and a monumental military fortress surrounded by considerable fortifications with bastions and ravelins. It has not been inhabited by the royal family since the late 1600's.

The castle houses collections of Renaissance and Baroque interiors, and among the main attractions is the 62-meter ballroom, the very well-preserved chapel and the mythological statue of Holger Danske in Kasematterne below the castle. The castle was added to UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2000.





**Frederiksborg Castle**



**Frederiksborg with Gardens**



**Great Hall**



**King's bed**

**Frederiksborg Castle** is beautifully nestled in Hillerød north of Copenhagen. Surrounded by the Castle Lake, a Baroque Garden and romantic landscaped gardens, Frederiksborg Castle is an ideal excursion spot, offering cultural experiences as well as gorgeous scenic walks.

Frederiksborg Castle is the largest Renaissance Castle in Scandinavia. It was built in the first decades of the 17th century by King Christian IV and incorporates the finest Renaissance architecture and craftsmanship.

Since 1878, Frederiksborg Castle has housed the Museum of National History. A tour through the beautiful rooms of the museum is a tour through 500 years of Danish history, illustrated by portraits, history paintings, furniture and decorative art. Here you encounter people and events that have shaped Danish history from the Middle Ages to the 21st century.

#### Tour Description:

After meeting your expert guide and driver at your ship, you will be on your way to discovering the amazing castles of North Zealand combined with a panoramic city tour of the fascinating capital of Denmark, the charming city of Copenhagen.

We have arranged your tour to begin with a scenic drive up the spectacular northern coast from Copenhagen with stunning views of the Oresund Strait, the Swedish coastline and some of the most extensive woodlands in Denmark, rich with wild game.

You will travel to Helsingør (Elsinore), a quaint, charming town of half-timbered houses, cobblestone streets and castles. We will stop at the famous **Kronborg Palace** (immortalized as **Elsinore Castle** in Shakespeare's play, Hamlet, and the resting place for one of Denmark's greatest legends - Holger the Dane. Legend has it, that if Denmark is attacked, Holger will rise from his resting place and defend Denmark). You will enjoy visiting the castle ramparts and relaxing with coffee and a delicious Danish pastry at this amazing UNESCO World Heritage site.

From Helsingør, you will travel to Hillerød where you will visit the largest Renaissance palace in Scandinavia; the magnificent **Frederiksborg Palace** (once inhabited by the King and his court; now a museum). Your guide will assist you in your exploration of Frederiksborg Palace, located on three small islands in the middle of Palace Lake and adjoined by lovely Baroque formal gardens. From Hillerød, we will make our way back to Copenhagen, passing through the scenic Danish countryside and offering views of beautiful private mansions. You will have the opportunity to view the **Hermitage Palace**, the small but elegant palace built for King Christian VI in order to host his royal banquets during royal hunts in Dyrehaven. Upon our return to the city, you will enjoy a panoramic highlights tour of Copenhagen including "not to be missed" views of **Tivoli Gardens, Kongens Nytorv Square, Town Hall Square, Christiansborg Palace** (seat of Danish Parliament), and, of course, as you travel along Copenhagen's colorful harbor at the Langelinie promenade, you will view the "most famous Dane of all", **The Little Mermaid**, based on the Hans Christian Anderson fairy tale of the same name. At the conclusion of your tour, you will be transported in comfort back to your cruise pier.

**Price includes:**

- guide for 6 hours as per itinerary
- Driver with comfortable air-conditioned vehicle for 6 hours per day.
- Admission fees to all places shown in the itinerary
- All taxes

**NOTE!** The itinerary below is a sample. The *actual* start and end times of our tours are adjusted to coordinate with your ship's arrival and departure. Please contact us for the exact itinerary of your ship.

**Classic Copenhagen and Castles of North Zealand**

9:00 Depart from the port

9:00-9:30 Drive to Frederiksborg Castle

9:45-11:00 Tour of **Frederiksborg Castle (Museum of National History)**

11:15-11:45 Drive to **Kronborg (Shakespeare's Hamlet) Castle**

11:45-12:15 Visit to ramparts at Kronborg castle

12:15-12:45 Refreshment stop: coffee and Danish pastry (Optional)

12:45-13:40 Driving along coastal road "**Danish Riviera**"

13:40-14:50 City highlights drive tour. Photo stops at **Little Mermaid, Amalienborg Palace** (Restrooms and possibility for souvenir shopping if time permits)

14:50 Return drive to the ship

15:00 Arrival at port