



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
IU Travels

 **Duration**
10 days

 **Activity Level**
Moderate

 **Journey Type**
Land



Denmark: Copenhagen & Coastal Treasures

August 27 – September 6, 2026

Starting from \$6,745/pp

Discover enchanting facets of Denmark on a delightful, nine-night immersion in this stunning island nation! Experience the cozy feeling of well-being that Danes call “hygge” while exploring its cosmopolitan cities and small towns, from the colorful Nyhavn waterfront in Copenhagen to the intimate, 18th-century lanes of Ærøskøbing. Visit majestic Kronborg Castle, famed setting of Shakespeare’s Hamlet; Egeskov Castle, a Renaissance gem; and stately Roskilde Cathedral. The Danish Viking Age comes alive as you study Jelling’s 10th-century, royal runic stones and the Viking Ship Museum’s seafaring vessels. In Odense, learn about Denmark’s most famous author at the Hans Christian Andersen House museum. Other engaging cultural excursions include the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, the Aros Art Museum and Den Gamle By, an open-air museum. You’ll also bask in Denmark’s pastoral splendor! Appreciate charming towns and coastal vistas on tranquil Ærø Island, plus take in Denmark’s beautiful Lake District aboard a paddle steamer.



Day-by-Day Itinerary

Denmark: Copenhagen & Coastal Charms

Air Program – 11 days/ 10 nights (includes 1 air night)

Land Program – 10 days/ 9 nights

Breakfasts: 9 | Lunches: 4 | Receptions: 1 | Dinners: 3

B | L | R | D denotes included breakfasts, lunches, receptions and dinners.

A special note about air: If you have purchased only the Land Program, please book flights that arrive on Day 2, the first day of the Land Program. The date is listed at the top of your Reservation Confirmation.

- This itinerary is subject to change due to operational conditions.
- Activity Level ratings indicate each excursion's physical expectations. To make the best personal choice, please evaluate each excursion's rating and your ability to meet the tour's physical demands. Excursions on this program require: walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths or uneven surfaces; and getting on/off motor coaches and boats. Mild – Walk under 1 mile on mainly flat terrain; navigate under 50 stairs; stand under 1 hour
- Moderate – Walk 1–3 miles on flat/uneven terrain; navigate 50–100 stairs; stand 1–2 hours
- Active – Walk 2+ miles on flat/uneven terrain, including up and down inclines; navigate 100+ stairs; stand 3+ hours
- Depending on the excursion, more leisurely alternatives may be available.

Day 1 | Depart gateway city

AHI FlexAir passengers depart for Copenhagen, Denmark. Please check your luggage from your gateway city to your arrival city. Your claim checks should have the following airport code: CPH.

Day 2 | Copenhagen, Denmark

Scandic Palace Hotel

R | D

Arrive at Copenhagen Airport. Proceed through immigration to the baggage claim area and retrieve your luggage. After completing customs, AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for the group arrival transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer should exit the baggage claim area and proceed to the designated meeting spot, where an AHI Travel representative will meet you. The meeting location will be provided with your final documents.

Transfer to the Scandic Palace Hotel. Please note that if you arrive before check-in time, your room may not be immediately available. This afternoon, meet your Travel Director for a short orientation walk in the neighborhood around the hotel.

Later tonight, get acquainted with your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception and Dinner in the hotel.

Day 3 | Copenhagen

Scandic Palace Hotel

B | L

Enrichment: Denmark's Viking History. As a prelude to your travels, a local expert shares an overview of the Danish Viking era.

Copenhagen Highlights & Canal Tour. In 1167, Absalon, a powerful bishop and close advisor to King Valdemar I, fortified the small Viking fishing village once located here, which then became known as Copenhagen, or "merchant's harbor." Now protected from pirates who had raided the coast, Copenhagen expanded quickly due to its highly successful herring trade in the Baltic Sea region, and by the 15th century, it had become Denmark's capital. Periods of prosperity in the late 16th through 19th centuries gave rise to elegant buildings in the

Renaissance, baroque and Neoclassical styles. More recently, over the 20th and 21st centuries, Copenhagen has gained international recognition for its outstanding contemporary architecture and urban planning.

Begin with a panoramic tour that introduces you to its beautiful highlights. See the Tivoli Gardens amusement park, a cherished landmark that first opened in 1843; the Church of Holmen, the city's oldest Renaissance building, which became a church for sailors under King Christian IV; and Christiansborg Palace, home to all three government branches: the Danish Parliament, Supreme Court and the Ministry of State. Pass by the Gefion Fountain, depicting the Norse goddess Gefion with her oxen plowing up the land that became the island of Zealand, and stop for photos at the iconic statue of the Little Mermaid, the character created by celebrated Danish author Hans Christian Andersen, perched on a rock by the Langelinie promenade.

From stately Amalienborg Palace, the royal family's residence, stroll with your guide along the lively harborfront past the sleek Royal Danish Playhouse and into Nyhavn, the captivating canal district lined with brightly painted buildings and wooden ships. Your guided walk concludes at the restaurant where you and your fellow travelers will enjoy lunch.

Following lunch, get more perspectives of Copenhagen during a pleasant cruise through the city's canals. (Moderate)

Free Time: Spend the remainder of the day at leisure. For sightseeing ideas and dining suggestions, please consult with your Travel Director. You may wish to visit the main shopping district, the Strøget, which stretches across the city's old town and is reserved for pedestrians. Perhaps you'll stop in some of the shops that showcase the clean, modern design for which Denmark is renowned.

Day 4 | Humlebaek | Helsingør | Copenhagen

Scandic Palace Hotel

B

Louisiana Museum of Modern Art. Situated along Niva Bay near Humlebaek, this highly regarded museum harmoniously presents works of art amid the breathtaking beauty of its verdant parkland beside the waterfront. View modern and contemporary pieces inside interconnected gallery spaces and wander within the Sculpture Park on a private guided tour. (Moderate)

Continue by motor coach to Helsingør, where you'll take a short, guided walk and have some free time for lunch on your own. Rejoin your group afterward for a guided tour of Kronborg Castle.

Kronborg Castle. Named a UNESCO World Heritage site, this legendary Renaissance castle and fortress stands as an emblem of Denmark's historic power in the Baltic Sea. Built by King Frederick II between 1574 and 1585, it sits on the tip of the island of Zealand at the narrowest point of the Øresund Sound between Denmark and Sweden. For more than four centuries, Denmark controlled this passage — roughly 2.5 miles wide — and required foreign ships sailing to and from the Baltic Sea through these waters to pay tolls to the Danish Crown. In addition to being a lucrative source of income, the Sound toll served as leverage for Denmark to forge alliances with other seafaring countries. News and gossip about this majestic castle and its court life likely reached William Shakespeare through his actors who traveled around Europe. Inspired presumably by these stories of intrigue, the playwright immortalized Kronborg Castle as the setting for "Hamlet," calling it Elsinore after the English name for Helsingør. Learn more enlightening details about its history from your expert guide. (Moderate)

Free Time: Make plans of your own upon returning to Copenhagen later this afternoon.

Day 5 | Kværndrup | Svendborg | Ærøskøbing

Hotel Ærøhus

B | D

After breakfast, check out of the hotel today and travel by motor coach across the Great Belt Link that connects the islands of Zealand and Funen. Opened in 1998, this multi-element transit link provides a continuous road and rail connection between these regions of Denmark and is the largest construction project to date in Danish history. The impressive Eastern Bridge, a suspension bridge, spans approximately four miles. Once on Funen, head to Kværndrup, which boasts a splendid castle.

Egeskov Castle. Marvel at one of northern Europe's best-preserved, moated Renaissance castles on a guided tour. Built by Frands Brockenhuis, one of King Christian III's top advisors, the fortified castle was completed in 1554 and underwent a renovation in the 1880s that reflects its appearance today. Throughout its history, the castle has been owned by several noble families, including the Bille family,

who acquired it in 1784. It remains today in the hands of descendants of the Bille family, who live in the castle. Your visit includes time in Egeskov's spectacular gardens featuring themed spaces and two labyrinths. (Moderate)

Depart for Svendborg, where you'll have free time for lunch on your own at one of the cafés or restaurants in the harbor area. Meet your fellow travelers later to board the ferry for Ærø Island, and cruise across the South Funen Archipelago. Upon arrival in Ærøskøbing, check in to the Hotel Ærøhus.

After getting settled in your room and dining at the hotel, take a special evening walk through enchanting Ærøskøbing, filled with wonderfully preserved, 18th-century houses.

AHI Connects | Night Watchmen Tour. Meander down Ærøskøbing's lanes with your guide, who recreates the role of a Night Watchman. Learn about the traditions of the night watch, which operated from 1702 to 1863, and hear stories about the town's history, architecture and customs. (Moderate)

Day 6 | Ærø Island | Ærøskøbing

Hotel Ærøhus

B | L

Ærø Island. Venture off to explore this small, picturesque island known for its quiet natural splendor and laid-back pace of life. Your first stop is Marstal, the island's largest town, a centuries-old seafaring, sailing and shipping center steeped in nautical heritage. Appreciate its maritime ambience with your guide as you go inside the old sailor's church and learn about its significance to the community. Next, travel to the village of Store Rise and relish a tasting, tour and lunch at a microbrewery. Afterward, drive along tranquil country roads and through scenic villages to the terraced cliffs of Voderup Klint for sweeping vistas of the Baltic Sea. Make your way leisurely through the island's idyllic scenery back to Ærøskøbing. Once there, visit an interesting little museum featuring model ships in bottles. (Moderate)

Free Time: Pursue your own interests for the rest of the day. Walk along the windswept beaches, rent bikes or browse in the local shops.

Day 7 | Svendborg | Odense | Jelling | Aarhus

Comwell Aarhus — Dolce by Wyndham

B

Check out of the hotel this morning and walk to the dock for the ferry to Svendborg. After disembarking in Svendborg, travel by motor coach to Odense, the birthplace of Hans Christian Andersen.

Hans Christian Andersen House. Hans Christian Andersen (1805–1875) was a prolific writer, penning plays, novels, poems and travel books, but he achieved international acclaim for his beloved fairy tales, including “The Little Mermaid,” “Thumbelina,” “The Emperor's New Suit,” and “The Princess and the Pea,” among many others. Discover more about Andersen's life story, his creative process and his enduring fairy tales at the innovative Hans Christian Andersen House museum. Take a marvelous sensory journey into the author's imaginative universe within a stunning building designed by Japanese architect Kengo Kuma. As part of your guided visit, stroll over the small yellow house nearby where Andersen lived with his family from ages 2 to 14 for a glimpse into his formative childhood years. (Moderate)

Following your excursion, select a nice place in Odense for lunch on your own before departing for Jelling, one of Denmark's most historically important sites.

Jelling Monuments. In the 10th century, two of Denmark's earliest Viking kings, Gorm the Old and his son Harald Bluetooth, established their seat of power in Jelling. The runestone memorials they erected here bear significant inscriptions that attest to the origin of Denmark as a nation and its transition from paganism to Christianity. As a show of his power, King Harald Bluetooth also raised two burial mounds surrounded by an enormous stone ship, an ancient burial custom in which large stones were arranged in the outline of a ship. These monuments were all enclosed by a massive palisade, which archaeologists confirmed during excavations in the early 2000s. Today, you can comprehend the immense size of the stone ship and the palisade from white stones and pillars that mark their boundaries. The church that stands by the runestones is the fourth in that location; the first, a wooden one, was built by Harald Bluetooth. Delve into the intriguing history of this Viking-era complex, designated a UNESCO World Heritage site, during your visit. (Moderate)

From Jelling, set off for Aarhus, Denmark's second-largest city, and check in to the Comwell Aarhus.

Day 8 | Aarhus

Comwell Aarhus — Dolce by Wyndham

B | L

Enrichment: Denmark's Place in Contemporary Nordic Culture. A local expert takes a fascinating look at the nation's cultural influence among the Nordic nations.

AroS Art Museum & Den Gamle By. Today, explore two of Aarhus' most popular attractions. Begin with a guided tour at the AroS Art Museum, which houses an eclectic art collection by Danish and international artists. On the rooftop, gaze across a cityscape awash in vivid color as you move through the installation, "Your Rainbow Panorama," a circular glass walkway by Studio Olafur Eliasson. Then, take a delightful trip back in time at Den Gamle By, or The Old Town, an exceptionally detailed, open-air, living museum. Founded in 1909 within the Aarhus Botanical Gardens, it comprises 75 preserved, historical buildings relocated from across Denmark. Step into this charming market town for a truly immersive experience of everyday life during four different eras of Danish history. (Moderate)

Free Time: After lunch with your group in Den Gamle By, spend the rest of the day in Aarhus at leisure.

Day 9 | Silkeborg | Himmelbjerget | Aarhus

Comwell Aarhus — Dolce by Wyndham

B | L

After breakfast, take off by motor coach for a day in Søhøjlandet, Denmark's serene Lake District.

Silkeborg. Set amid the Lake's District's forests, lakes and rivers, Silkeborg has earned the nickname, "Denmark's Outdoor Capital," for its easy access to adventures within nature. On a guided walk around Silkeborg's old town, admire its colorful architecture and learn about the 19th-century paper mill that contributed to the city's growth. Next, take a guided tour of Silkeborg Museum, home to the remarkably well-preserved Tollund Man and Elling Woman from the fifth century B.C. that were discovered in nearby peat bogs, as well as exhibits centered on Silkeborg's history. (Moderate)

Savor tasty smørrebrød, traditional Danish open-faced sandwiches, for lunch in Silkeborg.

Steamboat to Himmelbjerget. This afternoon, embark the SS Hjellen, the world's oldest coal-fired paddle steamer, a historic gem first launched in 1861. Soak up the lovely scenery on a relaxing ride as you cruise across sparkling lakes to Himmelbjerget, or Sky Mountain. At the top of this famous hilltop 482 feet above sea level, take in the expansive views of the surrounding lush landscape. Then, stop in the little village of Ry for coffee as you return to Aarhus. (Moderate)

Day 10 | Odden | Roskilde | Copenhagen

Scandic Palace Hotel

B | D

After checking out this morning, transfer to the terminal in Aarhus for the ferry to Odden. Upon arrival, travel by motor coach to Roskilde.

Viking Ship Museum. Near the end of the Viking Age, around 1070, five old vessels were intentionally sunk in Roskilde Fjord as a defensive strategy to protect Roskilde from an attack by sea. After extensive excavations in 1962 to retrieve and preserve the Viking ships, researchers determined that they were used for different purposes, such as fishing, trading and warfare. On a guided tour at this informative museum, check out these ships up close and gain insights about the Vikings' boatbuilding and seafaring expertise. The museum also features replica vessels constructed by craftspeople using the techniques and tools of the period. (Moderate)

After your excursion, pause for lunch on your own in Roskilde before touring the cathedral.

Roskilde Cathedral. Designated a UNESCO World Heritage site, this magnificent church, built around the 13th century, was the first Gothic brick cathedral in Scandinavia. Forty Danish kings and queens are interred in its ornate chapels and crypts, including Margrete I, one of the earliest burials in 1413. Since the death of King Christian III in 1559, Roskilde Cathedral has been the official burial place for Danish royalty. Study the elaborate details of impressive sarcophagi and learn about the church's history and the royal lineage on a guided tour. (Moderate)

Depart afterward for Copenhagen and check in to the Scandic Palace Hotel. After some free time this afternoon, celebrate your time in Denmark with your fellow travelers at a Farewell Dinner held at Tivoli Gardens!

Day 11 | Depart for gateway city

B

After breakfast, AHI FlexAir passengers traveling on flights that qualify for a group transfer and Land Program passengers who have purchased seats on the group transfer depart for Copenhagen Airport for your return flights home. Your Travel Director will provide the details.



What's Included

Program Overview

- Small group: Sized just right at 28 guests.
- 4 nights in Copenhagen, Denmark, at the first-class Scandic Palace Hotel.
- 2 nights in Ærøskøbing at the first-class Hotel Ærøhus.
- 3 nights in Aarhus at the first-class Comwell Aarhus — Dolce by Wyndham.
- AHI Connects: Local immersion.
- AHI Sustainability Promise: We strive to make a positive, purposeful impact in the communities we visit.
- Complimentary travel mementos.



Meal Program

- 9 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 reception and 3 dinners.
- Welcome and Farewell Dinners and a Welcome Reception to mingle with fellow travelers.
- Tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

On-site Features

- Ferries and deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program with baggage handling.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.

FlexAir Travel Program

Need assistance booking your travel arrangements? Our experts are here to help. Our air program offers the following benefits.

Trip Transportation

- Assistance in the event of schedule changes or delays
- Arrival and departure transfers on group dates

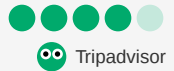
Price Guarantee

- Price guarantee to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase

Travel and Hotel Accommodations

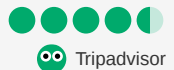
Scandic Palace Hotel

Enjoy the historic charm and excellent location of this first-class property built in 1910. Situated in the heart of Copenhagen across from Rådhuspladsen, or City Hall Square, the Scandic Palace puts you steps away from the Metro and within easy walking distance of Tivoli Gardens and other attractions, numerous restaurants and the stores along Strøget, the popular pedestrian shopping street. The spacious, comfortable guest rooms feature roomy bathrooms, handy amenities and complimentary Wi-Fi.



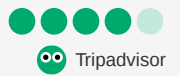
Hotel Ærøhus

From the moment you pass through the inviting courtyard of this cozy and charming first-class property in lovely Ærøskøbing, you'll delight in its comforts and hospitality. The friendly, welcoming staff go above and beyond to ensure a wonderful stay. Located in a very walkable area, the hotel is close to local restaurants and shops as well as the ferry landing. If you'd like to dine at the hotel, the Restaurant Bonsack serves Danish dishes and Spanish tapas. The traditionally decorated, comfy guest rooms feature complimentary Wi-Fi.



Comwell Aarhus — Dolce by Wyndham

Centrally located for easy exploring within vibrant Aarhus, this modern, first-class hotel offers a pleasant and stress-free stay, thanks to its personable staff and thoughtful amenities. The light-filled guest rooms are stylishly decorated by the Danish design company HAY and feature complimentary Wi-Fi. Savor delicious lunch and dinner menus at the on-site Restaurant V, and chat with friends at the lively V Bar, which specializes in Danish gins and serves cocktails, wines and beers. The hotel also includes two 24-hour fitness centers.



Pricing

Trip Price (USD)	
Base Price	\$6,745
You Pay	\$6,745 per person

Package rates are per person based on Double occupancy from Land Only. Prices include all service charges; port charges when applicable; U.S. government taxes and fees. The minimum deposit is \$750.00 per person. To view Program Terms and conditions please click [here](#). Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies.

*Full Payment Discounts are only available at the time of booking with initial payment 120+ days prior to departure. This offer only applies to full payment at the time of reservation. Details on how to qualify for this savings will be included when your reservation request is confirmed.

