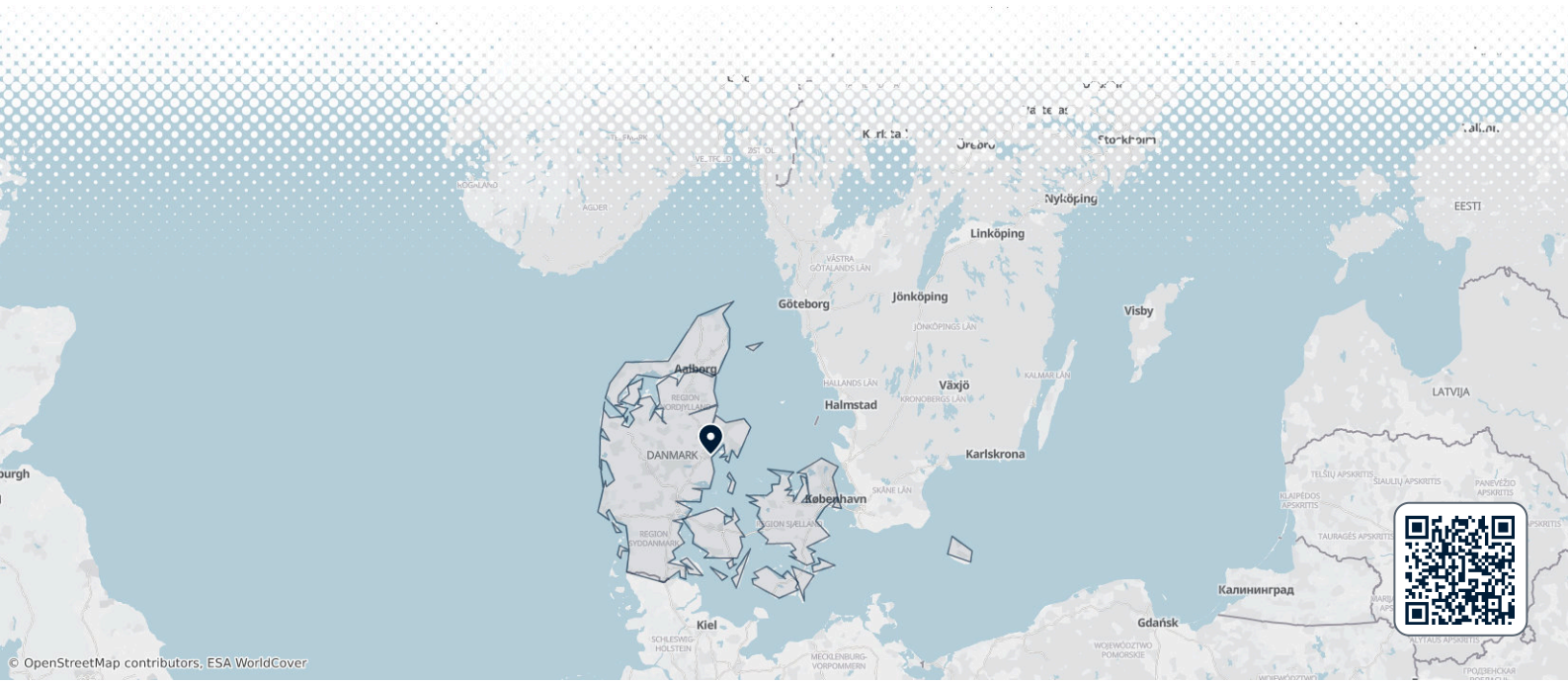


Aarhus

Central Denmark Region · Denmark

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Aarhus is Denmark's second-largest city, but it stays compact and easy to explore on foot. The centre mixes cobbled medieval lanes with bold modern architecture, wrapped around a working harbour and a large university that keep the streets young and busy.

What draws most visitors is the city's recent transformation: an art museum crowned with a circular rainbow-colored walkway, a redeveloped harbour with a floating public bath, and one of Denmark's best open-air history museums, all within walking distance of each other. Aarhus suits travelers who want strong city culture and food without the size or cost of Copenhagen, plus easy access to forests, beaches, and lakes just outside town.

When to visit

Summer (June to August) is the best time to visit, with long daylight hours and outdoor life along the harbour. Spring and autumn are cooler and quieter, and winter is cold and dark but brings Christmas markets and outdoor skating in the old town squares.

Plan around the **Aarhus Festival** (Aarhus Festuge), held over ten days in late August, when concerts, theatre, and art events take over streets and squares across the city.

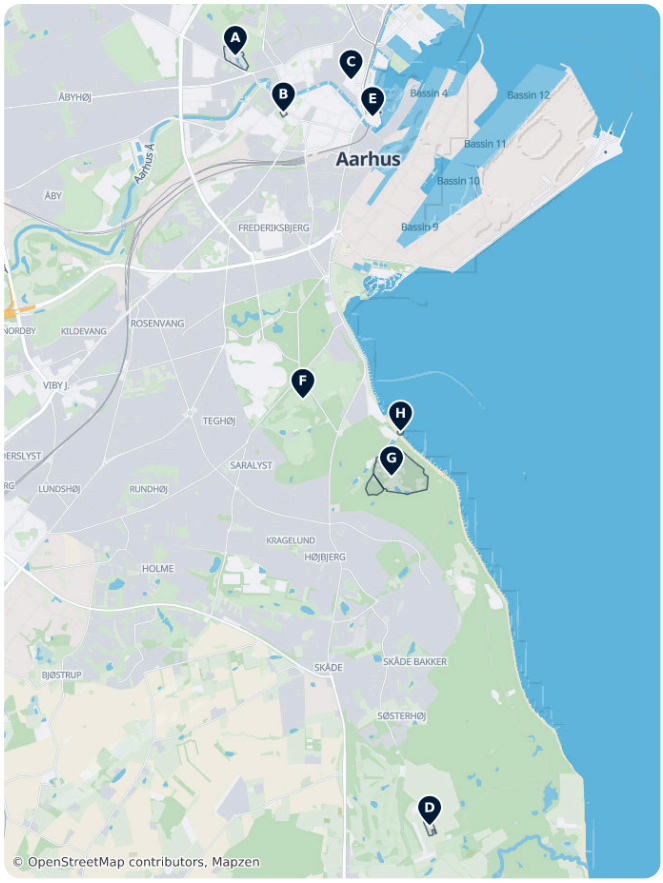
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	4° / 9° Feels like -2°	0° / -7°	12 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	4° / 9° Feels like -1°	0° / -6°	Dry air
March	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 12° Feels like 2°	1° / -5°	Dry air
April	Fair Fair for cycling	11° / 17° Feels like 7°	4° / -1°	Dry air
May	Good Good for cycling	15° / 21° Feels like 12°	8° / 4°	12 rainy days · Dry air
June	Good Good for sightseeing	19° / 24°	11° / 8°	12 rainy days · Dry air
July	Great Great for sightseeing	21° / 26°	14° / 10°	13 rainy days · Dry air
August	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 26°	14° / 11°	13 rainy days
September	Good Good for cycling	17° / 22°	12° / 8°	Dry air
October	Fair Fair for cycling	12° / 17° Feels like 9°	8° / 3°	14 rainy days · Dry air
November	Poor Poor for sightseeing	8° / 13° Feels like 3°	4° / -2°	13 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	5° / 10° Feels like 0°	1° / -6°	13 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: July, August

Climate data: NASA POWER + Copernicus ERA5-Land and ERA5 · 1996–2025

June through August are also the best months for a swim at the harbour bath or the beaches south of the city.

Top sights



A Den Gamle By is a full-scale open-air town assembled from more than 70 historic buildings moved here from across Denmark, with costumed staff and period shops that recreate life from the 1500s to the 1970s.

B ARoS Aarhus Kunstmuseum is Aarhus's flagship art museum, best known for the circular rainbow-glass walkway on its roof, which offers 360-degree views over the city in every color of the spectrum.

Rising above the old town centre, C Aarhus Cathedral is Denmark's longest and tallest church, with parts of the building dating back to the 12th century.

South of the centre, D Moesgaard Museum covers Danish and world archaeology inside a striking turf-roofed building; its best-known exhibit is the Grauballe Man, an Iron Age body preserved in a peat bog.

On the harbour, E Dokk1 combines Aarhus's main public library with a cultural centre and a bell that rings to mark every new birth registered in the city.

South of downtown, F Marselisborg Palace is a royal summer residence with public gardens; walk on to the neighboring G Marselisborg Deer Park to see free-roaming deer up close.

Just south along the coast, H The Infinite Bridge is a circular wooden pier that loops out over the water and back, built as a piece of public art and now a favorite spot for a short walk with sea views.

Aarhus – Plan Your Trip

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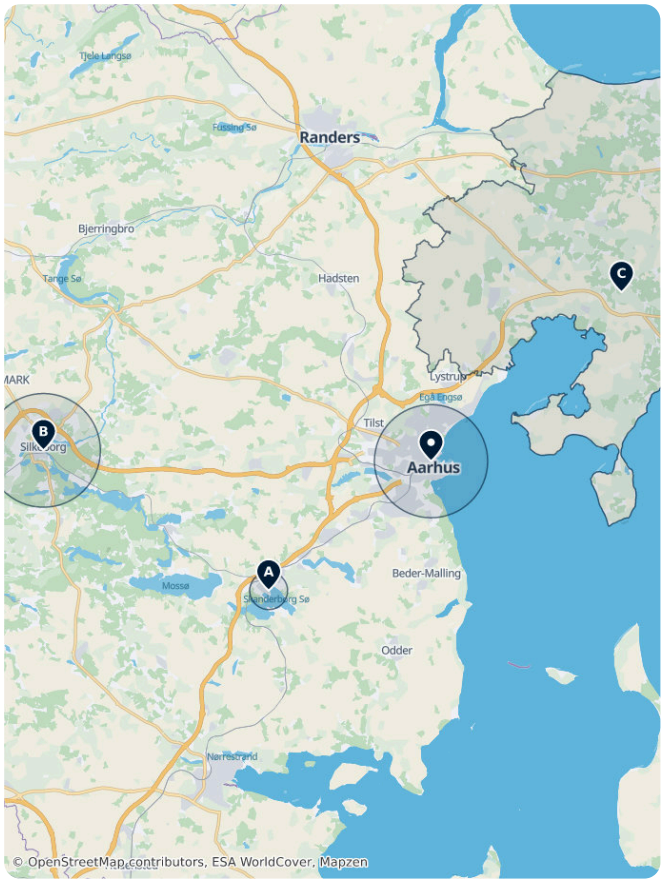
What to experience

- Swim and sauna at Aarhus Harbour Bath, a floating harbour pool built into the modern docks, popular with locals year-round, including winter dips.
- Browse the Christmas market and skate on the outdoor rink in the old town squares each December.
- Rent a bike and ride the waterfront path from the harbour out to the beaches and forest south of the city.
- Join the free outdoor concerts and street performances during the Aarhus Festival (Aarhus Festuge) in late August.

Day trips

Aarhus sits close to some of Jutland's best lakes, forests, and coastline, plus one flagship family attraction farther out.

- A Skanderborg – around 25 minutes by train. A lakeside town with forest trails and a large open-air music festival each August.
- B Silkeborg – around 45 minutes by train or car. Base for exploring the Danish Lake District; take a historic paddle steamer across the lakes or climb Himmelbjerget, one of Denmark's highest points, for views over the forest and water.
- Ebeltoft and the C Djursland peninsula – around 45 minutes by car. A well-preserved half-timbered old town with a glass museum and a historic frigate, plus the heath and coastal trails of Mols Bjerge National Park nearby.
- Legoland Billund – around 1 hour 15 minutes by car or direct bus. Denmark's original Lego theme park, best for families with young children.



Getting there

- **By air**: Billund Airport (BLL), about 1 hour 15 minutes away by car or direct bus, is the main gateway for international flights to the region. Copenhagen Airport (CPH) has more global connections; a direct train from Copenhagen to Aarhus takes around 3 hours. Aarhus Airport (AAR), near Tirstrup, has only limited seasonal and charter flights.
- **By train**: Aarhus Central Station has InterCity connections from Copenhagen (about 3 hours) and Aalborg, regional trains across Jutland, and international trains to Hamburg and Berlin. Book tickets via DSB.
- **By bus**: Long-distance coaches arrive at Aarhus Bus Station, next to the train station, with routes across Denmark and to nearby German cities.

Getting around

- **Public transit**: Buses and the Aarhus Letbane light rail cover the city and nearby towns. Buy tickets in the Midttrafik app before boarding, or use a Rejsekort travel card at the yellow readers. Midttrafik has route planning and tickets.
- **On foot / cycling**: The centre is compact, flat, and easy to explore on foot. Cycling is how most locals get around; bike lanes run throughout the city and rental bikes are widely available.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The city centre is small enough to cross on foot in under 30 minutes, and most sights are within easy walking distance of each other.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

Aarhus has an extensive network of bike lanes, and cycling is one of the most common ways locals get around the city.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Not for the city centre — it is compact and easy on foot or by bike. A car becomes useful for reaching the lakes, coast, or countryside beyond the bus and train network.
- **Parking**: Paid parking applies across the centre; pay by app or at ticket machines. Park-and-ride options near the outer ring road are a cheaper alternative to central car parks.
- **Restrictions**: Aarhus has a low-emission zone covering the city centre that restricts older diesel vehicles — check your vehicle meets the requirements before driving in.

Food & drink

Aarhus has a strong food-hall and street-food scene: head to Aarhus Street Food, set in a former bus garage, for a wide mix of cuisines under one roof.

For a sit-down meal, the **Latin Quarter** (Latinerkvarteret), the tangle of narrow streets around Møllestien, is packed with small cafés, bakeries, and restaurants in historic buildings — a good area to wander and pick something that looks good.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Smørrebrød
Open-faced rye bread sandwiches with toppings such as pickled herring, roast beef, shrimp, or liver pâté.

Smoked Herring · Røget sild
Cold-smoked herring, a Bornholm speciality, traditionally served on dark bread with raw onion and chives.

DINNER

Frikadeller
Pan-fried patties of ground pork and veal, seasoned with onion and nutmeg, served with potatoes and gravy.

Roast Pork with Crackling · Flæskesteg
Slow-roasted pork with crisp crackling, typically served with braised red cabbage and potatoes.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Rye Bread · Rugbrød
Dense, dark sourdough rye bread — the cornerstone of Danish everyday eating, used as the base for smørrebrød.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Danish Pastry · Wienerbrød
Buttery, laminated pastry in many shapes — the local name literally means Vienna bread. Found in every bakery.

Cinnamon Roll · Kanelsnegle
A buttery, swirled cinnamon bun popular at bakeries across the country.

DRINKS

Carlsberg / Tuborg · Øl
The two dominant Danish lager brands, both originating in Copenhagen and served on draught throughout the country.

Akvavit · Snaps
A caraway- or dill-flavoured spirit served ice-cold in a shot glass, traditionally accompanying festive meals.

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Safety & health

Aarhus is a safe city for travelers, with low rates of violent crime. The main risks are bike theft and opportunistic pickpocketing around the train station and nightlife areas late at night — lock bikes securely and keep an eye on bags in crowded venues.

Emergency services are reliable, and English is widely spoken, including by police and hospital staff, if you need help.

History

Aarhus was founded by the Vikings more than 1,000 years ago, at the mouth of the river that still runs through the city centre. Remains of the original Viking-age settlement, including part of the old rampart, are on display at The Viking Museum, just beneath the streets of the modern centre.

Construction of Aarhus Cathedral began in the 12th century, when Aarhus was already an important trading town and the seat of a bishopric. The city grew steadily as a harbour and market town over the following centuries, and much of that history survives in the buildings gathered at Den Gamle By, an open-air museum built from relocated houses and shops spanning several centuries of Danish town life.

Aarhus, like the rest of Denmark, was occupied by Germany from 1940 to 1945. Since the early 2000s the city has invested heavily in culture and architecture, redeveloping its old industrial harbour into the museums, libraries, and public baths that define it today.

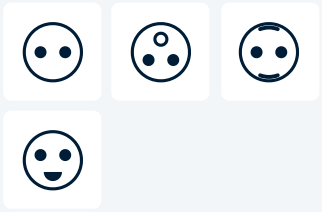
Country facts

Quick practical facts for Denmark at a glance:

CURRENCY
DKK kr

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



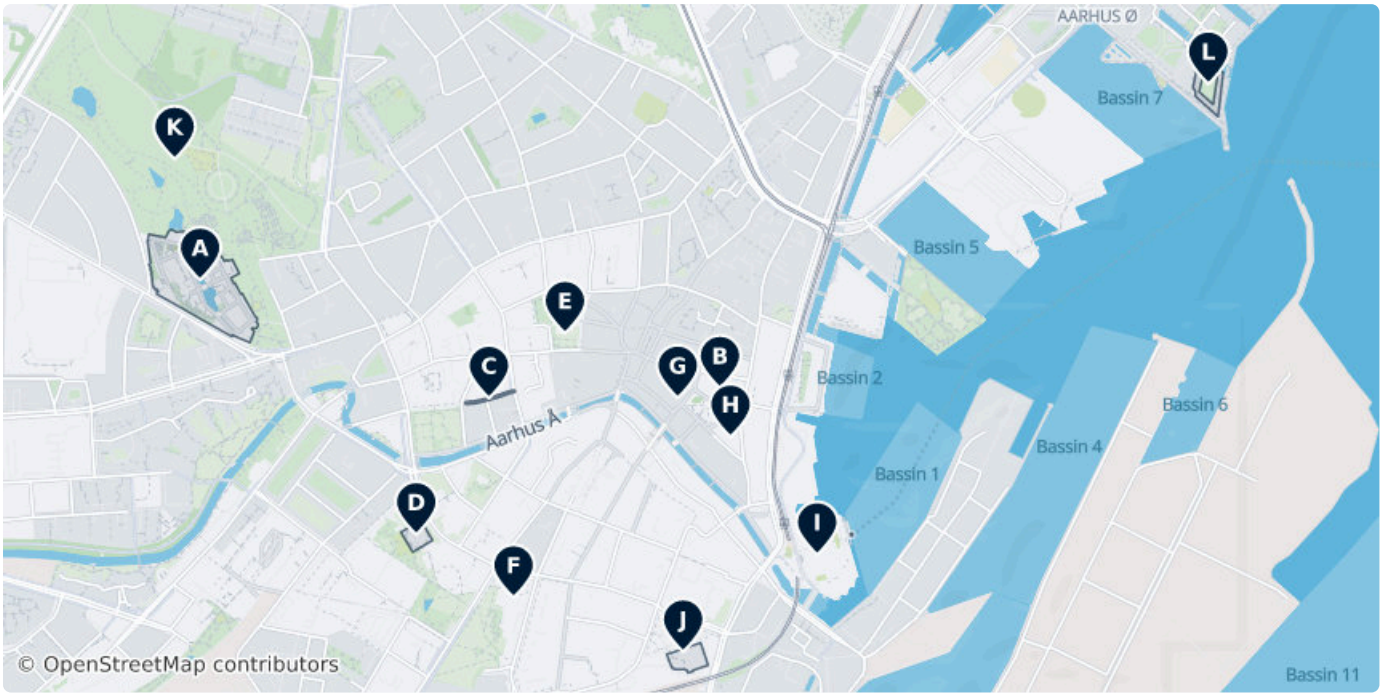
Type C / Type E / Type F / Type K
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
Danish

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Aarhus Essentials

Aarhus showcases Denmark's evolution from the Viking Age to contemporary design. The city features the world's oldest open-air town museum, Den Gamle By, and the underground Viking Museum built on original excavation sites. Architectural highlights include the functionalist City Hall, the glass-domed ARoS Art Museum with its iconic rainbow panorama, and the modern Dokk1 library. Historic landmarks like the 13th-century Aarhus Cathedral stand alongside the cobblestone charm of Møllestien and the innovative residential designs of the Aarhus Ø waterfront district.





A The Old Town, Aarhus

Den Gamle By, or The Old Town in English, is an open-air town museum located in the Aarhus Botanical Gardens, in central Aarhus, Denmark.

Viborgvej 2, 8000 Aarhus, Denmark (56.15908, 10.19172)

dengamleby.dk, +45 86 12 31 88



B Aarhus Cathedral

Aarhus Cathedral is a cathedral in Aarhus, Denmark. It is the longest and tallest church in the country, at 93 m in length and 96 m in...

Domkirkepladsen 2, 8000 Aarhus, Denmark (56.15689, 10.21064)

aarhus-domkirke.dk, +45 86 20 54 00



C Møllestien Street

Møllestien is a street in Aarhus, Denmark which runs west to east from Vester Allé to Grønnegade and intersects Møllegade roughly in the...

63 Møllestien, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.15669, 10.20223)



D ARoS Art Museum

The ARoS Aarhus Kunstmuseum is an art museum in Aarhus, Denmark. The museum was established in 1859 and is the oldest public art museum in...

Aros Allé 2, 8000 Aarhus, Denmark (56.15392, 10.19959)

Tu–Fr	09:00–20:00
Sa–Su	09:00–17:00

aros.dk, +45 87 30 66 00



E Church of Our Lady in Aarhus

The Church of Our Lady is one of the larger church structures of Århus, Denmark.

Vestergade 21, 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark (56.15800, 10.20500)

aarhusvorfrue.dk, +45 86 12 12 43



F Aarhus City Hall

Awe-inspiring functionalistic construction clad with marble: a prime example of Danish taste in architecture and design.

Rådhuspladsen 2, 8000 Aarhus, Denmark (56.15264, 10.20313)

+45 89402000



G The Viking Museum

The Viking Museum is a small underground museum in central Aarhus, Denmark.

Skt. Clemens Torv 6, 8000 Aahrus, Denmark (56.15669, 10.20910)

Mo–Fr	10:15–18:00
Sa–Su	10:15–17:00

vikingemuseet.dk, +45 89421100



H Aarhus Theatre

The Aarhus Theatre in Aarhus, is the largest provincial theatre in Denmark.

Teatergaden 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark (56.15590, 10.21102)

aarhusteater.dk, +45 89 33 23 00



I Dokk1

Dokk1 or Dokken is a building, public library and culture center in Aarhus, Denmark.

5A Europaplads, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.15352, 10.21417)

dokk1.dk

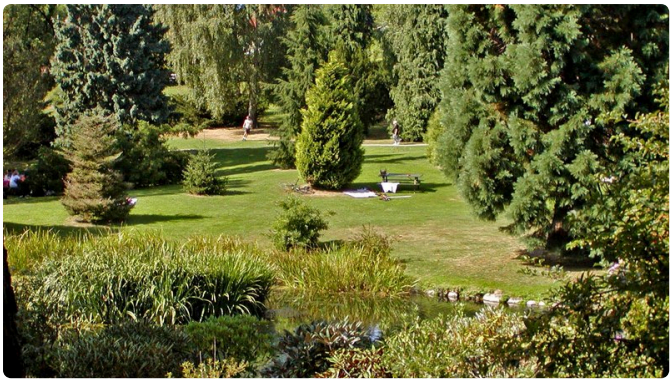


J Aarhus Street Food

Located in a former bus garage near the central station, this permanent food hall features over 30 stalls serving international cuisine and local Danish specialties in a communal dining setting.

Ny Banegårdsgade, 8000 Aarhus, Denmark (56.15155, 10.20930)

aarhusstreetfood.com/en/

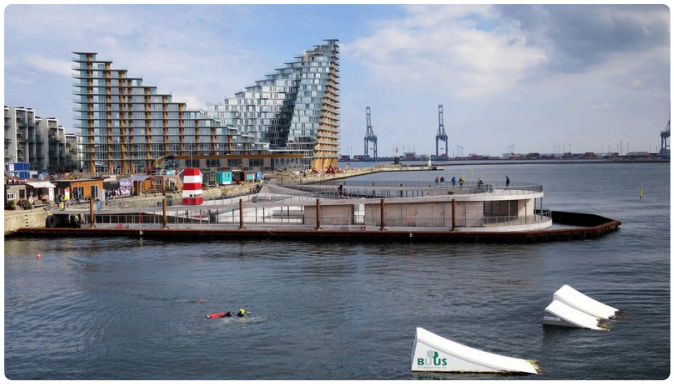


K Botanical Garden

Aarhus Botanical Gardens is a botanical garden in Aarhus, Denmark. It is located north of the Old Town open-air village museum and was...

Botanisk Have Aarhus, Midtbyen, 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark (56.16153, 10.19079)

sciencemuseerne.dk/botanisk-have/plan... , +45 87 15 54 15



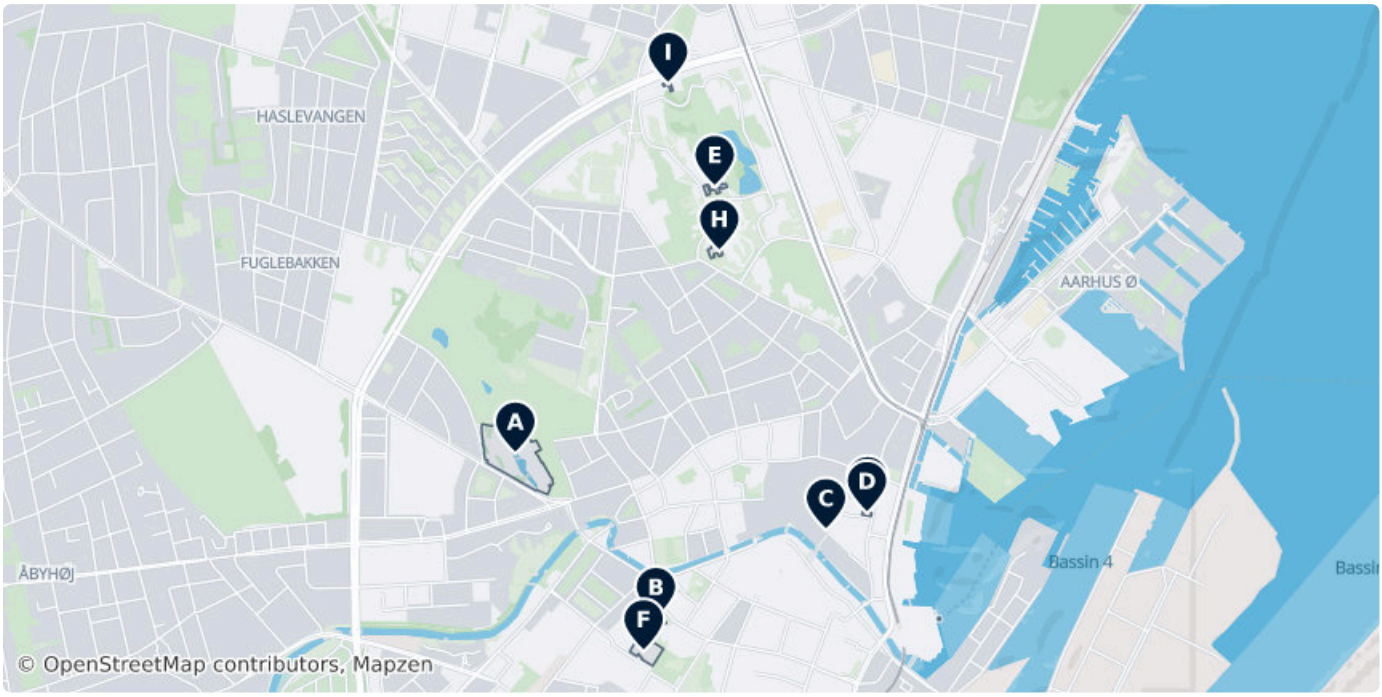
L AARhus

A residential landmark in the Aarhus Ø district designed by Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG). The building features two distinct towers with a stepped, triangular silhouette designed to maximize harbor views and sunlight.

960 Irma Pedersens Gade, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.16305, 10.22841)

Museums & Galleries

Aarhus offers a diverse cultural landscape, from the world-renowned ARoS Art Museum, known for its 'Your rainbow panorama' walkway, to Den Gamle By, an open-air museum featuring historic buildings relocated from across Denmark. Visitors can explore Viking Age remains in an underground vault, learn about the city's WWII resistance at the Occupation Museum, or examine the history of gender at KØN. The University Park houses the Steno Museet for science history and the Natural History Museum, while the Museum of Ancient Art focuses on Mediterranean antiquities.





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dengamleby.dk, +45 86 12 31 88



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Tu–Fr	09:00–20:00
Sa–Su	09:00–17:00

aros.dk, +45 87 30 66 00



C The Viking Museum

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Skt. Clemens Torv 6, 8000 Aahrus, Denmark (56.15669, 10.20910)

Mo–Fr	10:15–18:00
Sa–Su	10:15–17:00

vikingemuseet.dk, +45 89421100



D Gender Museum Denmark

KØN - Gender Museum Denmark, formerly Kvindemuseet, is a history museum in Aarhus, Denmark focused on the cultural history of gender and...

5 Domkirkepladsen, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.15722, 10.21140)

Tu	10:00–17:00
We	10:00–20:00
Th–Sa	10:00–17:00
Su	10:00–16:00

konmuseum.dk



E Natural History Museum Aarhus

The Natural History Museum in Aarhus is a Danish museum specializing in natural history.

Universitetsparken, Wilhelm Meyers Alle 210, 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark (56.16738, 10.20288)

Mo–Su	10:00–16:00

naturhistoriskmuseum.dk, +45 86 12 97 77



F Aarhus Concert Hall

Musikhuset Aarhus is a large concert hall complex in Aarhus, Denmark. Located in the city centre, Musikhuset is Aarhus' main venue for music...

Thomas Jensens Alle 2, 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark (56.15292, 10.19890)

musikhusetaarhus.dk, +45 89 40 90 00

G Occupation Museum, Aarhus

The Occupation Museum in Aarhus, Denmark is a history museum dedicated to present the history of Aarhus during the German occupation in the...

2 Mathilde Fibigers Have, Aarhus 8000, Denmark
(56.15738, 10.21143)

Mo–Tu	Closed
We–Fr	13:00–17:00
Sa–Su	11:00–17:00

besaettelsesmuseet.dk

H Steno Museet

Located in Aarhus University Park, the Steno Museum serves as Denmark's Museum of the History of Science. It features a planetarium, a medicinal herb garden, and exhibitions detailing the development of physics, astronomy, and medicine through historic scientific instruments and interactive displays.

2 C.F. Møllers Alle, Aarhus 8000, Denmark
(56.16538, 10.20313)

Tu–Fr	09:00–16:00
Sa–Su	11:00–16:00

stenomuseet.dk/foyer.htm

I Museum of Ancient Art, Aarhus

The Museum of Ancient Art in Aarhus, Denmark is museum dedicated to the ancient art and cultural history of the mediterranean countries, in...

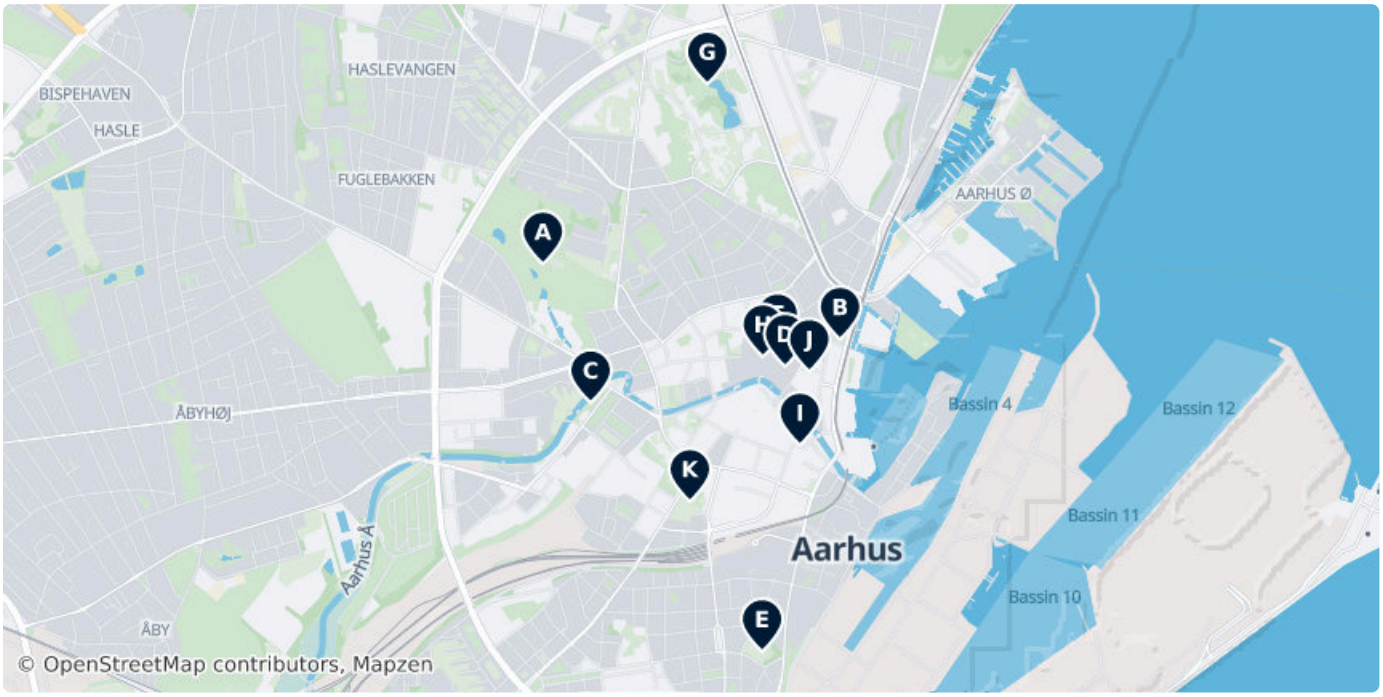
2 Nordre Ringgade, Aarhus 8000, Denmark
(56.17059, 10.20027)

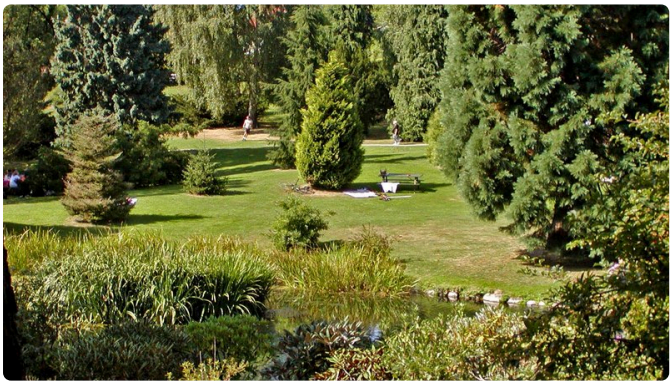
Mo–Su	12:00–16:00

antikmuseet.au.dk

Parks and Gardens of Aarhus

Aarhus offers a diverse collection of green spaces and historic urban squares. This selection includes the expansive Botanical Garden with its climate-controlled greenhouses and the University Park's distinctive yellow-brick architecture. In the city center, historic plazas like the neoclassical Fredens Torv and the cobbled Lille Torv showcase 19th-century urban planning. Local parks such as Skanseparken and Rådhusparken provide quiet retreats adjacent to major landmarks like the Aarhus City Hall and the Gothic Cathedral.





A Botanical Garden

Aarhus Botanical Gardens is a botanical garden in Aarhus, Denmark. It is located north of the Old Town open-air village museum and was...

Botanisk Have Aarhus, Midtbyen, 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark (56.16153, 10.19079)

sciencemuseerne.dk/botanisk-have/plan... , +45 87 15 54 15



B St. Oluf's Cemetery

St. Oluf Cemetery is a small public park and historic site in central Aarhus, Denmark.

3 Sankt Olufs Gade, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.15841, 10.21293)



C Åparken

Åparken is a public park in central Aarhus, Denmark. The park is situated by the Aarhus River in the Vesterbro neighborhood in Midtbyen...

26 Carl Blochs Gade, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.15578, 10.19435)

D Store Torv

A central urban square located between Aarhus Cathedral and Lille Torv, serving as a historic gathering point in the city's center.

(56.15728, 10.20884)



E Skanseparken

Located in the Frederiksbjerg neighborhood, this park sits on the site of 17th-century fortifications and features open lawns and a circular flower garden.

31 Heibergsgade, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.14546, 10.20712)



F Pustervig Torv

A cobbled pedestrian square at the edge of the Latin Quarter, characterized by its historic architecture and central seating areas.

23 Pustervig, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.15813, 10.20828)

G University Park, Aarhus

Aarhus University Park or the University Park is a public park in central Aarhus, Denmark.

(Unnamed Road), Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.16899, 10.20305)



H Lille Torv

Lille Torv is a cobbled public square located in the Indre By neighborhood in Aarhus, Denmark.

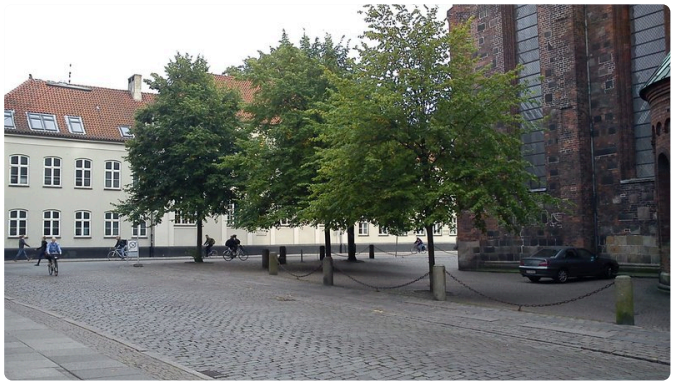
8 Lille Torv, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.15768, 10.20719)



I Fredens Torv

A late neoclassical square and street layout established in 1849, connecting the central city to the waterfront.

6 Fredens Torv, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.15402, 10.20994)



J Domkirkepladsen

A public plaza situated immediately north of Aarhus Cathedral, offering views of the church's Gothic exterior and surrounding historic buildings.

1 Domkirkepladsen, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.15707, 10.21063)

K Rådhusparken

Rådhusparken is a public park in central Aarhus, Denmark. The park is situated by the City Hall in the Indre By neighborhood of Midtbyen,...

16 Frederiks Alle, Aarhus 8000, Denmark (56.15168, 10.20174)

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