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## [Copenhagen timeline](#) [1]

Browse a brief history of Denmark's capital city.

1000s - The first settlement.

1160-67 - [Copenhagen](#) [2] founded by Bishop Absalon, counsellor to King Valdemar I. [Slotsholmen fortress](#) [3] is built to protect the new city.

1443 - Copenhagen replaces [Roskilde](#) [4] as the capital city of Denmark.

1449 - Copenhagen celebrates its first coronation as the nation's capital, for King Christian I.

1479 - Copenhagen University founded.

1583 - The world's oldest amusement park, [Bakken](#) [5], opens for business. Located just north of the city, you can still enjoy it today.

1588-1648 - Copenhagen's most remarkable buildings are built during the reign of King Christian IV, including [Rosenborg Castle](#) [6], the [Round Tower](#) [7], the [Old Stock Exchange](#). [8] Copenhagen's canals and [Kastellet \(The Old Citadel\)](#) [9].

1658 - The Swedes besiege Copenhagen.

1700s - Most of the old medieval city is destroyed by fires during different decades.

1748 - [Amalienborg Palace](#) [10], residence of Denmark's current [Queen](#) [11], and the Royal Danish Theatre (still at [Kongens Nytorv](#) [12] today) are built.

1775 - [Royal Copenhagen Porcelain](#) [13] founded.

1801-1807 - The British attack Copenhagen.

1830-1840 - Vesterbro, Nørrebro and Østerbro become a part of Copenhagen.

1843 - [Tivoli Gardens amusement park](#) [14] founded at the city's West Gate (Vesterport).

1847 - [Carlsberg Brewery](#) [15] founded. The original site will soon be a Carlsberg Experience Centre.

1847 - Copenhagen Central Station (Hovedbanegården) built.

1863 - Copenhagen's first tram, the first of its kind in Europe. Trams disappeared from city life in 1972.

1875 - Hans Christian Andersen, the world famous fairytale writer, dies in Copenhagen. You can visit his grave in [Assisten's Churchyard \(Assitens Kirkegaard\)](#) [16].

1905 - [Copenhagen City Hall \(Rådhuset\)](#) [17] is completed.

1905 - The first Pølsevogn (Sausage cart) established in Copenhagen.

1910 - Copenhagen opens its first bike path separated from road traffic.

1913 - [The Little Mermaid](#) [18] statue is unveiled.

1925 - [Copenhagen Airport](#) [19] opens for business.

1940-1945 - Copenhagen and Denmark occupied by the Nazis during WWII.

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1962 - The world's longest pedestrian shopping street, [Strøget](#) [20], is inaugurated for happy shoppers.

1971 - The [freetown of Christiania](#) [21] is founded by squatters on an old military site in the city's [Christianshavn district](#) [22].

2000 - The impressive [Oresund Bridge](#) [23], joining Denmark and Sweden, opens.

2002 - [Copenhagen's first metro line](#) [24] welcomes passengers.

2004 - The distinctive new [Opera](#) [25] opens on the waterfront.

2008 - British lifestyle magazine Monocle ranks Copenhagen as the best city in the world to live in.

## **Further reading**

Read more about [Copenhagen](#) [2].

Read more about [Historical Denmark](#) [26].

Book a [hotel in Copenhagen](#) [27].