

 NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

THE UK'S #1 TRAVEL MAGAZINE

TRAVELLER

UK EDITION // MARCH 2022 // £5.10

NATIONALGEOGRAPHIC.CO.UK/TRAVEL

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100TH ISSUE SPECIAL EDITION

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COPENHAGEN

When it comes to hotels, the design-focused Danish capital has it all, from glamorous five-stars to futuristic pod hotels and eco-conscious urban hangouts in the heart of the action. Words: Sarah Marshall



It could be a trick of the soft Scandi light, but everything in Copenhagen seems blessed with good looks. Immaculate royal palaces have dodged the ravages of time, while modern pieces of architecture are daring to the extreme. The accommodation is no exception either, with many of the city's best hotels much more than just somewhere to sleep. Bringing the past bang up to date, recent openings include a converted Carlsberg malt house and a century-old post office. Newer builds are equally head-turning — if only because of the remarkably affordable rates. Defying Copenhagen's pricey reputation, a new raft of fun, quirky hostels has popped up in the past few years, too, from stackable cabins to indoor tents. There's also been a shift towards more sustainable stays, with efficient, water-saving shower systems, vegan menus and eco materials all part of the city's drive to become carbon-neutral by 2025.



Best for style-seekers

☎☎☎ HOTEL SANDERS

Embrace the Danish obsession of *hygge* at this boutique hotel, where flames flicker in open fireplaces and shelves are stocked with good books. Owned by a former ballet dancer, the venue attracts a local crowd of creatives, who you'll find chatting away in the low-lit bar. The 54 rooms range from spacious apartments to compact singles inspired by the train cabins of golden-era travel. Book the property's private wooden boat for sightseeing tours along Nyhavn canal, with its famous row of coloured houses. Alternatively, borrow a bike to explore the neighbourhood, home to the Royal Theatre and the Royal Danish Opera.

ROOMS: DKK 2,107 (£241). hotelsanders.com

Best for theatregoers

☎☎ SCANDIC FALKÖNER

Copenhagen's answer to the West End, fashionable Frederiksberg has a colourful, theatrical past. Since 1958, the Falkoner Center has hosted a roll call of stage greats; look out for posters of Ella Fitzgerald and Judy Garland hanging from the walls of this 334-room hotel attached to the original venue. Inspired by retro music halls, the bar-lounge is decorated with vanity lamps and light-box readographs. Rooms are modern and comfortable, and the top floors command exceptional views. Pretty Frederiksberg Gardens is only a 10-minute walk away.

ROOMS: DKK 787 (£90). scandichotels.com