DENMARK GENERAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Before you go –

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office provides travel advice by country. It covers safety and security, local laws and customs, entry requirements, health and natural disasters along with a host of other useful information. We strongly recommend that students read the section related to their destination prior to departure and before undertaking any trip to another part of the country/region.


VISA REGULATIONS
As a British passport holder, you do not need a visa to enter Denmark. As a British passport holder you can stay as a visitor for up to 3 months. For longer stays, you should apply for a residence permit. If you have another nationality, you should contact the Danish Embassy in London.

On 4 January 2016, the Danish authorities increased border controls at the land border with Germany. If you’re travelling to Denmark from Germany using the land border, you should make sure you have your passport with you.

HEALTH
If you’re visiting Denmark you should get a free European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) before leaving the UK. The EHIC isn’t a substitute for medical and travel insurance, but it entitles you to state provided medical treatment that may become necessary during your trip. Any treatment provided is on the same terms as Danish nationals. The EHIC won’t cover medical repatriation, ongoing medical treatment or non-urgent treatment, so you should make sure you have adequate travel insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment and repatriation.

TERRORISM
There is a general threat from terrorism. Attacks could be indiscriminate, including in places frequented by foreigners.

On 14 and 15 February 2015, 2 shooting incidents occurred in the Østerbro and Krystalgade areas of Copenhagen. Two civilians were killed, 5 police officers were wounded and the suspected perpetrator was shot dead by Danish police. The Danish authorities consider both incidents to have been linked and terrorist-related.

There is considered to be a heightened threat of terrorist attack globally against UK interests and British nationals, from groups or individuals motivated by the conflict in Iraq and Syria. You should be vigilant at this time.

ARCTIC TRAVEL
Large numbers of British nationals travel successfully and safely in and around the Arctic each year. The Arctic is, however, a vast region, comprising the northerly areas of Canada, Finland, Greenland (Denmark), Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and Alaska (United States). In addition to reading the specific travel advice for each of these countries, prospective visitors to the Arctic should also consider carefully the potential remoteness of certain destinations from search and rescue, evacuation and medical facilities. Independent travellers are particularly advised to develop contingency arrangements for emergency back-up.
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The most popular way of visiting the Arctic is by ship. As some areas of the Arctic - specifically the more northerly and remote regions - can be uncharted and ice-covered, you should check the previous operational experience of cruise and other operators offering travel in the region. You should also consider the on-board medical facilities of cruise ships and talk to cruise operators as appropriate, particularly if you have a pre-existing medical condition. The eight Arctic States take their international search and rescue obligations very seriously, and have recently signed a binding agreement on search and rescue co-operation in the Arctic. However, in the highest latitude regions of the Arctic, cruise ships may be operating in relative isolation from other vessels and/or inhabited areas. You should be aware that in these regions, search and rescue response will often need to be despatched from many hundreds of miles away, and assistance to stranded vessels may take several days to arrive, particularly in bad weather. Search and rescue assets are also likely to offer only basic transport and basic medical care, and are unlikely to be capable of advanced life-support. Responsible cruise operators should happily provide additional information relevant to the circumstances of the cruise they are offering, and address any concerns you may have. Consular assistance and support to British nationals in the Arctic will be affected by the capacity of national and local authorities. You should make sure you have adequate travel insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment or potential repatriation.

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<th>Type</th>
<th>Nature of the Hazards</th>
<th>Procedures to minimise risks</th>
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<td><strong>Crime</strong></td>
<td>Crime levels remain relatively low. Most visits to Denmark are trouble-free, but you should be aware that the tourist season attracts pickpockets and bag-snatchers in crowded areas.</td>
<td>Keep your personal belongings, including passports and money, secure.</td>
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<td>The areas of Christiania and Nørrebro in Copenhagen are generally trouble-free, but there have been sporadic minor disturbances and confrontations with the authorities.</td>
<td>Whilst these incidents are mainly gang related and localised you should exercise extra caution in these areas.</td>
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<td>In Nørrebro in particular there have been a number of instances of violence between Hell's Angels and minority groups including shootings.</td>
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<td>Although Denmark is generally a liberal society, drug use is illegal and laws are enforced. Anyone found in possession of illegal drugs, deemed to be for personal consumption, will receive a police fine of DKK 500 (c. £55).</td>
<td>You should not become involved with drugs.</td>
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Please also note and be sensitive to the following:

- Within the Copenhagen inner city area during the tourist season you can rent city bicycles (available for a token fee). Cyclists found outside the inner city area on these bicycles may be fined. Other outlets hire out better quality bicycles for a reasonable fee.