

# A LUXX Long Weekend ...in Copenhagen

The perfect 48 hours in one of the world's most architecturally impressive capitals. By Kate Maxwell



The northern European Barr restaurant, a collaboration with the former Noma chef René Redzepi



The Henning Larsen-designed Royal Danish Opera House on the harbourfront with its foyer that resembles an insect's eye

DENMARK'S CAPITAL HASN'T gone out of style since Arne Jacobsen created his Egg chair here 60 years ago, and it's enjoying a design renaissance. Home-grown fashion is making its mark around the world (hello, Ganni!), next year Noma 2.0 will join the superlative restaurants started by Copenhagen's alumni, and a luxury boutique hotel has just opened in the city, which was previously a little short on high-end accommodation. Here's how to spend 48 hours in the city.

## Friday night

Check into **Hotel Sanders** (1, [hotelsanders.com](http://hotelsanders.com)), which is in an art nouveau building overlooking the Royal Danish Theatre – where its owner, the ballet dancer Alexander Kolpin, used to perform. With its mixture of mid-century and modern Danish furniture and a permanently lit wood fire in the lounge, the hotel feels like a hygge home-from-home. Next, head to **Ruby** (2, [rby.dk](http://rby.dk)), a Copenhagen institution on the first floor of a 1740 canal-side townhouse, where mixologists whip up seasonal cocktails. Make sure you book for dinner

at **Geranium** (3, [geranium.dk](http://geranium.dk)), which has three Michelin stars and where dishes are works of art.

## Saturday morning

Meet your guide from the **Danish Architecture Centre** (4, [dac.dk](http://dac.dk)) in the hotel lobby for a bicycle tour of the harbour, which has evolved from an industrial eyecore into one of Europe's premier architecture hubs. Then cycle to **The Apartment** (5, [theapartment.dk](http://theapartment.dk)), a furniture gallery that is masquerading as a home, where you'll find an immaculate edit of interiors pieces. Over Knippelsbro bridge, past a colourful strip of canal houses where Hans Christian Andersen lived, **Klassik** (6, [klassik.dk](http://klassik.dk)) is the place to find vintage Danish furniture. **Tiny Room 58** (7, [room58.dk](http://room58.dk)) specialises in originals – such as Arne Jacobsen's Swan chair – that were made the year the design was patented. All these stores will ship to the UK.

## Saturday afternoon

For lunch, **Palaegade** (8, [palaegade.dk](http://palaegade.dk)) is a cosy

spot that makes haute cuisine out of the humble smørrebrød sandwich. There are 40 types; try the lightly curried herring topped with a poached egg, red onion and capers. Then head over to the pedestrianised shopping area Strøget. Hit **Illums Bolighus** (9, [illumsbolighus.com](http://illumsbolighus.com)), an interiors-focused department store, then pick up contemporary furniture and accessories at **HAY House** (10, [hay.dk](http://hay.dk)). Pit-stop for a cup of filter coffee at the latest branch of the **Coffee Collective** (11, [coffeecollective.dk](http://coffeecollective.dk)) or try a flødeboller – a classy Tunnock's tea cake with a marzipan base – at **Summerbird** (12, [summerbird.dk](http://summerbird.dk)). Finish at **Illum** (13, [illum.dk](http://illum.dk)), where a personal shopper will show you the best of Scandi fashion, including designs by Ganni, Filippa K and Designers Remix.

## Saturday night

Having parked your bike at the Sanders, walk across the new Inner Harbour Bridge to **Barr** (14, [restaurantbarr.com](http://restaurantbarr.com)). A collaboration between the chef Thorsten Schmidt and the former Noma boss, René Redzepi, it opened in the latter's old



Danish design finds a new expression at the Hotel Sanders, which is owned by the former ballet dancer Alexander Kalpin



The wine director Søren Ledet (left) and the chef Rasmus Kofoed are the big hitters at Geranium, which has three Michelin stars

digs, which have been reimaged by the design firm Snøhetta. Beer is the order of the day, while standouts of the north European comfort-food menu include thick-cut beef tartare and cookies made using the chef's grandmother's recipes. After dinner head to the **Royal Danish Opera House** (15, [kglteater.dk](http://kglteater.dk)) to see Scandinavia's world-famous ensemble in action. The Henning Larsen-designed building is just as impressive inside as out, with a glass foyer that looks like an insect's eye and Olafur Eliasson disco balls that dance in front of the wooden walls.

### Sunday morning

After a lazy breakfast at the hotel, walk ten minutes away to the **King's Garden** (16, [parkmuseerne.dk](http://parkmuseerne.dk)), the grounds of King Christian IV's 400-year-old fairytale Rosenborg Castle. Enjoy the rose garden, which blossoms even in winter, then walk through the botanical garden and climb up the Palm House's cast-iron spiral staircase – the platform at the top gives you a bird's eye view of the tropical spread below.



### Sunday afternoon

The **Louisiana Museum of Modern Art** (17, [louisiana.dk](http://louisiana.dk)), 40km north of Copenhagen, has a superb collection and a stunning Øresund location. It's a 45-minute metro ride away from Nørreport station – get a takeaway fishcake with remoulade from Torvehallerne market's **Boutique Fisk** (18, [torvehallernekbh.dk](http://torvehallernekbh.dk)). Once you're there, don't miss the Giacometti Gallery or the sculpture park with its artworks by Moore, Calder and Serra.

### Sunday night

There's just time for another Nordic food fix before your flight. At **108** (19, [108.dk](http://108.dk)), a relaxed, elegant space, which opened last summer, Noma alumnus Kristian Baumann ferments, pickles and smokes produce grown on the restaurant's farm north of Copenhagen. His inventive dishes include addictive pork doughnuts and delicious deep-fried beech mushrooms with a smoked egg-yolk sauce.

*Hotel Sanders, Tordenskjoldsgade 15, ([hotelsanders.com](http://hotelsanders.com)); doubles from £370*