

In the footsteps of Hans Christian Andersen

Danish fairytale writer Hans Christian Andersen (1805-1875) lived most of his life in Copenhagen and today you can walk in his footsteps: From the picturesque canal, Nyhavn, where he lived, to The Royal Theatre, where he worked, to Tivoli, a source of inspiration for his writing.

A home near the harbour

Andersen lived some of his days in the picturesque *Nyhavn* - today a very popular harbour street with open air cafes, restaurants and bars facing the canal. In Nyhavn, at no. 20, Andersen wrote his first fairy tales in 1835. From 1845-64 he lived at no. 67, and in 1873, he returned to the area and lived at in no. 18 up until his death in 1875.



The Royal Theatre

During Andersen's first years in Copenhagen (1819-22), he fought desperately to gain a foothold in *The Royal Theatre* as a ballet-dancer, actor or singer. He never succeeded at these endeavors, but luckily, he turned to writing instead. Andersen wrote some plays for The Danish Royal Theatre, and today you can experience this thriving theatre scene on Kongens Nytorv, where uniquely, world-class ballet, opera and theatre companies coexist.



Tivoli - a fairytale of its own

The world's oldest amusement park, *Tivoli Gardens*, filled Andersen with enthusiasm, and inspired him to write the Nightingale fairytale. And no wonder: Right in the middle of town, Tivoli offers both the fun of the fair, the peace and tranquillity of a park and the ambience of the many open air cafes, restaurants and bars.

In the puppet children's theatre, the Hans Christian Andersen Castle and home of the Tivoli Guard, Andersen's fairytales are performed by dolls and people side by side. And in the Hans Christian Andersen shop you'll find lots of goods with motifs from Andersen's writing. Tivoli is open from mid April to mid September. Directly across the street from Tivoli's main entrance, you can have your snapshot taken with a large bronze statue of Andersen.



Tivoli is open mid April to mid September and November – December for Christmas market.

The Little Mermaid

The Little Mermaid (1837) is one of Andersen's most popular fairy tales (just think of the Disney movie based on the HC Andersen fairy tale). Copenhagen maintains a bronze statue (1913) in her honour at *Langelinie*, which continues to be one of the most visited tourist attraction in Denmark, and the most photographed statue in the world.



Experience H. C. Andersen

In 2003, a new H. C. Andersen house was built on the pedestrian street *Strøget* in Copenhagen. Here, advanced technology, theatre, lectures and exhibitions vitalize the life of Andersen and the cultural inheritance of his story-telling art.

Anniversary 2005

2005 is Andersen's bicentenary. In this context, he will be celebrated throughout the year in Copenhagen and all over the World.

You can visit Andersen's grave at the historic cemetery *Assistens Kirkegård* in Nørrebro. With unique vegetation and resting place of many famous Danes, among them philosopher *Søren Kirkegaard*, this cemetery is treated as a park and popular for Sunday strolls.

Statues of the author can be found in two city locations: Rosenborg Royal Gardens and along the side of City Hall. Try one of the themed tours with *Safari Tours*, a different way to explore the city. One such tour is "In the footsteps of Hans Christian Andersen".