



International Student Survival Guide



**BUSINESS
ACADEMY
SOUTHWEST**

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**BUSINESS
ACADEMY
SOUTHWEST**

Welcome

On behalf of the entire working staff of Business Academy South West, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome new and returning international students to the Academy. Business Academy South West is dedicated to the educational and personal development of all our students. We are proud of the size and diversity of our international student body and we currently have students from a vast number of countries studying on our campuses.

In this handbook you will find both practical information from International Office and also useful tips and information from other international students at Business Academy South West. The handbook is intended to provide you with guidance and information and we hope you will read it carefully and keep it close at hand throughout your time in Denmark. We also hope it will prepare you for any cultural adjustments you may have to make if this is your first time living in Denmark. The International Office and international coordinators at Business Academy South West are your first point of contact at the Academy. The International Office staff are available to assist you in communication with the Academy departments. Please do not hesitate to come to us if you have any concerns regarding issues either within or outside the Academy.

We wish all of our international students every success for the coming academic year and we hope that your experience at Business Academy South West will be rewarding, both personally and academically.

Henrik Larsen
Head of Academy



Business Academy South West

At Business Academy South West we are very happy to welcome you to Denmark and to Esbjerg. You have chosen to study at one of the largest business academies in Denmark. More than 800 students follow the academy's full time programmes and out of these approximately 30% follow one of the English taught programmes.

International Office & contact person

Business Academy South West has 2 campuses – the main campus is situated in Esbjerg and another one is situated in the south of Denmark in Sønderborg. At each campus there is a local international office or contact person that will be able to assist you. In the lists below you may find the name of your contact person and we encourage you to make yourself acquainted with your contact person at your campus.

Career Centre & contact person

The Career Centre at Business Academy South West may act as a source of inspiration and help you determine how to implement what you have in mind for your internship and your career. You are welcome to visit the Career Centre throughout your studies at the Academy - we offer both individual counselling and courses for groups of students.

The Career Centre helps you get an overview of



For International
EU/ECC students:

Liselotte Kaus
lka@easv.dk



For International
NON-EU students:

Anne Chuah
acc@easv.dk

the opportunities you have for your internship and personal career and provide you with tools that you can use to help you achieve your goals. We organise courses in how to write a good letter of application and compose a good résumé/CV and provide training in interviews for internships and jobs – to name just some of the ways in which we can help you. To find out more about the Career Centre go to www.easv.dk/karriere-og-studiekontoret.html



Jesper Ottesen
jo@easv.dk



Britta Bendix Jensen
bbj@easv.dk

You find the Career Centre in the Canteen area together with the international office at Business Academy South West Sp. Kirkevej 103, 6700 Esbjerg.

Do feel free to contact us if you have any questions that you cannot find the answer to in this guide.

Studying at Business Academy South West

- A Flexible pathway to education
At Business Academy South West we offer both Academy Profession Degree Programmes (AP degree) and Bachelor's programmes.

An AP degree programme corresponds to the first two years of a normal bachelor's programme. A full-time AP degree programme provides you with 120-150 ECTS points depending on the specific programme. After completing typically 2 years of studying, you receive a final diploma.

The AP degree programme provides a qualification in itself but may also be a dynamic way to get a long-cycle education. Therefore you have the option to enter work life directly after your final exams or continue your studies to a Bachelor's degree at one of our top-up programmes or at another institution in Denmark or abroad.

Going abroad during your studies

We encourage our students to take part of their education outside Denmark. Depending on the programme you study, you have the opportunity to go abroad either as part of a study abroad programme or in connection with doing your internship.

We hold an Extended Erasmus University Charter and thus, we are able to award a number of students with Erasmus grants in connection with stays abroad. You can find more information

about international opportunities at www.easv.dk/international-uk/information-for-outgoing-students.html

Danish language courses

We strongly encourage our international students to learn Danish during their stay in Denmark. Your study programme is taught in English and you will be able to get by with just speaking English, however when getting to know a new culture, it is very important to speak the language. Additionally you will be looking for an internship at some point during your studies, and here, being able to speak Danish will provide you with a great advantage.

International students have the possibility of studying Danish in the Esbjerg Language Centre which offers courses at all levels (starting with 'absolute beginner') free of charge. The centre offers the students the possibility of passing a language exam at the end of their course if they want to certify their knowledge of the language.

Contact: Sprogcenter Esbjerg,
phone: +45 76106350,
email: esbjerg@laerdansk-sydvest.dk

NB! We try every year to start a class for Danish language here at the academy in cooperation with Sprogcenter Esbjerg. However we cannot promise this for each semester. Please ask at the international office for more details.



Code of Conduct at Business Academy South West

- Punctuality

Despite the fact that you will experience a very relaxed atmosphere in Denmark, please note that punctuality is very important to Danes and to Business Academy South West. Therefore you must be in class according to your schedule and you must show up to be seated, when the class begins.

- Examinations and grading system

The examination methods at Business Academy South West are both oral and written. The Danish grading system is a 7-point grading scale. The grades are represented as follows:

12: For an excellent performance

10: For a very good performance

7: For a good performance

4: For a fair performance

02: For an adequate performance (lowest passing grade)

00: For an inadequate performance

-3: For an unacceptable performance

Additional information on examination requirements is provided to you during the first semester and may additionally be found in the syllabus and curriculum of the programme. Please see under your specific programme at www.easv.dk.

- Assignments

All mandatory assignments and projects must be completed by the deadline stated. In case of illness or other appropriate reason of not deliver-

ing your assignment on time, you must inform the lecturer as soon as possible and before the deadline.

- Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's words, ideas, concepts, arguments, designs or work as your own. You plagiarise when you copy or use another's work without due acknowledgment, or when you knowingly allow someone to use your own work in this way.

Examples:

- If you copy something from the Internet without referencing it and present it as your own work.
- If you copy a friend's/classmate's work and present it as your own.
- If you allow a friend/classmate to copy your work and present it as his/her own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and students who plagiarise will have to answer to their department and may then be referred to the Council at Business Academy South West.

Penalties may include one or more of the following: a warning, a requirement to resubmit the work in question, loss of marks or outright failure for the work, failure in an entire subject/exam or expulsion from the Academy.

At each examination samples are taken and checked for plagiarism!

- Cheating

Cheating can take the form of crib notes, looking over someone's shoulder during an exam, or any forbidden sharing of information between students regarding an exam or exercise.

Cheating at Business Academy South West is absolutely forbidden and the punishment for doing it will be the most severe one. There are different types of cheating and the smallest punishment will be retaking the exam/assignment and the biggest will be an expulsion from the Academy. If a student cheats at an exam, he/she should know that there will be immediate consequences.



International Day

Practical matters

When you arrive in Denmark, there are certain things you have to do:

Registration (for EU/EEA citizens)

As soon as you arrive in Denmark you have to register to have an EU residence certificate, a national health insurance certificate and a tax card.

For your EU/EEA residence certificate, please visit:

Statsforvaltningen Ribe
Sorsigvej 35, 6760 Ribe
Phone: +45 72567900

Opening hours:

Monday – Wednesday: 11.00 – 14.30
Thursday: 12.00 – 16.00
Friday: Closed

For your health insurance card (Yellow card), please visit:

Citizens' Services Esbjerg (Borgerservice)
The Town Hall (Rådhuset)
Torvegade 74, 6700 Esbjerg
Opening hours:
Monday – Wednesday: 09.00 – 14.00
Thursday: 09.00 – 17.00
Friday: 09.00 – 14.00

For your tax card, please visit:

The Tax Office (Skattecenter Esbjerg)
Address: Adgangsvejen 3, 6700 Esbjerg

Phone: +45 72 22 18 18

Opening hours:

Monday: 10.00 – 16.00
Tuesday – Friday: 10.00 – 14.00

Please note that you must have received your residence certificate from the State Administration before you can visit the Citizens' Services Esbjerg to obtain your Health Insurance Card (yellow card).

When applying for your residence certificate, you must turn up in person and bring all the relevant documents with you:

- Your passport
- A passport photo
- Your Final Letter of Admission from the Academy

You must also be able to prove the following:

- Your full name
- Your date of birth and place of birth registration
- Your most recent address abroad
- The date of changing your address
- Your future address in Denmark
- Your nationality

Residence permit

Nordic citizens are included under agreements between the Nordic countries that specify the right to enter and reside in Denmark without possession of a residence permit. The rest of EU/EEA citizens must apply for an EU/EEA residence certificate from the local authority (State Administration for Ribe). You must apply for this immediately after having arrived in Esbjerg.

The application form can be obtained at the State Administration office or you can download the form from the internet: http://www.nyidanmark.dk/resources.ashx/Resources/Blanketter/Ansoegningsskemaer/2008/OD1_ansoegning_eu_opholdsdokument_statsforvaltningen.pdf

The form must be delivered in person when completed. Your EU/EEA residence certificate will be sent to your home address in Denmark.

Please note: For the students and exchange students starting for new studies in August we will organise a bus to



take us to Ribe and do the residence permit – please ask at the international office before you do anything by yourself.

Registration for non-EU citizens

Citizens from countries outside the EU/EEA must acquire a residence permit from the Danish authorities in their own country BEFORE coming to Denmark.

Please note that you will be charged a processing fee to submit an application for a residence permit.

Personal Identification Number (CPR number)

In Denmark all residents are registered in the National Civil Register and have a CPR number (Personal Identification Number).

When you register at Citizen Services Esbjerg (Borgerservice), you get a 10-digit CPR number. The first six digits state your date of birth (day, month, year) and the last four numbers uniquely identify all people living in Denmark. The last digit identifies your gender – women have an even number, men have an uneven number.

The CPR number is used for registration and personal identification. It is a good idea to memorise your CPR number. You will have to use it over and over. It is also important that you remember to give your CPR number to the student administration.

The national health insurance certificate

Everyone residing in Denmark has the right to public health insurance and hospital assistance. Students from the EU, EEA (Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein), Greenland, the Faroe Islands, Switzerland, Turkey, Pakistan, Morocco, Quebec, Macedonia, who can document that they are or have been covered by the public health insurance in their home countries, are covered by the Danish health insurance as soon as they arrive in Denmark.

For students from other countries, however, there is a waiting period of six weeks after having registered at the National Registration Office. During this period you must pay for any medical treatment you need, so you are advised to take out a private health insurance for these six weeks. Your yellow Health Insurance Card will be mailed to you, and should always be carried on you. Should you become ill and need to see a general practitioner before you receive your Health Insurance Card and your CPR number, you may contact the below doctor:

Læge (doctor) Ole Busch
Address: Nørregade 63C, 6700 Esbjerg
Phone: +45 75139513 between 8.00 – 9.00

When you receive your Health Insurance Card, your permanent general practitioner's name and phone number will appear from the card.





Student job

Many international students choose to work while living in Denmark. The kind of student job you may find if you do not speak Danish will of course be limited to jobs not requiring Danish speaking skills.

These typically include:

- Cleaning
- Window cleaning
- Restaurants and cafés
- Stocking shelves in a supermarket
- Newspaper distribution companies

If you have special skills, like e.g. computer programming, it may be easier to find a job.

Jobs can be found through local newspaper ads (some local newspapers are free, e.g. Ugeavisen Esbjerg, through specialized agencies or through other students who already have a job or who have been in Esbjerg for some time.

Work permit

Nordic citizens are free to reside, study and work in Denmark without a permit. EU/EAA citizens automatically receive a work permit with their residence permit. We recommend that students work a maximum of 15 hours a week, in order to cope with the workload required for full-time studies.

Non-EU students are limited to working no more than 15 hours a week, but full-time during the months of June, July and August.

A work permit sticker will be placed in their passport.

Tax

The tax system in Denmark is rather complicated, as there are income thresholds that correspond to different tax levels. In short, taxes can range from 8 to above 50% of a taxpayer's gross income. The large taxes are a logical consequence of welfare policies such as free health care and free education.

If you get a job, you will have to pay tax in Denmark. To get a tax card, please go to the The Tax Office in Esbjerg:

The Tax Office (Skattecenter Esbjerg)
Address: Adgangsvejen 3, 6700 Esbjerg
Phone: +45 72221818

As soon as you have a work permit and your CPR number and bring your passport you can get a tax card straight away.

Favourable taxation rules: There might be favourable taxation rules applying for students coming from the following countries: China, the Faroe islands, Greenland, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Morocco, Pakistan, the Philippines, Romania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, the Ukraine, Venezuela, Vietnam, and Zambia. Please contact SKAT for further information. You might refer to "dobbeltbeskatningsaftalerne".

Bank account

If you find a student job in Denmark, you must open an account in a Danish bank. We recommend:

Danske Bank, Torvet, 6700 Esbjerg

To obtain a bank account you have to show your passport and CPR number. You will get an account and a card within two weeks.

Money matters

- Currency

The Danish currency is the kroner (DKK), divided into 100 øre.

The exchange rate is approximately 7.45 DKK for 1 EURO.

Approximate budget

You must expect the living expenses in Denmark to be higher than in your home country, please see the approximate budget below as guidance to expenses on the monthly budget.

Monthly expenses:

- Rent (single room in a dormitory) DKK 2,200-3,000
- Food DKK 1,500
- Bus card (monthly season card) DKK 340
- Phone DKK 200-300
- Internet (if not included in the rent) DKK 100

Prices of some goods and services:

- Bike (second-hand) DKK 300-500
- Academic books DKK 1,300-4,000

- Buffet in the academy canteen approx. DKK 25 (depending on how much you eat)
 - A cup of coffee in the academy canteen DKK 8
 - A beer in the academy bar DKK 10
 - A liter of milk in a shop DKK 6
 - A 1.5 liter soda drink in a shop DKK 18-22
- We do strongly recommend that you have enough money to be able to support yourself during the first six months in Denmark.

Wages

Denmark has set a minimum wage of around 100 DKK (13 EUR) per hour, before tax.



Accommodation

It can be difficult to find accommodation in Esbjerg and you must expect waiting times. The first thing you must do when you even consider moving to Esbjerg to study, is to register at the waiting list of Student Housing Agency (Esbjerg Kollegieforening).

You must apply electronically and update your registration every month to be actively searching for housing and to move forward on the waiting lists.

Student accommodation in Esbjerg is managed by:

Esbjerg Kollegieforening
Nygardsvej 37, 6700 Esbjerg
Phone: +45 76135050

www.e-k-f.dk

Please note: You must inform the Citizens' Services Esbjerg (Borgerservice) and the Academy if you change your address.

Rent

The prices for student accommodation vary according to the type of room, the location and other amenities. Usually, the rent for a single room ranges from DKK 2,000 to 3,200 per month. The rent has to be paid in advance, at the beginning of each month.

The website of Kollegieforeningen includes information about the renting rates for all the dorms.

Furniture

It is only for our Exchange students (Erasmus and other exchange programs) that we can offer furnished rooms and information about this you can get by contacting the international office at Business Academy South West.

There are more ways of acquiring furniture:

- furniture stores such as Ikea, which have generally low prices and medium quality items;
- second-hand furniture stores which practice even lower prices and

- buying second-hand furniture directly from other students.

Deposit

A deposit is mandatory when moving into a new room. The amount to be paid varies (it is usually larger for private accommodation), but it usually amounts to the equivalent of 2 to 3 months' rent. A new deposit has to be paid every time the student moves from one room to another or from one dormitory to another. However, the old deposit will be returned after leaving the initial room but it could take (including formalities) from 1 to 3 months.

Utilities

- Internet

At the dormitories administered by Kollegieforeningen, internet access is not included in the rent price. An additional fee is to be paid for the internet connection. You will have to apply for internet access and it can take 1 – 2 weeks to get it



activated.

Usually it is the internet company "Dansk Kabel tv" which offers internet in Esbjerg dorms – look at www.danskkabeltv.dk

- Electricity, heating and water
The price for the basic amenities is almost always included in the rent and it is a fixed amount thus not changing from one month to another.

Moving in/moving out

New tenants can move in upon reception of their keys from the respective student residences, during office hours and after an inspection of the room. In order to receive full details, please discuss this either with the contact person from Kollegiekontoret or a representative of the dormitory. You will also need to sign a lease contract (a translated copy of the standard contract is to be found on www.studenthousing.dk)

- Moving in
If your lease starts on a Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday, you can move in on the following weekday. If you arrive during a weekend, make plans to stay at a youth hostel for a night or two. You can also contact other students, colleagues or friends and ask them to host you for a night or two.

If you arrive on a weekday, check the opening hours of the lease office in order to receive the key on that exact day. Usually, the check-in has to be made in the morning (before 14.00) and some

offices are closed on Fridays as well as during the weekend.

When you move into a room at a residence hall, you will receive an inspection report of the room. IMPORTANT: Make sure you check the report in order to see that the information is correct! Complaints should be made immediately.

- Moving out
In accordance with the lease contract, notice of termination should usually be given at least 6 weeks prior to the 1st or the 15th of a month you wish to leave the room. Usually, a form must be filled out and handed in to the office in charge of the dormitory. The deposit will be returned only after the lease contract has expired (in the case of moving, probably after the new deposit is due). In the case of most student residences, the room has to be vacated 7 days prior to the expiration of the lease contract (for maintenance purposes). Be sure to contact the caretaker, the janitor or the office responsible for the dormitory to clarify the conditions for moving out.

What to bring

Even if you live in one of the furnished student residences, you will still need to bring a blanket/duvet and bed sheets. Cutlery and dishes may be available in the common kitchens, as well as cooking utensils. You should bring other personal items important to you. There is the possibility of acquiring the necessary things upon your arrival, but the strictly necessary things should accompany you, as you may find the first days confusing.

Long-term private accommodation

There is also the possibility of renting a room or an apartment on your own. There are usually ads in the newspapers, and real estate agencies have a list of available places to rent. While the rent can be smaller in some cases (but not all), the deposit is usually larger when it comes to private accommodation.

If you choose this kind of accommodation, you will be able to move in on the date that your contract begins and move out according to the conditions stated in the contract. Please note that you are responsible for contacting the landlord or the owner of the rented room/flat about details of your arrival or moving out.

Short-term accommodation

If you arrive in Esbjerg during the weekend or at a time when your room is not available, there are several options for short-term stays (please note, however, that these are rather expensive compared to the monthly rent of a student residence room).

You can find the Youth hostel in:
www.danhostel.dk

There is also a number of hotels in Esbjerg, with higher prices than the hostel, which can be found either at www.visitesbjerg.dk or at www.esbjerg.dk.

Medical consultation

- General practitioners

You must contact your general practitioner if you need medical consultation. You call the doctor to make an appointment. Most doctors have phone consultations one hour a day. You also have to contact your general practitioner if you need a referral to a specialist or if you need a medicine prescription. Your doctor's phone number will show on your yellow Health Insurance Card. Danish doctors are typically open between 8.00 and 16.00 Monday to Friday.

- After-hours medical assistance

After-hours medical assistance is available from 16.00 to 8.00 Monday to Friday and 24 hours a day at weekends and on public holidays. Call the after-hours doctor in the event of sudden illness or if your condition worsens. You will speak to a doctor who will decide whether or not you should attend a medical unit. You must have an appointment with the after-hours doctor to visit the after-hours medical unit, so please do not leave home without calling first!

The after-hours medical doctor's number is:
+45 701 10707

- Emergency room

If you are bleeding, have broken a limb, or have any other serious injury, you can be treated at the hospital emergency room. You must make an appointment, so always call before you leave home! The Emergency room phone number is:
+45 701 10707

In the event of accident or life threatening situations, call 112 for an ambulance.

- Pharmacy

Pharmacies can be found many places in Esbjerg and the suburbs. The Pharmacy at Kongensgade "Krone Apoteket" is open all hours. You may be charged extra when shopping at this pharmacy after normal closing time.

Phone: +45 75129211

Police

The duty of the Danish Police is to help and protect the citizens. Therefore do not hesitate to call the police if you need help.

This can be in case of:

- theft or robbery
- assault
- loss of property, especially travelling documents, passport etc.

The police can also be helpful in guiding you round the local area, informing you about the traffic rules, regulations, and the Danish laws.

In case of emergency, call THE EMERGENCY SERVICES 112 (only in case of emergency) and ask for "Police".

The Police Station (Politi)
Kirkegade 76, 6700 Esbjerg
Phone: +45 76111448

Post office

Letter boxes are red in Denmark and stamps, envelopes etc. can be bought at all post offices, bookshops, and at most kiosks. The main post office you find in the big square in Esbjerg at the statue Horse near Danske Bank.

Library

During your studies you will be introduced to a lot of new learning materials. You will be able to buy your books from the bookstore and you can borrow books at the libraries.

Main Library
Nørregade 19
6700 Esbjerg

Opening hours: Weekday from 10 - 18.00
Saturday from 10 - 14.

From student to student

- Welcome to Esbjerg
We as international students at Business Academy South West would like to extend our warm welcome to all new and returning international students to Esbjerg.

Moving away from home and being in a totally new and different country is surely one of the biggest steps in life towards independence and in search of who we are.

It has been a wonderful journey for us as international students at Business Academy South West and also living in Esbjerg. We have gone through mixed emotions of excitement and frustration when we first arrived here due to the new environment and not knowing what challenges that lay ahead of us. We have gained so much experience here during our studies at Business Academy South West and the stay in Esbjerg. We have made new friends from other countries, some of us found love (-:-) and we definitely managed to broaden our horizon.

With this guide about living in Esbjerg we would like to share some of our experiences with you on where to go and what to do in your spare time. We bid you welcome and wish you a pleasant and smooth transition.

Your exciting journey starts here in Esbjerg.

Katharina Halajova, Bratislava, Slovakia
- International student in AP Degree in Marketing Management 2011 - 2013

Survival dictionary

Days of the week:

Monday - mandag

Tuesday - tirsdag

Wednesday - onsdag

Thursday - torsdag

Friday - fredag

Saturday - lørdag

Sunday - søndag

Numbers from 1 to 10:

one - en

six - seks

two - to

seven - syv

three - tre

eight - otte

four - fire

nine - ni

five - fem

ten - ti

Other commonly used words and expressions:

Hello - hej

See you - vi ses

How are you? - hvordan går det?

I am ... - jeg er ...

I am a student - jeg er studerende

I come from ... - jeg kommer fra..

I study ... - jeg studerer ...

What is your name? - hvad hedder du?

Nice to meet you - rart at møde dig

Thank you - tak

Goodbye - farvel

Useful links and addresses

Information sites:

www.visitesbjerg.com

www.esbjerg.dk

Good to know about life in Esbjerg

- City of Esbjerg

Esbjerg is the third largest city in Denmark and 115.000 people choose to live in Esbjerg Municipality, which covers an area of 752 km². Esbjerg Municipality is filled with contrasts from the Wadden Sea to the North Sea, from Ribe, the oldest town in Scandinavia filled with 1300 years history to the young city of Esbjerg of only 140 years. Combined with a rich cultural and sports life Esbjerg Municipality is in a league of its own. Esbjerg is a pleasant place to live because of its relaxing and serene environment due to its closeness to the beautiful forests and beaches. For students there are a lot of different opportunities for study and this is one reason why Esbjerg manages to attract a lot of students from Denmark, Europe and outside Europe.

There is always something for everyone to experience in Esbjerg; and events organised throughout the year, fascinating nightlife, beautiful beaches, amazing nature to explore and warm cosy restaurants, cafes and pubs to go to if you are feeling hungry or simply just because you want to enjoy your café latte while you watch people.

- Learn more about Esbjerg:

www.esbjerg.dk
www.visitesbjerg.com
www.studiebyenesbjerg.dk

- Danish and the Danes

The Danes are generally very down to earth, friendly and fun-loving people. They may seem

reserved at first, not because they do not like you or are unfriendly; but Danes just have to get to know you a little before opening up. So do not be discouraged when you feel like you are getting the cold shoulder, you just have to give the Danes some time and eventually they will come around! As there are things in Denmark that you might find very different as compared to what you are used to at home it is important to be open to the new culture. After all, studying in a different country is what makes it interesting and is the opportunity to gain valuable experiences, so do not be afraid to break out of your comfort zone. Knowledge of Danish culture and language may help to ease the transition and to get to know a Dane or two!

We strongly encourage you to learn the Danish language although you might find it easy to manage with English as most Danes speak English. However, you will need Danish to open doors to Danes, to be able to get a proper student job and later when you have to find a company for your internship in Denmark. Moreover, the Danish language courses are available for international students free of charge so it is an opportunity not to be missed for you to know another language which you can add into your curriculum vitae (CV) later. You will find more information on Danish courses under “Business Academy South West” earlier in this guide.

Denmark may be, in some areas, slightly more liberal than some countries. Danes are, by law, allowed to drive, vote and drink from the age of 18. Drinking is an integral part of Danish culture



but it is not un-cool to refuse a drink as such a refusal is always respected.

But it is definitely illegal and it is not cool to drink and drive!

Denmark is a Lutheran country but other Christian denominations and religious groups and associations exist here in Denmark. There are many churches all over the country with very beautiful architecture.

When you are in Denmark, you will experience or hear a lot of the word ‘hygge’ or ‘hyggeligt’. The word ‘hygge’ is hard to translate directly into English but it is closely related to warmth, coziness and comfort. ‘Hygge’ can be described as spending good time with friends and family by drinking, eating and catching up with each other by just having a relaxing time. ‘Hygge’ plays an important role in the Danish culture as it shows how much Danes cherish each others’ company and also appreciate their everyday life. So if a Dane tells you “Det var rigtig hyggeligt” (it was very nice), that is a huge compliment.



Getting around

The public transport in Esbjerg is well planned and it is therefore very easy and convenient to travel around. You will find the travel planner from this website www.rejseplanen.dk very useful because it will show you which bus or train to take to your destination, and it shows how long it will take in order for you to reach your destination all over Denmark. You can check which bus to take for your journey and the approximate duration if you have to walk from bus stop A to bus stop B and the time for the next bus, for example if you need to change buses. The result will also provide you with the route map so you will not get lost easily. You just need to fill in the departure address and your arrival address in Denmark. You can also find more information on its mobile application for Android or iPhone from its website www.rejseplanen.dk.

The website is available in UK (English), DE (German) and DK (Danish) by selecting one of the language/flag icons at the bottom of the page.

- Busses in Esbjerg
Travelling by the yellow city bus is one of the most

convenient ways to get around in Aarhus. Aarhus is divided into 4 zones and the price varies for the different zones. You can buy single ride tickets from the machine in the bus; multiple ride tickets which consist of 10 clips from selected outlets like 7-eleven, or a monthly ticket. The single and multiple ride tickets are valid for 2 hours from the time of purchase/use and if you are still travelling after the two hours, then you are required to get a new ticket. It is much more economical to get the monthly ticket if you are using the bus daily. There will be random checks by the bus inspectors for valid tickets, and passengers who do not possess a valid ticket will be fined approximately DKK 600 and it is not negotiable! Single ride tickets cost from DKK 20 and multiple ride tickets with 10 clips cost from DKK 120 depending on the amount of zones you want to travel. Monthly 30 day tickets cost from DKK 345 also depending on the number of zones you are travelling through.

For example, if you have a monthly ticket for zone 1-2 and you wish to travel to zone 3, you can just purchase an additional zone ticket from the machine in the bus and it costs an additional DKK 8. However, it will cost you double to travel during

the night so you need to get an additional ticket. Sales of monthly and multiple ride tickets are available during the weekdays from the trainstation

You can also get the multiple ride tickets from most of the supermarkets or kiosks.

For more information about the city bus system, please visit:

www.sydtrafik.dk

- Blue regional bus
The blue bus drives to smaller cities and to cities outside Esbjerg and make stops in towns along the way. Few yellow busses travel after midnight during the weekends so the blue busses also operate as night busses. The yellow bus ticket rates are the same as for the blue bus.

- Airport bus
The airport bus travels directly to/from the Billund Airport and stops at/departs from Esbjerg city centre (Banegårdspladsen, Esbjerg) For more information check www.billund-aorport.dk

- Trains - Wildcard

You can travel around in Denmark or around Europe by train. The train ticket price varies, depending on the time you book or purchase your ticket. If it is your first time buying the train ticket over the counter, the personnel will normally ask you if you are a student aged 16 to 26 years old or if you have a DSB WildCard. If you are 16-26 years old, you can apply for the DSB WildCard which gives you great discounts for your ticket.

www.dsb.dk

- Taxi

It can be very expensive to travel by taxi in Denmark. The taxi start rate is from DKK 30 during the day and DKK 41 during the night and it can cost up to DKK 150 [5 km] during the day.

Phone numbers for:

Esbjerg Taxa: +45 144500

- Bicycles

Esbjerg is a bicycle friendly city with special bicycle lanes and it is easy to go around in the city with bicycle. Many students buy their bicycles from other students who have completed their studies in Esbjerg but you can also buy cheap second-hand bicycles at the police auctions.

To find more info about the auctions check:

<https://www.politi.dk/da/borgerservice/hittegods/hittegodsauktioner/>

- Cars

If you are planning to drive your car into Denmark, please make sure that you have proper documentation for it. For more information, you have to contact the tax office directly. Find out more at their website www.skat.dk or call +45 7222 1818.

Shopping

Most shops accept Dankort/Visa but only some places accept MasterCard. Foreign credit cards without your pin code or security code might not be accepted in certain places. But you can always pay in cash preferably in Danish kroner (DKK). Shops' opening hours are normally from 9.00 am to 6.00 pm. Some of the shops are open later and closes as early as 4.00 pm or 1.00 pm on Saturdays. Shops are closed on Sundays and on Danish holidays and are only open on the first Sunday of the month. It is always wise to check their opening hours online before going to the shop.

- Fashion

The pedestrian street Kongensgade is the longest shopping street in Denmark with unique shops and boutiques, and it is the heart of the city. Here you can find everything your heart desires from trendy clothing boutiques, famous chain shops like H&M, exquisite delicacies and designer shops to the amazing Danish architectural buildings like the Music House. Go crazy and shop till you drop as all the shops are within walking distance.

- Grocery shopping

It is much cheaper to cook on your own when you are here and save going out for special occasions. You can find discount grocery chain shops like Netto, Fakta, Aldi and Lidl around Esbjerg. There are also supermarkets like Føtex, Kvickly, SuperBrugsen and SuperBest where you can shop. These shops will always have weekly good discounts or deals, so it will not be so expensive after all.

NETTO www.netto.dk

FAKTA www.fakta.dk

FØTEX www.foetex.dk

KVICKLY www.kvickly.dk

SUPERBRUGSEN www.superbrugsen.dk

SUPERBEST www.superbest.dk

ALDI www.aldi.dk

LIDL www.lidl.dk

Music

If you want to have a nice evening in town and at the same time listen to nice music Esbjerg has two extraordinary event places:

The music House Esbjerg (Musikhuset Esbjerg)
www.mhe.dk

Tobakken
www.tobakken.dk

Going out in Esbjerg

The café, restaurant and pub-life of Esbjerg is very active indeed with plenty of smaller and bigger spots for different tastes. Most popular places for cafes, restaurants and pubs are along Skolegade in the city centre. Here you find both discos and cafés.

Sports

Many students choose to join a student sports organisation mostly because of the price which is half the cost than other sports clubs in Esbjerg. If you want to sign up for one of the big clubs for fitness you can join:

Fitness World
www.fitnessworld.dk

Fitness DK
www.fitness-dk.dk

