Accommodation

Danish universities do not have a tradition for on-campus housing. Most students live in student halls of residences situated some distance from campus. An efficient public transport system also makes it easy to travel between your residence, campus and the city centre.
Start looking months before you arrive

You should start to look for accommodation months before you arrive, as it can be very difficult to find accommodation right before the semester begins. Therefore, we strongly advise you to contact your Danish host institution for information about housing as soon as you have been accepted into a study programme.

Please be aware that it can be especially difficult to find accommodation in the bigger cities during August and September. We advise against travelling to Denmark at this time without reserving a room first.

Types of accommodation

Some international students prefer to rent a room or a sub-let from a Danish student or landlord. Student halls of residence is also an option. Others rent an apartment or a house, which they share with friends. Whether you choose to live in a student residence, apartment or house you will have to cater for yourself. Cleaning and doing your laundry are also your own responsibility. Look for the mentioned types of accommodation.

Student halls of residence (‘kollegier’)

Student residences offer accommodation in a communal environment. This kind of living may be particularly suitable for international students who have just arrived and don’t know anyone yet. Besides, the rent for a room is generally cheaper than that of a private room. Find a students halls of residence in Denmark.

FAQ

Can I bring my dog? It is not easy to find housing that allows you to bring any kind of pet. Most student residences and apartments have regulations concerning domestic animals. However, you can explore the possibilities by asking your host institution for advice.

Can I bring my family? As a student it is possible to apply for a bigger student residence if you have a family. Alternatively, you could look for private housing that suits your needs. You should expect it to take a little longer to find, however, than just a single room.

I have allergies. Can I get a room without carpets? It is certainly possible to find housing that accommodates this type of special needs. You need to mention this when applying or ask your host institution for advice.
Find Housing

First, visit the website of your host institution and follow any recommendations you find here in terms of student housing. Also, listed below are useful websites to look for rooms and apartments for rent in Denmark.

Consult your host institution

As a first step, we advice you to visit the website of your Danish host institution and follow any recommendations that you find there.

How to find accommodation in Denmark and what to be aware of

When you have decided that you want to study in Denmark, whether it is for an entire degree or a single semester, then you are in need of permanent housing. We will try to help you navigate around the Danish housing market with do's and don'ts and a little dictionary.

Get to know the cities

If you are moving to one of the bigger Danish cities, it is nice to have an idea of the many postal codes there are. The further away from the city center you get, the larger your housing will be. If you want your home to be in the center of the city, you should search for rooms, and not entire apartments, as this will often be too expensive for students. In Denmark, it is very common for students to share apartments, or even live as a collective. Therefore, get to know the cities, and whether or not you are ready for shared accommodation.

How to enter the Danish housing market

In Denmark, it is common to use the internet as the main source on the hunt for an apartment. There are online portals which only functions as a tool to connect tenants with landlords or other distributors of housing. Here, you can search for accommodation through different functions such as city, size, etc. The majority of online portals for finding accommodation costs a small fee to give you the ability to communicate with multiple landlords. You write them a message, normally introducing yourself and tell them why you are a reliable tenant.

See the list below for housing links (both free and pay-to-view)
The Danish rules

In Denmark, a few things are common when it comes to renting an apartment. You pay your rent every month on the first business day - at the latest. Danes are very punctual, which is important to respect. When you move into a place it is common to pay a deposit. The rule is that the value of the deposit maximum can be the value of three months’ rent. It is also common to prepay rent, so your last one, two or three months (maximum) rent already is paid for. Utilities such as water, heating and electricity are often paid ‘a conto’. This means that you every quarter pay an estimate, and annually you will receive a refund, if you have paid too much, or an invoice if you have used more than you have paid for. When you find your place, it is very important that you have a contract which both you and the landlord signs.

Student housing links

There are also local websites, which cover student housing within a specific city:

- ungdomsboliger.dk (‘youthhousing.dk’)  
  Links to student-housing across Denmark (http://www.ungdomsboliger.dk/?id=navigationskort&lang=en)
- www.studenterguiden.dk
  Links to student housing across Denmark (https://studenterguiden.dk/en)
- Copenhagen  
  Student- and Youth Accommodation Office Copenhagen (KKIK) (http://www.kollegerneskontor.dk/default.aspx?&lang=GB) administers application procedures and distribution of rooms for 18 different student residence halls in and around Copenhagen
- Aarhus  
  Student Housing Aarhus (http://www.studenthousingaarhus.com/) offers more than 8000 accommodations exclusively for students in Greater Aarhus
- Aalborg  
  AKU-Aalborg assigns rooms/apartments in Aalborg (http://translate.google.dk/-translate?u=http://www.aku-aalborg.dk/&hl=da&langpair=auto|en&tbm=1&ie=UTF-8)
- Odense  
  Studiebolig Odense (http://www.studiebolig-odense.dk/?language=en) is a collaboration of 7 student residence houses in Odense (http://www.studiebolig-odense.dk/Kollegieboligselskabet (http://kollegieboligselskabet.dk/exchange-students) also offer rooms at various student residence halls
- Esbjerg  
  Information on student housing in Esbjerg (http://www.e-k-f.dk/#googtrans(da|en))
- Sønderborg  
  Information on student housing in Sønderborg (http://www.kk.kollegie6400.dk/en/)

Rent from outgoing students (short-term rent)

If you are looking for housing for a shorter period (e.g. as an exchange student) one option could be to contact Danish students who will be studying abroad in the same time period that you will be studying in Denmark. You can use a service such as Housinganywhere (http://www.housinganywhere.com) connecting ingoing with outgoing exchange students. You could also try asking the individual student houses (listed above) if they could facilitate a shorter sublet.

Other housing links

On the following websites, individuals and agencies offer rooms and apartments for rent and sale. You can also place your own ad in English. Some of the websites will charge you a fee to access contact details.
Free websites

- [www.findbolig.nu](http://www.findbolig.nu/ventelisteboliger.aspx?showrented=0&showyouth=1) (most comprehensive, only in Danish)
  Student housing, flats, shared apartments and rooms for rent. With links to landlords/Real Estate Agents.
- [www.boligsurf.dk](http://boligsurf.dk/?locale=en) (in English)
  Flats, shared apartments and rooms for rent.
- [boligdeal.dk](http://www.boligdeal.dk/international.aspx) (partially English)
  Site coordinating communication between tenants, buyers and landlords of private housing
- [www.gromia.com](http://www.gromia.com) (partially English)
  Site coordinating communication between tenants and landlords of private housing
- [boligoensker.dk](http://boligoensker.dk) (only in Danish)
  All around housing and accommodation
- [www.findroommate.dk](http://www.findroommate.dk/)
  Students and others looking for roommates
- [www.lejerbo.dk](http://lejerbo.dk/da/om-lejerbo/lejerbos-profil/in-english#.Vfk8OrHU--Uk)
  Lejerbo administers apartments across Denmark, including youth housing.
  Student housing, flats, shared apartments and rooms for rent
- [www.ledige-lejligheder.dk](http://www.ledige-lejligheder.dk) (Google translation)
  Site coordinating communication between tenants, buyers and landlords of private housing
- [www.akutbolig.dk](http://www.akutbolig.dk) (Google translation)
  Site coordinating communication between tenants and landlords of private housing
- [www.findhousingdenmark.com](http://www.findhousingdenmark.com)
  Information site about the housing market for tenants

Pay-to-view

  Ebay affiliate. List of flats and rooms for rent. Some ads are free to view
- [www.boligportal.dk](http://www.boligportal.dk/en/) (in English)
  Flats, shared apartments and rooms for rent: 50 euro/2 months
- [www.bolighit.dk](http://www.bolighit.dk/lejebolig/soeg-lejebolig1.aspx) (in English)
  Flats, shared apartments and rooms for rent: 27 euro/3 months
- [www.lejebolig.dk](http://en.lejebolig.dk/) (in English)
  Flats, shared apartments and rooms for rent: 50 euro/2 months
- [www.boligbasen.dk](http://boligbasen.dk/english/) (in English)
  Flats, shared apartments and rooms for rent: 80 euro/6 months
- [https://en.boligninja.dk/](https://en.boligninja.dk/) (English (translated version))
  Flats, shared apartments and rooms for rent: 2,5 euro/3 days and afterwards 40 euros/1 month

How much does it cost?

Here are some examples. Please note that these are estimates.

Room in a students hall of residence (kollegium)

- EURO 240-460 /month
- USD 350-610 /month
Privately rented room in a house/flat (with access to shower)

Estimated price, 12-20m² room
- EURO 270-600 /month
- USD 350-780 /month

Privately rented flat

Estimated price, 35-60m² apartment
- EURO 470-940 /month
- USD 600-1200 /month

Housing benefit (‘boligsikring’)

EU/EEA citizens are eligible for housing benefits (‘boligsikring’) – a subsidy for rent from the local council. However, other subsidies for housing loans and deposits are not available. For details on the requirements and how to apply, please contact your local council.

Please note: Non-EU/EEA students in Denmark cannot apply for or receive housing benefits. If you do apply, it may result in your residence permit being revoked.

Avoid housing-scams

While crime-rates in Denmark are low, scams do occur. Here is how to avoid them when looking for housing:

1. Be on the alert if a person with a room or flat for rent sends you a text message with no visible phone number. These types of messages are sent through the web and may imply a scam.
2. Never pay money under the table. It is illegal and you have no legal way of getting your money back.
3. Never pay the deposit in cash. Instead make a bank transfer so the transaction can be traced.
4. Never pay the rent or deposit via services where you cannot reverse the transaction, such as Moneybookers Escrow or Western Union.
5. If you wish to see who owns the property you can do so at www.boligejer.dk (http://www.boligejer.dk/english)
6. Make sure that you receive a contract signed by the current tenant or landlord.
7. Always read the contract carefully and make sure that what you agreed on is also confirmed in writing.
8. When subleasing make sure that the landlord/owner of the property is informed of the sublease. This will put you in a better position in case of a conflict between the landlord/owner and the person subleasing to you.
9. Be on the alert if you are required to sign immediately. Do not feel pressured into signing anything.
Legal help

Lejerens Frie Retshjælp is a 100% free legal aid organisation, that can help you with issues regarding your housing in Denmark (landlord-tenant law).

They have more than 45 of the most competent law students from all over Denmark, who are all ready to help you in both Danish and English.

Just fill out the form (https://www.lejerens-fr.dk/kontakt/) on their website with your name(navn), email and a description of your legal issue(besked). The majority of queries are answered within 48 hours. Their site is in Danish, so far, but they can help you in English.

The Danish housing lingo

Just a few nice to know words or phrases when it comes to finding a place to live.

Rent = husleje
Deposit = depositum
Prepaid rent = forudbetalt husleje
Water, heating, electricity = vand, varme, el
Apartment/flat = lejlighed
Room = værelse
Collective = kollektiv/bofællesskab
Prepaid utilities estimate = a conto
Square meters = kvm/kvadratmeter
Housing tips from student to student

Finding a place to live can be difficult. Lisa has some great tips.

"In retrospective, I thought about a few things that might be helpful to others":

- Double-check §7 and don't agree to give back the apartment refurbished, when it was not brand new when moving in; This is very important, because otherwise you have to renovate everything, from ceiling to the floor and this is very expensive!
- Always make a protocol when moving in (ideally with pictures and detailed analysis of what is already damaged) and also when moving out (everything was fine, no harm done), because otherwise you might never see your deposit again!
- If you are subrenting, make sure the person you are renting from is allowed to subrent, otherwise both of you can get kicked out!
- Ask if CPR registration is possible, you need CPR for everything so it is bad to not have it
- Ask for the name of the bank account you are sending your money to! First, you need that for online-transfer, second, you might want to know who has got your money in case of conflict.

"In my experience, and I hear that a lot, the most efficient way to find a room quickly if you are still abroad and cannot go any place to have a look by yourself – is to join every single housing group on Facebook you can find and keep your eyes open! There are lots of offerings from mostly international people who are used to do all the things over Skype and don't have a problem with that. People can have a look at your profile, maybe you even have mutual friends, which is always helpful. Often there are groups for specific regions like "Germans in Copenhagen" or "Italians in Copenhagen" where you can connect better because they speak the same language and there is more trust. There is also a lot of scam, be careful."

- Another website for student housing is http://www.kab-bolig.dk/ (https://www.kab-bolig.dk/forside-kab-bedre-boliger-for-alle/servicemenu/english.aspx), however you need to pay 400 DKK once in order to put yourself on the waiting list
"In my experience, Findroommate sadly is not working for international students. It is good in finding other internationals who are also looking, you can group with to organise a joined apartment. But it does not work for finding a room because there are mostly Danes looking for other Danes. I wrote about 50 very polite messages and received 2 replies, both telling me (in danish!) that they already have someone. So don't spend your money and time on that if you are not Danish or cannot communicate in it."

• When contacting people, try to offer some information about yourself. If you stick with "Hi I am looking for a room, xxx Lisa" you probably wont receive many replies. People don't have time, they need to know if you are a future roommate-candidate or not, so give them some detail:
  - Age and origin
  - Future occupation (studying? working?)
  - If you have experience in sharing apartments, tell them that!
  - Morning or evening-person (this is helpful for both of you!)
  - Smoker or non-smoker
  - Any weird hobbies? Or just normal yoga-cooking-tv-series-stuff?
  - Will your boy/girlfriend be there a lot? Then you should mention that at some point.
  - give them a link to your Xing or Linked or website if you have one; also provide a Skype name or other means of communication; offer them to add you on Facebook (you can put them on restricted anyway but it's good for the feeling).

• Don't tell them very private stuff, of course. Stay high-level but let them know who you are at least a little bit.