

# Christianias Guide

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*Written, photographed, edited and published by Christianites.*

Christiania Guide is sold in most stores in Christiania [Denmark].

Everybody is welcome to download the Guide, and the Guide may be quoted with named source.

This digital-edition of the Guide doesn't have the same layout as the paper-edition. In all the pages in the digital-guide, there will be links to the other pages in the bottom of the page, (as below).

N.B. The Guide now cost 10,-kr

## **ETIQUETTE FOR VISITING CHRISTIANIA**

There are four unbreakable rules in Christiania:

no hard drugs,  
rocker badges,  
weapons and  
violence.

We don't imagine that our visitors will have problems obeying those rules.

But there are some other rules which are necessary to make the visit by a million visitors a year run smoothly:

Christiania is an automobile-free town  
Park your car in the street, or better still:  
Take the metro to Christianshavns Torv,  
or Bus 66  
(in the direction of Refshaleøen)  
to Prinsessegade.

Traffic with motorbikes or mopeds is also banned in the Freetown.

Bicycling is allowed in the area at any time with due consideration for pedestrians.

Garbage sorting

Throw your refuse in the garbage barrels, and use the right barrel:  
compost, bottles, paper, cardboard, inflammable waste and garbage.

Toilets

Use the public toilets instead of nature  
(look at the map or ask).

## [Begin the Story]

Christiania covers an area of more than 85 acres and houses almost one thousand inhabitants, and every year more than a million people visit the Freetown. Some of them use Christiania almost every day, while others pay a quick visit to the village located in the middle of Copenhagen.

Christiania is thus one of the greatest tourist attractions in Copenhagen, and abroad it is a well-known "brand" for the progressive and liberated Danish lifestyle. Many Danish businesses and organizations also use Christiania as a show place for their foreign friends and guests. The purpose is to show something Danish that cannot be found anywhere else in the world.

Among the local users are many social security recipients, pensioners, immigrants and clients from social institutions. Single mothers also visit here, not to mention the many homeless and jobless young people. Greenlanders, street people and vagabonds, all find a sanctuary here.

They all come to the Freetown to enjoy the peaceful green environment and the magic mixture of village and metropolitan life, because this is seldom possible where they live: in dark flats and dismal institutions around Copenhagen, where people are too busy to talk; where it is not welcome or perhaps even forbidden to enjoy a beer on a bench (if the meeting place has not already been done away with!).

Christiania is the "losers' Paradise," for the creative and recreational values, which we all look for, are found in rich measure in the area.

Christiania is a green, traffic-free city with paths, gravel roads and large water areas. So when you use the area, you must not worry about becoming a little wet and muddy. Many even find the lack of street-lighting a distinct advantage - the stars appear so much brighter at night. The inhabited green ramparts make for a variegated and exciting natural environment. In fact, the green ramparts of Christiania appear much more recreational and attractive to visitors than the well kept, deserted areas under the care of municipal Copenhagen.

Many people, however, abstain from exploring and using Christiania, simply because they cannot find their way around. To help those and the thousands of tourists who visit this unique place in Europe, Christiania has published the tourist guide, which you are reading now.

We welcome you and hope that your eyes will be opened to the creative and cultural values that Christiania offers. There are many things to discover in Christiania, and with this guide, we open the door to them all.

As a result, we hope that the political calls to open up the area for the population of Copenhagen will soon stop. For the whole of Christiania's lifetime, the area has been open to the public and has proved a delight for millions of people.

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### **Respect privacy**

**Do not enter people's gardens or houses.**

**There are plenty of free areas where you can sit and enjoy your lunch in peace and quiet.**

### **Photography**

**Try to cause the least disturbance when you shoot, and ask people's permission first.**

### **Animals**

**Don't bring any animals home with you, even if they walk around freely.**

**In Indkøbscentralen (the grocer's), you can contact residents who may have animals to give away.**

### **Hash**

**Remember that the use of hash is criminal in Denmark, and possession is punishable. Hard drugs (heroin, cocaine, speed etc.) are banned in Christiania, and possession entails expulsion from the area.**

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Christiania's over 30-year history is a long and tangled tale of struggles, victories and defeats. Many of the people who were in on the start of the experiment are no longer with us. But the dream of a life in freedom, and the idea of a city ruled by its inhabitants, is still alive.

People from far and near are still attracted by the Freetown's magic mixture of anarchy and love.

The tale starts in 1969/70, when the fence at the corner of Prinsessegade and Refshalevej in the quarter of Copenhagen called Christianshavn is knocked down several times by a group of local people to gain access to the large, former military area within. Now, the old bridge quarter of town is going to acquire a playground for the children of the neighbourhood, and a green space between apartment blocks. However, the military and municipal authorities raise the fence again and again during those years.

Over time, however, the people of Christianshavn get their playground, while hippies, squatters and others get their Freetown, when the fence is knocked down for the last time in 1971, and people begin to inhabit the former military barracks.

At the same time, the alternative newspaper "Hovedbladet" (Head Magazine) is published with the headline: "Emigrate with bus number 8." The article tells about the abandoned military installations at Bådsmadsstræde Barracks, and includes lots of ideas for the use of the area - not least as dwellings for the great number of young people who cannot find anywhere to live. The Squatter Movement and the alternative forces from the New Society's camp at Thy in Jutland in 1970 also need a place to realize their dreams.

The result is a massive immigration of people who want to create another life based on communal living and freedom, and thus Christiania is born.

## The affair turns political

On several occasions, the police try to remove people, but they have to give up, the area is too large, and there are too many people. Instead, the Freetown becomes a political issue that ends up in Parliament.

In 1972, Christiania comes to an arrangement with the Ministry of Defence, who owns the area, about payment for electricity and water and is given a political seal of approval as a "social experiment." A competition calling for ideas about the future use of the area is to be arranged, and the experiment may continue until the result of the competition is known.

Already in the following year, 1973, a new government is elected, and political sentiment changes. As before, Christiania must be abolished.

NATO holds a summit in Copenhagen. The theatre group, Solvognen (the Sun Wagon), from Christiania stages a total theatre performance with hundreds of actors. The "NATO Army" occupies the Danish Broadcasting Company and other key positions, as if Denmark were occupied by NATO troops. For many hours, the nation is kept in ignorance about the true nature of the happening.

The "NATO soldiers" drill in veritable military manner, and in the evening, the handsome members of the Women's Voluntary Army Corps entertains with a "NATO Cabaret." A couple of months later, the gender cabaret, "Get Your Money's Worth," is performed in Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall). Afterwards, the cabaret goes on an outrageous nationwide tour, shocking a lot of people.

Christiania has now organized itself into smaller autonomous units. The Common Meeting is the highest authority for all residents, and while The Garbage Team works with garbage sorting, the Smithy is making ovens out of old oil barrels.

In Loppen (the Flea) there are regular musical events with everything from Turkish music to amateur rock and traditional jazz. The variety of events are the hall-mark of the place.

Theatre and political actions mark the first years of Christiania. In 1974, 12 non-party lists, combined in the electoral pact "Valborgs Favn" (Valborg's bosom), run in the municipal elections. The pact wins one seat, which is given to the Women's List.

Tine Schmedes brings her baby to the city council meetings, and when she breast-feeds her child in public one day, there is an outcry in the media. A mega barricade party is arranged with participation of many well-known artists, politicians, theatre groups, well-known and unknown bands, and with

pageants, divine field service, guards' parade, front cinema, communal singing, a children's party, information booths, socio-political hearings and the "Peking Opera" performed by Solvognen (the Sun Wagon) in Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall).

The first documentary about the struggle for the Freetown, "Law and Order in Christiania" by filmmaker Nils Vest, is shown as an introductory in many cinemas around Denmark.

The Christmas Army of Solvognen captures the city for five days and distributes free gifts in the apartment stores to the great enjoyment of young and old. Of course, the Santas are arrested, but the image of the police hitting Santa Claus hits the front pages of newspapers worldwide.

## Clearance threats and the Peasant Army

In 1975, Christiania becomes a bone of contention between the City of Copenhagen and the State. But Parliament decides at last that the area must be cleared by April 1, 1976 at the latest.

In the meantime, Christiania has started a lot of things: communal baths, children's house, garbage sorting and recycling. Communal shops and workshops begin, while Solvognen performs a parody of the national treasure, "Elverhøj" ("The Elfin Hillock" by H.C.Andersen), in Den Grå Hal. This fairy tale performance creates a lot of attention for the Freetown, and with 40 sold-out performances proves the greatest theatre success of the season in Copenhagen. Christiania mobilizes a peasants' army from Jutland for the coming confrontation with the state. The best-known rock groups of the time make a recording in support of Christiania. It becomes a major success.

But on April 1, nothing happens. At the last moment, Parliament has deferred the clearance of Christiania. Instead, April 1 becomes "April Fools' Day," a gigantic party which manifests what alternative Denmark is capable of.

On July 4, Solvognen carries out a Red Indian demonstration in the Rebild Hills at the Bicentennial celebration of the USA. 40 Red Indians on horseback and several hundred demonstrators take part in the protest against the American policy towards minorities, the poor and the Third World. Danish police officers' violent arrest of the Indians is viewed all over the world. The action finishes in Den Grå Hal, where Christianites, Red Indians and Greenlanders celebrate.

In 1975, the National Museum publishes a book about the alternative urban environment in the Freetown, and a series of well-known planners and architects make enthusiastic speeches about the idea of Christiania. The same year, the Freetown for the first time arranges a Christmas party in the Opera for those who cannot afford to celebrate Christmas. This becomes an annual event, and an important tradition, where several thousand people are served a free Christmas dinner in Den Grå Hal.

## Christiania's action against the State

In 1976, Christiania brings an action against the State for breach of promise. The agreement made in 1973 about arranging a competition calling for ideas about the future use of Christiania has still not been realized, and therefore, the Christianites assert that the decision to clear the area is a breach of promise. The Freetown is ably defended by left-wing lawyer, Carl Madsen, who unites law and politics in his fight for freedom. A rainbow army is organized, and all Danes are invited to Christiania. Thousands respond to the call.

The action is brought to prevent a clearance, but in 1977 Christiania loses, and subsequently appeals to the Supreme Court.

In 1977, the Christiania exhibition "Love and Chaos" is mounted at Charlottenborg, the home of the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Art, and a gigantic work festival clears up and repairs the Freetown. Christiania also brings out its own support disk, "Our Music," as a presentation of the Freetown's many poets and musicians.

Solvognen stages two musicals at the same time:

"Comrades in Arms" and "A Life in Trade" in a circus tent and Den Grå Hal, respectively.

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### **Everybody is welcome in Christiania**

**Christiania is one of Copenhagen's most open areas.**

**Paths and roads are often so close to the houses that you can look directly into people's rooms when you walk around.**

**In regards moving in, Christiania functions like most cooperative housing associations.**

**When a dwelling becomes vacant, it is announced in the Ugespejlet (Christiania weekly/the Weekly Mirror.)**

**Applicants are invited to a meeting with the residents of the area in question, and those deemed most suitable for the vacant rooms are chosen.**

**But with one important difference:**

**There is no question of payment for a share, and no money passes under the table in Christiania, so you don't need a fortune to move in.**

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In 1978, the action against the State is lost in the Supreme Court, and Christiania mobilizes again. A plan to motivate hundreds of thousands of people in defence of Christiania is mounted, and Christiania again runs in the municipal elections. The Christiania list wins a new representative in the town council,

Thorkild Weiss Madsen, who is quickly known for his inflammatory speeches against property speculation and bulldozer slum clearances.

Parliament now adopts a proposal for working out a local plan for the area, leading to normalization, but without any indication of how or when.

## **New threats are lurking**

In Copenhagen, the police hound junkies and hash dealers. At the same time, heroin is introduced in Denmark on a grand scale. This is evident in Christiania where the trade in hash grows, and the number of junkies accelerates. Christiania tries to cooperate with the police to clear the hash market of junk, but gets shafted by the police management who prefers instead to raid the hash dealers in a big action.

The Freetown community now takes the affair into their own hands and institutes a program for drying out junkies and taking action against junk dealers. It culminates in 1979/80, when a blockade against junk is organized. The junkies in Christiania get the option of drying out or moving out. The dealers in hard drugs are removed bodily. Wiser by experience from the junk blockade, Solvognen (the Sun Wagon) stages the musical "The White Castle," a total theatre about the paths and economy of junk, and its connections with the arms industry.

Although these are, in many ways, dark years, the culture blooms. From 1978 to 1981 when rocker terror puts an end to its activities, Rockmaskinen (the Rockmachine) becomes the stomping ground of the growing punk scene in Copenhagen. The cabaret scene flowers in Operaen (the Opera), Rockmaskinen and Månefiskeren (the Moonfisher), and in 1981, a Christiania cabaret goes to Italy, invited by the city council of Modena. The same year, the Christiania Sports Club, CSC, is established as the rallying point of a lot of sports activities.

In 1981, the government asks the consulting firm of Møller and Grønberg to work out a plan for the future use of the area. While the Christianites build and rebuild, lay out gardens and bear children, the consultants bring forth a report recommending that Christiania be developed as an experimental city with a large degree of autonomy.

## **Conservative smear campaign**

That same year, the country gets a new conservative-liberal government instead of the old social democratic one, and a violent smear campaign against Christiania starts in Sweden. The Freetown is accused of being the narcotics centre of Northern Europe, and the root of all evil.

Christiania responds with the action "Love Sweden," where Christianites "take over" Stockholm, Göteborg and Malmö with parades, cabarets and exhibitions.

Politically speaking, Christiania is forgotten during the next years. As a consequence, the Freetown gets the opportunity and the peace to create new, collective work places and to work on its visions.

The support arrangements for the Indians of Big Mountain in the US, and the Aassiviq conference about Greenland are held in Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall) as an expression of Christiania's relationship with other ethnic groups. Altogether, many international contacts with alternative circles are formed during these years.

In the summer of 1986, Christiania publishes "Voilà," a report that proves Christiania is capable of maintaining their buildings and supporting the common institutions when given a certain measure of tax relief for businesses. Instead, they must pay in their surplus to Christiania for distribution.

In 1987, the government puts forward a plan for the legalization of Christiania, and a management group is appointed to act as intermediary between Christiania and the public authorities. Under the auspices of the Ministry of Defence, the building firm CA-Byg renovates the chimneys and roofs.

## Legalization and normalization

The authorities urge the legalization of, especially, the public houses in Christiania, which try to negotiate a common license, but ends up with the police closing them down in a big action at the beginning of 1989.

After this, some public houses first get a right of use arrangement with their area, and then an individual public house license from the authorities.

The same year, the law about the use of the Christiania area is passed in Parliament. The law forms the legal basis for a "normalization" of Christiania in close accordance with the local plan, which the Ministry of the Environment draws up in 1989.

The plan divides Christiania into two parts: a "rural" part, which must be cleared of dwellings; and an urban part, which in a regulated and legalized way may experiment further without actual time limits.

A big action headed by the Freetown's women closes down the original main gate with a wall, and, at the same time, draws a yellow line in Pusher street which forever sets the limits of hash dealing. Also at the same time, the empty Prærie (Prairie) is changed into a green area with a playground, sports area and the paved Carl Madsen market place (Carl Madsen square).

In the summer of 1989, the starting signal is given for Strictly Underground's cultural activities with "Skatebeat 89," and in Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall) large sections of the new Danish hip-hop scene gather with music, dancing and graffiti. Vote 4 Truckers, a Christiania rap band, issues the support single "Christiania - Hands off."

In connection with the administration of the law, the Ministry of Defence appoints a Christiania secretariat, which in 1990 publishes the text "Aims and Means of Legalizing the Christiania area." The inhabitants of the Freetown send in altogether 90 objections to the local plan, protesting strongly against the planned partition of Christiania and the involved clearance of many dwellings.

As a response to the threats, some friends of Christiania organize a "Declaration of Love" to the Freetown in 1990, involving all sorts of amusements and surprising events all over Christiania and many artists participate. The world is invited to observe the daily life of the Freetown, and the lifestyle that the Christianites are fighting for. Nils Vest releases the film "Christiania - you are close to my heart," a personal documentary about life in the Freetown during the first 20 years.

## Dialogue with the authorities

In 1990, a magazine about the reality of Christiania sees the light of day. "Nitten" shows another image of Christiania than the one which the bourgeois press has tried to launch throughout the 1980s: the image of a township in decay, riddled with violence and crime.

The image Christiania wishes to present is of an ecologically oriented town with low-growth economy and extensive self-government.

The Christiania secretariat suggests an agreement with Christiania about the use and maintenance of the area and the buildings, and the Freetown establishes a contact group to represent Christiania vis-à-vis the authorities.

Christiania celebrates its 20-year anniversary while the last pieces of the agreement with the authorities fall into place. Common Meetings and Area Meetings use a lot of energy on long and heated discussions, but the agreement only runs for one year and must be renegotiated every year.

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**Christiania is an economic asset to the State**

**Christianites pay electricity, water, heating and taxes like everybody else. But we don't get as much for our taxes as everybody else, because we handle tasks like kindergartens, youth clubs, renovation, postal services and green areas. We maintain our whole infrastructure and much more.**

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The Ministry of Defence demands that building maintenance be accelerated. The Christiania community has already established a technical administration to step up technical maintenance. The building office

dispenses advice and carries out a series of major maintenance tasks. The over 100-year old water system is repaired by SPAR2, the local water savings group, which leads to drastic reductions in water consumption and price.

Christiania publishes its Green Plan as a visionary alternative to the local plan. The Freetown's plan shows a green city in close interaction with Nature: recycling water, composting kitchen refuse, renewable energy, houseboats in the moat and youth accommodation made of turf and soil.

In 1992, the rent increases, but the Copenhagen Council refuses to pay the full housing benefit for social clients. The authorities fear that they will be giving "occupational support" to the many new businesses in the Freetown. After long negotiations - taking their point of departure in the Christiania budget, which documents our financing of "public" institutions, and an agreement to install consumption meters in the businesses - the Council accepts the rent.

The cultural life still blooms with Russian rock in Operaen (the Opera), techno in the youth club, theatre war in Rockmaskinen (the Rockmachine), and cabaret and theatre in Bøssehuset (the Gay House). Thousands visit the concerts of Strictly Underground in Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall), and a football tournament is held on Fredens Eng (the Meadow of Peace). Curious tourists from all over the world study Christiania bikes or explore the ramparts.

Without the fence, Christiania's Girl Guard marches as "Conservative Women for the Union", hoping to scare the voters into voting No. They succeed - at least the first time around....

## Occupied by the police

In September 1992, The Copenhagen Police starts a campaign to clear Christiania of hash. The special Christiania patrol consists of 70 police officers who keep the area under surveillance around the clock in an 18 month long, violent campaign. The hash dealing is not noticeably reduced, but the police create dangerous situations several times using cudgels and tear gas, and inciting trouble in Prinsessegade.

In particular, the persistence of the civilian officers cause many innocent people, school children and random, unsuspecting tourists to be bodily searched. Even the local vicar is subjected to search several times. As a consequence, Christiania, in the spring of 1993, puts everything on the line in a week of action, "Week 12 against Violence." Entertainment, street theatre, small groups in navy overalls with a badge on the back saying IDIOTI (idiotic) instead of POLITI (police), video documentation, a legal group and cooperation with lawyers and Amnesty International, all go into the effort of stopping the police violence.

During the whole of 1993, a widespread dialogue takes place among the Christianites, the people of Christianshavn, lawyers, Amnesty International, the parliamentary Justice Commission, the media, the management group, even the police management; but the Christiania patrol keeps its iron grip on Christiania.

At the same time, the Public Record Office discovers the need to register the history of Christiania, and asks for historical material for a special Christiania file.

The building office carries out an extensive building registration. The Antropopip Society stages "Animals wearing clothes" in Den Grå Hal. The Christiania action theatre gets support from Christiania and the European Union for further, nationwide resistance to the Union. The Free Hash movement celebrates May 1. with a great Smoke-In in one of Copenhagen's parks. Loppen (the Flea) celebrates its 20-year anniversary as the centre of a living renewal of the music scene.

The annual negotiations with the Ministry of Defence are concluded with an agreement about a municipal contribution matching the property tax. The Freetown becomes an object of study for the Research Institute of the Counties and Municipalities. The researchers conclude the authorities can learn a lesson from Christiania, and the experience gained may be used worldwide. At the end of the year, one and a half years of police action culminates in a raid and violent arrests at the otherwise idyllic Christmas market. After a crisis meeting between the inhabitants of the Freetown and the Minister of Justice, Erling Olsen, Christmas peace is secured with the abolition of the Christiania patrol.

At a meeting in the spring of 1994 with the Ministers of Defense and Justice, the tone is hostile, and Christiania is threatened with closure, if the hash market is not dealt with. Christiania regrets that Parliament does not have a grip on the Danish narcotics policy.

Amnesty International and Danish nurses point to the massive use of illegal police violence, and after video documentation and widespread debate, use of the so-called "leg-lock" is prohibited.

Parliament handles the Danish narcotics policy without any kind of new thinking. In the spring of 1994, this leads to the world's first "hash strike," when Pusher Street downs tools for five days in protest against the abortive drug policy. Christianites, dealers and customers react with smoke-ins, petitions, support demonstrations against hard drugs in Copenhagen, and the campaign, "Plant a Seed."

The world press and the Minister of Justice visit Christiania to study the phenomenon. After this demonstration, the police give up patrolling Christiania for a long time.

## **Self-government blooms**

Månefiskeren (the Moonfisher) reopens without a spirits license, and quickly becomes one of the most popular cafés in town. At the UN's social summit, Christiania takes part in the NGO conference in Copenhagen, while activists from all over the world visit, study and stay in the Freetown.

In 1995, the number of children have grown so much that parents and activists begin building the fourth children's institution in the area. The ecological children's house with solar units and humus toilet is the first new building in Christiania with a public purpose, and it is named Rosinhuset (the Raisin House).

Much energy is spent on "Pay your Rent" campaigns, discussions of the frame agreement and the relationship with the management group and the authorities. The management group introduces a "Forum of Debate" between the police and the Christianites, but as the debate only involves the police management and not ordinary police officers, Christiania refuses to become involved. After this, the management group feels that they have done what they could and dissolves itself at the end of 1995.

In 1995, the Minister of Defence states that the Christianites may be regarded as "model citizens" when it comes to payment for public utilities.

Culture is still going strong with the new Christiania bands URD and Babajay that both release CDs. In Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall), in Drageklubben (the Dragon Club ) (Hang-glider ~ Dragon-flying in Danish)), in The Opera, out-of-doors on ramparts and on Fredens Eng (the Meadow of Peace), techno and jungle raves attract thousands of young people from all over Europe. At the same time, Strictly Underground stages concerts with the most current hot bands, such as Blur, Green Day, Rage Against the Machine and the best underground hip-hop groups.

The inhabitants of Fredens Ark (the Ark of Peace) spend millions on getting rid of dry rot.

The Freetown becomes a virtual village and manifests itself on the Internet with the website [www.christiania.org](http://www.christiania.org), which with the help of the cleverest computer nerds, turns into a meeting place on the information highway for many private and communal websites. Currently, several millions of users have visited the site. The electronic revolution has also resulted in Christiania quickly establishing a local network with more than 300 users.

## **The grassroots culture grows**

In 1996, the Ministry of Defence and Christiania agree on a "development plan" as a compromise between the local plan from 1989 and Christiania's Green Plan. At the same time, Christiania celebrates its 25-year anniversary with a bang of a party including entertainment, theatre, exhibitions, concerts, the support CD "25 Years Birthday," the picture guide "Christiania 25 Years" and much more. The Anniversary party in Den Grå Hal is a historic marathon show with speeches by old front fighters, artists and other supporters, locals (as well as outsiders), with performances by Christiania's first children, a historic play, "The Whisper of the Spirits", performing painters, the longest layer cake in the country etc... Christiania's Cultural Society becomes a cultural bridge builder between the Freetown and the great world by taking up topical and heavy subjects, such as violence and pacifism, hash and economics, for debate and treating them in an artistic and untraditional form.

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**Christiania keeps  
all public agreements**

**Christiania has kept all agreements with the state, and all houses built in Christiania are made according to an agreement with the Ministry of Defence.**

**Therefore, there are no "illegal houses" in Christiania.**

**Christiania has established and renovated more than 400 dwellings, and we have maintained and further developed the infrastructure in the Freetown, so that utilities like electricity, water and sewerage are entirely up to date, and often in better condition than in the rest of Copenhagen.**

**Christiania is free  
of hard drugs**

**Hash has always been sold in Christiania. Since the "junk blockade" in 1979, there have been no hard drugs in the Freetown.**

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In 1997, Christiania introduced its own local currency, a Løn, with a value of 50 Danish crowns. The Christiania coin may be used for any transaction in local shops, businesses, bars, and places of culture, and as payment to local institutions.

Christiania's Cultural Society carried through the first big hash hearing which became the most extensive discussion of the hash and marijuana problems in Danish history. As of 2001, four expert hearings were held in Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall), The Landsting Hall in Parliament and the Rhythmic Music Conservatory, respectively. The last hearing concluded that police officers, professors, farmers, authors, doctors, judges, artists and other worthies unconditionally support the legalization of cannabis.

In 1998, Christiania's Girl Guard opened the newly renovated Dysebro (the Cairn-bridge). Christiania's friends, the Navers (Travelling Journeymen) improved the old military bridge, and built two half-circles with benches in the middle of the bridge.

The Ramp on Prærien (the Prairie) became Copenhagen's first covered meeting-place for both local and international skaters. The scene is built and managed by the young people themselves with support from ALIS, a Christiania firm that started production and sales of clothing and skateboards of high quality.

In 2000, Loppen is recognized and supported as a regional musical venue by the Ministry of Culture. CSC, the Christiania Sports Club gets its own clubhouse in the bottom of Stjerneskipet (the Star Ship).

Christiania's biggest cultural venue, Den Grå Hal, is updated with 33 new public toilets. The solution is environmentally sound, and one handicap toilet functions as a humus toilet. The same year, Bob Dylan appears two days running to an enthusiastic public at two totally sold-out concerts. This year's edition of Denmark's most hysterical beauty contest, "Miss World," is held in Den Grå Hal. The drag party is a tribute to the wilder part of the gay milieu that absolutely refuses to be normalized.

## New right-wing government demands the closing down of Christiania

In 2001, a right-wing government is elected in Denmark. The liberal and conservative parties with the support of the ultra-nationalistic Dansk Folkeparti (Danish Folk Party) command a solid majority. The right-wing alliance declares war on Christiania, and for the first time in the lifetime of the Freetown, there is a hostile majority against it in Parliament. The aim is normalization by means of building 300 new dwellings and individual agreements about ownership and lease of the dwellings; in short, this is the death knell for the Christiania community that is built on the collective right of use.

Christiania celebrates its 30th birthday with a party in Den Grå Hal, where Solvognen (the Sun Wagon) is resurrected with music and songs from the musical "Elverhøj" ("The Elfin Hillock" by H.C. Andersen). Thousands of friends of all ages and from all over the world flock to the party, which lasts for over a week. In spite of all the cultural venues staying open, it is difficult to house so many birthday guests. At the same time, the world press turns up to cover the event in the small metropolis. The unstinting and unstoppable efforts of the Christiania Girl Guard during its ten years of action are commemorated in a jubilee book. The same year, the Girl Guard honours the special Danish guard culture with a historical Tattoo in the old military barracks at Kastellet.

Concurrently with the increasing number of tourists flocking to Christiania and the adjacent old naval base of Holmen being built up, the traffic in the area becomes heavier. The traffic group, therefore, starts to establish parking spaces around Christiania. In the period up to 2004, more than one hundred parking spaces are established. At the same time, a green garden area shaped like a snake is laid out to the delight of younger and older neighbours in the rampart dwellings.

As Christiania's spiritual contribution to the Danish EU presidency in 2002, a four-day international meeting is held on Fredens Eng (the Meadow of Peace) with introductions from the world's primitive peoples, writers, artists and homeless from near and far. The Christiania Jazz Club opens in Operaen (the Opera), and quickly becomes a cult venue for artists as well as jazz enthusiasts. The very next year, the Jazz Club took part in the Copenhagen Jazz Festival, where many great and small stars met at jam sessions in the intimate atmosphere of the Jazz Club.

In 2003, the Half Maschine occupies Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall) for five days of concerts, video art, dancing and interactive experiments inspired by the fusion of man and machine. The international group of young artists repeated the meltdown the following year.

While officials and politicians are busy with threats of closure, the Society for the Beautification of the Capital confers its diploma for 2003 on Christiania for its long and tireless efforts to create and develop alternative types of accommodation. The same year, Christiania's Cultural Society receives the jubilee prize from the Grassroots Foundation.

## Threats of closure and mobilization

Several books about Christiania are published, written by Christianites, former residents and journalists. A new tourist guide in English opens the door for foreigners. Jacob Ludvigsen publishes his comprehensive history book which compiled the story of Christiania. The residents' consultancy, "Herfra og Videre" (Upwards and Onwards) celebrates its 25-year anniversary by issuing a jubilee publication with experiences from the social grassroots work.

Thirty years after the parliamentary decision, the government's Christiania commission arranges a competition calling for ideas about the future use of the area. The aim was to stop the social experiment, so that the area can be built on and "normalized". At the same time, officials point out that the inhabitants of Christiania in general are more needy, more poorly educated and more unemployed than the rest of the population.

To counter the government's smear campaign, a circle of activists publishes a report about the state of self-government in Christiania for the last ten years. The report, "Christiania at work: From vision to reality", documents how self-government are working and how it has created a functional town with lots of potential.

Graffiti painters from all over Europe gather for a "Meeting Of Styles" which is held in Den Grå Hal. While the right-wing politicians grumble, the young artists compare experiences, and the guests get the opportunity to see and enjoy the new graffiti art on the fence around Christiania.

Christiania's birthday in 2003 is celebrated by reopening the old main entrance. By Carl Madsen Plads (Carl Madsen square), a large environmental station is opened, where both residents of Christianshavn and Christianites can get rid of their refuse. A new café opens in the building housing Loppen with arts and crafts and information made available in friendly, hash-and-alcohol-free surroundings.

Nils Vest releases the film "Law and Order in Christiania 2" as a direct continuation of his film "Law and Order in Christiania" from 1974. The theme is again the authorities' threats of closure and Christiania's inner mobilization.

Concurrently with the intensification of the police campaign, the sellers of Pusher Street chooses to strike against the government's abortive hash policy by covering all the dealers' booths in camouflage netting to make the dealing in hash less visible. That was actually the demand of the politicians! To preserve the smoking culture for posterity, the pushers donate a decorated pusher booth to the National Museum. According to Gallup, 68% of Danes find it a good idea to regard the hash booth as a cultural heritage. And three out of four Copenhageners wish to conserve the Freetown.

The summer of 2003 sees a popular festival on Fredens Eng with music and entertainment. A series of artists and a few politicians turn up to show their love of the Freetown and the values it represents. At

the same time, Christiania opens its doors to the first Open House Day, where institutions, private homes and businesses accept visits. Nearly 100.000 Danes visit the Freetown. Shortly afterwards, the success is repeated with another Open House Day.

Towards the end of the summer, Christiania, in cooperation with friends from all over the country, arrange a "Public Parade for the Right to Diversity". The participants arrive in special trains and busses. A wreath is placed at the Pillar of Liberty and, in front of the Parliament building, Christiansborg, a series of artists with popular singer Kim Larsen, and the group Savage Rose in front perform in solidarity with the Freetown. This event is attended by a few courageous politicians. Subsequently, a "cultural orgy" unfolds with free musical and artistic performances on 22 stages around the Freetown. Nina Hagen performs in Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall), and the Steppenwolves are reunited and play on a pontoon stage in the lake. About 70.000 people visit Christiania on this day.

The government's competition calling for ideas has been a total failure so far. No recognized architects, men of ideas or developers have taken part. Only 17 more or less doubtful proposals have been sent in, of which only eight have met the formal competition requirements. All of these proposals have been rejected by the panel of judges who, nevertheless, have been required to dispense 850.000 Danish crowns in consolation prizes.

In a necessary choice between business and the survival of Christiania, the dealers chose to remove the hash booths by the beginning of 2004. However, this action has not prevented the police from carrying out a mass arrest and massive patrolling so that Christiania is, once again, a virtually occupied area. The police have retained some residents and remanded them in custody for a record number of days. As a firm tradition, the annual report from Amnesty International has criticized the extensive use of remand in custody of the Danish police. But for the first time in the history of Christiania, the open dealing in hash has been eliminated.

## **Towards the goals of the future**

Christiania's campaign of defence has intensified with support from many outsiders: "Save Christiania" T-shirts have become a nationwide fashion phenomenon. A group of young people from, among others, "Global Roots" has created an effective grassroots organization which defends Christiania against invalid criticism from the outside world.

Christiania has advanced into the city and has established a temporary embassy at Christianshavn in the Institute for Contemporary Art. Diplomatic activities include a big exhibition and a popular series of talks. In addition, a beautiful and richly illustrated picture book about the dwellings in Christiania has been published. Several support CDs have been issued with popular, as well as unknown artists.

The citizens of Christiania are currently receiving legal advice concerning negotiations about a foundation model which may secure the Freetown's autonomy, including the issues of collective right of use and future development. Christiania's new adversary is a commission of officials from the Palaces

and Properties Agency, as Christiania from one day to the next has been transferred from the Ministry of Defence to the Ministry of Finance. The municipality of Copenhagen also plays a part. It has appointed a former resident as special Christiania consultant. Currently, Christiania has the strongest negotiation team to date. The lawyers and eight Christianites are supported by a backing group of more than 30 activists, representing all parts of the Freetown community.

An extensive petition has been circulated and it has received more than a hundred thousand signatures to date. The petition states that Christiania should continue as a social experiment and preserve its self-government and its cultural values. Such ideas are also supported by the council of the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts which believes that the experiment must be allowed to continue in order to really demonstrate its inherent strengths or weaknesses. The same kind of support comes from Christiania's neighbours and the Christianshavn local council who all disagree vehemently with the "normalization" process which would make Christiania just another neighbourhood of Copenhagen.

In spite of obvious opposition from the government and the police, the community of Christiania celebrated its 33rd birthday by opening a new Youth Club with fine, bright rooms at the top of one of the shared public buildings where Loppen is housed. The Youth Club is the fifth institution for children and youths. It is a natural supplement to the Freetown's various offerings to new generations of Christianites.

On Fredens Eng (the Meadow of Peace), an international peace festival is held, where Red Indians, Tibetans, Africans and different nationalities meet to direct positive energies towards other conflict-stricken areas on Mother Earth. On the same day, creative men of ideas publish "The Architecture of Christiania", a great and visionary catalogue of ideas for a series of new dwellings - both within the actual boundaries of Christiania and also as floating villages in the surrounding canals.

## **The tale is not at an end...**

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### **FACILITIES**

#### **First aid**

**is available in Sundhedshuset  
(the Health Clinic)  
beside the Bath House,  
Monday-Friday from 12-18 pm.**

#### **Bicycles**

**Bicyclists are welcome  
in Cykelværkstedet**

**(Bicycle workshop)**  
by Månefiskeren  
**(Moonfisher - coffee bar) for air**  
**and mending of punctures,**  
**Monday-Friday from 10am-17:30pm.**  
**On Saturdays and Sundays,**  
**air and mending kits are available**  
**in Den Grønne Genbrugshal**  
**(the Green Recycle Hall)**  
**from 9am-18pm.**

#### **Information**

**If you are searching for**  
**something or somebody,**  
**information is available on**  
**www.christiania.org or**  
**in Nyt Forum (New Forum)**  
**in the Opera,**  
**Monday-Friday from 12-17pm.**  
**(Telephone 3295 6507)**

#### **Contact**

**You can also contact people**  
**through Ugespejlet**  
**(Christiania weekly/the Weekly Mirror)**  
**(write to:**  
**Ugespejlet, Christiania,**  
**1407 Copenhagen K or**  
**mail to: [ugespejl@christiania.org](mailto:ugespejl@christiania.org))**  
**or post a notice in**  
**Indkøbscentralen (the grocer's).**

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## **A vision with growing pains**

Christiania is here to stay. That fact has been recognized by the municipality of Copenhagen and even by the government. The question is - in which form? A recent government law concerning Christiania (the L205 law) underlines the danger that Christiania may become a cappuccino quarter for "the rich and famous" over the next few years.

Christiania is enjoyed each year by many visitors as well as residents. To secure collective right of use for its residents, a model for ownership in Christiania will probably be an important and necessary foundation. Completion of such an agreement with the government of Denmark will ensure that the residents of Christiania (and also the government of Denmark) will no longer be held captive by the time, expense and angst involved in continual ongoing negotiations. Furthermore, after all these years, residents' rights will be protected: Ensurance will be provided that nobody has the right to actually own their own dwelling in Christiania. The citizens of Christiania believe strongly that collective right of use is important 1) to allow room for all, 2) to support the great diversity of its population and, 3) to support the remarkable level of social justice that exists and is cherished by all residents of the Christiania community.

The vision of Christiania's residents, after many years of building ban, is multi-faceted. First, we will build anew in order to institute a series of exciting new initiatives: We want to build homes for the elderly, and a college, where students in the creative arts will work together with the craftspeople and artists of Christiania. We also want to build housing for guest researchers, and an honorary residence reserved annually for a politician, researcher, artist or some fiery soul who has made a special effort on behalf of Christiania. In addition, we want to create a green hostel where backpackers can find cheap lodgings. We also want to open a small independent school where pupils from the rest of Denmark and abroad can be taught.

The second major thrust of our vision is economic. The economy will be organized as in an ideal free zone, where creative and innovative businesses are freed from paying VAT to the authorities. Instead, profits will go to the Common Purse. Christiania's local currency, the Løn, is to be further developed, so that it can support a green and environmentally sound economy.

In keeping with this economic thrust, the third major area of our vision is ecological. The State, which has polluted the area with heavy metals (due to arms production in the 19thc) must recognize its responsibility and free some capital for environmental clean-up. The new clean environment will be the first step towards local production of food in orchards and ecological kitchen gardens.

In building, the ecologically sound desires are: 1) to promote the use of materials which demand relatively few resources in production and, 2) to use forms which result in lower energy expenditure. 3) Christiania's share-a-car system will be extended to include the neighbouring quarter of Christianshavn and 4) a local business will be established to look after car maintenance. 5) Christiania will export its recycling system to the rest of Denmark, where the amount of refuse has been increasing for many years. At Christiania's recycling depot, the aim is to recycle 90% of materials.

In the future, community policy decisions in Christiania will still be made collectively by all interested parties by consensus. It is unthinkable that we would introduce traditional majority decision-making procedures to Christiania. The criticism has sometimes been raised that just a few opponents can prevent the passage of a proposition. However, on the other side of the argument, the majority of only a

few votes in Denmark has meant that half the population has ended up being dissatisfied, as was the case following the EU referenda.

Last but not least, Christiania will continue to be a driving force in art, culture, architecture and innovation. We want to establish a school for autonomy which encourages creative global projects that may be used in the rest of the world - everything from teaching and export of the social structure, institution management, alternative treatment, bicycles, shoes, software and handicraft.

But first of all, man will still be at the centre in Christiania. In every future process, democracy, togetherness and freedom will have the highest priority.

Christiania is an open, recreational area filled with experiences. However, many of the visitors to the Freetown see only a fraction of Christiania's diversity.

As a group, you can order a guided tour around all the nooks and corners, and learn about the different workshops, businesses, kinds of dwellings and on-going experiments. But as a visitor, you can also explore the life and culture of the Freetown on your own.

### **Here are some guidelines for your tour around Christiania:**

As it appears from the map on the opening pages of your guide, "Christiania City" is a large, nearly square area where almost all the businesses, shops, public houses etc. are located. Outwards from this area, the northern parts stretch between Refshalevej and the moat, where the town gradually turns into woods.

On the other side of the moat lies Dyssen (the Cairn-area) which is a green sparsely built-up area with a few businesses.

One of the fascinating features of Christiania is the combination of urban environment with rural idyll in a small area where the two parts blend softly into one another. Here there exists a gentle combination of nature and dwellings. But the plan envisaged by the government calls for a sharp division of the area into an urban zone and a rural zone dictated, among other things, by a regard for the historic ramparts.

We cannot accept the proposed demarcation line which would divide Christiania into a dense urban area and empty parklands. We want to bring the town into the country, and the country into the town - not mixed up in one big mash, but as alternating areas, lovely, spacious and full of pleasant surprises.

When you enter Christiania by the newly opened main entrance on the corner of Bådsmadsstræde, you will find a green area in the middle of the city. Here you are on the corner of Prærien (the Prairie). Back in 1971, this area was an open and bare drill ground. Over time, it became an area for hash and other drug dealers who set up shop in small booths. In 1989, we decided to create a green area here. First, the main entrance was closed down. It was subsequently reopened in 2003. Concurrently with the

closing of the main entrance, the hash dealers were moved behind "the yellow line" at the start of Pusher Street, and the garden, the playground, the skateboard ramp, the playing field and the market place, Carl Madsens Plads (Carl Madsen square) were established.

In the area by the entrance from Prinsessegade, our common joiner's workshop, Optimisten (the Optimist), is located, and along Prinsessegade lies Loppebygningen (Flea-building), named after the original flea market, which today houses the music venue Loppen (the Flea), the restaurant Spiseloppen, the gallery Gallopperiet (all through the door in the middle of the long side), CVK (the Veteran Automobile Club), and down by the entrance, the Infocafé and the Christiania Post Office. Upstairs, some small hobby workshops and the Youth Club are located.

The large building to the south of Prærien, Fredens Ark (the Ark of Peace) is the largest half-timbered house in Northern Europe, and used to be the headquarters of the Bådsmadsstræde Barracks. Apart from dwellings, the building houses the Christiania consultancy Herfra og Videre (Onwards and Upwards), the printing works Sativa Print and the community centre Rockmaskinen (the Rockmachine). On the other side of the Ark lies Fredens Eng (the Meadow of Peace) which is used for football matches and larger arrangements.

If you cross Prærien from the entrance, you follow a green path along the playground and the back of the Optimist and the Ramp. When you pass Miljøstationen (the Environment Station), you come to Maskinhallen (Machinehall -Renovation team) which was rescued from an old engineering works in another part of Copenhagen. It was taken down with every piece numbered, and rebuilt here as a base for the garbage team and garage for Christiania's machine park.

A bit further down, past the residential area Psyak, you come to the start of Pusher Street, where you will find the Opera which houses a musical venue/community centre and the information office Nyt Forum (New Forum), both on the 1st floor, and the café Oasen (Oasis) and a wood workshop on the ground floor. At the end of the building, Børneteateret (the Children's Theatre) and the Jazz Club share the premises. Straight across from here, you find Yak Celica selling clothes and wood works from the East, Diva with multiethnic handicrafts and Marzbar, the local Internet café.

On the right side of Pusher Street lies Bageriet (the bakery) Sunshine Bakery, Vaskeriet (the Laundry) and behind these, Fælleskøkkenet (the Community Kitchen) and Abegrotten (the Monkey Grotto). A bit further on you find the public house Woodstock, and across from that Malerværkstedet (the Painter's Workshop), the local tattooist, Bixen (a kiosk) and Gallariet (a small combined gallery and eating-place).

Still further on lies Grøntsagen (the Vegetable Store). Turn right here, and you will find the public house Nemoland and the Bistro (bar and takeaway). At the end of the street lies Den Grønne Genbrugs Hal (the Green Recycle Hall), Christiania's do-it-yourself market and fuel supply, an enormous military riding hall with impressive roof construction. Next door you'll meet the first of many small cosy site-hut villages. (These are now actually more self-built houses rather than site-huts.)

On the way there, you have passed Fremtidsskoven (the Wood of the Future), planted by energetic Christianites in 1977 on the ruins of an old factory. Behind it is the café, Månefiskeren (Moonfisher), established in an old machine hall, and Cykelværkstedet (Bicycle workshop) which started in the small shed behind the imposing new façade. The big building next to "Månen" is Fabrikken (the Factory), housing, among other things, Byens Lys (City Lights), our cinema and common meeting place.

Now, if you had started through the entrance by the bus stop in Prinsessegade, you would have passed the site-hut village, Røde Sols Plads (the Red Sun Square), the residential quarter Psyak and Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall), by far Christiania's largest locality with room for 1500 people. Originally, it was built as a riding hall. Today it is used mostly for concerts, parties as well as for the traditional Christmas market and Christmas party.

Hereafter you reach Mælkevejen (the Milky Way), six similar buildings, wich besides habitation contain Bøssehuset (the Gay House), Kvindesmedjen (the Women's Smithy), Snedkeriet (the Joiner workshop), and Smedjen (Smithy / Christiania Bikes) - which you pass right by - and Energiværkstedet (the Energy workshop) and Byggekontoret (the Building office) further toward Pusherstreet.

If you continue a slant to the left, you'll pass a long low building filled with bodycare: It contain Sundhedshuset (the Health Clinic), Frisøren (the Hair dresser's) and Badehuset (the Bath house). On your left hand you'll find the big building Løvehuset (the Lionhouse), which contains habitation.

Irrespective of wich route you choose, you'll end up on Langgaden (the Long Street). This really is a long street. It starts by Den Grønne Genbrugs Hal and leads right out through Nordområdet (the Northern Area).

Here you'll find Det Grønne Rum (the Green Room), with rooms for the Economygroup and communication group. Opposite is the container, where secondhand clothes are exchanged. Afterwards you come to the Indkøbscentralen (the grocer's), called "Indkøberen" in every day speech. The local grocer's with it's own playground and "the village pond", where kids, dogs, drunks, tourists and folks relax and have a nice time.

Further down the road you pass a vegetarian-restaurant Morgenstedet (the Morning Place) and the after-school centre Rosinhuset (the Raisin House).

The next landmark you reach is Mælkebøtten (the Dandelion Area) with the large gate and a Buddhist Stupa in front. You have now left "Christiania City", and a varied green area with a rich flora and fauna awaits you.

You can start off by looking around Mælkebøtten, a green residential quarter with lovely houses and a charming site-hut village. Then you can proceed along Langgaden (the Long Street). After passing Børneengen (the Children's Meadow), another site-hut village in close contact with

Børnehuset/Vuggestuen (the Children's House/Day Nursery) and Hestestalden (the Horse Stable), leads to Refshalevej with a view to Holmen.

From here, you can go back or continue through the two small areas: Den Blå Karamel (the Blue Caramel) and Bjørnekloen (Hogweed). You can go either along the rampart or on top of it, where you have a fine view over the two areas, the rampart and Dyssen (Cairn-area). At the northernmost point, you can cross over to Dyssen via Refshalevej.

Back at Mælkebøtten you can also turn right down towards the moat. If you choose to take a right turn along the water, you end up at Torvegade and civilization, or if you take a left turn, you end up near Bjørnekloen to the north. You can also choose to cross over Dysebroen (the Cairn-bridge), where the view is always worth a break.

On Dyssen, the choice is simple. If you turn right, you pass through Syddyssen (the South Cairn-area) and a bit of "park" which illustrates expressively how Christiania might have looked under municipal care. This way you'll end up on the northern spit of Amager with Chr. Møllers Plads and good bus connections.

If you turn left, however, you'll pass through approximately one kilometre of varied dwellings and green areas. On the way, you'll pass Sommerbutikken (the Summer Store - coffee bar with small craft for sale) and end up on Refshalevej, where you can either turn right towards Amager Strand or left towards Christianshavn, where, as mentioned above, you can choose many different paths through Christiania.

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**Have a nice trip ...**

**\*NO HARD DRUGS \* NO ROCKER BADGES \* NO VIOLENCE \*  
\* NO WEAPONS \* NO TRADE IN BUILDINGS OR DWELLINGS \***

**The public houses**

**Christiania's public houses are subject to stiff community and government regulations.**

**First the people in charge of a public house must get their license application approved by the area in question, then by the Business Meeting, and finally by the Economy Meeting.**

**When all of this has been achieved, the applicants need to apply the public authorities in Denmark for a licence.**

**In addition, a special rent to the Common Purse of Christiania is negotiated. This special rent is dependent on turnover, plus VAT as well as tax to the State.**

## **This process was designed and established in Christiania in 1987.**

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Since its birth in 1971, Christiania has represented criticism of and opposition to the ruling powers. The Freetown has always experimented with creating a society built on a large degree of active participatory democracy dedicated to the possibility of individual freedom and self-fulfilment. All of Christiania's residents may participate on an equal footing in the democratic process which forms the local society. Important decisions are always made by consensus, that is, common and widespread agreement among the participants. Therefore, Christiania's form of government is often called consensus democracy.

Christiania's self-government is practised through a series of meetings, each with its own content and function: the Common Meeting, the Area, Treasurers', Economy, Business, Building, Associates' and House Meetings, all concurrently supported by daily debate which goes on privately as well as in Christiania's public spaces. These meetings are hierarchically organized with the Common Meeting being the most important. The Economy Group, which is responsible for the overall economy, is duty-bound to appear at Economy Meetings and Treasurers' Meetings, and all public institutions are obliged to appear at the Economy Meetings. The area treasurers call the Area Meeting, and are obliged to appear there. For everyone else, participation in the various "self-government" meetings is optional. This means that the influence of the individual Christianite depends on his or her participation in the decision-making meetings. All interested Christianites may attend all meetings.

The Common Meeting deals with circumstances concerning all Christianites, for instance, adoption of the annual budget of the Common Purse, cooperation and negotiations with the government, as well as cases of violence and problems with the police. In these cases, the Common Meeting could be compared with a government and a legislative parliament.

The Common Meeting may also be used to settle disputes on which no agreement can be reached at the relevant meetings. That could be the right to a dwelling (a dispute normally settled at an area meeting), disputes between businesses (normally settled at the Economy or Business Meetings), or private disputes between residents which the Housing or Area Meetings have been unable to settle. In such cases, the Common Meeting functions as a kind of law-court, and thus appears in a judiciary role.

Participants at the Common Meeting are also obligated to decide how various decisions are to be carried out in practice. Here, democracy is not only based on participation in decisions, but also on active participation in the implementation of such decisions. We have no legitimate force of order to bring to these tasks. Therefore, the Common Meeting also functions as a judiciary.

The Common Meeting is also used to inform residents about important issues, for instance about how negotiations with the government are proceeding. It also provides a forum for a general debate about

everything that concerns the community. The Common Meetings are open to all residents in Christiania, but closed to outsiders, unless they have been specifically invited.

The Area Meeting is normally held once a month. Here we solve the local problems which concern each of the 15 geographic areas into which Christiania is divided: Loppebygningen (the Flea-building), Fredens Ark (the Ark of Peace), Prærien (the Prairie), Tinghuset (the Thing-house), Psyak Area (Psyak = Psychological Action), Mælkevejen (the Milky Way Area), Fabriksområdet (the Factory Area), Løvehuset (the Lionhouse), Mælkebøtten (Dandelion), Nordområdet (the Northern Area), Den Blå Karamel (the Blue Caramel), Bjørnekloen (the Hogweed Area), Syddysen (the South Cairn-area), Midtdysen (the Midt Cairn-area) and Norddysen (the North Cairn-area). The areas are very different, both in physical size and in the number of residents. The largest area houses more than 80 persons, and the smallest 9 persons. The areas may consist of a single large house with many residents, or several houses spread over a greater area. Each area has a treasurer who looks after payment of rents, accounts and planning of the Area Meeting.

At the Area Meeting, everything concerning the area in question is discussed: building maintenance, applications for vacant dwellings, work days, payment for utilities such as electricity and water, and rents. More general affairs concerning all of Christiania are also discussed.

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### **The Christianites' expenses**

**The residents of Christiania pay for all of its public expenses: Renovations, electricity and water consumption as well as rat extermination, municipal taxes, chimney sweeping etc.**

**At the same time, the Christianites pay for five children's institutions, a health clinic, a building office, a machine hall, maintenance of infrastructure and green areas, postal services etc.**

**In addition, Christianites also pay taxes to the municipality and the State.**

### **Food control**

**The businesses in Christiania are subject to the same controls as the rest of Denmark. Public houses, restaurants, food shops and children's institutions are visited twice yearly by the Foodstuff Department, who dispense "smileys" according to standards.**

### **VAT**

**All of Christiania's businesses which deal with the surrounding society (our export businesses) are VAT registered in the normal way.**

**Businesses whose activities are directed only towards the citizens of Christiania, pay VAT to Christiania's Common Purse, which twice yearly settles with the Customs and Excise Department.**

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For instance, before every Common Meeting about the budget, a round of Area Meetings is held, so that each area treasurer may bring forward the views of his individual area at the Common Meeting. In such ways, Christiania practices a form of representational democracy, even if all meetings are open for all Christianites. At the Area Meetings decisions are made about issues of specific concern to that individual area. However, if final arbitration is required, it occurs at the Common Meeting and the residents of each local area are bound to abide by the decisions reached at the Common Meetings.

The Treasurers' Meeting. The area treasurers and the Economy Group meet once a month to exchange information about the economy and plans for the area, as well as to discuss experiences regarding structure and housing policy. At these meetings, propositions are put forward as to what should be discussed in the individual areas.

At the Economy Meeting Christiania's Common Purse is administered. This includes: the children's institutions, renovation, electricity and water supply, building maintenance, infrastructure, post office, information office etc. The meeting that is held once a month is open to all Christianites, and is arranged by the Economy Group, which also manages the daily running of the Common Purse. At the Economy Meeting, the accounts of the institutions, the payments from the businesses and their agreements for use are dealt with, and it is possible to apply for money for various projects and activities. Apart from the economy, current problems are discussed, and a running orientation from different work groups in Christiania and the local council in Christianshavn is put forward.

The Business Meeting is arranged by the Economy Group and held once a month at the different businesses in turn, offering opportunity to discuss common problems concerning the businesses in Christiania. Payments to the Common Purse and to the different areas are decided on here. Agreements on rights of use with new businesses are presented for subsequent endorsement at the Economy Meeting. In addition, Carl Madsens Plads (Carl Madsen square), business people of Christiania's general market place meet once a month to make decisions about logistics such as the number of booths allowed on the square, what they are allowed to sell, and how much they must pay in fees to Christiania's Common Purse.

The Building Meeting is Christiania's Technical Administration and is held once a month with representatives of the 15 areas. Furthermore, Loppebygningen (the Loppe Building), Gartnergruppen (the Gardener Group), Maskinhallen (Machinehall) and the people responsible for the daily running of Byggekontoret (the Building Office) take part. All activities emanating from the Byggekontoret are financed by Christiania's Common Purse. At the Building Meeting, decisions are made regarding how the money granted by the Building Meeting is to be used and how the tasks must be prioritized. At least 7 areas must be represented at a Building Meeting to create a quorum. Personnel at the Building Office

implement the decisions made at the Building Meeting, including the daily management of ongoing projects as well as getting new projects up and running.

The Associates' Meeting. Most businesses in Christiania are collectively organized, and therefore the Associates' Meeting has a central function in the running of the businesses. Normally, the Associates' Meeting is held once a week, and here the tasks of the coming week are planned, the economy of the business is gone through, and future efforts, practical as well as economic and visionary, are discussed. The associates also discuss any problems at work. In general, there is also room for talk about Christiania's current situation.

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### **How is the rent money used by the community of Christiania?**

**1. The Building office**

**2. Children and adolescents**

**3. External expenses**

**4. Social fund**

**5. Area purse**

**6. Funds**

**7. Various institutions**

**8. Machine hall**

**External expenses are:**

**Taxes and renovation duties, communal VAT, chimney sweeping, insurance etc.**

**The various institutions are:**

**Ugespejlet (Christiania weekly/the Weekly Mirror), Sundhedshuset (the Health Clinic), post office, radio, Herfra og Videre (Upwards and Onwards - Christiania's consultancy and social office), administration, public toilets, Kulturforeningen (the Cultural Society), Genbrugsstationen (Recycle station), the traffic group, the playground, the contact group, Gallopperiet etc.**

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The House Meeting takes place in the large houses where many people live, and in the communes. Here, problems arising in any given house may be aired such as maintenance, the moving in and out of people,

disagreements between neighbours etc. If an agreement cannot be reached, the matter is normally referred to the Area Meeting.

Christiania's self-government has thus an internal structure which in many areas replaces the administration normally handled by the Danish State. Apart from the fact that the Common Meeting in some cases replaces Danish government, as well as the Danish judiciary and police, Christiania's Area Meeting is actually the relevant political institution where the right to use of a dwelling is conferred through the citizen's card. In the same way, the Economy Meeting apportions business premises in Christiania through a right of use agreement.

The liberal-conservative government (2004) wants to bring Christiania's political structures back under State control by suggesting a change of ownership for the buildings in Christiania and a "normalization" of the democratic process so that it would be consistent with the rest of Denmark. The problem for the State is accepting the existence of a part of the city which, in some areas, replaces public administration and the use of force with its own unique "Christianian" rules.

Christiania's self-government represents a valuable social experiment because our experiences over the decades have allowed us to refine, development and renew the democratic process in Danish society. Our self-government should therefore be seen as a challenge and an inspiration for the Danish State and Danish democracy. With its continued existence for more than 30 years, Christiania has proven that there are indeed alternative and environmentally sound ways of organizing society.

### **Christiania's common economy**

One of the first structures to appear in Christiania was the Common Purse. This was created at one of the very first Common Meetings. In the beginning, it was only a cigar box, directly managed by the organizers of the formerly very frequent Common Meetings. But over time, as both the communal functions of the Freetown and the demands of the authorities have become more complicated, the common economy has also become a more comprehensive and complicated affair.

Residents of Christiania pay for renovation, electricity and water consumption. We also pay municipal rates and taxes, as well as upkeep of the children's institutions and the Post Office, and the maintenance and development expenses incurred by Byggekontoret (the Building office) and Maskinhallen (the Machinehall). We also pay a common internal VAT. Finally, there is a pool (app. 9% of the budget) set aside for the funds of the Common Purse, and earmarked for a variety of different activities and purposes.

The Common Purse is funded by residential rents, a kind of "subscription", and meter-regulated consumption rates as well as payments from businesses.

The distribution of the money is decided at the annual budget Common Meeting (Or rather, meetings, as a balance is rarely agreed on at the first meeting). When the budget is passed, the economy group handles the daily administration.

Our budget is tight. Several times, over the years, some individuals and some areas have not had sufficient funds to pay for their monthly shares. It has happened that as many as 10-20% of residents have not paid or were behind with their rents. However, Christiania has had, for many years, a specific savings account for unforeseen expenses and catastrophes.

In case of insufficient funds in the Common Purse, a list of priorities has been set up. We always pay all external expenses first, while the funds and the area coffers are last in line. This has afforded the Christianites the strange experience of being proclaimed "model citizens" by both politicians and authorities. Since the start of the 1990s, the residents of Christiania have paid all consumption rates and taxes in full.

In 2004, Christiania's budget amounted to app. 18 million Danish crowns. Of these, 7 million were used for consumption of electricity and water as well as maintenance of the facilities. Consumption is regulated by meter and paid for by businesses as well as residents. Until the end of 2002, these expenses were covered jointly and severally, so that all residents paid the same, regardless of electricity and water consumption. Only the businesses paid according to a meter.

Of the remaining app. 11 million, nearly 70% come from residents' rents. Christiania's businesses contributed the rest.

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Carl Madsens Plads (Carl Madsen square), the start of Pusher Street.

Various outdoors booths with, among other things, CDs, clothes, falafel, pizzas, pipes, T-shirts, jewellery, handicrafts etc.

Den Grønne Genbrugs Hal (the Green Recycle Hall), Langgaden (the Long Street) 2.

Christiania's do-it-yourself market.

All kinds of building materials, new as well as re-cycled, fuel, hardware, office supplies, work clothes, hobby materials, sewing materials, used clothes, Christiania merchandise, re-cycled furniture and much more.

Open: weekdays 9-18, (Monday 12-18), Sat. and Sun. 10-18.

Diva, the turning behind the Opera.

Multi-ethnic applied art. Rarities, interior decoration and garden art.

Open: Daily 12-18. Monday closed.

Grøntsagen (the Vegetable Store), Glashuset (the Glass House).

Fruit and vegetables. Large selection of ecological and biodynamic articles.

Eco-bread, nuts, vegetable and fruit juice and much more.

Open: in summer daily 9-19, in winter daily 9-18.

Indkøbscentralen (the grocer's), Langgaden (the Long Street) by the playground.

All kinds of groceries, large selection of ecological products, beer and soft drinks, tobacco, newspapers, postcards, health food, alternative medicine.

Christiania products: natural cosmetics, toothpaste, herbal teas, postcards, bread and cakes etc.

Pay phone.

Open: Daily 8-20 (Tuesday 12-20).

Info café, Loppebygningen (the Flea-building).

Info café with postcards, posters, coffee, tea, juice and cake and a selection of Christiania-made handicraft.

Also entrance from Prinsessegade.

Open: Friday, Saturday and Sunday 12-18.

Julemarkedet (the Christmas Market).

Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall), every year app. 10-20 December.

Christmas bazaar with app. 60 booths with gifts, food, drink, entertainment etc.

Open: Weekdays 14-20, Saturday and Sunday 12-20.

Last day until 18.

Sommerbutikken (the Summer Store), Norddysen (the North Cairn-area).

Coffee and tea, ices and chocolate etc. and Christiania-made products.

No obligation to buy, picnic baskets welcome.

Open: May-August 14 to sunset. April and September Saturday-Sunday 14-18.

Sunshine Bakery, Pusher Street.

Bread and cakes and sandwiches, coffee, tea, dairy products, soft drinks, cigarettes etc.

Outdoor sandwich bar.

Open: Around the clock.

Yak Celica, The turning behind the Opera.

Shop with imports and own designs from the East, clothes, woodcarvings etc.

Open: Tuesday - Sunday 12-18.

### **Eating-places, cafés, public houses**

Angakoq, Stjerneskipet (the Star Ship).

Lunch café and meeting place for Greenlanders.

Open: Tuesday-Friday 10-15.  
[www.christiania.org/~angakkoq/](http://www.christiania.org/~angakkoq/)

The Bistro, By Nemoland.  
Grill bar with breakfast, lunch, dinner etc.  
Open: Daily 8-22, Friday-Saturday 8-24.  
[www.nemoland.dk/frame1.html](http://www.nemoland.dk/frame1.html)

Bixen, Pusher Street.  
Kiosk with beer, soft drinks, candy, ice cream, hotdogs etc.  
Open: April 1 - December 31 12-20.

Fælleskøkkenet (the Communal Kitchen), Tinghuset (the Thing-house).  
Multiethnic café: "The place to smoke pot," read newspapers and play backgammon, cards, table football etc. The best coffee in town at reasonable prices.  
Open: Daily 9-4, longer on Fridays and Saturdays if the need arises.

Marzbar, The turn behind the Opera.  
Net café with sales of candy and soft drinks.

Morgenstedet (the Morning Place), Langgaden (the Long Street).  
International ecological vegetarian restaurant.  
Open: Daily 12-21 (Monday closed).  
[www.christiania.org/~morgen/](http://www.christiania.org/~morgen/)

Månefiskeren (Moonfisher), Fremtidsskoven (the Wood of the Future).  
Café serving breakfast and lunch, soft drinks, sandwiches, coffee and tea.  
Pool and games.  
Open: Tuesday-Friday 10-23, Saturday-Sunday 10-01.  
[www.christiania.org/~moon/](http://www.christiania.org/~moon/)

Nemoland, Fredens Eng (the Meadow of Peace).  
Public house with gallery, backgammon, billiard.  
Outdoor tables, occasional concerts.  
Coffee, beer, soft drinks, alcohol, wine, packed lunches.  
Open: Daily 11-24, Friday-Saturday 11-03.  
Telephone: 3295 8931. Fax: 3295 8935.  
[www.nemoland.dk/frame1.html](http://www.nemoland.dk/frame1.html)

Oasen (the Oasis), Pusher Street, in the Opera entrance.  
Café with cappuccino, fresh juice, ice cream, sandwiches, cookies, hot meals.  
Open: Daily 10-24. Sunday closed.

Spiseloppen, Restaurant in the Flea building.  
Restaurant accorded 4 stars in a daily newspaper review.  
Meat and vegetarian meals.  
Changing art exhibitions. Open: Daily 17-24, closed Monday.  
Telephone: 3257 9558.  
[www.spiseloppen.dk/](http://www.spiseloppen.dk/)

Woodstock, Pusher Street.  
Public house with occasional live music. Breakfast, sandwiches, beer, soft drinks, alcohol, coffee and tea.  
Open: Daily 9-05.

### **Music/Culture**

Blues Jam café, The Opera.  
Open: Sundays 15-21.  
[www.christiania.org/bluesjam/](http://www.christiania.org/bluesjam/)

Byens Lys (City Light), Fabrikken (the Factory).  
Christiania's local cinema functions on a film club basis.  
Ice cream, apple pie, coffee, tea and cocoa.  
The space is also used for Common Meetings, lectures, slide shows etc...  
Film club Sundays in the season at 20 for adults and 16 for children.

Børneteateret (the Children's Theatre), The Opera building, ground floor.  
Occasional theatre performances for children and simple souls.  
Telephone: 3157 1192.  
[www.christiania.org/boerneteteater/](http://www.christiania.org/boerneteteater/)

Bøssehuset (the Gay house), Refshalevej 2, by Den Grå Hal.  
Occasional events.  
[www.christiania.org/~bhuset/](http://www.christiania.org/~bhuset/)

Den Grå Hal (the Grey Hall), Refshalevej 2.  
Christiania's largest room.  
Used for everything from Christmas market to large concerts, theatre, meetings, support parties and the annual Christmas Party.  
Telephone: 3254 3135.

Jazzklubben (the Jazz Club), The Opera, ground floor.  
Jazz at international level every Wednesday and Friday.  
[www.christiania.org/cjc/](http://www.christiania.org/cjc/)

Musikloppen (the Music Flea), Loppebygningen (the Flea-building).  
One the best known venues for, particularly, rock music.  
Danish and international bands of high quality.  
Open: Wednesday - Thursday 21-02, Friday - Saturday 22-02.  
Telephone: 32 57 84 22.  
[www.loppen.dk/](http://www.loppen.dk/)

Operaen (the Opera), Operaen (the Opera), 1. floor. Pusher Street.  
Christiania's community hall.  
Music, theatre, parties and similar events.  
Open: See posters or Ugespejlet (Christiania weekly/the Weekly Mirror).

Rockmaskinen. (the Rockmachine).  
Fredens Ark (the Ark of Peace), ground floor.  
Entrance by Fredens Eng (the Meadow of Peace).  
The community hall of Fredens Ark.  
Occasional events.  
Telephone: 3296 3213.

## Workshops

Både - og (Both.. And), Operaen (the Opera), ground floor, towards Pusher Street.  
Wood workshop. Sale of own handicraft.  
Open on occasion.

CASO, Christiania's Joiner's and Stove workshop.  
Det Blå Hus (the Blue House), in Mælkevejen (the Milky Way).  
Buying, selling and restoration of antique stoves and furniture.  
Open: Monday-Friday 10-17, Saturday 11-15.  
Telephone: 3295 3051.  
[www.caso-ovne.dk/](http://www.caso-ovne.dk/)

Cykelværkstedet (Bicycle workshop), Fremtidsskoven  
(the Wood of the Future) by Månefiskeren (the Moonfisher).  
Selling and repair of bicycles, among others, The Pedersen bicycle.  
Open: Monday-Friday 10-17.30.  
Telephone: 3295 4520.  
[www.christiania.org/~pedersen/](http://www.christiania.org/~pedersen/)

Energiværkstedet (the Energy workshop), Venus, in Mælkevejen (the Milky Way).  
Communal workshop for residents of Christiania.

Optimisten (the Optimist), by the entrance from Prinsessegade.  
Christiania's joiner's workshop.  
Furniture, doors, stairs etc. made to measure.  
Telephone: 3254 9415.

Sativa Tryk (Sativa Print), Fredens Ark (the Ark of Peace) by Bådsmandsstræde.  
Christiania's printing works.  
Posters, magazines, folders, layouts etc.  
Telephone: 4019 1045.

Christianias Smede (Christiania's Smiths), Solvognen (the Sun Waggon),  
a house in Mælkevejen (the Milky Way).  
Open: Monday-Friday 9.30-15.

Kvindesmedjen (the Women's Smithy).  
Shop and active workshop. Art and design.  
Telephone: 3257 7658.  
[www.kvindesmedien.dk](http://www.kvindesmedien.dk)

Christiania bikes.  
Production and sale of carrier bicycles etc.  
Telephone 3254 8748.  
[www.christianiabikes.dk](http://www.christianiabikes.dk)

Smedien (the Smithy).  
Forging and steel structures.  
Telephone: 3254 8749/2680 4005.

## Service

ALIS in Wonderland, Prærien (the Prairie).  
Christiania's skateboard ramp.  
Denmark's wildest bowl with roll-in, pool comers and oververt.

Badehuset (the Bath House).  
Christiania's communal bath and meeting place.  
Showers, sauna, rasul, toothbrushes etc.  
Open only to Christianites and their friends.  
Open: Tuesday-Sunday 12-21.

Byggekontoret (the Building Office), Solvognen (the Sun Waggon) over the Smithy.

Christiania's Technical administration.

Maintenance of Christiania's infrastructure, building consultancy and diverse building work, including the Gardeners' group which looks after Christiania's green areas.

The Building office houses a map and drawing archive comprising the buildings and installations of the Freetown, a technical library, drawing boards, computers with mapping systems etc.

Open: Monday-Friday 10-14.

Tlf. 32 96 11 10.

<http://cabyg.christiania.org/>

### Children's institutions:

Sølyst.

After-school centre by the lake, behind Indkøberen (the grocer's) .

Christiania's recreation centre for children aged 6-10.

Børnehuset (the Children's House).

Børneengen (the Childrens Meadow), Nordområdet (the Northern Area).

Houses the kindergarten and the crèche for 20 children aged 3-7 and 12 toddlers aged 1-3 respectively.

Rosinhuset (the Raisin House).

Langgaden (the Long Street) across from the Multihouse.

Youth club for children aged 10-14.

Ungdomsklubben (the Youth Club).

Loppebygningen (the Flea-building), top floor.

Youth club for teenagers aged 14-18.

Christiania through 33 1/3 years.

A multi-media show about Christiania's development for good and bad, within and without, from the pioneering time in the 1970s through crises, confrontations and build-up until the current fight for survival.

The show lasts approx. two hours with music and narrative by photographer Ole Lykke, a Christianite for 25 years.

Apply to Ole Lykke, telephone 3257 2115.

Christiania Radio, Det Blå Hus (the Blue House), Mælkevejen (the Milky Way).

Christiania's local radio station.

Broadcasting: Monday-Thursday 10-14, Thursday also night broadcast from 23.

Tune in to 90,4 MHz Fm & 87,6 Hybrid.

Direct telephone: 3254 2242.

Christiania Vaskeri (the Christiania Laundry).  
Tinghuset (the Thing-house), entrance behind the bakery.  
Laundromat operating on recycled rain water.  
Managed by Christiania's Ecological Society.  
Open: Daily 7-22.

Frisørsalonen (the Hair dresser's), Badehuset (the Bath House).  
Lovely hairdresser's haircuts, dyes, perms and curls.  
Open: Tuesday-Friday 13-18. Telephone: 3254 0441.

Genbrugsstationen/Miljøstationen (the Recycling Station/the Environment Station).  
Between the Main Entrance and Carl Madsens Plads (Carl Madsen square).  
Christiania's local recycling station.  
This is run in cooperation with the Environmental Control in Copenhagen and Amager Refuse Disposal Plant.  
Open: Weekdays 13-18, weekends and holidays 10-17.  
Also open to people from Christianshavn.

Herfra og Videre, HOV (Onwards and Upwards), Fredens Ark (the Ark of Peace).  
Christiania's residents' consultancy in social and health matters.  
Carries out social work among the most needy groups in Christiania.  
HOV also houses the organization POK which reaches out to and advises Greenlanders in Christiania.  
Open: Monday-Wednesday 11-15, Thursday 11-17, and Friday 11-14.  
Telephone: 3257 5000, fax: 3257 3093.  
[www.christiania.org/hov/](http://www.christiania.org/hov/)

Maskinhallen (the Machinehall), by the Main Entrance.  
Christiania's internal garbage collectors.  
Repairs and leasing of tools and machines, transport and sludge suction.  
Open: Monday-Friday 10-15. Telephone: 3254 4160

Meditationsrummet (the Meditation Room)  
Mælkevejen (the Milky Way), the floor above Energiværkstedet (the Energy workshop).  
Here we work with spiritual energies:  
Yoga, T'ai Chi Chuan, Aikido, massage, shiatsu, body consciousness etc.

Nyt Forum (New Forum), The Opera, 1. floor.  
Christiania's information office and library.  
Contact and information dissemination etc.  
Open: Monday-Friday 12-17. Telephone/fax: 3295 6507  
[nytforum@christiania.org](mailto:nytforum@christiania.org)

Postkontoret (the Post Office), Lopperbygningen (the Flea-building).  
Christiania's internal post office.  
Open: Monday-Friday 14-17.

Rundvisergruppen (the Conducted Tours Group), Gallopperiet.  
Conducted tours in Christiania in Danish and English.  
In summer: daily from June 26 - August 31.  
The rest of the year tours are every Saturday and Sunday meeting place at 3 pm at the Main Entrance in Prinsessegade.  
Price: 30 Danish crowns per person. Bookings also for group tours.  
Address: Rundvisergruppen Christiania, 1407 Copenhagen K.  
Telephone: 3257 9670, fax: 3257 6005.  
[www.rundvisergruppen.dk](http://www.rundvisergruppen.dk)

Sundhedshuset (the Health Clinic).  
The Bath House building, Fabriksområdet (the Factory Area).  
Alternative advice and treatment of physical and psychical imbalances is given here including:  
Zone therapy, herb therapy, massage, diet, etc.  
In addition, a doctor, a nurse, a dentist and a physiotherapist are associated with the clinic.  
Open: Monday-Friday 12-18.  
Telephone: 3295 4354.  
[www.christiania.org/~sundhus/](http://www.christiania.org/~sundhus/)

Ugespejlet (Christiania weekly/the Weekly Mirror).  
This is Christiania's internal weekly.  
Debate, information, notice and summaries of meetings, small ads, jokes, press cuttings etc. are included.  
Address:  
Ugespejlet, Christiania, Bådsmadsstræde 43, 1407 Copenhagen K.  
[ugespejl@christiania.org](mailto:ugespejl@christiania.org)

Utopiske horisonter (Utopian Horizons).  
Futurology workshops, work on establishing an environmentally sound economy, democratic development, social ecology and conflict resolution happen here.  
Café seminars, workshops and lectures etc. are held.  
[www.christiania.org/utopia](http://www.christiania.org/utopia)

Økonomikontoret (the Economy Office), det Grønne rum (the Green Room).  
Langgaden (the Long Street).  
Here the Economy Group, Christiania's economic administration, is housed.  
Open: Tuesday 10-14, Wednesday 13-16 and Thursday 15-18.

## Arts and Handicrafts

Croquis-værkstedet (the Croquis Workshop), Pusher Street.  
Christiania's paint workshop.  
Croquis Mondays 10-12

Gallopperiet, Loppebygningen (the Flea-building).  
The Freetown's Museum of Art.  
Exhibition rooms/gallery and book café with changing art exhibitions etc.  
Books, magazines, posters, postcards, records and tapes about Christiania, and various information material from grassroots groups in Denmark.  
Here you can find out about conducted tours.  
Open: Tuesday-Sunday 12-17.  
[www.gallopperiet.dk/](http://www.gallopperiet.dk/)

Leonard's Gallery, Loppebygningen (the Flea-building).  
Painter's workshop and exhibition.  
Variable opening hours.

Tatas sko (Tata's shoes), Refshalevej 6C. In the Dandelion Area.  
Paint workshop and shoe-repair shop.  
Open: Monday-Friday 10-16.  
[www.christiania.org/~tata/](http://www.christiania.org/~tata/)

Keramikværkstedet (the Ceramic workshop).  
Behind Den Grønne Genbrugs Hal (the Green Recycle Hall).  
Communal ceramics workshop, run on professional as well as artistic and hobby-like lines.  
Open: Whenever somebody is in.

Håndværkstedet (the Manual workshop), The Psyak building.  
Textiles, ceramics, sculpture, weaving, woodworks etc.

## Clubs and Societies

CA Open.  
Annually recurring football tournament on Fredens Eng (the Meadow of Peace), in which most businesses, clubs etc. join in.

Christianshavns Lystfiskerklub (the Christianshavn Anglers' Club).  
Bådsmadsstræde 43.  
App. 100 members holding one or two angling competitions a year.

Christianias Kulturforening (Christiania's Cultural Society).  
C/o Britta Lillesøe, Laden (the Barn), in the Dandelion Area.  
Umbrella organization for various cultural happenings in Christiania.  
Telephone: 3257 0834, fax: 3295 0022.  
E-mail: cakultur@christiania.org  
[www.christiania.org/~cakultur/home.html](http://www.christiania.org/~cakultur/home.html)

CSC Christiania's Sports Club. Stjerneskipet (the Star Ship) in the Milky Way.  
A football team playing under the auspices of the Copenhagen Ball Game Union, participates in the Denmark tournament.  
Training at Kløvermarken Tuesday and Thursday from 17.30.  
E-mail: [csc@christiania.org](mailto:csc@christiania.org)  
[www.christiania.org/~csc/](http://www.christiania.org/~csc/)

CVK (the Veteran Automobile Club), Loppebygningen (the Flea-building).  
Christiania's Vintage Car Club.  
The approx. 25 members enjoy restoring old cars and motorbikes.

De Frie Fugle (the Free Birds), CSC, Stjerneskipet (the Star Ship) in the Milky Way.  
Christiania's hang-glider and parachute club, a member of DDU, the Danish Hang-glider Union.  
Hang-gliders are trained and participate in Danish hang-gliding events and tournaments.

Foreningen Christiania Org (the Christiania Org. Society).  
This is Christiania's web site and local net.  
Dissemination of fastnet internet connections.  
[www.christiania.org](http://www.christiania.org)

Gallariet (the Gallery), Pusher Street.  
This Art gallery specializes in the works of William Skotte.  
[www.gallariet.dk/](http://www.gallariet.dk/)

PrikPrikPrik.  
Christiania's historical society.  
Here is a collection of historical source material about Christiania's history.  
[www.prikprikprik.dk](http://www.prikprikprik.dk)

Tibet Friends, Stjerneskipet (the Star Ship).  
Supporters work for a free Tibet.  
[www.tibetfriends.dk/](http://www.tibetfriends.dk/)

W.C.Fields, Hotellet (the Hotel), Pusher Street.  
Members' club. This serves as a meeting place for the Underground in Copenhagen.

Wings and Wheels, Loppebygningen (the Flea-building).  
Model car and aeroplane enthusiasts gather here.

Ølklubben Sirius (the Beer Club Sirius).  
Beer tasting and beer culture are enjoyed here.  
The club is also a member of the Danish Beer Enthusiasts.

## Various

Fri Hash Bevægelsen (the Free Hash Movement).  
Den Røde Barak (the Red Hut), Hampen Plads (the Hemp Square).  
The name says it all.  
Smoke-ins, for instance May 1 in Fælledparken, support parties, T-shirts, debate, information and knowledge.

CA Radio.  
Broadcasts: Sundays 14-20, Mondays 20-00 and Tuesdays 12-14 on FM 90,4 MHZ.  
Telephone: 3296 6614.

Hestestalden (the Horse Stable), Børneengen (the Childrens Meadow).  
Here is a riding school, mostly for children.  
10-12 horses in all sizes.

Legepladsen (the Playground), By Loppebygningen (the Flea-building).  
The fine new playground for the children of Christiania (and Christianshavn) opened on Christiania's 20-year anniversary in 1991.  
It is for smaller children.

Ventura, Stalden (the Stable), Prærien (the Prairie).  
A music studio.  
E-mail: [ventura@christiania.org](mailto:ventura@christiania.org)

## Literature/film/music

Look on Christiania's web site [www.christiania.org](http://www.christiania.org) and on the web site of the Copenhagen Library, [www.kkb.bib.dk](http://www.kkb.bib.dk) you can seek information on music, film and literature about Christiania.

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