

## **Copenhagen is a world class bicycle city**

*Green mobility is a key to creating green transitions in cities, and Copenhagen is one of the cities leading the way. By committing to bike-friendly infrastructure, the City of Copenhagen has created a truly unique city environment where bicycles are slowly replacing cars as the main mode of city transport. In 2019 Copenhagen has again been voted the world's best biking-city.*

When thinking about the best cities to bike in, Copenhagen automatically springs to mind. With over 675.000 bikes in the city alone and 382 kilometers of bike paths around the city, it is impossible to take a stroll through Copenhagen and not notice that bikes are an essential part of everyday Copenhagen life. 49% of Copenhageners bike to and from work or school every single day traveling more than 1.3 million kilometers by bike every day.

But having a bike-friendly city is something that must be worked at. And while Copenhagen has always been a good city to bike in, an increased focus on – and investment in – green mobility has seen the city take huge steps towards becoming not just a good bicycle city, but rather the best bicycle city in the world. Since 2009 the City of Copenhagen has invested more than 290 million dollars in bicycle initiatives alone, being that bicycle super highways that make it easy to crisscross the city, convenient parking practically anywhere you look or bicycle bridges spanning the water connecting the city in new and exciting ways. Those investments have paid off and in 2016 more bikes crossed the inner city than cars for the first time in history.

### **Healthier Citizens and a Cleaner City**

Enabling cyclists and promoting green mobility creates a lot of positive effects. 30 minutes of daily cycling lowers the individual's mortality rate by 30%. An analysis by the Danish Confederation of Industry has also shown that for every 10% increase in cycling in the Municipality, the increase in the city's air quality and fitness of its citizens, will result in 109.000 less sick days a year for workers and students – saving both the city and its citizens millions of dollars in health expenses. Increases in cycling also make the city less congested, and both provide space on crowded streets and reduce travel time for the citizens travelling by car. It reduces noise in the city, and give people an easy, accessible and healthy way to get around and explore the city. It enables economic growth by removing barriers to workplace access, and finally, every single car trip replaced by one on a bicycle massively helps our climate.

### **Bikes Instead of Cars**

With the City of Copenhagen's ambition to become carbon neutral by 2025, increasing the use of the bicycle as the main vehicle of transport, and making the city increasingly bicycle friendly is a must. Just convincing someone to ride 2,5 kilometers to school or work instead of taking the car can reduce yearly carbon emissions by up to 150 kilograms. And the best way to convince someone of taking the bike instead of the car is to make sure that the city infrastructure is set up in a way that makes the bicycle the natural choice. And if, as many Copenhageners seem to believe, taking the bike is both the easiest, fastest, healthiest and cheapest mode of transport? Then that choice becomes no choice at all.

## **Facts about the Copenhagen cycle culture**

- There are more bikes than inhabitants in Copenhagen
- Every day, people cycle more than 1.3 million kilometers in Copenhagen.
- Copenhagen has more than 382 kilometers of bike paths around the city.
- Copenhagen has the world most busy cycling street with more than 40.000 cyclists daily passing Dronning Louises Bridge.

## **For more information about cycling in Copenhagen:**

Head of the biking programme, City of Copenhagen

Marie Kåstrup

Email: [mariek@kk.dk](mailto:mariek@kk.dk)

Tel: +45 26770757

## **For more information about the City of Copenhagen:**

Press officer from the City of Copenhagen

Simon Kærup

Email: [el1u@kk.dk](mailto:el1u@kk.dk)

Tel: +45 24 92 62 98