

## How to get to Konventum

### By train

There are numerous trains to Copenhagen Central Station. From there, take the next train to Helsingør Station, which leaves at least every 20 minutes, normally from track 1. You can take any train with destination Helsingør.

### By car

**From Western Europe:** Ferry from Puttgarden to Rødby. From there, follow motorway E47 to Helsingør.

**From Eastern Europe:** Ferry from Rostock to Gedser. From there, follow motorway E55 until it joins motorway E47 and follow it to Helsingør.

**From Sweden:** Take the Øresund Bridge and follow motorway E20 and the signs to Helsingør until it meets motorway E47, which you follow to Helsingør.

Helsingør is the last exit on motorway E47 on the Danish side.

### *GPS Navigation destination and coordinates*

Gl. Hellebækvej 70, 3000 Helsingør, Denmark, Latitude: 56° 3.0438'N, Longitude: 12° 35.1138' E

### By plane

Copenhagen Airport (CPH) can be conveniently reached from many European cities. The airport has only one exit, which can be reached through the baggage reclaim area. Once you have left this area, there are several options for local transportation.

#### *Train from the airport*

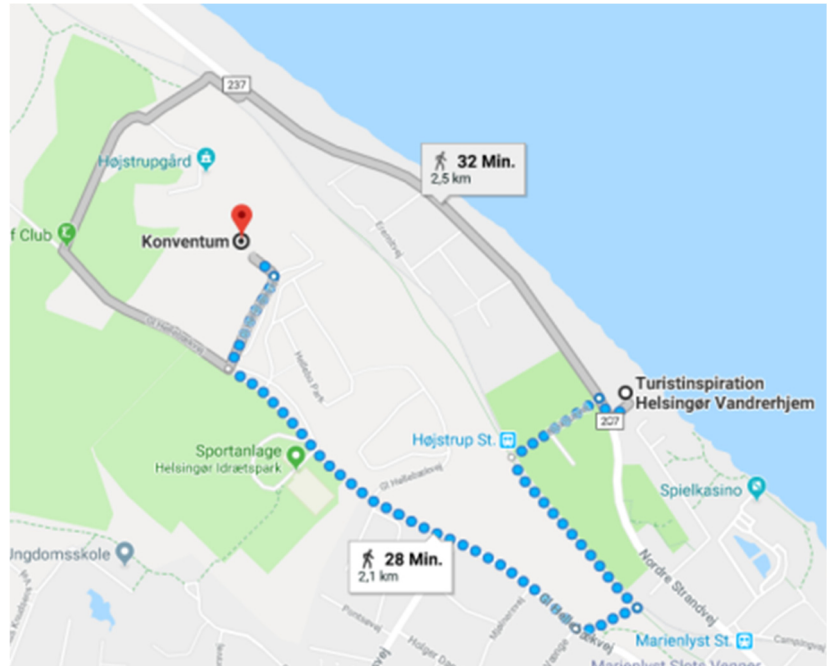
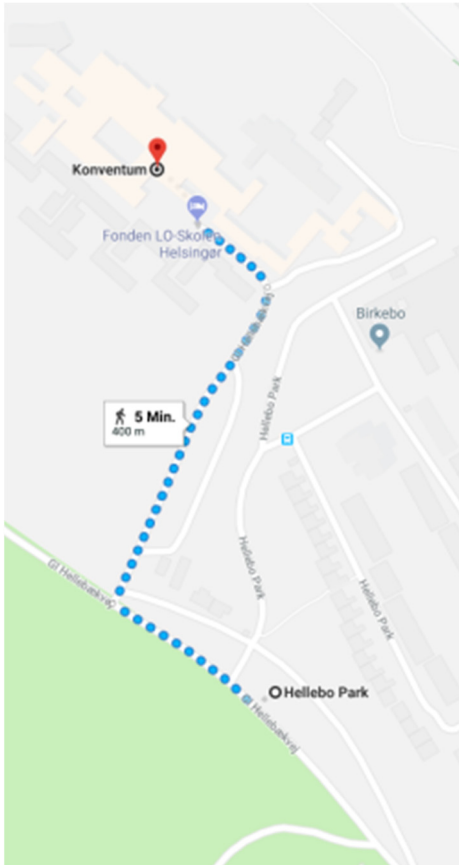
The easiest way to get to the Konventum is by train. Regional trains leave at least every 20 minutes from the airport station. To reach the station, walk through the hall, hold to the left and walk down for track 2 to reach trains to Helsingør and Copenhagen city center. You can take any train with destination Helsingør. The journey takes approximately 1 hour and two minutes.

Once in Helsingør, leave the station building to the left and walk approximately 100 m back in the direction you just came from to reach the bus station.

Most convenient is bus 803, which leaves the bus station twice an hour (26 and 56 minutes past the hour) on workdays, but only once per hour (10 minutes past the hour) on Sundays. Take the bus to the final destination **Hellebo Park**, from which it is a few minutes walk.

If you plan to go to the youth hostel (Vandrerhjem), you can take the local train to Gilleleje (once per hour, at 27 minutes past the hour) and get off at **Højstrup**, just vis-à-vis of the hostel. Alternatively, take bus 342 toward Hornbæk station via Alsgårde station and get off at **Helsingør Vandrehjem**. This bus also leaves once per hour (at 50 past the hour). Walk back approximately 200 m, and you will see the hostel on the left hand side.

From the hostel it is easiest to walk to Konventum, which takes approximately half an hour (see sketch),



### ***Metro and train from the airport via Copenhagen***

The fastest means of transportation is the driverless underground train (Metro), which leaves from the airport on the opposite side of the hall. To get there, walk all the way through the hall, up the stairs, to the right and take the next train. Get off at Nørreport station and follow the signs to the train station. From there, take the next train to Helsingør.

### ***Taxi from the airport or from Helsingør station***

Be aware that taking a taxi in Denmark is extremely expensive. From the airport, expect to pay at least DKK 1000 (EUR 133). If the motorway is empty, the trip can be done in 1 hour. During the rush hour, expect 90 minutes or more.

From Helsingør station, a taxi to the Konventum is about DKK 90 (EUR 12) and takes approximately 10 minutes.

## Fares for public transport



Paying correctly for public transport in Denmark is not as easy as one should think, because all the smart cash-free solutions require that you have a Rejsekort or a Danish SIM card. So you need to buy an (expensive) single ticket either over the counter (expect queues) or at a vending machine. Press on "Ticket", enter your destination (Helsingør Station is fine), and you should come out at a price of DKK 116 (almost EUR 16) to pay. Once in Helsingør, keep the ticket and show it to the bus driver – no need to pay extra. In any case, make sure that you keep the ticket available until the end of your journey, as there will frequently be checks.

Vending machines can be found in all larger stations as well as in the airport (in the center of the hall, close to the counters). You can pay cash or with credit card, and you can switch to English or German.



All public transport connections are conveniently searchable with Rejseplanen, which is available as an app for both Android and Apple. It can also be found on the net ([www.rejseplanen.dk](http://www.rejseplanen.dk)), and it even talks English and German. Highly recommended if you want to get around. You don't need the exact address, bus stop or station – it also understands terms like "Konventum".

## What to see in Helsingør

Helsingør is one of the oldest towns in Denmark and world renowned for Kronborg Castle (which we will visit on Tuesday) and its most famous inhabitant, Hamlet, Prince of Denmark (if we believe Shakespeare, who never visited the place).

First mentioned in 1228, Helsingør became wealthy after 1426, when King Erik of Pomerania decreed that every non-Danish ship that was to pass the Øresund had to pay Sound Dues. With 1.7 million ships passing the sound during the 490 years of the Sound Dues, this turned out to be extremely lucrative, and at times the dues amounted to almost a third of the Danish state budget. King Erik had a small castle built at the narrowest point of the Øresund in the 1420s and gave the citizens of Helsingør many privileges. Several of the old churches in Helsingør date from the mid-15<sup>th</sup> century.

In 1574, King Frederik II. replaced Erik's castle with the much more impressive one we can still see today, "to make captains remember to pay their dues". Helsingør became very wealthy, and most of the renaissance buildings one still can see today are from this time. As one can imagine, the dues gave rise to several conflicts over the centuries, but after the Napoleonic Wars they no longer were an economic factor; however, it was as late as 1857 that the Danish King agreed to free passage (after having been refunded with a considerable amount of money).

"To be or not to be" – "Something is rotten in the State of Denmark" – "The rest is silence": Kronborg Castle is the setting of William Shakespeare's famous tragedy "Hamlet, Prince of Denmark". Hamlet was performed in the castle for the first time in 1816 to mark the 200th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare, with a cast consisting of soldiers from the castle garrison. Since then, the play has been performed several times in the courtyard and at various locations on the fortifications. Among performers to play Hamlet at the castle are Laurence Olivier and many other famous actors.

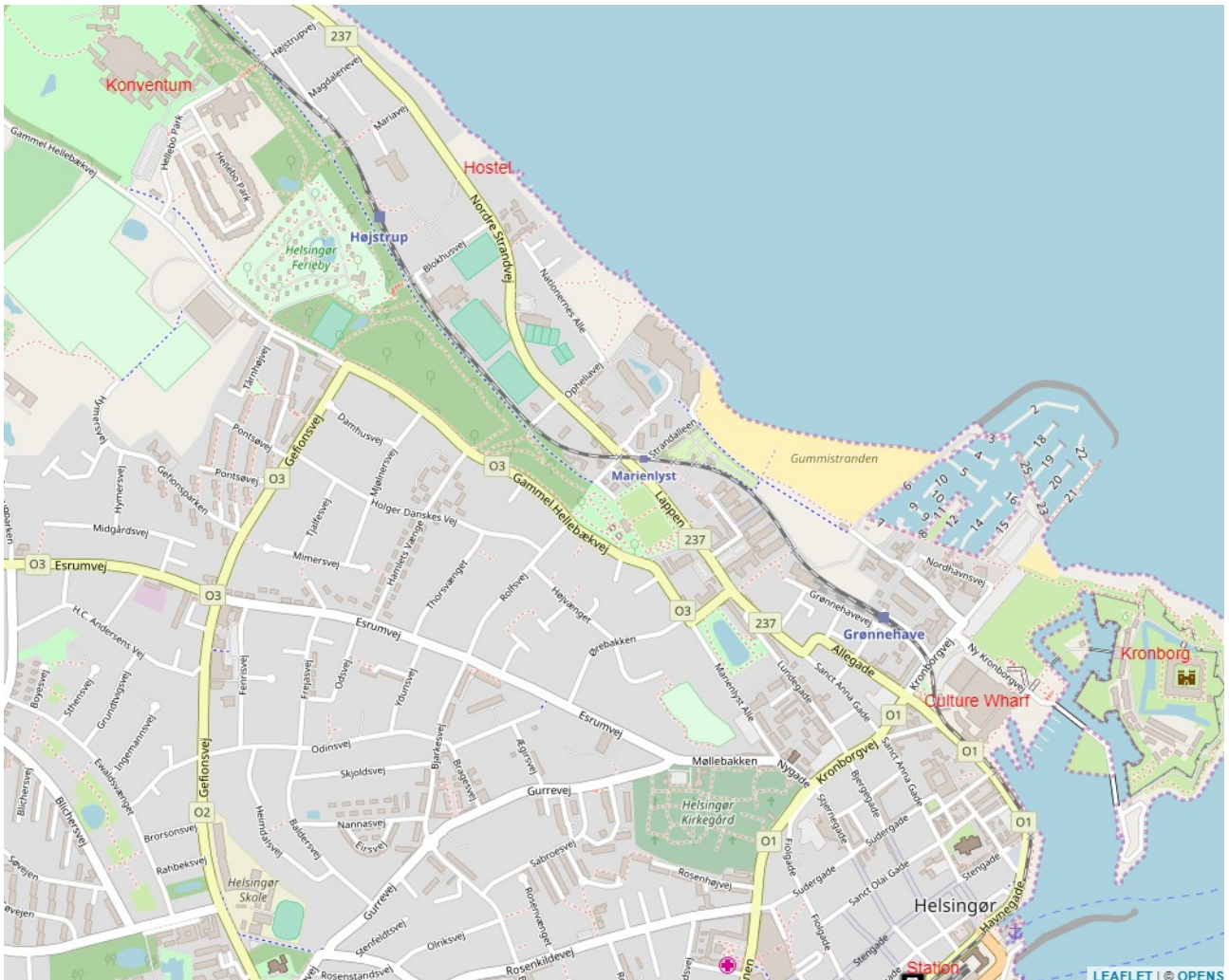
After the Sound Dues had ended, Helsingør became an important harbour city with a large wharf. As an important detail, Wiibroes Bryggeri (brewery), right around the corner, was the first to sell beer in bottles in 1896. The area has changed completely over time and was transformed to a "cultural wharf" (Kulturværftet), with the world-renowned Shipping Museum (Museum for Søfart), which is below ground and formed like a ship's hull, in the center. The area and in particular the museum is worth a visit.

Another world-renowned museum is the Louisiana Museum of Modern Arts in Humlebæk, spectacularly located on a hill above the Øresund. Louisiana can be reached by train in a little less than one hour.

In Helsingør, one can stroll through the old streets and visit a number of sightseeing points on the Elsinore Walk ([http://www.helsingor.dk/media/7790046/helsingor\\_brochure\\_148x200\\_11.pdf](http://www.helsingor.dk/media/7790046/helsingor_brochure_148x200_11.pdf)). Other places worth a visit are the Øresund Aquarium (Strandpromenaden 5), displaying local fish, and the Technical Museum of Denmark (Fabriksvej 25) with Danish cars, motorcycles and planes from a time quite long ago.

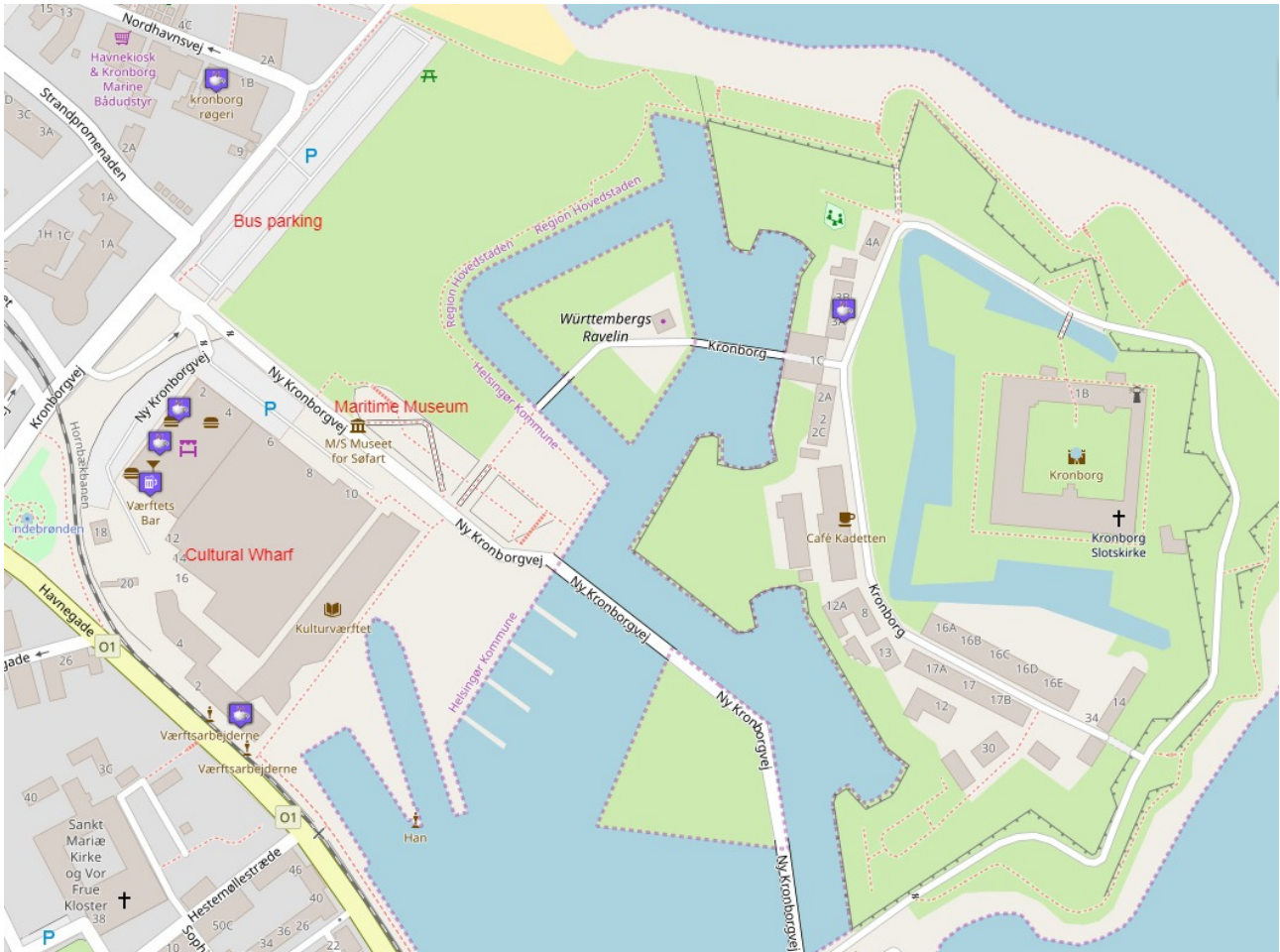
## How to get to Helsingør centre from Konventum

You can either take bus 803 from Hellebo Park or 342 from Vandrehjem to Helsingør Station, or you can walk (about 25 minutes from Konventum, about 20 minutes from the hostel). From Konventum, you can also walk downhill to Højstrup Station (10 minutes) and take the local train to Helsingør Station:



## Excursion: Kronborg area

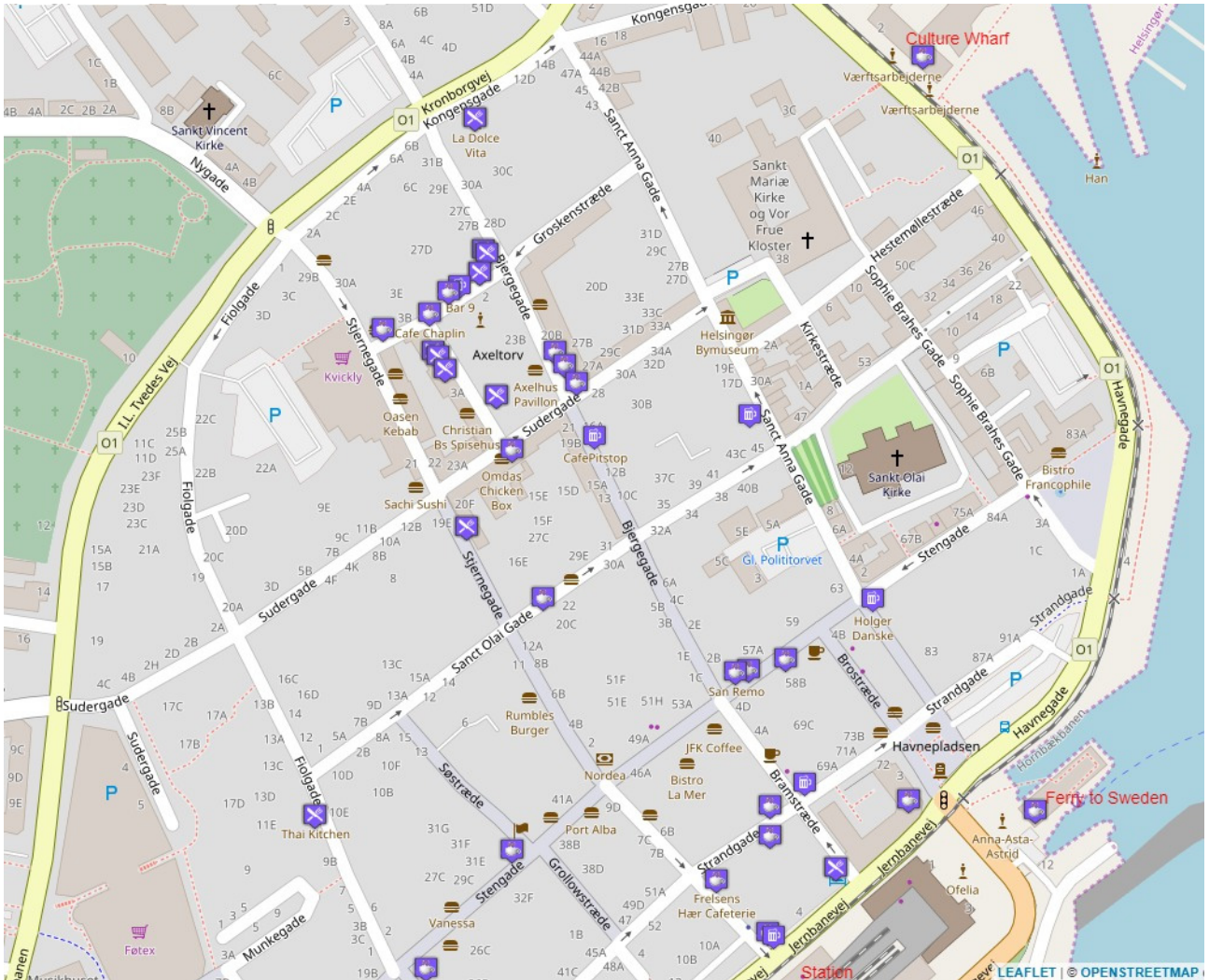
We will be transported by bus from Konventum to Kronborg Castle. The bus stops at the large parking area, from where it is an 8 minute walk to the castle. Should you want to visit the area in your spare time, Kronborg Castle is a nice 10 minutes walk from Helsingør Station. Alternatively, you can also get off at Grønnehave if you are on the local train from Højstrup.



If you don't want to walk back, it is easiest to walk to the station and take a bus or the local train.

## Old Town

There are plenty of restaurants, bars and cafés in the old town



## Climate

The Danish climate is mainly maritime. You should expect maximum temperatures of 19°C, minimum temperatures of 11°C and a water temperature of 14°C, although it might be warmer after the warm spring we had this year. An average June has 12 days with precipitation.