

# MIAMI LIVING

THE SWIM ISSUE



# COPENHAGEN DENMARK

*Words by Markin Abras*











**Copenhagen**, Denmark's coastal capital, seamlessly blends centuries of history with forward-thinking innovation. Founded as a Viking fishing village in the 10th century, it grew into a vital trading hub and later the royal capital, with landmarks like *Rosenborg Castle* and *Amalienborg Palace* reflecting its regal past. The city played a heroic role during World War II by helping nearly all of Denmark's Jewish population escape Nazi persecution.

Today, Copenhagen is known for its commitment to sustainability, aiming to be the world's first carbon-neutral capital. With an efficient public transportation system and widespread English fluency, getting around is easy. I visited in July, when the sun doesn't set until quite late, providing roughly 16 hours of daylight.

My top site picks include *Nyhavn*, with its colorful historic buildings (though often packed with tourists), and *Tivoli Gardens*, especially beautiful in spring when the roses bloom. *Rosenborg Castle* reveals royal history, while *Amalienborg Palace* features the daily guard ceremony.

Among the city's many museums, the *National Museum* covers Danish history, *Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek* displays classical sculptures and 19th-century art, and Designmuseum Danmark showcases iconic Danish design. My favorite was the *Louisiana Museum of Modern Art*—just outside the city, it's peaceful, uncrowded, and overlooks the *Øresund Strait*. For city views, climb the *Round Tower*. And for a nature break, visit the *Copenhagen Botanical Garden*—home to 13,000+ plant species and part of the *Natural History Museum*.





## LUXURY STAYS & DINING

### Hotel Bella Grande

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[hotelbellagrande.com/en](http://hotelbellagrande.com/en)

*By Markin Abras, Photos/Hotel Bella Grande*

## LOCATION

**Hotel Bella Grande**, centrally located in Copenhagen City Centre, is a contemporary five-story boutique hotel housed in a historic 1899 building featuring a stunning Italian courtyard. A century ago, it hosted Hollywood celebrities, politicians, and musical legends, and it was recently redesigned by *Malene Bech-Pedersen* and *Mette Bonavent* of *Tonen Agency*. With convenient access to many of the city's notable sites and a nearby metro station, I loved being able to walk to *City Hall Square*, as well as numerous restaurants, bars, and shops—all alive with vibrant city energy.





HOTEL  
BELLA GRANDE







## ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel Bella Grande features 109 guest rooms and suites that fuse vintage Italian flair with Scandinavian design. Rooms pair vintage art with modern pieces by local and international designers, including furniture from *&Tradition*, *Tom Dixon* lamps, *Polspotten* side tables, and custom vanities by *Københavns Møbelsnedkeri*. Muted tones throughout create a stylish, modern, Scandinavian-chic vibe.











## DINING

The hotel's main dining venue is *Donna*, a lively and vibrant Italian restaurant located at the foot of *Bella Grande*. Donna brings the spirit of Italy to Copenhagen with its extravagant and colorful interior and is a popular spot for social gatherings in the city. The menu features a diverse range of Italian-inspired dishes, from snacks like focaccia and arancini to antipasti such as burrata and tuna crudo, along with a variety of pastas, pizzas, hearty mains, fresh salads, and indulgent desserts. You can choose between à la carte dining or family-style meals, along with a wide selection of cocktails, non-alcoholic drinks, beers, and hot beverages. *Bella Grande* is part of the

*Copenhagen Food Collective* and is sister to 18 other well-known Copenhagen restaurants, all worth exploring.

## AMENITIES

*Hotel Bella Grande* offers a range of amenities, including a fully equipped gym with a dedicated stretching area. For business travelers, meeting and conference facilities are available. Guests can also rent bikes to explore Copenhagen's renowned cycling culture with ease. Additional conveniences include a 24-hour reception and luggage storage. The hotel is committed to sustainability, with its parent company powering operations using solar energy.





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