

# Moving to Denmark: Your Relocation Guide



By Appointment To  
Her Majesty The Queen  
Removals and Storage Contractor Abels

# ABELS™

THE ART OF MOVING

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TELEPHONE:	45 + area code
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ELECTRICITY:	220v, 50Hz
INOCULATIONS/VACCINATIONS:	Inoculation and vaccination certificate not required for EC citizens
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:	Jan 1, Mar 24, 25, 28, Apr 22, May 5, 16, Jun 5, Dec 24-26
OFFICE HOURS:	0900-1730
BANK HOURS:	0930-1600 Monday – Friday late opening on Thursdays till 1800 Hours
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## Customs

**Denmark is part of the EU and as such, no official documents are required to import personal effects and household goods duty free if originating from another EU country.**

**To the best of our knowledge, the following documentation is required to import household and personal effects into Denmark from a country outside the EU. However, it is advisable to check with authorities that documentation is in order, prior to dispatch.**

### Household goods from outside the EU

Documents required:

- Inventory in English
- Please do not use the terms “Miscellaneous” or PBO on the inventory
- Bill of lading or air way bill – shipper and consignee must be the same person on the bill of lading as well as on the airway bill
- Copy of the importers passport identification pages
- If alcoholic beverages, soft drinks, bottled water, tea and coffee are included in the shipment a detailed inventory is required listing brand, alcohol percentage, numbers and sizes of bottles
- Returning Danes may be requested to provide proof of a minimum stay of twelve months outside EU for example in the form of a certification from an authority abroad, an employer or the like

Household goods which have been owned and used for minimum 6 months, and still are intended for intended for owner’s use, can be imported duty free by any person taking up residence in Denmark or within the EU.

Returning Danes must have had a residence outside the EU for a minimum twelve months to qualify for duty free importation of household goods.

Household Goods must be imported within twelve months of the owner’s arrival to enjoy duty free import. Owners must be registered as a resident in Denmark before the arrival of the shipment.

Customs clearance must take place immediately upon arrival of goods.

Visitors and Danes residing abroad cannot import household goods free of taxes and duty.

### Diplomatic Removals

Documents required:

- Inventory
- A “Declaration for Diplomats” issued by the embassy or local foreign mission

Duty free.

A person being accredited as a foreign diplomat to Denmark is allowed duty free import privileges including duty free

import of alcohol (no quotas). The Declaration for Diplomat number 13004 has to be filled out by the Foreign Embassy in Denmark. The alcohol must only be for own consumption or to use in a professional capacity. The alcohol is not to be sold in Denmark.

Returning Danish Diplomats do not enjoy any diplomatic privileges and their removals will be customs cleared under common rules and regulations (they must pay duties on any dutiable items included in their shipment).

### Wedding Trousseau

Documents required:

- Inventory
- Declaration signed by both persons
- Marriage certificate

Duty free.

Danes must have had a residence abroad for a minimum of twelve months to qualify for duty free importation of wedding gifts.

Household Goods must be imported within four months of the wedding to enjoy duty free import.

Goods must be for use in normal household. Maximum value Euro 1000 per gift items.

Residents of Denmark cannot import wedding gifts free of duty and taxes.

### Inheritance

Documents required:

- Inventory
- Inheritance certificate signed by client
- Death certificate
- Copy of will or declaration issued and legalised by the Lawyer handling the estate

Duty free within two years following the finalisation of the estate.

Goods must be for use in normal household.

### New items

Document required:

- Invoice

From outside EU, subject to duty and VAT.

### Works of Art

If included in household goods, see “Household Goods” if commercial see “new items”. If for exhibition, documents required:

#### If for exhibition:

- Inventory with values
- Proforma invoice
- Temporary free entry or ATA-carnet

Duty free.

### **Duty free for exhibitions provided:**

- The importer is registered as an importer with the Danish Customs / Tax authorities

Or

- A bank guarantee is posted

Works of art can be imported without the use of an ATAcarnet – which is preferable.

### **Antiques**

If included in household goods see “household goods”.

### **Commercial:**

- Invoice
- Certificate stating the item is at least 100 years

Duty free but subject to VAT (25%).

### **Household Utensils**

If included in household goods see “household goods” if commercial see “new items”.

### **Electrical Appliances**

If included in household goods see “household goods” if commercial see “new items”.

Articles must conform to Danish specifications.

### **Cars and Motorcycles**

Documents required:

- Original foreign registration papers
- Insurance card

Owners must have lived outside the EU for a minimum of 12 months to import free of duty.

Duty free importation for airplanes, caravans, pleasure crafts, motor trailers, provided these have been in the owners possession and registered as such abroad for a minimum of six months.

Registration tax, which is extremely high is to be paid.

Following customs clearance, the owner in person must present the car to the authorities for registration within 30 days of the arrival of the vehicle.

Persons living in Denmark are not permitted to drive vehicles registered abroad.

A car imported free of duty may not be sold, pawned or rented out within twelve months of importation.

### **Other Vehicles**

If included in household goods see “household goods” if not see “new items”.

Generally speaking, there are a variety of specific regulations for import of motor driven vehicles to Denmark. Contact with destination agent prior to shipment is recommended.

### **Machines, Implements and Spare Parts**

See “new items”.

Under some circumstances, there are special rules for scientific equipment, spare parts etc., contact with destination agent prior to shipment is recommended.

### **Restricted import Wine, Spirits, Soft Drinks and Tobacco**

Documents required:

- Invoice
- Certificate of origin

Any quantities of wine, spirits, tea, coffee or tobacco included in household goods shipment must be declared to be for personal consumption and will attract duty and tax.

Larger quantities will be considered as commercial import and may only be imported by licensed importers.

As the amount of duties and taxes will be assessed on the value and quantity of the beverage or tobacco to be imported it is not possible to indicate a general level of duties. Please note that all quantities, whether in unopened or opened bottles, will be assessed taxes and duties.

Due to the high taxes, there is a strict control by import and it is not advisable to include spirits in removals.

### **Tinned Goods & General Food**

Documents required:

If small quantities imported with household goods, see “household goods”, otherwise:

- Veterinary certificate
- Origin certificate

Rules are varying. In general we discourage to bring in tinned goods as this may delay customs clearance and result in extra expenses.

### **Arms, Ammunition and Dangerous Items**

Documents required:

- Import licence from Ministry of Justice, issued through local Police office
- Shooting permit

Prohibited (unless a special license is obtained from the Danish Ministry of Justice).

### **Sport Items**

Documents required If included in household goods see “household goods” if for competitions:

- Valued inventory

Temporary free entry.



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## **Narcotics Medicines not approved by the Danish Health Authorities**

Prohibited (unless a special license is obtained from the Danish Ministry of Justice).

## **Precious metal items**

If included in household goods, see “household goods”, otherwise see “new items”.

Import and possession of gold and silver in bars is prohibited.

## **Carpets**

If included in household goods, see “household goods”, otherwise see “new items”.

## **Plants**

Prohibited (unless the Danish Governmental Plant Protection Service grants a license based on certificate from authorities at origin that the plants are free from disease).

## **Pets**

Documents required:

- Health certificate not more than one month old issued by the Veterinarian Authorities at origin or EU animal passport
- Certificate for rabies vaccination (issued at least three weeks but not more than twelve months prior departure)
- Identification of the animal (tattoo or microchip) must be verified against health certificates before any entry is allowed

May be imported from most countries provided the required documents are valid and available at the port of entry.

Pets from certain countries may be required to undergo a rabies serological test prior to importation into the EU. Please always refer to your destination agent for up-to-date information prior to importation. Under normal circumstances quarantine will not be required for healthy animals.

## **Other animals**

Prohibited live, dead and pre-manufactured parts of animals as mentioned in the Washington Convention (unless the Danish Nature Conservancy Board grants a license).

## **Woods packaging regulations**

The European member states have adopted the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM). This regulation requires all wood packing materials to be treated for the transport of goods to the EU from other countries.

## **General Information on the Kingdom of Denmark**

### **Background**

Once the seat of Viking raiders and later a major north European power, Denmark has evolved into a modern, prosperous nation that is participating in the general political and economic integration of Europe. It joined NATO in 1949 and the EEC (now the EU) in 1973. However, the country has opted out of certain elements of the European Union's Maastricht Treaty, including the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU), European defense cooperation, and issues concerning certain justice and home affairs.

### **Geography**

Northern Europe, bordering the Baltic Sea and the North Sea, on a peninsula north of Germany (Jutland) also includes two major islands (Sjælland and Fyn).

Denmark controls the Danish Straits (Skagerrak and Kattegat) linking Baltic and North Seas. About one quarter of the population lives in greater Copenhagen.

### **Climate**

Its temperate, humid and overcast. Mild windy winters and cool summers.

Flooding is a threat in some areas of the country (e.g. parts of Jutland, along the southern coast of the island of Lolland) that are protected from the sea by a system of dikes.

### **Population**

It's estimated at 5,468,120.

### **Environmental Issues**

Air pollution principally from vehicle and power plant emissions. Nitrogen and phosphorus pollution of the North Sea. Drinking and surface water becoming polluted from animal wastes and pesticides.

### **International Disputes**

Rockall continental shelf dispute involving Denmark, Iceland and the UK (Ireland and the UK have signed a boundary agreement in the Rockall area) remains dormant. Dispute with Iceland over the Faroe Islands fisheries median line boundary within 200 nm. Disputes with Iceland, the UK and Ireland over the Faroe Islands continental shelf boundary outside 200 nm. Faroese continue to study proposals for full independence, uncontested dispute with Canada over Hans Island sovereignty in the Kennedy Channel between Ellesmere Island and Greenland.

### **Currency**

Danish krone (DKK) which is divided into 100 ore.

Coins: 25, 50 ore, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 kroner

Notes: 50, 100, 200, 500, 5000 kroner



## Religion

Evangelical Lutheran 95%, other Protestant and Roman Catholic 3% Muslim 2%.

## Economy

This thoroughly modern market economy features a hightech agricultural sector, state-of-the-art industry with worldleading firms in pharmaceuticals, maritime shipping and renewable energy, and a high dependence on foreign trade. Denmark is a member of the European Union (EU); Danish legislation and regulations conform to EU standards on almost all issues. Danes enjoy among the highest standards of living in the world and the Danish economy is characterized by extensive government welfare measures and an equitable distribution of income. Denmark is a net exporter of food and energy and enjoys a comfortable balance of payments surplus but depends on imports of raw materials for the manufacturing sector. Within the EU, Denmark is among the strongest supporters of trade liberalization. After a long consumption-driven upswing, Denmark's economy began slowing in 2007 with the end of a housing boom. Housing prices dropped markedly in 2008- 09 and, following a short respite in 2010, continued to decline in 2011 though at a slower pace. The global financial crisis has exacerbated this cyclical slowdown through increased borrowing costs and lower export demand, consumer confidence, and investment. The global financial crises cut Danish real GDP by 0.8% in 2008 and 5.8% in 2009. Denmark made a modest recovery in 2010 with real GDP growth of 1.3%, in part because of increased government spending; however, the country experienced a technical recession in late 2010-early 2011. Historically low levels of unemployment rose sharply with the recession and have remained at about 6% in 2010-11, based on the national measure, about two-thirds average EU unemployment. An impending decline in the ratio of workers to retirees will be a major long-term issue. Denmark maintained a healthy budget surplus for many years up to 2008, but the budget balance swung into deficit in 2009. In spite of the deficits, the new coalition government plans to deliver a modest stimulus to the economy in 2012. Nonetheless, Denmark's fiscal position remains among the strongest in the EU at 46.5% of GDP in 2011. Despite previously meeting the criteria to join the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU), so far Denmark has decided not to join, although the Danish krone remains pegged to the euro. Denmark held the EU presidency during the first half of 2012; priorities included promoting a responsible, dynamic, green, and safe Europe, while working to steer Europe out of its euro zone economic crisis.

## Education

The Danish Education System offers a wide range of education on all levels – also for people with an international background.

**Basic education** – In Denmark there are nine years of schooling for everyone from the age of seven. In addition there is preschool class and 10th form, both of which are optional. The municipal school system offers mother tongue instruction

for children whose first language is not Danish, as well as extra Danish classes. Furthermore, a number of international schools offer instruction in English, German or French.

**Upper secondary education** – After the primary and lower secondary school a wide range of upper secondary education programmes are available. The various kinds of uppersecondary level education prepare students for higher education. There are many opportunities for academically oriented foreigners who may, for instance, opt for an International Baccalaureate or an International Business Baccalaureate.

**Higher education** – Foreign students may be admitted to Danish higher education either as guest students, international students or as regular students along with the Danish applicants. Higher education comprises the university sector, which offers research based undergraduate and graduate programmes, as well as a parallel sector for professional bachelor and diploma programmes and more business oriented programmes. Most higher education institutions offer courses in English, and at graduate level several English programmes such as MBA and MPA programmes are available.

## Language

Danish, Faroese, Greenlandic (an Inuit dialect), German (small minority). English is predominantly the second language.

## Health

The last couple of years, public health has been in focus in Denmark, and there is a tendency towards increasing the efforts in the area of prevention. For instance, the authorities have implemented prevention programmes, which by means of campaigns, arrangements and other measures are to make the Danes live healthier lives and thus prevent the so-called welfare diseases. Likewise, several patients' organisations are active in the work of prevention.

The Danish public health insurance ensures that everybody in Denmark has equal and free access to health services.

*Although every care is taken to ensure that all information in the Abels Relocation Guide is accurate and up to date Abels cannot accept liability for any inaccuracy.*