

UNESCO – UIA
World Capital of Architecture
COPENHAGEN 2023

PRESS KIT



IN COMMON

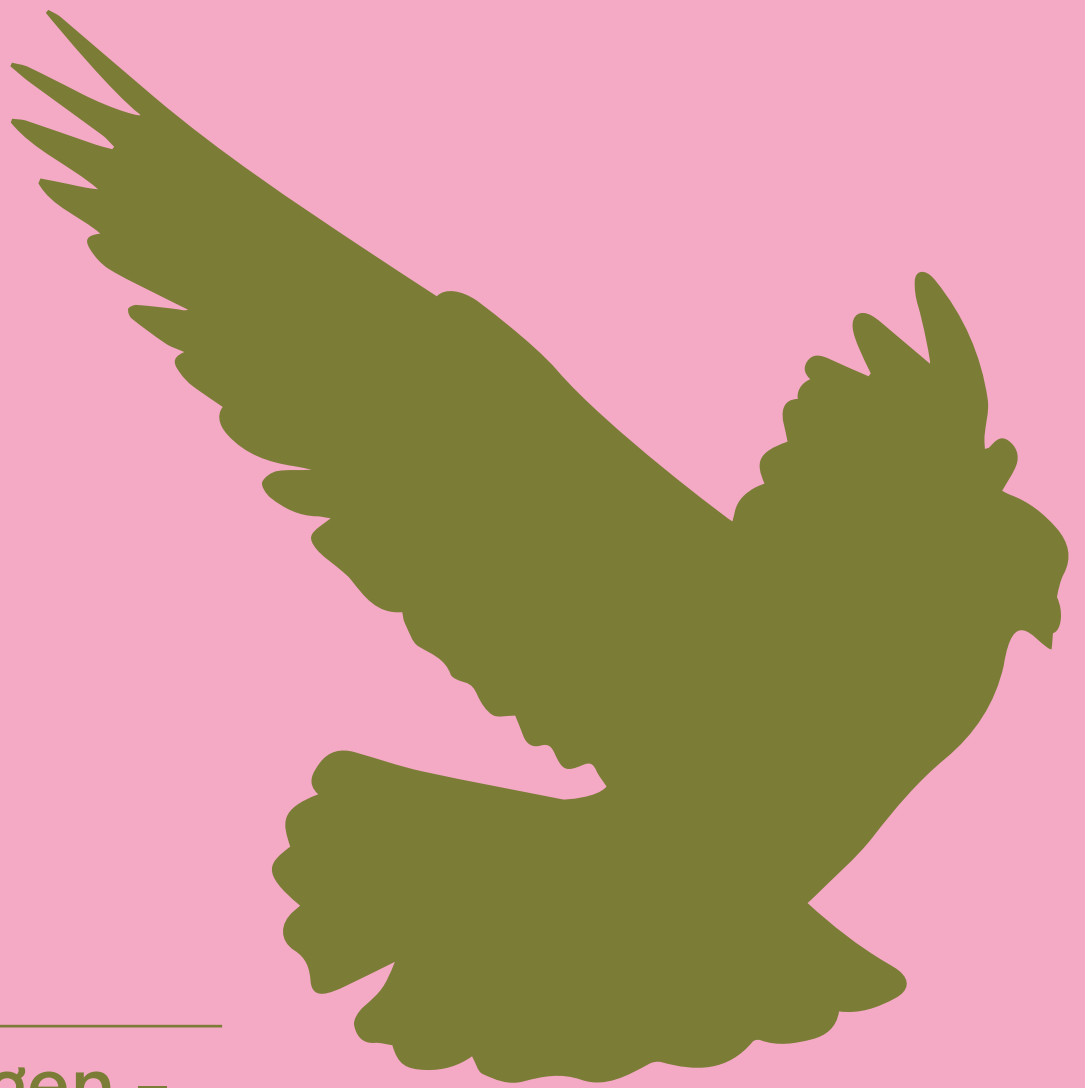
COPENHAGEN

Copenhagen announced World Capital of Architecture 2023

Copenhagen - the capital city of Denmark has been announced World Capital of Architecture in 2023. Join us for a whole year of events and debates on architecture within sustainable urban development.

Copenhagen has won the title of UNESCO-UIA World Capital of Architecture in 2023. The Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro was the first to be designated World Capital of Architecture in 2020/2021 and is passing on the prestigious nomination to the capital of Denmark. The title will tour the world every three years and grace the most prominent and world-leading cities within architecture.

UNESCO and the UIA have initiated a whole year focusing on architecture to underscore and demonstrate the crucial role of architecture and culture in sustainable urban development. The city designated World Capital of Architecture will become a global forum for discussions on the world's most pressing challenges through the prisms of culture, heritage, urban planning, and architecture. Through this initiative, UNESCO and the UIA have joint forces to develop sustainable urban solutions to the benefit of our future generations.



Copenhagen – city of sustainability and quality of life

The City of Copenhagen is world-famous for its sustainable urban development which is vital to the nomination as UNESCO - UIA World Capital of Architecture in 2023.

The City of Copenhagen has high ambitions on sustainability and boasts many green initiatives to reach its goals on climate: Green public transport, thousands of kilometers of bicycle lanes, zero-emission machinery on construction sites, environmentally friendly district heating - just to mention a few of the City's solutions to ensure clean air and a sustainable urban environment.

Cycling is the core to the city's unmistakable brand, and Copenhagen has several times been voted the world's best city for cyclists. As a result of a bike orientated infrastructure, 42 percent of Copenhageners commute to work or studies daily. Encouraging cycling goes hand in hand with the City's major focus on green transportation where zero-emission buses and a driverless metro are central elements. And not to forget – Copenhagen has a waterfront so clean that you can take a plunge in the harbour!

Join us for a whole year of activities and events where Copenhagen aims to inspire and be inspired beyond its borders!

Copenhagen world-famous for legendary and innovative architecture

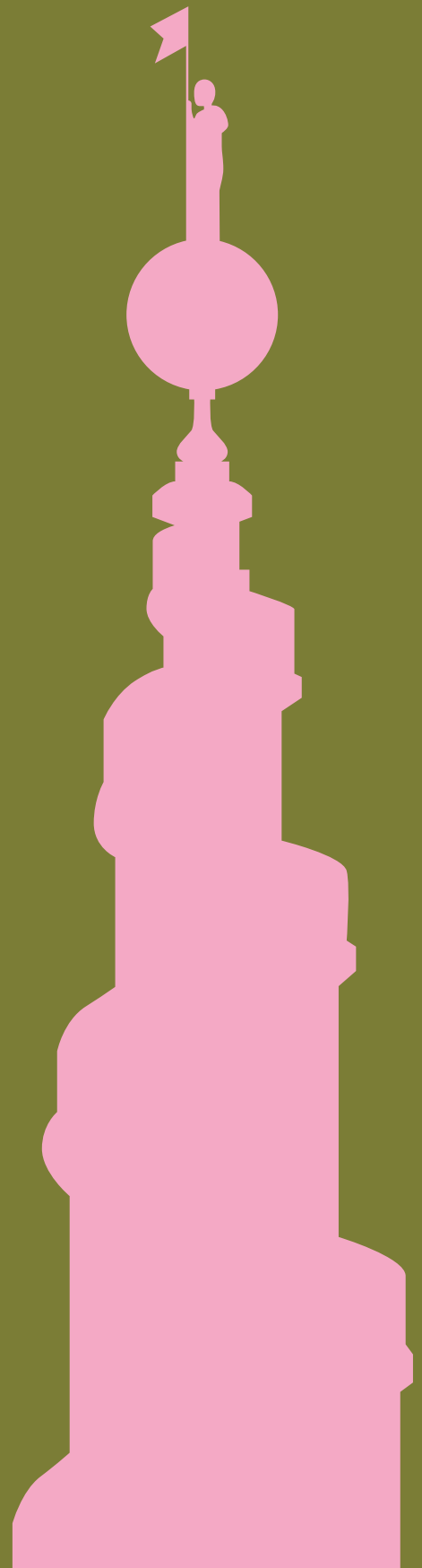
Copenhagen carries a strong legacy within architecture, historic buildings and palaces. From King Christian 4th of Denmark who erected many of the city's historic buildings, to prominent, modernist Danish architects and designers such as Arne Jacobsen, Hans J. Wegner, and Georg Jensen. Pioneers of their time and fathers of the innovation and design which have put Denmark on the world map of architecture.

This legacy has been carried on by innovative, contemporary Danish architects and designers such as Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG), Vilhelm Lauritzen Architects, Henning Larsen, etc.

World-class Danish architects like Jørn Utzon have designed places like the iconic Sydney

Opera House, and Arne Jacobsen has designed the functionalistic Bellavista houses north of Copenhagen.

In 2023, Copenhagen will set off from its all-pervading legacy and continuous booms of innovative buildings and urban spaces with an ever-increasing focus on combining architecture with sustainability and liveability. Throughout the year, you will get the chance to visit architectural masterpieces such as the emerging new districts in Copenhagen, Nordhavn and Ørestad. Or CopenHill which is a 41,000 m² waste-to-energy plant with an urban recreation center on the roof. 70,000 tons of waste are burnt every hour producing heat for 60,000 families. Last but not least, you will discover the city's bike bridges such as the Bicycle Snake and the Circle Bridge. Join us for much more in Copenhagen!



Copenhagen announced World Capital of Architecture in 2023

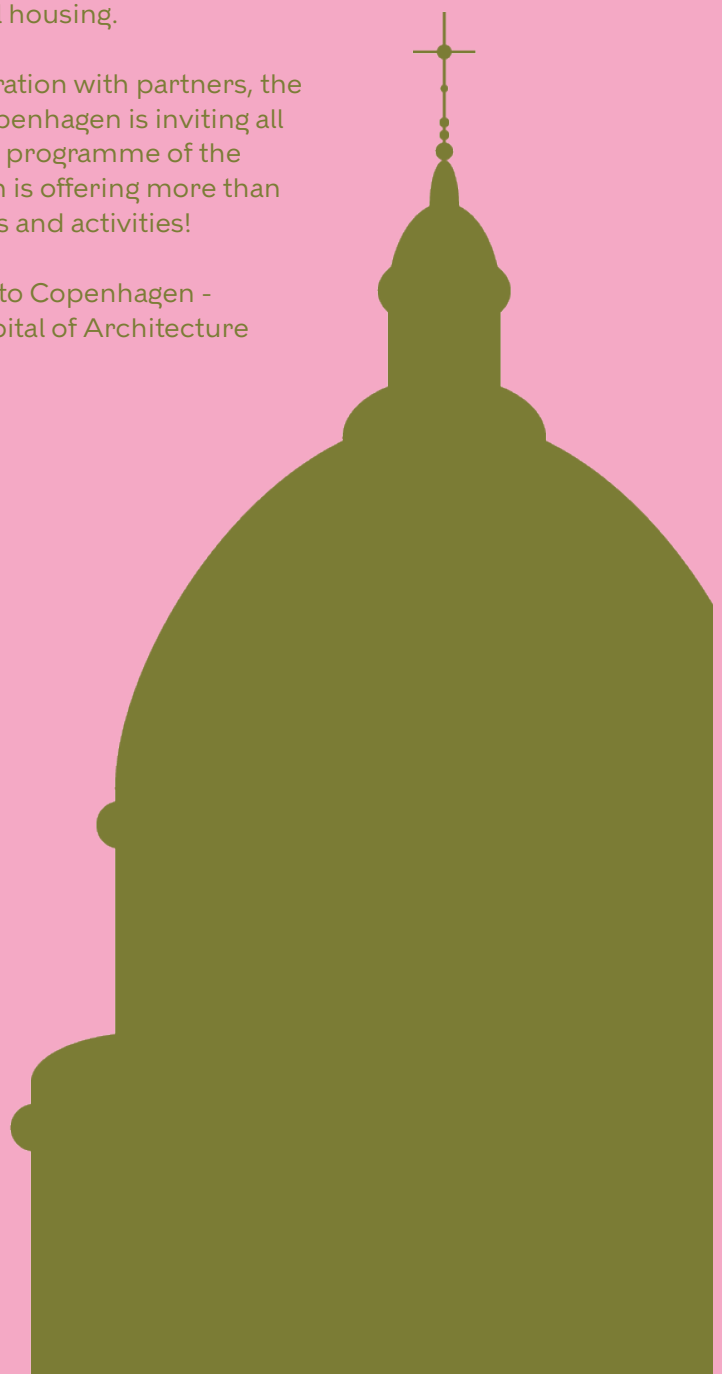
In 2023, Copenhagen will dress up for a whole year of events, activities, exhibitions, debates, etc. within architecture and sustainable urban development. The city will carry on the baton from Rio de Janeiro and will also be hosting the UIA World Congress from 2 to 7 July 2023.

With the overall narrative "Copenhagen in Common", Copenhagen will address the common urban issues such as history, nature, everyday life - and how architecture can support building a more sustainable future in our cities. A city for everyone. A city embracing diversity and different ways of housing and living. A city that takes pride in putting sustainable solutions first. The Copenhagen in Common theme will celebrate communities, dialogue, and quality of life, and the whole year will be a lever to create awareness of a democratic and sustain-

able urban environment. In Copenhagen, there is e.g. a political focus on creating a socially sustainable city with social housing.

In collaboration with partners, the City of Copenhagen is inviting all to visit the programme of the year which is offering more than 300 events and activities!

Welcome to Copenhagen -
World Capital of Architecture
2023!



Copenhagen highlights from the event programme

Official Launch

On 17 January 2023 the launch of the World Capital of Architecture will take place. At Copenhagen City Hall there will be an official opening event with invited guests including HRH Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark, patron of World Capital of Architecture in Copenhagen, and representatives from UNESCO and UIA. On the same day special exhibitions will open at the old attic at City Hall and at Kongens Nytorv.

Copenhagen Light Festival

Between 3-26 February, Copenhagen Light Festival transforms Copenhagen into a celebration of light art and illuminating experiences. Experience the capital city and its juxtaposition of new and old architecture in a different light and explore a unique programme of light works created by acknowledged and upcoming Danish and international artists and designers.

DAC Architecture Run

Prepared by the Danish Architecture Center on 17 February between 6-9 pm. This run is a different kind of a race without timekeeping, open to sprinters and beginners alike, and with plenty of time to experience the city's great architectural sights and attractions en route. Participants can choose between walking 5 km or running 5 or 10 km – the surroundings are equally inspiring, no matter the pace.

Living Spaces

Seven temporary low emission pavilions will open in the former railway area, Jernbanebyen, which is under transformation to become a new urban district in Copenhagen. It is VELUX and Effekt Architects who are presenting how sustainable living can look like. The pavilions will host exhibitions and debates during World Capital of Architecture 2023.

Open House Copenhagen

This event, headed by Danish Architecture Center, invites everyone inside unique Copenhagen buildings usually closed to the public. The buildings are everything from palaces to secret technical installations, that no one had any idea existed. Open House is free for all and expected to attract some 10,000 visitors over the weekend of 25-26 March. The concept started 30 years ago in London, and today, Open House weekends are held in more than 50 cities worldwide and soon in Copenhagen, too.



What we have in common

Danish Architecture Center's big exhibition running from 4 May to 22 October will focus on how everyone around the globe has architecture in common. It is what frame our lives. A good place to live, work and learn. A nice place to hang out. A safe place to move about. The exhibition presents a wide range of Danish architects designing solutions for now and the future. On the opening day, Danish Highline Association will cross the harbour on a 200-meter-long wire, from quay to quay.

The UIA World Architecture Pavilions

Located in the inner city in 2023 and reflecting the UIA World Congress' title 'Sustainable Futures - Leave No One Behind'. Programme and functions are individual for each pavilion but point to one or more of the 2023 congress' six key themes or design parameters that bring together the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals: Climate Adaptation, Resource Thinking, Resilient Cities, Health, Inclusion and Partnerships that change.

A common precondition for all pavilions is that they are designed based on principles of universal design, accessible to all and built with a view to a responsible use of materials. There must be a plan for what is to happen to the pavilions when they are taken down. The pavilions will be open to all during the summer months.

Copenhagen Picnic

Get ready for an exceptional dining experience on 11 June when locals and visitors to Copenhagen can join a huge picnic event covering all city districts. Each district will have its own distinct picnic celebrating the local identity of each neighbourhood. Everyone is welcome to the outdoor event.

CAFx: Copenhagen Architecture Festival

The largest annual architecture festival in Scandinavia as it takes place from 22 June to 9 July in Copenhagen. In 2023, the 10th festival of its kind is moved forward to June-July to align with the UIA World Congress. Expect a myriad of local and international events to take place.

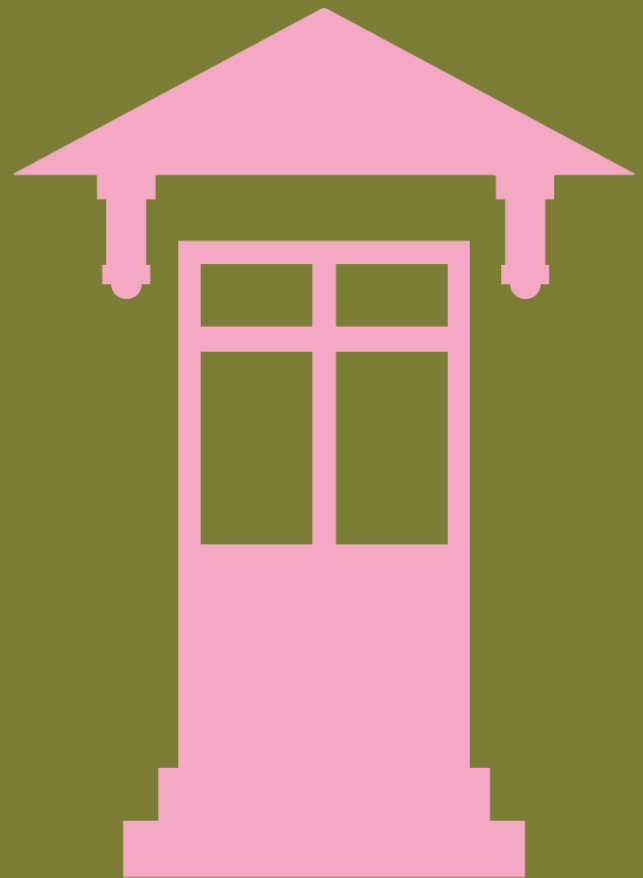
Bike your way through the WCA

What IS sustainability in real life? Join the dedicated guides from BeCopenhagen on one or both of their two tailor-made bike tours through Copenhagen and experience first-hand how the locals are turning the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals into practice. Delve into a variety of subjects within architecture, urban transformation, mobility and much more - and do it as the locals do - by bike all year round.



About the World Capital of Architecture

- The Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro was the first to be designated World Capital of Architecture in 2020/2021. The Danish capital city, Copenhagen, will be the second to carry the prestigious title.
- Copenhagen has been designated World Capital of Architecture in 2023 because of its strong legacy within architecture and innovative urban development. The City's high ambitions on climate, sustainable solutions and liveability have been key to the nomination.

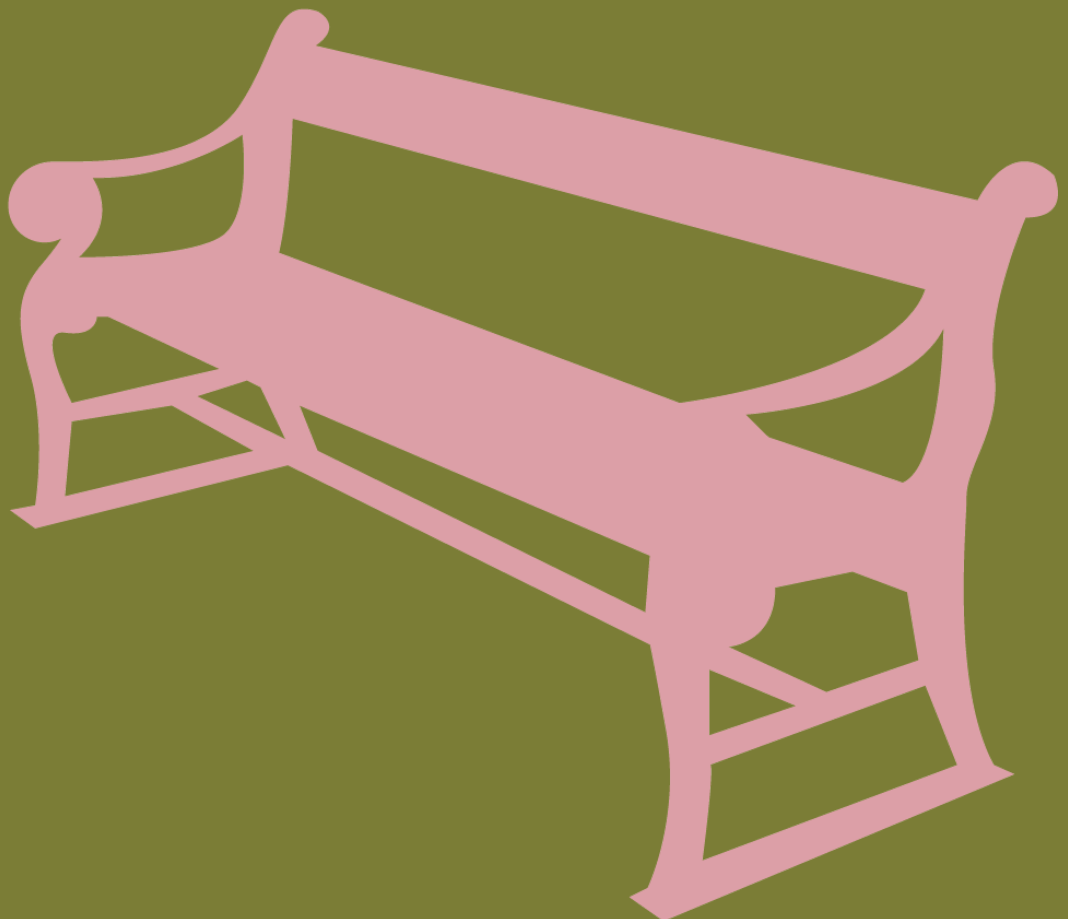


About the Union of Architects (UIA) World Congress

- The UIA World Congress is the world's leading event within architecture and is held every three years. Copenhagen was selected host in 2017 in Seoul and for the first time ever, the Congress will visit the Nordics.
- The UIA Congress in Copenhagen will take place from 2 to 7 July 2023 with the theme "Sustainable Futures – Leave No One Behind". The Congress will focus on architecture as the lever to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Around 10,000 to 15,000 participants are expected from every corner of the world.

About the UIA & UNESCO

- The UIA, International Union of Architects, is based in Paris and is the only international organization of its kind representing architects on a global scale.
- UNESCO is the United Nations (UN) Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. It seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture. UNESCO's programmes contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals defined in Agenda 2030, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015.
- The UIA and UNESCO have joint forces and founded the title of World Capital of Architecture to push forward and promote the development of sustainable urban planning and innovation in our cities.



Quotes for the press

"I am proud that Copenhagen is designated World Capital of Architecture in 2023. It is a unique opportunity to showcase what Copenhagen offers within architecture, urban development, and sustainable solutions. Copenhagen has so much to offer!"

We have new, innovative architecture side by side historic buildings that remind us of the past and give the city soul and atmosphere. We must preserve the city's soul while developing the city with more affordable housing, space for businesses and leisure without compromising on our high ambitions on climate.

It is my hope to make Copenhagen more united, equal and green, and I believe that dialogue is key. I am therefore looking forward to exciting talks, events, and debates with Copenhageners and international guests throughout the year. Together we can inspire and be inspired within sustainable urban development in Copenhagen and world-wide!"

/ Lord Mayor of Copenhagen, Sophie Hæstorp Andersen

"It will be an exciting year, where we will come together to appreciate both the beautiful and special aspects of Copenhagen's architecture, as well as the many new elements in the city, that are necessary for it to become a modern, sustainable metropolis.

We will be inspired by and exchange experiences with the many international guests, who come to the city. And we will use the year to discuss with each other, how we can jointly develop Copenhagen and find space for both affordable housing, more biodiversity, more waste sorting, and more green energy, while preserving the city's history and our shared cultural heritage."

/ Mayor of the Technical and Environmental Administration,

"I hope that Copenhagen, World Capital of Architecture 2023, will encourage the building industry and all of us who are working to develop the city, to create beautiful and sustainable world-class buildings."

/ City Architect for Copenhagen, Camilla van Deurs



Press photos

Download press photos at
www.arkitekturhovedstad.kk.dk/press

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UIA World Congress of Architects
2023 in Copenhagen
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Links

World Capital of Architecture 2023 -
Copenhagen in Common
www.arkitekturhovedstad.kk.dk

UIA World Congress of Architects
Copenhagen 2023
www.uia2023cph.org

UNESCO
www.unesco.org

UIA
www.uia-architectes.org

Danish Architecture Center (DAC)
www.dac.dk

Wonderful Copenhagen
www.wonderfulcopenhagen.dk

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark
www.um.dk