

Tour A | World Heritage and Design Culture: Jelling, Kolding and Christiansfeld



Tour guides

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Description

This full-day excursion explores the interaction between world heritage, architecture and design culture in southern Jutland, tracing long historical continuities alongside decisive modern and contemporary interventions. Moving from early medieval monuments to twentieth- and twenty-first-century architecture, the tour highlights how cultural heritage has been interpreted, transformed and reactivated over time.

Key sites include the Jelling monuments and church, a site that anchors the tour in early Danish state formation, and the Moravian settlement of Christiansfeld, where urban form, ideology and craftsmanship converge in a highly coherent townscape. Both sites are designated UNESCO World Heritage. In Kolding, the visit to Koldinghus Castle illustrates the

modern restoration and reinterpretation of a royal ruin, particularly through the influential interventions by Inger and Johannes Exner.

The excursion also addresses contemporary design and architectural culture through stops at Olafur Eliasson's Fjordenhus in Vejle and BIG's LEGO House in Billund, discussed as contrasting examples of recent landmark architecture. Lunch is planned at CLAY Museum of Ceramic Art Denmark in Middelfart, Denmark's national museum of ceramics, providing a focused perspective on material culture and exhibition practice within an architectural setting.

Itinerary

- 08:00: *Departure from Aarhus Coach Station*
- 09:15: Jelling Monuments and Jelling Church, Jelling (UNESCO World Heritage)
- 10:45: Olafur Eliasson: Fjordenhus, Vejle
- 12:00: CLAY Museum of Ceramic Art Denmark, Middelfart (*exhibition visit + lunch included*)
- 14:15: Christiansfeld Brødremenighed (UNESCO World Heritage) (*coffee/tea and cake included*)
- 15:45: Inger and Johannes Exner et al.: Koldinghus Castle, Kolding
- 17:00: *Kolding Central Station (drop-off point)*
- 17:45: BIG: LEGO House, Billund
- 18:30: *Billund Airport (drop-off point)*
- 20:00: *Return to Aarhus Coach Station*

Times are approximate and subject to adjustment.