

Tour B | Art, Architecture and Experimentation in Denmark's 'Swinging Sixties': Herning and Silkeborg



Tour guides

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Description

This full-day excursion explores the close interrelationship between art, architecture, landscape and planning in Denmark during the 1960s, with Herning and Silkeborg as key sites of experimentation. The tour focuses on how industrial patronage, urban vision and artistic ambition converged to shape new cultural and spatial models in post-war Denmark.

Central to the excursion is the unique milieu around Birk near Herning, developed through the initiatives of textile manufacturer Aage Damgaard. Key sites include the former Angli factory complex and associated landscape interventions by C.Th. Sørensen, illustrating how architecture, art and landscape were conceived as an integrated whole. Works by C.F. Møller Architects, including the Carl-Henning Pedersen & Else Alfelt Museum, demonstrate the

architectural articulation of this vision, while Jørn Utzon's house in Birk offers insight into experimental domestic architecture within an industrial and cultural setting.

The tour further includes Steven Holl's HEART – Herning Museum of Contemporary Art, Ingvar Cronhammar's monumental *Elia* and Dorte Mandrup Architects' recently completed Håndværkskollegiet (student housing for craftspeople), highlighting later, but congenial interpretations of art, landscape and collective life.

In Silkeborg, the narrative is extended through Asger Jorn's artistic legacy and the town's industrial heritage, situating the 1960s experiments within a broader cultural and urban context.

Itinerary

- 08:00: *Departure from Aarhus Coach Station*
- 09:15: Utzon Associates: Uno-X Petrol Station, Herning
- 09:25: Tyge Arnfred and Viggo Møller-Jensen: Højhuset Kulturhotel (Herning Højskole)
- 09:45: Jørn Utzon: The Utzon House
- 10:15: Gunnar Aagaard Andersen, Karen and Jan Eggen: Egetæpper Showroom
- 10:45: C.Th. Sørensen: The Geometric Gardens
- 11:30: Steven Holl: HEART – Herning Museum of Contemporary Art (*guided visit – lunch included*)
- 13:15: C.F. Møllers Tegnestue: Carl-Henning Pedersen & Else Alfelts Museum (*guided visit*) + C.Th. Sørensen: Angligården
- 14:15: Ingvar Cronhammar: *Elia*
- 14:45: Dorte Mandrup Architects: Håndværkskollegiet i Herning (*guided visit by Flemming Moestrup, Principal – coffee/tea and cake included*)
- 16:00: Niels Frithiof Truelsen: Museum Jorn (*guided visit*)
- 17:15: Anton Rosen, Årstiderne Arkitekter, et al.: Silkeborg Paper Factory
- 18:15: Departure from Silkeborg
- 19:00: *Return to Aarhus Coach Station*

Times are approximate and subject to adjustment.