

Tour E | Welfare State Planning and Brutalist Architecture in the Suburbs of Aarhus



Tour guides

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Description

This full-day excursion explores the institutional and suburban landscapes shaped by the Danish welfare state from the late nineteenth century to the present. Moving through hospitals, dormitories and large-scale housing estates on the outskirts of Aarhus, the tour examines how architecture, planning and landscape were used to create new collective environments for care, education and everyday life.

The programme begins at Jyske Asyl in Risskov, a historic psychiatric complex, and continues to Museum Overtaci and the new Psychiatric Centre in Skejby, where contemporary architecture and site-specific artworks reinterpret the hospital as an open, curated institution. A sequence of student dormitories, including Børglum and Skjoldhøj, illustrates changing ideas of community, density and prefabrication in the expanding university city.

In Gellerupparken, one of Denmark's largest post-war housing developments, ongoing transformations reveal shifting approaches to renovation, social policy and urban repair. This

residential megastructure is contrasted with Glasalstrup in Hasselager, a powerful 1960s brutalist office building representing the era's corporate and infrastructural architecture.

The tour concludes at Moesgaard Museum, where architecture and landscape merge into a contemporary cultural institution embedded in the terrain, offering a final perspective on the continued evolution of public architecture in Greater Aarhus.

The tour includes a stop at the construction site of the new Aarhus Stadium by Zaha Hadid Architects, with access subject to site conditions.

Itinerary

- 08:00: *Departure from Aarhus Coach Station*
- 08:20: Harald Selmer, Gottlieb Bindsbøll, Ferdinand Meldahl: Jydske Asyl, Risskov
- 09:20: Museum Ovaraci + Arkitema: New Psychiatric Centre, Skejby (installations by Tal R, Randi & Katrine, Eva Koch)
- 10:20: Harald Salling-Mortensen and Paul Niepoort: Børghøj Dormitory
- 11:00: Knud Blach Petersen, Friis & Moltke, Sven Hansen: Skjoldhøj Dormitory
- 11:45: Knud Blach Petersen, Mogens Harbo, SLETH, Tegnestuen Vandkunsten, COBE: Gellerupparken (*walk + packed lunch included*)
- 13:00: Axel Høeg-Hansen, Zaha Hadid Architects: Aarhus Stadion (*construction site, subject to access*)
- 13:30: Lenschow & Pihlmann: Student Village (Studielandsbyen), Viby J
- 14:00: Knud Blach Petersen: Glasalstrup, Hasselager
- 14:30: Friis & Moltke, Sven Hansen: Hotel Scanticon, Skåde (*guided visit*)
- 15:30: Henning Larsen Architects, Kristine Jensens Tegnestue: Moesgaard Museum (*visit + coffee/tea and cake included*)
- 17:00: Departure from Moesgaard Museum
- 17:30: *Return to Aarhus Coach Station*

Times are approximate and subject to adjustment.