

RØDGRØD

A PUDDING MADE FROM STEWED RED BERRIES SERVED COLD WITH CREAM. THE DANISH RØDGRØD IS A VARIATION OF THE GERMAN "ROTE GRÜTZE".



['vœð- 'gvœð? 'mɛ 'flø:ðə]

Being able to pronounce rødgrød med fløde correctly is what defines a foreigner's level of integration into Danish society. Or so it seems. We asked eight newcomers for their view of the city – but no mention of rødgrød med fløde.

WORDS LOUISE TAARNHØJ AND ANDREA BAK PHOTOS RUNE LUNDØ





Jack Davis

YOGA TEACHER AND
COOK AT YOGACENTRALEN

{ **USA** }



Why do you live in Copenhagen?

My heart belongs for better or worse to a Dane. When we decided to move to DK from the USA back in the early 90s, I agreed to live here for a 5 year run with an option. I took the option.

What do you like most about living here?

That it feels like home and can still be really foreign at the same time.

What do you like least about living here?

The obligation to go outside if the sun is shining and fast female bicycle riders laying heavy on the bell.

What surprises you most about Copenhagen?

That after a couple decades living in Copenhagen some locals still ask if I 'like' living here.

What's your favourite place in Copenhagen?

As a tourist, there is no more grand site in Copenhagen in my opinion than the view from Knippesbro facing the city. Especially just near sundown when the skyline is in silhouette biking back to the city centre from a hazy visit to a cool cafe in Christiania. I think I have several favourite places in there. Who can choose? Anywhere in the sun is my final answer.

Anh Lê

PRODUCTION MANAGER, COOK BOOK AUTHOR,
TV HOST AND CO-OWNER OF LÊ LÊ

{ **Vietnam** }



Why do you live in Copenhagen?

I have lived in Saigon, Chamonix, Geneva and Washington D.C, but my heart and mind belongs in Scandinavia and Copenhagen. It is a wonderful city with so much to offer.

What do you like most about living here?

I love that I can take my bike all around the city in no time. On my bike, I can feel the fresh winter frost on my cheek, the warmth and the wind in my hair in the summer and I feel connected to the people of the city.

What do you like least about living here?

So far there's nothing I don't like, but it would be great if there were a greater selection of foreign restaurants.

What surprises you most about Copenhagen?

There are so many creative people here and therefore lots of activities – there is always something to do. I feel young and vibrant with all these exciting things going on.

What's your favourite place in Copenhagen?

That's, with absolute certainty, Vesterbro. When I came to Copenhagen 11 years ago and researched every area of the city to find a spot for my restaurant, I fell completely in love with this place and I'm still in love today.



Stephen Burrell

INTERNATIONAL SALES MANAGER
AT ANNE BLACK

{ **England** }



Why do you live in Copenhagen?

Love. My ex-wife is Danish and we have three wonderful children who are extremely happy to have their father living here.

What do you like most about living here?

The people. I have made some really good friends in Copenhagen and Copenhagen has the most wonderful architecture and design, which can be found everywhere from schools to hospitals.

What do you like least about living here?

The weather sucks 80% of the time but when the sun is shining, the mood of the city changes completely.

What surprises you most about Copenhagen?

The lack of understanding that we are living in a market economy, which in reality means that there will always be an inequality of resources between the people.

What's your favourite place in Copenhagen?

Landemærket Sandwich, where you can find the best sandwiches in town. Beau Marché Cafe is a cool place to meet friends and at night, La Fontaine has an eclectic mix of people listening to live jazz.





Wanjiku -Victoria Seest

SINGER

{ **Kenya** }



Why do you live in Copenhagen?

I fell in love many years ago with a Copenhagenener. It's been six years and still going strong!

What do you like most about living here?

I love chilling with friends in small cafes. I love riding my bike across the city when the sun is out and sitting by the lakes listening to live music, reading or just enjoying the scenery.

What do you like least about living here?

I think there's too much concrete in Copenhagen, especially in the inner city – it would be great with a bit more green nature. Apartments are also a nightmare to find and it would be great to have a few more summer months!

What surprises you most about Copenhagen?

In the six years I've lived here, I've only met my neighbours at most once or twice, but when I lost my wallet a while ago, my neighbour found it and handed it to me. So even though we're invisible to each other, it seems like we care and look out for one another.

What's your favourite place in Copenhagen?

It's Nørrebro – my hood. I love the mix of cultures here and the fact that you have everything you need around you, plus it's only a few minutes bike ride to get downtown.



Chad T. Charlton

DRUMMER AND PHOTOGRAPHER

{ **Canada** }



Why do you live in Copenhagen?

The reason for living here in Copenhagen has actually changed several times since I moved here. Now, it's because I really like Copenhagen as a city, as a 'place to be'. It's a very easy city to find 'your place' in.

What do you like most about living here?

It's a place where you can find an amazing balance between 'work' and 'play'. The systems allow you to have great opportunities to fulfil many aspects of your life, which brings you joy.

What do you like least about living here?

It has a lot to do with people's attitude towards each other. In my opinion, people aren't nearly as friendly with each other as they could be. It steals away from the city's charm.

What surprises you most about Copenhagen?

The fact that it is such a village. I never envisioned that when moving here – I thought that it would be much more of a buzzing capital. At the same time, this is also one of the very comforting things about Copenhagen.

What's your favourite place in Copenhagen?

My favourite place in Copenhagen is anywhere by the water. There are a lot of great places to sit and enjoy the view. Growing up in a land-locked province with the ocean far away gives a person a huge appreciation for the water.

Frédérique Bague

SALES REPRESENTATIVE AT LOUIS VUITTON

{ **France** }



Why do you live in Copenhagen?

I would never have imagined living in Copenhagen until I met the love of my life one crazy evening in Paris. After a while I decided to move up here with him.

What do you like most about living here?

Using my bike daily – just crossing the city in only few minutes. I also love the simplicity of its inhabitants and the idea of living so close to the beach.

What do you like least about living here?

The wind... brrrr! And I hate the lack of light during wintertime. Thank God for your julefrokoster (Danish Christmas parties) in December – I now understand the meaning of 'hygge'.

What surprises you most about Copenhagen?

Its hibernation during wintertime. There is no one in the streets and only a few people in the shops and restaurants. Copenhagen is totally different when the nice season comes and everybody is out – the city becomes more lively.

What's your favourite place in Copenhagen?

I love the museums – Glyptoteket and Statens Museum for Kunst. I love the collections and the architecture. Louisiana is a wonderful museum for modern art exhibitions and the view there is so charming.



Toshio Sano

JAPANESE
AMBASSADOR

{ **Japan** }



Why do you live in Copenhagen?

The reason I am living here is that I can enjoy city life and the changing of the four seasons at the same time.

What do you like most about living here?

I like the fantastic view of Copenhagen from my office window, which is located on the 9th floor of a tall building near Fisketorvet. My favourite view is the Opera House and dozens of wind turbines beyond the canal.

What do you like least about living here?

I don't like the tall and large chimneys of the district heating facilities, which are always discharging smoke. They don't match Copenhagen.

What surprises you most about Copenhagen?

The bike riders enjoy a higher priority than pedestrians. For instance, after snowfall they clean up bike lanes first, leaving pedestrians way behind. The changing of the weather and the way Copenhageners talk about the weather is also surprising.





Lauren Morrissey

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
AT KPMG

{ **Australia** }



Why do you live in Copenhagen?

I took a transfer here with my firm. I have been lucky to make lots of great friends here and I also have a Danish boyfriend.

What do you like most about living here?

I love the funny cultural differences I come across every day – putting flags on birthday cakes, dancing around the Christmas tree etc.

What do you like least about living here?

Trips to the ‘Udlændingeservice’ office! Any foreigner reading this will know exactly what I mean. Something really has to be done about the system for obtaining a work permit.

What surprises you most about Copenhagen?

Over the past five years that I have lived in Copenhagen, I have really enjoyed witnessing all of the new cocktail bars and well-priced restaurants open. This together with the evolution of Nordic food culture has really made Copenhagen an exciting place to live.

What’s your favourite place in Copenhagen?

Driving by the lakes in the winter when the sun is shining, the flowers popping out of the grass in Frederiksberg Have in the spring, swimming at Charlottenlund Fort in the summer and the colours of the leaves in Dyrehaven in the autumn.