

# The Rules of the Road... Biking Like a Dane

## Biking Rules & Tips

Follow these rules to avoid accidents as well as fines (which can amount to 700 DKK +):

- » Always bike on the right side of the bike lane unless overtaking and never bike the wrong direction in a bike lane or on a road
- » Do not bike on sidewalks, unless advised by construction signs. If there is no bike lane, you should bike on the road to the right of the lane alongside car traffic
- » Do not ride side-by-side with a friend when biking in city bike lanes. If someone dings you with their bell for doing so, the person riding on the left should speed up and overtake their friend to the right
- » Always slow down when approaching intersections and look for other bicyclists signaling, cars, and pedestrians
- » Give way to pedestrians at crossings, traffic lights, and bus stops. Be sure to use your hand signals when stopping...and to look out for unexpected stops ahead of you from others stopping for bus traffic
- » Most intersections in the city have small traffic lights just for biking traffic which should always be followed as they may change at different times than car and pedestrian traffic
- » You should use your bell when you come to obstacles in passing other cyclists or to warn pedestrians in bike lanes of your approach
- » You must use bike lights when biking in the dark (if in doubt, see if street lights are on), as well as in low visibility weather such as fog, heavy rain, and snow
- » Do not use a phone while biking. If you need to check a map on your phone, pull over off the bike lane to do so
- » Do not bike in pedestrian zones (for instance, down Strøget, the walking street near DIS)
- » Do not drink and bike. There is no fixed blood alcohol limit, but you get a fine if the police believe that your biking poses a danger to you or others
- » Do not transport another passenger on a bike with only one seat

### Tips!

While not law, it is highly recommended that you:

- » Wear a helmet at all times when cycling
- » Don't carry bags on the handlebars – invest in a bike basket if needed
- » Go the speed at which you feel comfortable – if you feel rushed by those around you, stay right and they will pass you

## Know Your Hand Signals

It is very important to use your hand signals at all times to alert bikers behind you of your intentions, as well as nearby drivers who need to navigate around you. Look for the signal of those biking ahead of you as well. These are the two signals you will use:



Stop

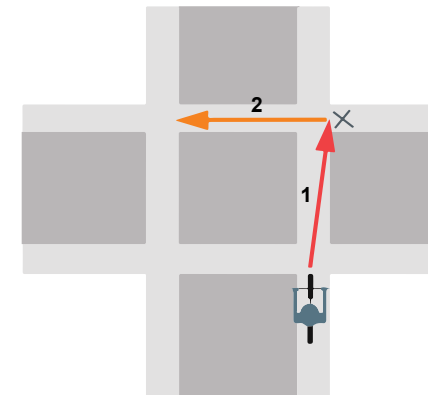


Right Turn

## Turning Techniques

Be aware of the following turning rules here in Denmark – they may be different from what you are used to at home:

- » It is illegal to make a right turn when at a red light
- » If you wish to make a left turn, it is illegal to make a direct left turn with the car traffic. Instead, ride straight across an intersection and signal that you plan to stop. Then turn into the front of the bike lane going in the direction you wish to travel, wait for the light, and then ride straight ahead



For more information and to watch a biking video, go to [DISabroad.org/cph-bike](https://DISabroad.org/cph-bike).