



INVEST IN AALBORG



FACTS & FIGURES

*About business
in Aalborg*



WELCOME TO AALBORG

Aalborg is a tiny metropolis in North Denmark. Aalborg used to be known as “the city of smoking chimneys” due to our industrial past during which Aalborg was home to a wide range of manufacturing companies including De Danske Spritfabrikker (spirits and liquors), Dansk Eternit (building materials), C.W. Obel’s tobacco factory and Aalborg Portland (cement factory).

Today, Aalborg has undertaken an enormous transformation and is a modern and visionary city of knowledge, culture and sustainability. Aalborg is leading the green transition in Northern Europe and the city is home to pioneering energy companies and researchers. We still pride ourselves on our industrial foundation, and many companies have roots in manufacturing or still have manufacturing at their core.

Aalborg has all the attributes of a successful, international business location that delivers high-quality, yet cost-effective solutions for companies that are looking to expand or relocate. More than anything though, it is the proven track record and the scale of opportunity that sets the city apart from the rest of the world.



Catharina Vinther Engqvist
Head of Foreign Direct Investments



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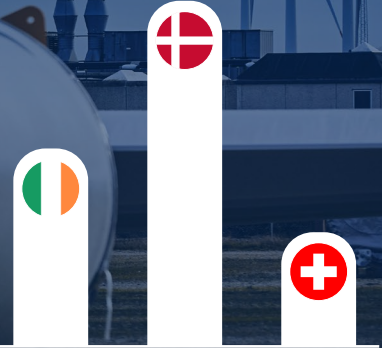
Chapter 1



A city in the most competitive economy in the world

Aalborg is a city in Denmark – a country ranked as one of the happiest nations in the world with the least corruption and the most competitive economy.

Denmark is considered a pioneer within renewable energy and the Danish Government has adopted the ambitious goal of 70 percent emission reduction by 2030 and climate neutrality by 2050. As such, Denmark is positioned to be a green front runner in global climate action - on a mission to inspire and encourage the rest of the world.



Denmark is the most competitive economy in the world according to the IMD World Competitiveness Ranking 2023. 2nd place is Ireland and 3rd place Switzerland.

Why invest in Denmark?

#1

**MOST RESILIENT
COUNTRY IN THE WORLD**

FM GLOBAL RESILIENCE
INDEX - 2023

#1

**LEAST CORRUPT
COUNTRY IN THE WORLD**

CORRUPTION PERCEPTION
INDEX - 2023

#1

**EASIEST PLACE TO
DO BUSINESS IN EUROPE**

GLOBAL BUSINESS COMPLEXITY
INDEX - 2022

#1

**GREENEST COUNTRY
IN THE WORLD**

ENVIRONMENTAL
PERFORMANCE INDEX - 2022

#1

**BEST IN DIGITAL
COMPETITIVENESS, WORLD**

IMD WORLD COMPETITIVENESS
RANKING - 2022

#1

**BEST COUNTRY FOR
RAISING KIDS IN THE WORLD**

BEST COUNTRIES FOR RAISING KIDS
RANKING - 2022

#1

**MOST COMPETITIVE
ECONOMY IN THE WORLD**

IMD WORLD COMPETITIVENESS
RANKING - 2023

#1

**BEST IN CLIMATE
ACTION IN EUROPE**

CLIMATE CHANGE PERFORMANCE
INDEX - 2022

#2

**BEST IN DIGITAL
PERFORMANCE IN EUROPE**

DIGITAL ECONOMY AND SOCIETY INDEX
RANKING - 2022

#2

**BEST QUALITY OF LIFE
IN THE WORLD**

QUALITY OF LIFE
INDEX - 2022

#2

**THE HAPPIEST COUNTRY
IN THE WORLD**

WORLD HAPPINESS
REPORT - 2023

#5

**BEST IN TALENT
RANKING, WORLD**

IMD WORLD TALENT
RANKING - 2022

Chapter 2

Aalborg is leading the way

A great many things are happening in Aalborg and in the whole North Danish region. Growth, knowledge and welfare are top priorities and the course has been set toward the future.

Over the past decade, Aalborg has experienced huge growth in many different areas - growth that enables new potential.

POPULATION GROWTH AALBORG



Why invest in Aalborg?

#1

**HIGHEST-RANKED
ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY
IN EUROPE**

BEST GLOBAL UNIVERSITIES - 2022

#1

**MOST DIGITAL
MUNICIPALITY IN
THE NORDICS**

NORDIC DIGITAL MUNICIPALITY
INDEX - 2020

#1

**HAPPIEST
CITY IN EUROPE**

EUROPEAN COMMISSION SURVEY
- 2018

#1

**BEST IN DENMARK
AT RETAINING
ITS YOUNG CITIZENS**

KL / MOMENTUM MAPPING
- 2022

#1

**LOWEST COST OF
LIVING - BIG CITIES
IN DENMARK**

NUMBEO 2023

#1

**BEST AIRPORT
IN DENMARK**

DANISH TRAVEL AIRPORT - 2022

#2

**MOST STUDENT
FRIENDLY JOBS
IN EUROPE**

PREPLY- 2022

#4

**MOST SUSTAINABLE
DESTINATION
IN THE WORLD**

The GDS INDEX - 2022

#8

**ON NY TIMES
"52 PLACES-TO-GO"
RANKING**

NY TIMES 2019

#13

**BEST MINI
METROPOLIS
IN THE WORLD**

SMALL CITIES INDEX - 2023

#22

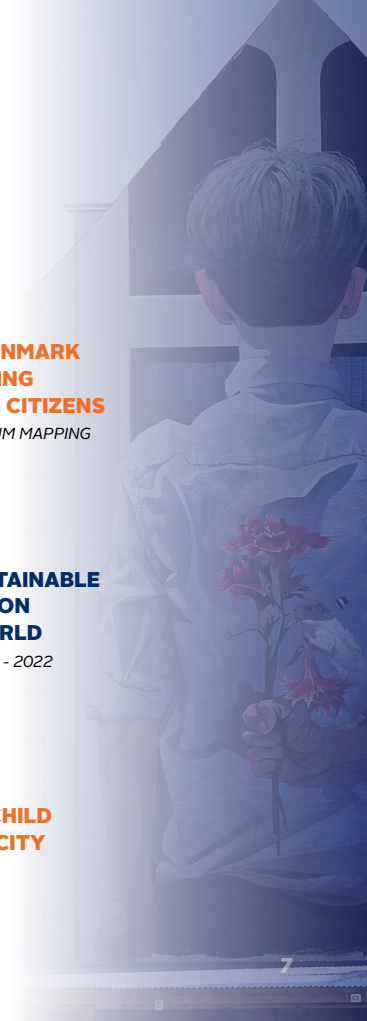
**BEST SMART
HOSPITAL
IN THE WORLD**

WORLD'S BEST SMART HOSPITALS
- 2023

#

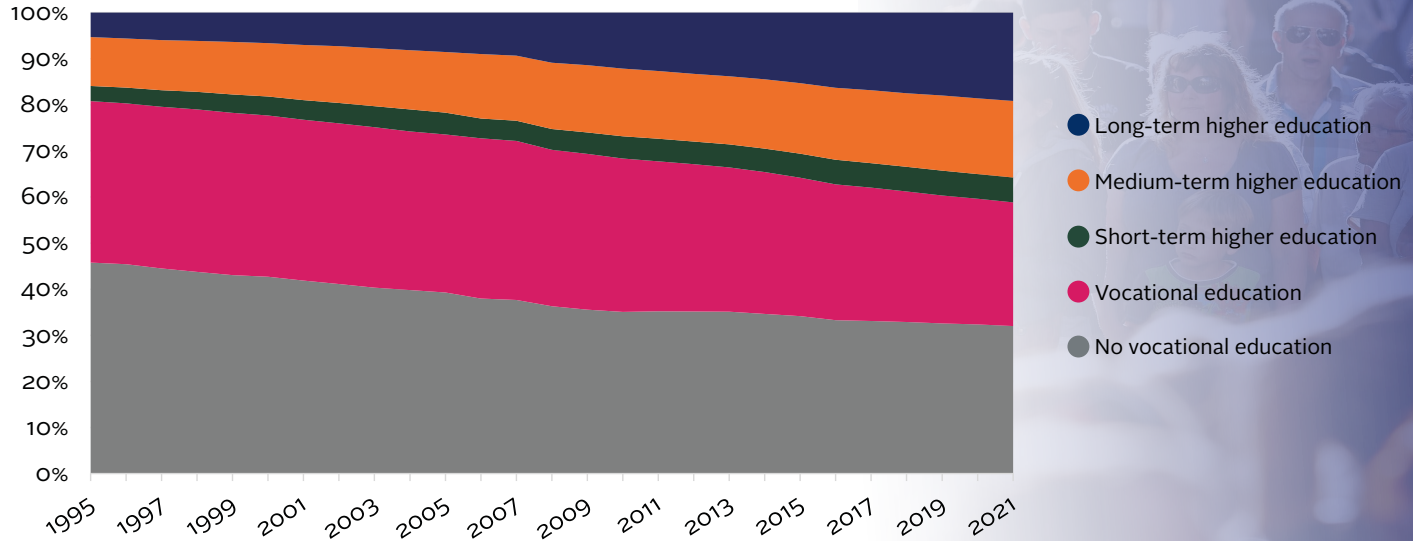
**UNICEF – CHILD
FRIENDLY CITY**

UNICEF - 2022



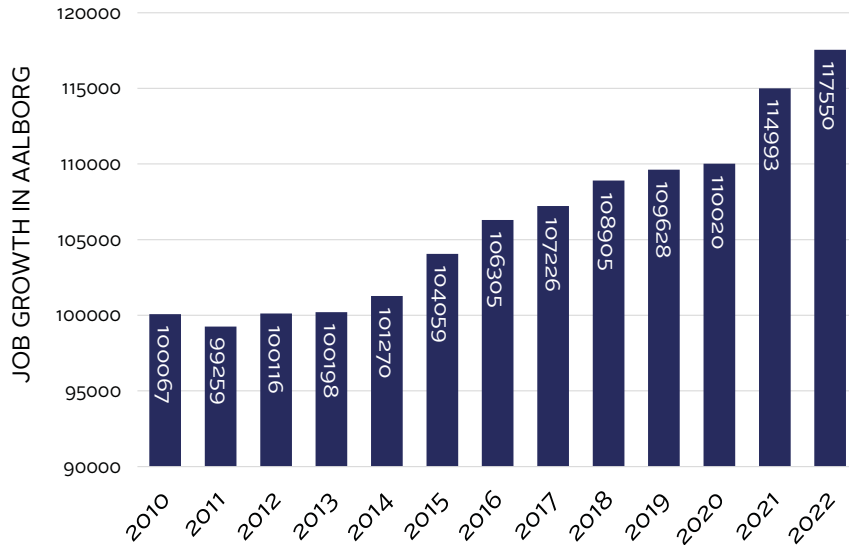
The education level of the workforce

20-64-year-olds in Aalborg



Growth in jobs and GDP

In North Denmark and Aalborg since 2009



12%

POPULATION GROWTH AALBORG



16%

JOB GROWTH AALBORG



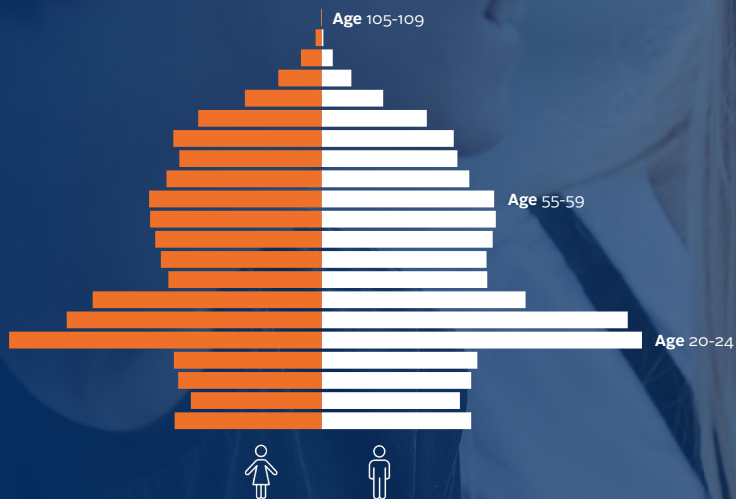
23%

REGIONAL GDP GROWTH



Young and vibrant city

Aalborg stands out from the rest of Denmark regarding population demographics. Aalborg continues to see the most significant increase in citizens among the younger people. This is quite unique as the other Danish cities and many other European cities have the most significant increase among the elderly.

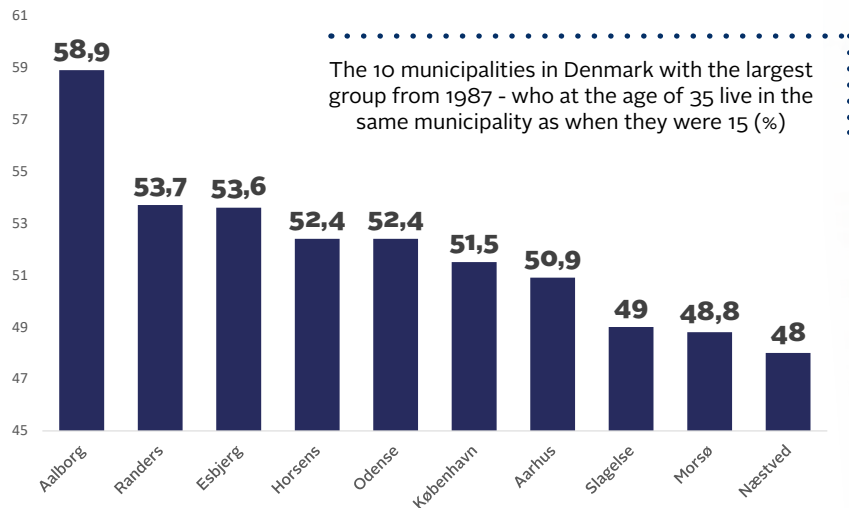


48%

Increase in 20-24-year-olds
since 1992

Aalborg - best at keeping its young

A new mapping shows that fewer and fewer 35-year-olds in Denmark live in the same municipality as where they grew up. But while the vast majority of municipalities experience this decline, the trend is completely different in Aalborg. In Aalborg, there is an increase compared to the previous generation - making Aalborg Municipality the place in Denmark where most people stay or move back to.



Chapter 3

Business in Aalborg

As the capital of North Denmark, Aalborg offers vast business opportunities and bursts with energy and innovation.

Aalborg and North Denmark offer a wealth of talent, experience and upcoming future stars within tech, sustainability and manufacturing. The educational institutions, the start-up community and the well-established companies form an ecosystem with endless possibilities.

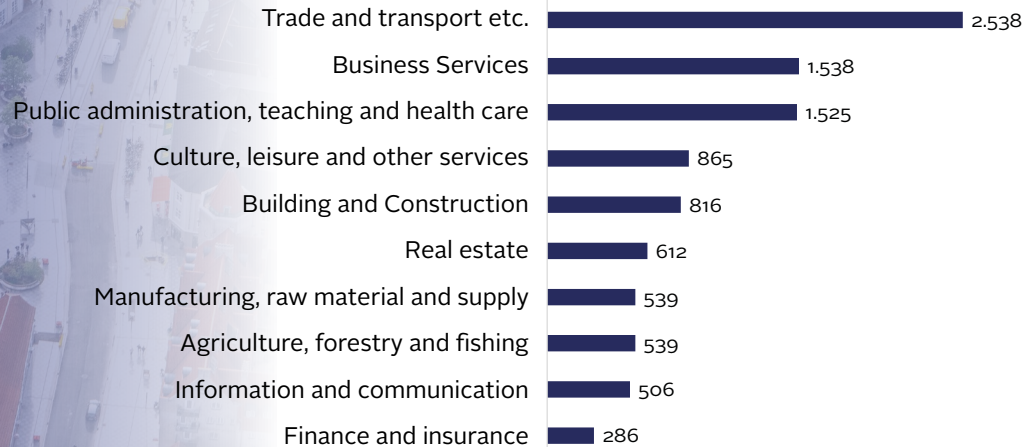
≈ **10.000**

Companies in Aalborg
91% within the private sector



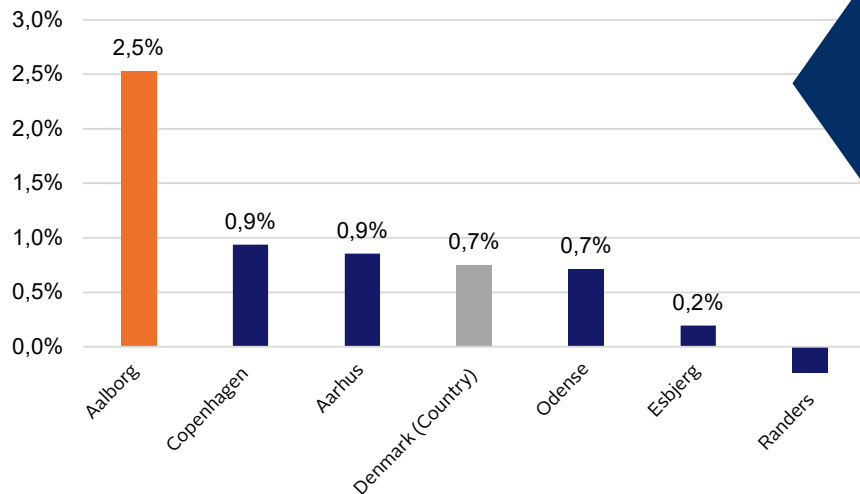
Companies in Aalborg

By industry



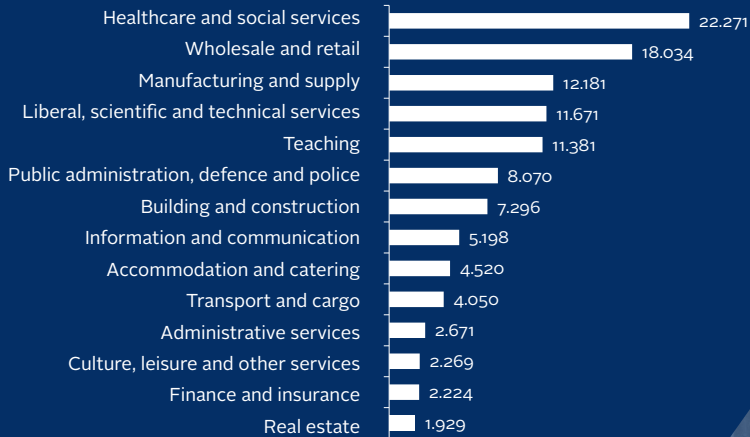
Recent growth in the number of companies 2019-2020

Aalborg has had a higher growth in the number of companies with employees in the past year compared to other Danish cities and the whole country in general.



Jobs in Aalborg

By industry



≈ 20%

of all jobs in Aalborg are within Healthcare

Largest companies by turnover

	Company	Turnover*
1	Centrica Energy Trading A/S	21,382,751
2	Unioil Supply A/S	971,292
3	Norlys Energi A/S	854,481
4	Spar Nord Bank A/S	543,515
5	Nowaco A/S	416,671
6	Sanistål A/S	403,406
7	Polar Seafood Denmark A/S	364,047
8	Alfa Laval Aalborg A/S	342,935
9	Hedegaard A/S	329,350
10	Aalborg Portland A/S	287,256
11	Bladt Industries A/S	275,307
12	A. Enggaard A/S	242,616
13	Tomex Danmark A/S	230,830
14	Malik Supply A/S	227,637
15	Nordjyllandsværket A/S	214,665
16	Geia Food A/S	214,075
17	Beierholm	153,724
18	Aalborg Varme A/S	144,952
19	Entertainment Trading A/S	138,817
20	Cbre Intego A/S	135,639

*Turnover (x1000) EUR

Largest companies by employees

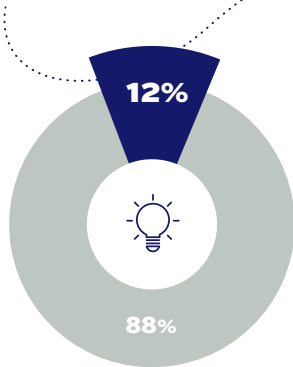
	Company	Employees
1	Det Nordjyske Mediehus A/S	+1000
2	Siemens Gamesa A/S	+1000
3	Bilka	+500
4	Spar Nord Bank A/S	+500
5	Kmd A/S	+500
6	Telenor A/S	+500
7	Salling Aalborg	+350
8	Ikea A/S	+350
9	Bladt Industries A/S	+350
10	Centrica Energy Trading A/S	+350
11	Aalborg Portland A/S	+350
12	Danish Crown Foods A/S	+250
13	Hp-Byg A/S	+250
14	Cowi A/S	+250
15	Alfa Laval Aalborg A/S	+250
16	Entertainment Trading A/S	+250
17	Aalborg Lufthavn A.M.B.A.	+250
18	Nykredit Realkredit A/S	+250
19	Norlys Energi A/S	+250
20	Spæncom A/S	+250

Strong startup community



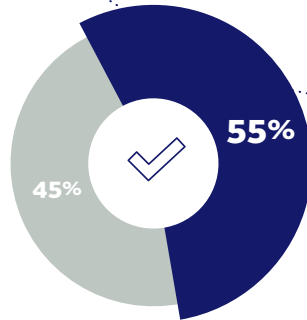
About 1,000 companies decide to establish a presence in Aalborg every year - from local start-ups and born-globals to Danish and international companies deciding to relocate their headquarters or key divisions to the city.

1.026
Start-up Companies 2016



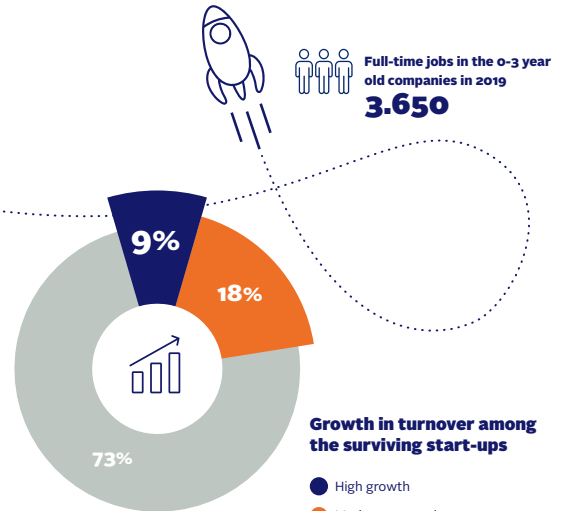
Establishment rate

- Share of new start-up companies
- Share of already established companies



Survival rate after 3 years

- Survives
- Does not survive



Growth in turnover among the surviving start-ups

- High growth
- Moderate growth
- Low or no growth

Chapter 4



World-Class R&D

- with the best engineering university in Europe

Behind the commercial success in Aalborg is outstanding scientific research conducted at the highest ranked engineering university in Europe and one of the very best in the world, Aalborg University.

The research and results made at this institution are recognized worldwide and the problem-based learning concept, often referred to as the Aalborg model, is attracting students, researchers and partnerships from all over the world.



Aalborg University (AAU)

The key to a world-class workforce and pioneering research

According to a survey performed by the Confederation of Danish Industry, Aalborg University is the best Danish university at cooperating with private companies. 44 percent of all dissertations are completed in collaboration with a company, and graduates from Aalborg University are in high demand.

87%

87% of the companies which have a partnership agreement with Aalborg University rate the collaboration **"Very good"**

80%

More than 80% of the companies experience their competitive edge increase significantly, when they collaborate with Aalborg University.

12%

The companies' productivity increases by an average of 12 % when they cooperate with Aalborg University.

90%

More than 90% of public collaboration partners state that they have gained new inspiration and professional skills after working with Aalborg University.

North Denmark is a living lab

Making the ideas and concepts come alive can take years of planning and testing but having a wide range of large-scale test sites in the nearby area is making a significant difference for the green progress in Aalborg.

In fact, the whole region is known as a living lab for testing all kinds of different sustainable technologies. The close connection between the companies, the university researchers and the test sites is qualifying the solutions, improving the foundation for innovation and increasing the pace of the commercialization process.



Chapter 5



An international identity

26% of all employees in the private sector in Aalborg are employed in companies with international owners. As a result, international business behaviour and excellent language skills are part of the DNA.

With the efficient airport and highway connections, it is easy to run a global business in Aalborg and there are great opportunities for the families of international employees.

26%

of all employees in the private sector work
in a foreign-owned company



Aalborg Airport is an award-winning airport in rapid development with more than 1.3 million passengers travelling through the airport every year. The airport has a dedicated team of employees ready to ensure a world-class travel experience for all passengers. In 2022 the airport was named the **Best Airport in Denmark** at the Danish Travel Awards and in 2021, the Airport lounge was voted, **Best in the World** by Air France / KLM passengers.

Aalborg Airport is working towards a sustainable transition through the international carbon management program, Airport Carbon Accreditation, whose climate-friendly focus is set on the entire journey – from the parking lot to the boarding stairs.

By the end of 2025, Aalborg Airport aims to become a CO₂-neutral airport.

BEST DANISH AIRPORT



Sample of Routes from Aalborg:

New York	8 hours <i>3 departures a week</i>
Copenhagen	45 minutes <i>Up to 18 departures a day</i>
Amsterdam	85 minutes <i>Up to 4 departures a day</i>
London	110 minutes
Oslo	60 minutes
Barcelona	180 minutes



Port of Aalborg is a modern port and transport hub with multimodal logistics solutions and the host of an expanding business park – appointed as one of Aalborg's growth zones. The location provides optimum opportunities for companies with global ambitions and newcomers will be settling in next to pioneering companies within green engineering and technology.

Aalborg's port activities have been a focal point in the private and working lives of generations. As such, the port supports the growth of enterprising traders and businesses.

Welcome to Port of Aalborg - gate to great.

4.1

million square metres of land divided into five areas and 7 km quay section.

3rd

largest port in Denmark by turnover.

100

established companies on land.

162

thousand square metres of warehousing and offices.

Certified as UNICEF Child-Friendly City

UNICEF Child-friendly City Initiative is about creating a good life for children and adults. It's about democratic education and a way of thinking and acting.

Being a 'child-friendly city' is an honorary title maintained by the continued work on actions regarding child involvement and children's rights. Aalborg is **one** of only **three** cities in Denmark carrying the title.



In competition with over 100 destinations, Aalborg ranks 4th in the 2022 GDS Index. The 2022 Global Destination Sustainability Index showcases brave, bold and pioneering destinations that both recognise that we urgently need to work together to regenerate our cities and towns, and who actively work towards creating places where visitors, communities, and nature can thrive and flourish.

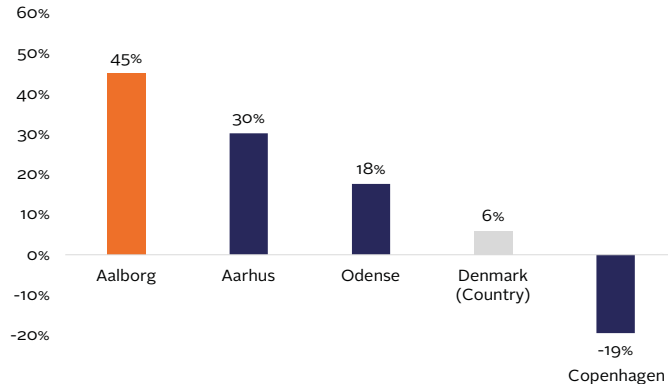
4th most sustainable destination in the world

International export from Aalborg

Export companies contribute **44%** of the total turnover in Aalborg. The number of jobs in export companies constitutes **20%** of the total employment in the city. Export companies make up **11%** of the total number of companies in Aalborg.

The development in export companies' turnover

- change from 2015-2019



Key figures on export companies in Aalborg

- 1,312 export companies with 21 employees on average
- 27,021 jobs
- Turnover of EUR 20.8 billion

A group of five professionals (three men and two women) are standing in a row against a background of a perforated metal wall. They are all smiling and dressed in business-casual attire. The man on the far left is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt. The man next to him is wearing a light-colored blazer over a light blue shirt. The woman in the center is wearing a dark blazer over a white top. The woman to her right is wearing a bright blue blazer over a light-colored top. The man on the far right is wearing a dark, patterned button-down shirt and dark trousers.

Invest in Aalborg

Invest in Aalborg is your first-point-of-contact when you are looking to expand or relocate your business to Aalborg. We offer easy access to prime location options and local authorities as well as contact to world-class researchers and an extensive business network.

Invest in Aalborg is part of the City of Aalborg.

Contact us and we'll help you build your business case.

- Or find more information at investinaalborg.dk

How can we help?

Our point of departure is your needs and enquiries



One point of contact



Business insight



Land and property



Network and matchmaking



Recruitment



INVEST IN AALBORG

Invest in Aalborg

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**City of
Aalborg**