An insider’s trail through Denmark’s design capital shows you where to find the best of the best. By Jeni Porter Photographed by Filippo Bamberghi

COPENHAGEN DESIGN GUIDE 2017

Frama Studio Store plays off the heritage vibe of its home in a former apothecary from 1878 to highlight its simple contemporary style.
Young brands calling themselves New Nordic have done for design what Noma chef René Redzepi did for food. The likes of Hay, Muuto and Frama have led a contemporary revolution that builds on Denmark’s rich heritage but makes affordable furniture and accessories for our times, showing it in edgy spaces far removed from conventional stores. At the same time, established brands such as furniture manufacturer Carl Hansen & Son or light-maker Louis Poulsen have reinvented their classics and their flagship stores in bold new ways. Vogue Living takes you off the main streets of the Danish capital to the byways and artisan hangouts for a definitive insider’s tour. There are cutting-edge studios in heritage spaces, a tractor repair workshop turned lighting showcase, a branded ‘village’ that has a piazza and tower, immersive design experiences, and a floor showroom where the centrepiece is a Douglas fir tree that’s more than a century old.

**BRDR KRÜGER**
Family owned since Ferdinand Krüger and his brother Theodor set up a woodturning workshop in 1886, Brdr Krüger makes intricately crafted furniture such as the Ferdinand and Theodor chairs. Its new Værløse showroom celebrates craftsmanship of the highest order, including that of its best-known product, Kay Bojesen’s playful Wooden Monkey (above), a complex assemblage of 31 pieces.

**MUUTO**
One of the new wave of Danish brands focusing only on contemporary Scandinavian design, Muuto’s expanding range of furniture, lighting and objects looks good, are well made and don’t cost the earth. Rapidly expanding in Europe and the US, Muuto has made a big mark in Denmark with the likes of the Visu chair (below) by Finnish designer Mika Tolvanen. Available at Ilumits Belysning, designers to: muuto.com

**DESIGN WERCK**
Art design hub, showroom, wine bar and, shortly, a European design radio station, Design Werck offers an immersive introduction to established Danish and Scandinavian brands as well as rising stars. On show in its canalside former naval building are products ranging from wildlife prints (left) by Finland’s Teemu Jarvi to Struer’s magnificent mahogany kayaks. Visit designwerck.dk

**FRAMA STUDIO**
From its elaborately fitted out heritage HQ-cum-store, Frama Studio offers a disparate line-up of contemporary furniture and lighting, kitchen cabinets (right), soaps, perfumes and publishing. The products have honest, simple designs using natural materials and the company shows its belief in community through design collaborations and the many convivial activities Frama hosts on site.

Visit https://framacph.com
Mette and Rolf Hay, the hands-on founders of their 15-year-old namesake brand, strive for high-quality distinctive designs at relatively low prices. Their Hay House mothership covers the full gamut from graphic bed linen to simple Scandi furniture across two floors of an apartment above the Stroget pedestrian shopping street. Visit hay.dk

The Village is &tradition’s answer to how best to showcase its Southern European-inspired furniture and lights. Part installation, part architectural homage to a Mediterranean village, it has a piazza and tower from which you can spy the latest pieces — including Space Copenhagen’s Fly sofa (in background) — or classics like the Mayor sofa by Arne Jacobsen and Flemming Lassen or Arne Jacobsen’s Bellevue lamp (below). Visit andtradition.com

Design studio OEO transformed a tractor repair workshop in Sydhavn, the old southern harbour district, into a showroom for Flos Scandinavia that mixes spatial elements with architectural and home lighting, like Michael Anastassiades’s Overlap and Last Quarter (above). There’s even a sculptural staircase, which Flos calls its stairway to heaven. Visit flos.com/en/home

With a comprehensive suite of Hans J Wegner’s chairs, such as the Shell, Wishbone and Wing, Carl Hansen & Son’s flagship store shows other classic pieces in stylish scenography across two floors. There are also rugs by artist — and granddaughter of Jørn Utzon — Naja Utzon Popov designed exclusively for the venerable Danish brand (right). Visit carlhansen.com
For its Home showroom in a storied 18th-century apartment on ritzy Bredgade, furniture-maker Erik Jørgensen wanted to arouse the emotions and create different moods to show its diverse range. There are four different rooms — Botanic Garden, The Office, Tranquility and The Blue Room (left), where dried roses hang from the ceiling.

Visit erik-joergensen.com

More gallery than lighting showroom, Louis Poulsen’s flagship is a testament to its philosophy ‘design to shape light’. There’s a spectacular series of Poul Henningsen’s PH pendant lights (below) from small to huge; a rainbow of Arne Jacobsen’s AJ floor and table lamps; as well as contemporary fittings, such as Mads Odgaard’s elegant Above pendant.

Visit louispoulsen.com

As well as making fabrics for most of the world’s best furniture manufacturers, Kvadrat pushes the boundaries on what else can be done with its textiles. Collaborations with the likes of Olafur Eliasson and GamFratesi (above) make its showroom a constant source of creative inspiration.

Visit kvadrat.dk

Dinesen’s super-wide solid wooden floorboards (below) are synonymous with understated Scandi-luxe. Its Copenhagen showroom tells the story of the 4th-generation family-owned company from a 60-year-old Douglas fir tree milled and then put back together to show how the boards are made, to a 15-metre-long oak table and artworks created from offcuts.

Visit dinesen.com

In The Blue Room at Erik Jørgensen Home, dried roses hang from the ceiling.

ERIK JØRGENSEN HOME

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Visit erik-joergensen.com

ASTEP AND YOYE

Husband and wife Alessandro Sarfatti and Yasmin Edgecombe show their wares in an industrial space north of the city centre, shared with a photography studio. At Astep, Alessandro, the grandson of Italian lighting maestro Gino Sarfatti, reissues classics and makes sustainable modern lights such as the bioethanol-powered Candela. Yasmin’s Yoye sells delicate Suzusan Luminaires lamps (right) as well as rugs and textiles.

Visit astep.design; yoye.dk

In The Blue Room at Erik Jørgensen Home, dried roses hang from the ceiling.
FILE UNDER POP

The showroom and production studio File Under Pop, a producer of ceramic tiles, lava stone, wallpaper and paint, embodies its belief in the transformative powers of ‘clothing surfaces’. Walls painted, papered and tiled in rich hues stand out against the heritage details of the apartment in the Frederiksstaden royal precinct. Visit fileunderpop.com

ROSENDAHL DESIGN GROUP

Fluted Lyngby glass vases (below) were radical when they were released back in 1936 but their elegant simplicity has made them a lasting favourite, available today in multiple colours and with matching bonbonnieres. Rosendahl Design Group, which breathed life back into the revered Lyngby brand, also produces Arne Jacobsen clocks. Available at Illums Bolighus, Amagertorv 10; rosendahldesigngroup.dk

Rattan is the source of inspiration for Sika Design, while dk3 loves the material of wood. The companies craft furniture by some of the big names of Danish Modernism as well as rising stars such as Jeppe Utzon, grandson of the great Jørn Utzon and cousin of Naja (see Carl Hansen & Son). Sika Design is available at Nyt i bo, Store Kongensgade 88; sika-design.com.

dk3 is available at Illums Bolighus, Amagertorv 10; dk3.dk.

Sika Design and dk3

ANDERSEN’S CONTEMPORARY

Cool art in a classic 19th-century apartment; andersenscontemporary.dk.

APOLLO KANTINE

Democratic food in a rarefied room where arts students can access cheap food and members of the public, paying a little more, can also enjoy the atmosphere; apollobar.dk.

BARR

The cool kids at Snøhetta fitted out the old Noma site for René Redzepi’s newest venture; restaurantbarr.com.

DESIGNMUSEUM DANMARK

Explore the past, present and future of Danish design; designmuseum.dk/en.

ETAGE PROJECTS

A gallery where art and design intersect; etageprojects.com.

HOTEL DANMARK

A stylish new sibling for SP34, the favourite hotel of fashionistas; brochner-hotels.com.

ILLUMS BOLIGHUS

A one-stop store for premier Danish and Scandinavian design brands; illumsbolighus.dk.

MENU SPACE

A design lab-cum-cafe; menu.as.

ORDRUPGAARD

A place where you can see an exhibition space created by Zaha Hadid and Finn Juhl’s own home; ordrupgaard.dk.

VED STRANDEN 10

Soulful wines in sublime surroundings; vedstranden10.dk.

3DAYSOFDESIGN

An annual open house for design studios and stores with special events and public access to otherwise private spaces. Next year’s dates are 24–26 May, 2018; 3daysofdesign.dk

COPENHAGEN HOT LIST

Architect and designer Finn Juhl created furniture with an organic character that he tested at home before producing. Since 2001, One Collection has been making such Juhl masterpieces as the 45 Chair (below, middle shelf), displayed in the appropriately named showroom. Visit finnjuhl.com

HOUSE OF

FINN JUHL

Thomas Ibsen and Peter Mahler Sørensen chose the name for their design brand because they thought it summed up who they were—polite people with a keen interest in seats. They use the same playful approach for the space where they showcase an expanding collection of chairs, lighting, wall boxes and tables they hope have lasting power. Visit showroom by appointment; pleasewaittobeseated.dk

Pleasing wait to be seated

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