

A small country with a long coastline

Denmark has no high mountains, great rivers or deep valleys. Instead, there are many small islands, a long coastline and a climate characterised by seasonal changes.

Denmark is a small country compared with its closest neighbours. Sweden is ten times and Germany eight times larger than Denmark, which has an area of 43,560 km². On the other hand, Denmark has a coastline that is extraordinary given the size of the country. Denmark has a coastline of 7,314 km, corresponding to almost 1.5 metre coast per inhabitant.

Characteristic of Denmark's geography are the many islands, a total of 407. The largest islands are, in the order mentioned, Sealand, Vendsyssel-Thy, Funen, Lolland and Bornholm. Jutland (incl. Vendsyssel-Thy) makes up 70 per cent of the country's total area. Two-thirds of Denmark's area is farmland.

••• DID YOU KNOW THAT

In Denmark, it rains or snows every third day. On average, a year has 121 days of precipitation. •••

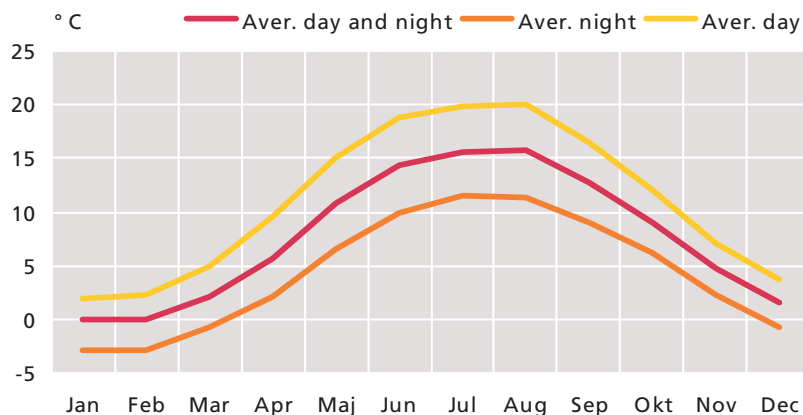
In a year, the average temperature changes from 0 °C in January to 20 °C in August. Great variations compared with the average occur. The coldest day in more than 100 years was a January day in 1982 with a temperature of -31 °C. The hottest day was an August day in 1975 with a temperature of 36 °C.



THE KINGDOM OF DENMARK

Includes, besides Denmark, the self-governing areas of Greenland and the Faroe Islands. The ice-free part of Greenland is almost ten times larger than Denmark, while the Faroes Islands are thirty times smaller than Denmark.

TEMPERATURES IN DENMARK (AVERAGE 1961-1990)



GEOGRAPHY

	Unit	Facts
Population (1 January 2006)	<i>number</i>	5 427 459
Population density	<i>inhabitants per km²</i>	126
Total area	<i>km²</i>	43 560
Coastline	<i>km</i>	7 314
Islands	<i>number</i>	407
Highest natural point	<i>metre</i>	170.86 (Møllehøj)
Largest lake	<i>km²</i>	39.5 (Arresø)
Longest river	<i>km</i>	158 (Gudenå)
Geographical points		
North		Skagen
South		Gedser
East		Christiansø
West		Blåvandshuk
Land use		
Farming	<i>per cent</i>	66
Forests and moorland	<i>per cent</i>	16
Towns, roads & construction	<i>per cent</i>	10
Lakes, meadows and bogs	<i>per cent</i>	8