



3 Superkilen, Nørrebro  
*Park life*

Nørrebro is home to about 60 nationalities, and this 30,000 sq m park, the result of a collaboration between Bjarke Ingels Group, landscape architect firm Topotek1 and artists' group Superflex, was devised to celebrate that diversity. It's made up of three areas: Red Square is for fitness activities; the Black Market is where locals meet; and Green Park appeals to families.

On any given day you'll see skaters scooting around free children's sport classes, grey-haired men squabbling over chess on the purpose-built tables and buffed bodies on the outdoor gyms. It's a testament to thoughtful design.

208 Nørrebrogade, 2200



4 Cykelslangen, Vesterbro  
*Viper trail*

For years, cycling from the harbour bridge to the highway meant avoiding pedestrians and stairs. The Bicycle Snake, which opened in 2014, offers a cycle-only alternative. Designed by Dissing + Weitling, the 190-metre-long track is suspended over the harbour, its surface a tasteful hazard-jacket orange. Oh, and it's shaped like a snake.

København V, 1360



#### Design for life

Israels Plads is another of the city's strikingly well-considered civic areas. The large public square, overhauled by Sweco Architects in 2008, has sports courts and is used as an overspill area for drinkers and diners at the nearby Torvehallerne market.

By the sea  
*Ocean views*



2 Den Blå Planet, Kastrup  
*Deep blue*

Denmark's national aquarium is an expression and physical embodiment of its function: a whirlpool sucking visitors below the sea. Created by design firm 3XN, it won the Riba European Award in 2014.

Five arms, incorporating tanks and display areas, radiate out from a central "eye". The exterior is clad in more than 40,000 diamond-shaped aluminium shingles that reflect sea and sky. An innovative surface finish both protects from the harsh elements and allows rainwater runoff to be collected and used in the aquarium without further treatment.

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denblaaplanet.dk

1 Kastrup Søbad Seawater Lido, Kastrup  
*Swim in a sculpture*

Sweden's White Arkitekter conceived Kastrup Søbad as a "sculptural dynamic form that can be seen from the beach, the sea or the air". A crescent-shaped wall of wooden slats rises from 1.5 metres to 8 metres with a changing silhouette as it encircles the baths. Everything is unified by the African hardwood azobé used for the wall, decks, benches and jetty said to be as resistant to saltwater as steel. Go on a sunny day when kids jump or dive from pontoons, decks or two boards.

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