

SCANDINAVIA 2019 CMU SoA Summer Study Trip



Europe's Nordic region, comprising Norway, Denmark, Sweden, and Finland is heralded for its mythic landscapes, majestic light, progressive cultures, and through Scandinavian design, unique modern tradition. While it flourished in the 1950's, much of the fundamental ethos of Scandinavian design continues to inform contemporary Nordic designers and architects. This region's architectural identity is in part borne out of a deep respect for the natural landscape and its resources. Its urban cores illustrate progressive, democratic and collective societies, committed to ecologically sensitive models of growth and construction.

The legacy of critical, regional work by architects such as Aalto, Asplund, Lewerence, and Utzon is manifest through carefully sited buildings, which leverage contemporary techniques, yet often render form through traditional material. A hallmark of this era of building is the careful modulation of natural and artificial light in response to the unique conditions of Nordic light, illustrated particularly well through the voluminous construction of modern churches in the 1950s and 1960s.

Contemporary Nordic architects such as BIG, Henning Larsen, and CF Moller build upon the rich legacy of Scandinavian design while establishing an expressive presence of urban architecture that is ecologically sensitive yet playful. With a heavy reliance upon diagrammatic programming, BIG is producing compelling typologies of urban housing and mixed-use developments, often with visually striking results.

Preliminary Itinerary: The study tour will begin with 5 days in Copenhagen and surrounding suburbs, including Malmö, Sweden. We'll then move on to 3 days in Stockholm, and end with 5 days in Helsinki, which will include some longer day trips to regional centers so that we can experience Scandinavia's remarkable landscapes, especially the forests, waterways, and long summer Nordic light. Students will be engaged in some of the planning details.

Travel dates: July 25 - Aug. 8, 2019 (end of CMU Summer Session II). To be confirmed.

Coursework: This is a CMU-based course, taught by professors. It is NOT a tourist trip or summer vacation. The work of the trip includes readings and a short research assignment before the trip, keeping a sketchbook and participating in intense discussions about history and contemporary work. This tour is rigorously planned and led by CMU professors Kai Gutschow and Jeremy Ficca, who have done similar tours through Germany, Holland, Spain, Switzerland, Italy, and India.

Credits: 12 CMU Units (choice of university or architecture electives)

Cost: \$4250, includes all accommodations, in-country travel, admission fees, and CMU units. Students are responsible for roundtrip airfare, most food (breakfasts & some box lunches provided), drawing supplies, and all out-of-the-ordinary and elective hotel, travel, and medical costs. Substantial need-based financial aid is available for US undergrads (see David Koltas).

Eligibility: Open to all current CMU students, preference is given based on seniority and academic standing.

Flights: Students are expected to arrange their own tourist visas and all travel arrangements to arrive in Copenhagen, and depart from Helsinki. If opportunity exists, we recommend students also travel on their own a bit before or after the trip.

Apply / Deposit: Students must submit an application before Feb. 1, 2019. Once the trip is confirmed, a \$1000 non-refundable deposit will be charged to your student account, with the balance due approx. April 1.

Questions: gutschow@andrew.cmu.edu or jficca@andrew.cmu.edu