

# Scouting Facts: Denmark



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**0845 300 1818**

A Federation of two Associations.

Scouting started in Denmark in 1909, after a visit to the United Kingdom by a Danish Professor, who formed a patrol of Scouts in Copenhagen. In 1910 the book "Scouting For Boys" was translated into Danish and the movement spread throughout the country.

The Danish Scout Council was host to the World Jamboree and Conference in 1924; was one of the five Nordic hosts to the World Jamboree "Norjamb" in 1975 and in the same year was host to the World Scout Conference.

The Federation is composed of two Member Associations the Det Danske Spejderkorps (DDS) (The Danish Guide and Scout Association) - a merged Association and the K.F.U.M. (YMCA Scouts in Denmark) - they share the same motto: "Vaer Beredt" (Be Prepared).

## Det Danske Spejderkorps (D.D.S.):

In 1973 the Organisation was changed due to a merger between the Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides Associations. There is now joint Guide/Scout administration at national and district levels but local units can each decide for themselves whether they wish to be mixed or not.

Living in the wild and outdoor training are main features of the programme for all sections;

conservation plays a major part in all age groups and special badges for the protection of nature have been set up.

Sea Scouting is well developed all over-the country and there are many special training centres for this branch.

There are five sections:

Mikrospejder aged 6 - 7 years

Minispejder aged 8 - 10 years

Juniorspejder - aged 10 - 12 years

Spejder - aged 11 - 16 years

Seniorspejder - aged 15 - 23 years

Uniform for all sections - dark blue shirt, khaki hat (the Cubs wear a green cap) and group scarf.

Promise:

I promise to keep the Scout Law.

Cubs I promise to do my best to keep the Cub Law and to do a little thing everyday to help or give pleasure to someone.

Law:

## **The Scout Association**

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The Scout who is part of the Scout fellowship does his best to find his own faith and respect the faith of others, to protect nature, to be a good friend, considerate and helpful to others, to be trustworthy, to listen to the opinions of others and to form his own, and to show responsibility in the family and in society.

Cubs: A Cub obeys the older cub; a Cub never gives up.

### KFUM

KFUM is the Danish abbreviation for YMCA. There is no legal relationship between the YMCA and the YMCA Scouts; but they do co-operate on an equal basis. Local groups take an active part in the life of their congregation which belongs to the Danish National Church (Lutheran).



The Association is open to both boys and girls and there are a number of mixed units at Troop level. The programme allows the unit as a whole, or the Scout as an individual, to choose between a large number of activities.

Each year the Association organises an 8 day camp to which handicapped children are invited to camp with an equal number of Scouts. The Association also helps to run the Pindstrup Centre, which is especially designed for handicapped young people and children.

Promise and Law:

As Scouts we shall do our best to listen to the Word of God, to be helpful and considerate, to protect nature, to take responsibility in the home, in church and in society, to be trustworthy, to listen to the views held by other people and form our own.

There are five sections:

Beaver aged 6 – 8 years

Juniorspejder or ulveunge aged 8 – 11 years

Spejder aged 10½ - 17 years

Seniorspejder aged 13½ - 17 years

Rover aged 17 – 24 years

Uniform for all sections is the same and consists of a green shirt, green trousers and a red scarf.

There are two Associate Members of the Danish Federation, namely the Danske Baptisters (the Danish Baptist Guide and Scout Association) and the other, the Gronlands Spejderkorps (the Greenland Guide and Scout Association).

The Gronlands Spejderkorps is the youngest of the Danish Associations and the boys had previously and belonged to one of the former Danish Scout Associations and the girls to one of the Guide Associations. In 1973 they decided to



form their own Association.

On the Scout side at present the only sections are:

Wolf Cubs aged 8 – 11½ years

Scouts aged 11½ - 16½ years

Total membership is about 1,000.

General information on the country may be obtained from:

The Danish Tourist Board

169 Regent Street

London

W1R 8PY

The Danish Embassy

29 Pont Street

London

SW1