

## **WELCOME LETTER, TEAM WINTER 2027 (W27)**

**- Updated August 24<sup>th</sup> 2026**

Welcome to Multi-District Denmark

### **Welcome letter to Inbounds W27 (also available on the webpage:**

<https://rotary.dk/page/yep-welcome-letter>)

Multi-District Denmark looks forward to welcoming you to your new home for a year, TEAM W27 (Winter 2027), with a planned arrival at a Danish airport between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2027; it **must** be the airport listed on the Host Guarantee Form (GF) from your Host Club & Host district.

Below is some important general information we ask you to study carefully.

First, we would like to inform you that we have high expectations of you. Our Rotary colleagues in your country, who are sponsoring you, have determined that you are well-suited to become a Rotary exchange student. Being a Rotary exchange student means you will be able to have an excellent experience with your host family, club, school, and friends – if you are willing to make the effort needed. You will help promote Rotary Youth Exchange, as your host family, club, and school will want to continue participating in the program. As an ambassador for your country, you may contribute to mutual cultural understanding and peace.

**Please remember this throughout your stay in Denmark, the Faroe Islands, or Greenland.**

When you receive an email with a link to this webpage, you should also receive instructions on how to log in to the Danish YoLEM system and view your profile with the associated data. Please help update this information, including your home contacts (primary and emergency).

If you are unable to access YoLEM, please get in touch with your Host District (or host country inbound coordinator) as soon as possible.

**It is also in YoLEM that you will find your host guarantee form (GF) - you can download it from your profile under “documents”, once it is ready.**

## **ARRIVAL**

**All W27 exchange students to Denmark must arrive in Denmark, Faroe Islands or Greenland between 18<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2027.**

**Final Destination in Denmark: [Will be stated on your Host Guarantee Form]**

Information about your **arrival at the airport** can also be found in YoLEM (Destination Airport in the host country). Your departure at the end of the exchange must be from the same airport.

**Make your flight reservations in a timely manner – you can start it now.** A travel agent may assist you with the most convenient route to your final destination.

**When you arrive at your final destination in Denmark**, please wear your Rotary blazer upon leaving the airplane. That will enable us to recognize you as a Rotary Exchange Student. After passing through the baggage claim area and customs authorities, the Host Club representatives and/or host family will meet you.

**If your final destination is NOT Copenhagen**, but Copenhagen is your first entry airport in Denmark, you will need a connecting flight to your destination airport (see Host Guarantee Form or YoLEM for details). **All** connecting flights depart from Copenhagen Airport. See more at [www.cph.dk](http://www.cph.dk)

Whenever possible, make sure your luggage has been checked through to the final destination airport. In most cases, customs clearance will occur at your final destination.

You must log in to the YoLEM system and provide information about your travel itinerary under 'Travel Plan' by **January 10th, 2027**. Ensure your host club (counsellor) is also informed about your arrival – they can support you, if you encounter any issues updating the system.

**ENTRY INTO DENMARK (if you are going to the Faroe Islands or Greenland, please see further below):**

You will need a one-year residence permit **from January 2027 to January 2028**. You must submit your online application for a residence permit before leaving for Denmark. Only students from non-Visa-Free countries must finalize their application from home. All others will get biometrics registered in Denmark.

**A preparation guide will be shared with you as soon as we can** (if not already).

**A guideline on how to apply will be shared approximately 3-4 weeks before you depart for Denmark. Do not start the process until Rotary Denmark has initiated it correctly (you may risk paying extra fees if you do!).**

For most students, a residence permit will be granted after arrival in Denmark. You will typically arrive on a 3-month tourist visa and undergo biometric registration in Denmark.

We recommend that you have a temporary return flight within the next three months. At some Schengen entry points (e.g., Germany), you may be rejected if your return date is not booked or if it falls after the expiration of your tourist visa. However, documentation of the submitted application for a residence permit and the Rotary Guarantee Form will resolve the issue, but it may still result in a brief delay. You will receive more guidance on this separately.

***Important*** — *if you come from a country that is **not** "visa-free" to Denmark, you must have a residence permit before arrival. More information will be sent separately.* If you have any questions, please contact us.

**Residence permit for students in the Faroe Islands or Greenland**

The Faroe Islands and Greenland are part of the Kingdom of Denmark, but they are self-governing nations in their own right; therefore, the residence permit process is different.

You will need a residence permit to enter these countries - therefore, you must start your application as soon as you receive further information from your host club's Youth Exchange Officer (or another Rotarian).

## **INSURANCE**

We will inform you about insurance on the website.

See <https://www.rotary.dk/page/yep-insurance>

Students from the USA, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand will normally carry their own insurance (unless they choose to purchase the Danish RYE insurance, which is typically more cost-effective and better suited to the Danish welfare system that you will become part of during your stay); see the website above for details on the Danish insurance option.

If you bring your own insurance, you must be sure to share papers about this online (preferable in YoLEM but can also be sent via email to your Club).

All other students must obtain the Danish Rotary insurance from Europæiske ERV (Rotary International certified), tailored to Danish welfare system conditions. The price is DKR 5,400 or approximately 720 EUR (as of April 2026).

If you have chronic conditions (i.e. diabetes, physical condition, mental health or other), you must obtain a pre-approval from the Europæiske ERV insurance company via this link:

<https://www.europaeiske.dk/erhverv/english/health-declaration/>. You must inform Rotary in Denmark of the result of the pre-approval, as it may result in rejection - after which insurance coverage must be discussed with your home district.

Be sure to agree with your host counsellor how to pay for this after arrival in Denmark, the Faroe Islands or Greenland (preferably without bringing cash, as cash is used only in limited ways now).

## **EMERGENCY FUND**

We expect you to bring 2,000 DKK (approximately 270 EUR) to hand over to your host counsellor/to place it in an emergency fund. Please coordinate the requirement and process with your host counsellor.

This fund can be used in case of unexpected expenses. When you use money from the emergency fund, the fund must be topped up to 2000 DKK again. When you end your exchange year, you will get the emergency fund back after settling the balance.

## **SCHOOL**

You have been accepted at a Danish school **[School will be stated in your host Guarantee Form]**

If you are going to the Faroe Islands, it will be the same structure, but the language is Faroese.

Your host club has chosen a school suitable for your age. The school will be either a "Folkeskole," a "Gymnasium," or a "Business School." The 10th grade of the "Folkeskole" will normally have students under 16, and students of the "Gymnasium" and Business School will be between 16 and 19.

In the "Gymnasium" and the "Folkeskole", the language used in classes is Danish – and you may have courses in English, German, French, Math, Science, World History, Biology, etc.

School uniforms are not generally used in Danish Schools.

You are **not** allowed to attend online/remote classes or exams in your home country, while in Denmark on exchange; if you have a special situation, possible dispensation must be discussed with the Danish Exchange organization before you get to Denmark.

**You must attend school, actively try to participate in class, actively socialize with class mates and participate in activities: your residence permit is a "study permit" and Rotary requires this. Absence without a valid reason is not accepted.**

You will **not** get grades in your classes, and you **cannot** get a transcript of school participation in Denmark. This cannot be challenged.

## **LANGUAGE**

You are expected to be able to speak English at a basic level. You must have learned enough English that you can participate in a basic discussion.

As the language in Denmark is Danish, you are expected to learn the language. School is taught in Danish, Rotary meetings are held in Danish etc. If you do not make a real effort to learn the language, this may result in an early return.

You are expected to have learned at least some basic Danish language skills upon arrival.

If you go to the Faroe Islands or Greenland, please agree with your host club about the best process for needed language skills.

It can be difficult to find Danish lessons – even in Denmark, and most districts cover wide areas where assembling students for classes is not possible, so we strongly encourage you to work on your language skills online – using i.e. DuoLingo or settling training with i.e. iTalk, as well as getting the support of your host families when in the country.

## **HEALTH**

As the winter season in Denmark, Faroe Islands and Greenland is darker than most inbound students are used to, we strongly recommend that you start taking a vitamin D supplement before leaving for Denmark and continue taking it while you are on exchange.

Your health form was filled in by your doctor, perhaps up to 1-2 years ago, depending on the time of your Rotary exchange application. As many things can happen in that time, please be sure to inform us in Denmark if anything has changed and you, for example, need to take medicine regularly, have medical treatments or therapy – this is for us to be able to support you as

best we can; medicine and treatments are very differently regulated in Denmark compared to other countries.

### **Piercing and tattoos**

Piercing and tattoos are prohibited when you are a Rotary Exchange Student in Denmark. If you already have piercings, you are kindly requested to remove them before arriving in Denmark.

Please discuss this with your Host Counsellor.

Getting or making tattoos during the exchange year will be a basis for an Early Return.

### **VISITS BY PARENTS OR OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS**

Multi-District Denmark strongly discourages visits by your parents or other family members. It is **your** exchange experience, and having visits from your parents may trigger homesickness or have other adverse effects. Besides, it interrupts your life here, and it is not an accepted reason for absence from school.

It is the policy of Multi-District Denmark not to accept visits during holidays, when host families often have other plans, or in the last month of the stay (as you need this time to end your time here and say goodbye to everyone).

Visits require **prior written approval** from both the host club counsellor and the host district's Exchange chair. Their decision is final.

On the other hand, we encourage you and your family to visit a year or two after you end your exchange.

### **INTRO CAMP**

After your arrival, we look forward to welcoming you to an Intro Camp, which will take place in the city of Odense during the weekend of February 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2027.

The Intro Camp is our Inbound Orientation, and it is **mandatory** for all students coming to Denmark to participate. You will meet a team of

committed teachers who will prepare you for many of the challenges you will face during your year in Denmark. You will also be introduced to the Danish lifestyle, culture, and language, which will be most helpful when you set out on your life in Danish families and schools. Multi-District Denmark covers the costs for the Intro Camp, so it is free of charge for you. Please coordinate transport through your host club and host district. Detailed information will be shared closer to the time of the camp.

Students on exchange in the Faroe Islands or Greenland are as default **not allowed** to participate in the Intro Camp in Denmark. You will instead receive an introduction locally at your destination.

### **EURO BUS TOUR**

Multi-District Denmark offers our inbound exchange students an optional EURO BUS TOUR. For three weeks in May / June, this tour takes you to Berlin, Prague, Vienna, Nice, and many other exciting European places. The EURO BUS TOUR does not require further permission.

Be aware that Rotary in Denmark will not pay the cost of the tour, which is approximately DKK 20,000 + pocket money. You will receive more information about the trip. Registration will be available from December 2026 to January 2027, and payment must be made prior to the tour to secure your place. General details from earlier trips can be seen at <https://www.rotary.dk/page/yep-euro-bus-tour> (where details about the 2027 trip will also become available once settled).

### **COMMUNICATION**

The easiest way to contact anyone in your host district is to send an email. Email addresses are available in the information you have received and in the YoLEM system under “contacts”. Please remember to include your name when writing to us, and add your YEP-number, which can be found in the YoLEM system.

Please be responsive via e-mail – we expect you to have a short response time.

The MD Denmark YEO officers' emails can be found at <https://www.rotary.dk/page/yep-md-contacts> (the “one-pager” to be downloaded)

There is also a Correspondence tab in the YoLEM system, which can be used to have a dialogue with your host district or host club – this is recommended if the information is relevant for storing in YoLEM. Other means, such as Phone, WhatsApp, FaceTime, and text messages, can be used to communicate with host family, friends, and others.

### **ADDITIONAL RULES AND GUIDELINES**

Your host district will send you a document: Additional Rules and Guidelines, which stipulate rules to guide you while you are an exchange student within this district. The application's declaration only partially covers these rules. You must read and sign with your parents and promptly return to the host district.

**We welcome you to your "once-in-a-lifetime" stay in Denmark, Faroe Islands or Greenland!**

Yours in Rotary

Dennis Calender,  
Chairman; Long Term  
Multi-District Denmark