

1



### THE CASTLE

The Castle is the oldest and innermost part of the fortifications. The curtain wall of the medieval castle, Krogen, dates back from the 1420s. On your way down into the casemates, you will pass through the curtain wall. This way you can get an impression of how robust it is.

2



### THE WORLD HERITAGE ROUTE

Follow the World Heritage Route around Kronborg. The Castle was inscribed on UNESCO's list of heritage monuments in 2000. By following the World Heritage Route, you will discover what makes Kronborg an outstanding historical attraction. The church gable that faces Øresund is a good example of the architecture that has made the castle world famous.

3



### THE FLAG BASTION

Kronborg's old cannons fire salutes to mark special occasions in the royal family and when the royal yacht Dannebrog passes by. The cannons were founded in Frederiksværk during the 1760s. The Bastion is open from May through September. Same hours as the castle.

4



### THE DARK GATE'S RAVELIN

The entrance to the Castle is protected by the so-called Dark Gate's Ravelin, a triangular defence structure that offers extra protection between the two bastions outside the Castle's corners.

5



### THE COAST BATTERIES

The 12 coast batteries situated along the coast were established around 1800 so that cannons could be fired from here against hostile ships passing by. Here, you can listen to the story about the sea battle in 1658.

6



### THE CROWNWORK

The great defensive structure called the Crownwork stretches in a wide arch around the inner fortifications. It was constructed after the Swedish capture of Kronborg in 1658. It is called the Crownwork because seen from the air it resembles an enormous crown with three points. The Crownwork Gate is Kronborg's monumental main entrance.

7



### THE GARRISON BUILDINGS: THE KRONBORG GALLERIES

The last soldier left Kronborg in 1991, and the old barrack buildings now house working artists' workshops, among other things. Further details at [www.kronborggallerierne.dk](http://www.kronborggallerierne.dk)

8



### MOBILE GUIDE

Discover Kronborg via your mobile and hear why Kronborg is a World Heritage site.

9



### THE POWDER MAGAZINE

At the Powder Magazine, you can experience 400 years of arms race.

10



### THE PLAYGROUND

Let your imagination run wild at Kronborg's playground, which was built of old stones from the Castle. You can also have a go at the bowling alley or play soldiers on Kronborg's ramparts.

11



### THE WÜRTTEMBERG'S RAVELIN

In the outer moat, the fortifications have added ravelins – islands with protective ramparts on the outside. Württemberg's Ravelin is equipped with cannons as in the 1820s.

12



### THE CONVICT CELLS

For a couple of hundred years, Kronborg housed convicts who served as workers on the fortifications or were hired out for work in Elsinore. The Crownwork Gate contained several cells for the convicts. Inside one of the cells, you can listen to stories about specific convicts' fates.

13



### THE KRONBORG CULTURAL HARBOUR

Large sections of the Crownwork were demolished in the 1800s. Kronborg Castle's surroundings are now re-established for recreational purposes in collaboration between the Agency for Palaces & Cultural Properties and the Municipality.

# DISCOVER KRONBORG

DRAWINGS: ILLUSTRATIONSBUROAUET PHOTOS: FINN CHRISTOFFERSEN, JON NORDSTAD/STATION 1, OLE WOLDBYE, THE AGENCY FOR PALACES AND PROPERTIES A.S. PRINTING: ROSENDAHL-SCHULTZE/ATISK BASIC DESIGN: KONTRAPUNKT © COPYRIGHT: THE AGENCY FOR PALACES AND CULTURAL PROPERTIES 2013



## GETTING AROUND HAMLET'S CASTLE



## HAMLET'S CASTLE

**KRONBORG IS A WORLD-CLASS CULTURAL EXPERIENCE.** Here, you can explore the contrast between the elegant royal castle and the military fortifications – on your own, via mobile guides or by joining a guided tour.

**CHILDREN** are offered many activities at Kronborg, including a playground outside and special play rooms at the castle.

**THE UNIQUE SETTING OF KRONBORG** can be rented for events and conferences, also outside normal opening hours. Read more at [www.kronborg.dk](http://www.kronborg.dk).

**THE REGIONAL THEATRE 'HAMLETSCENEN'** (the Hamlet Stage) allows Danish and international theatre groups to present exciting theatrical performances based on the works of Shakespeare. Read more at [www.hamletscenen.dk](http://www.hamletscenen.dk)



### OPENING HOURS

November - March: Tuesday - Sunday, 11 a.m - 4 p.m.

April - May: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

June - August: 10 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.

September - October: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### KRONBORG CASTLE ON THE WEB

At Kronborg's website you can rent facilities, learn more about Kronborg, visit a digital exhibition about Kronborg Castle and see an interactive version of this brochure:

[WWW.KRONBORG.DK](http://WWW.KRONBORG.DK)



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Tel. +45 49 21 30 78  
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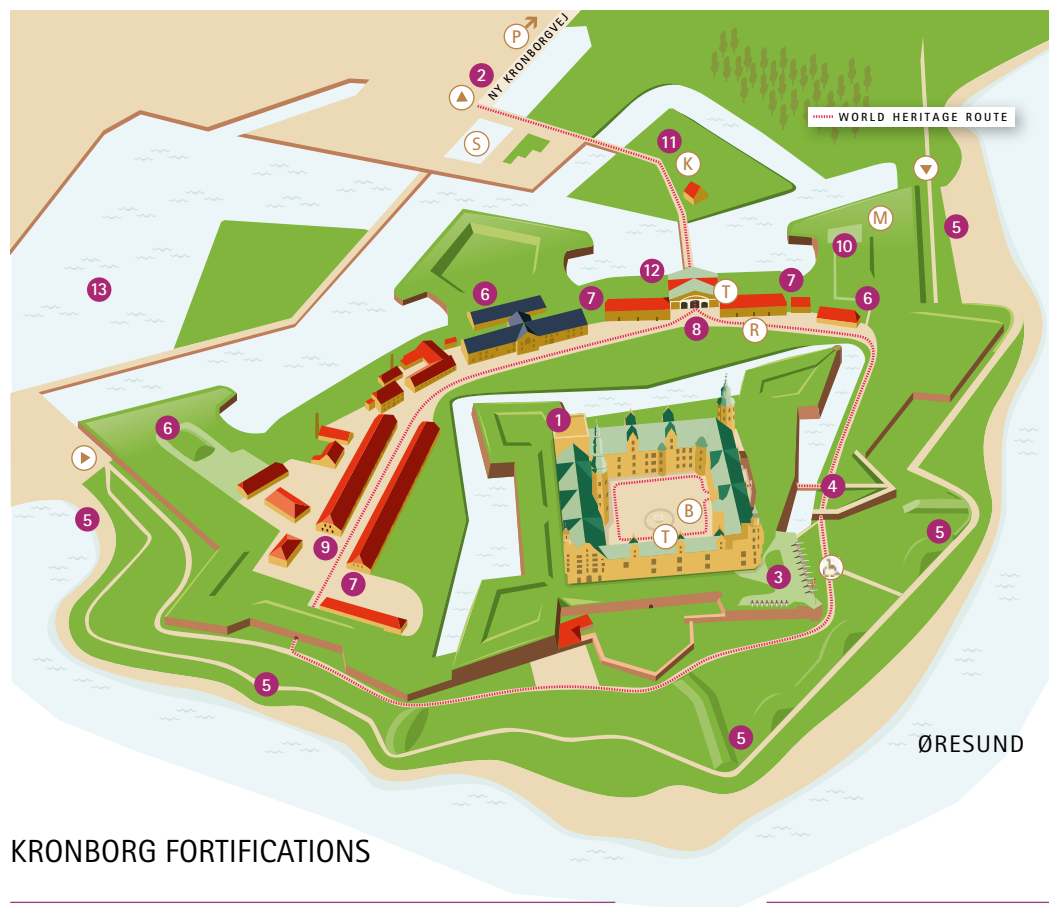
- 1 THE CASTLE
- 2 START OF THE WORLD HERITAGE ROUTE
- 3 THE FLAG BASTION
- 4 THE DARK GATE'S RAVELIN
- 5 THE COAST BATTERIES
- 6 THE CROWNWORK
- 7 THE GARRISON BUILDINGS: THE KRONBORG GALLERIES
- 8 MOBILE GUIDE
- 9 THE POWDER MAGAZINE
- 10 THE PLAYGROUND

- 11 THE WÜRTTEMBERG'S RAVELIN
- 12 THE CONVICT CELLS
- 13 THE KRONBORG CULTURAL HARBOUR
- ▶ ENTRANCE
- ▶ MAIN ENTRANCE FROM ELSINORE TOWN
- T RESTROOMS
- R RESTAURANT/CAFÉ
- B SHOP AND TICKET SALES
- M PICNIC AREA
- ♿ PARKING FOR DISABLED PEOPLE
- K ICE CREAM HOUSE



Kronborg Castle is  
on UNESCO's  
World Heritage List.

- P PARKING  
S M/S DANISH MARITIME MUSEUM



KRONBORG FORTIFICATIONS

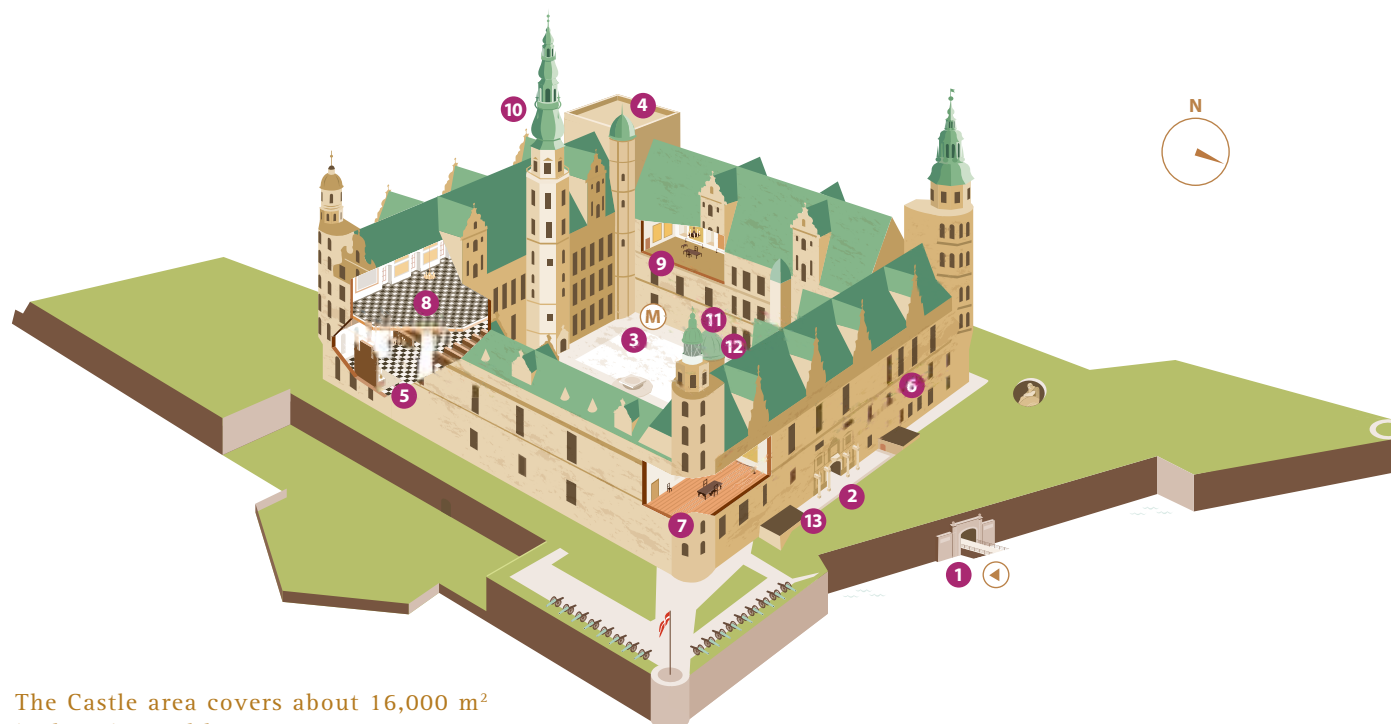


The Kronborg Fortifications cover  
an area of about 190,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

- 1 THE DARK GATE
- 2 THE FOUR-GATE COURTYARD
- 3 THE CASTLE COURTYARD
- 4 THE TELEGRAPH TOWER
- 5 THE CHAPEL
- 6 CASTLE OF THE SOUND DUES
- 7 THE ROYAL APARTMENTS

- 8 THE BALLROOM
- 9 THE LITTLE HALL
- 10 THE TRUMPETER'S TOWER
- 11 THE CASEMATES (ENTRANCE FROM CASTLE COURTYARD)
- 12 HOLGER THE DANE (IN THE CASEMATES)
- 13 PORTRAIT OF SHAKESPEARE

- ▶ ENTRANCE
- M LUNCHBOX ROOM



The Castle area covers about 16,000 m<sup>2</sup> incl. attics and basements.

## KRONBORG CASTLE



### THE DARK GATE

The road into the Castle passes through the winding Dark Gate. As you walk through the gate, you have a view down a long tunnel-like passage. This used to lead from the original entrance gate to the Four-Gate Courtyard.



### THE FOUR-GATE COURTYARD

As you leave The Dark Gate, you enter a small forecourt before you come to the actual castle courtyard. The main gate is decorated with statues of Neptune with his trident and Mercury, gods of the sea and trade, respectively.



### THE CASTLE COURTYARD

The Castle Courtyard was given its current appearance when King Frederik II converted the medieval castle Krogen into Kronborg Castle in 1574-85. The small well at the centre of the courtyard was erected in 1934. This used to be the site of a magnificent fountain from 1583, but this was carried off by the Swedes as spoils of war after their capture of Kronborg in 1658.



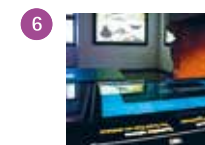
### THE TELEGRAPH TOWER

The immense flat-roofed tower used to serve as a cannon tower. During the summer months, you can enjoy a spectacular view across Kronborg and Øresund from the tower's roof.



### THE CHAPEL

The Chapel has beautifully carved and colourful interiors for you to admire. It was consecrated in 1582 and survived the great fire in 1629. It will give you an impression of the brilliantly coloured splendour that originally characterised Kronborg.



### CASTLE OF THE SOUND DUES

The Castle of the Sound Dues is an exhibition about the power of Kronborg through 600 years. Using interactive media you can explore history and learn about kings, wars, gold and vanity.



## 7 THE ROYAL APARTMENTS



The royal apartments were the home of the King and Queen when they resided at Kronborg. The chambers were originally designed when King Frederik II reconstructed Krogen and transformed it into Kronborg, but King Christian IV had to recreate them after the fire in 1629.

## 8 THE BALLROOM



The Ballroom was the largest royal hall in Northern Europe (62 x 12 metres). The walls feature a series of large paintings that were made for the Great Hall at Rosenborg Castle in Copenhagen during the years 1618-31.

## 9 THE LITTLE HALL



In this hall, you will find seven tapestries that were originally part of a series of 40 tapestries with portraits of 100 Danish kings. They were commissioned by King Frederik II around 1580. A further seven tapestries are now on display at the National Museum of Denmark; the rest have been lost.

## 10 THE TRUMPETER'S TOWER



The impressive 62-metre high Trumpeter's Tower is the tallest tower at Kronborg Castle. It is named after the trumpeters who previously sounded fanfares of warning from the tower's gallery. The spire has been destroyed by fire and rebuilt twice.

## 11 THE CASEMATES



Beneath Kronborg, you can visit the gloomy casemates, which served as soldiers' quarters during times of war. These dark and damp rooms could accommodate up to 1,000 men with enough supplies to withstand a six-week siege. The large stone vessels used for supplies can still be seen.

## 12 HOLGER THE DANE



In the Casemates, you will find the statue of Denmark's legendary hero, Holger the Dane, who sits dormant but ready to stir into action the minute the Kingdom of Denmark is threatened by an enemy. Armed with a torch, you can explore the associated exhibition and the legend about Holger the Dane.

## 13 PORTRAIT OF SHAKESPEARE



William Shakespeare wrote his famous tragedy about Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, around 1600 and set the play at Kronborg. Although Hamlet is not a historical person, Shakespeare's play has ensured Kronborg fame worldwide.

## PAST AND FUTURE

**KRONBORG IN ELSINORE** at the seaward entrance to the Baltic Sea is one of the most significant Renaissance castles in Northern Europe. It is also the most famous Danish castle, known worldwide from Shakespeare's Hamlet.

**KRONBORG'S HISTORY** is exciting and dramatic and dates back as far as to the Middle Ages. For almost 600 years, strong fortifications have been located here at the narrowest part of Øresund. From here the King's men could control who sailed through the sound and make sure that all passing merchant ships paid their Sound Dues to the King.

**ERIC OF POMERANIA** built the castle Krogen around 1425 on a small point along the coast. In 1574-85, King Frederik II rebuilt the castle, transforming it into a magnificent Renaissance castle, which he named Kronborg. The Castle was ravaged by a great fire in 1629, but King Christian IV, son of Frederik II, reconstructed the castle in the same style. In 1658, Kronborg Castle was bombarded and captured by Swedish troops who carried many of the Castle's works of arts back to Sweden as spoils of war. From 1785 to 1924, the Castle was used as military barracks. After this, the Castle was restored and opened to the public in 1938. Kronborg Castle was inscribed on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites in 2000.

**FURTHER TO BEING A ROYAL CASTLE**, Kronborg has been one of Denmark's most important fortifications through the ages. The solid medieval ring wall from Krogen still hides behind Kronborg's sandstone facades. As firearms and cannons gradually became more powerful, the fortifications were reinforced several times. The Castle lost its military significance in the 19th century and large parts of the fortifications were removed when Elsinore Harbour was extended.

**THE DEVELOPMENT CONTINUES** at Kronborg today. The fortifications are being recreated and former barracks buildings are given new uses. At the same time, the abandoned shipyard area in front of the Castle is being transformed into an exciting and contemporary cultural area. The Realdania Foundation, Elsinore Municipality and The Agency for Palaces and Cultural Properties are collaborating to create a harmonious connection between Kronborg, the shipyard area and Elsinore. You can follow the work at [www.kronborg.dk](http://www.kronborg.dk)



## RENT FACILITIES AT KRONBORG

King Frederik II's old wine cellar, Eric of Pomerania's Chamber and the largest Ballroom in Northern Europe are superb settings for meetings, parties and other events outside the Castle's normal opening hours. Please contact Kronborg Castle at +45 49 21 30 78 or [kronborg@slke.dk](mailto:kronborg@slke.dk).