

BEHIND THE SCENES

CLOCKWISE FROM BELOW Mikkeller's #rabopbajer beer; Mikkeller bar; camo iPad cover from CPHmade; Sögreni Bikes partners with CPHmade; Tivoli Gardens.



Makers Inc.

Learn more about the most innovative maker movements with these bespoke craft tours.

Finding quality handcrafted products unique to a destination is always a thrill. Perhaps you'll uncover a hand-tooled leather bag or an artisanal oil while exploring a backstreet market, or pick up some statement earrings at a local silversmith's boutique. But in creative hubs all over the world, local makers, artists and enthusiasts are banding together to go one better. Not only can you buy their products, you can also step into their studios and workshops to discover the stories and passions behind the goods firsthand.

COPENHAGEN

CPHmade, a company that curates, markets and retails collections of quality Danish goods by small-scale producers, offers a range of city tours that go beyond the surface to reveal the hands and

imaginations shaping Denmark's prestigious maker culture.

On the Vesterbro tour, which explores the edgy, up-and-coming Vesterbro area, the first port of call is **Recycles** on Dybbølsgade 59 — an apt visit considering 50

per cent of all of the city's citizens commute by bike, taking advantage of the flat terrain and extensive bike lanes. At Recycles, surrounded by forks, chains, tubes and tyres, mechanics restore broken or unloved bikes to their former glory and

then either rent or resell them. After a couple more stops around the neighbourhood, it's time for a pint of Vesterbro Wit at local brewpub **Mikkeller**, one of Copenhagen's best-loved home-grown brands. Over the past nine years, owner and home brewer Mikkel Borg Bjergsø, a former maths teacher, has opened seven concept stores in Copenhagen and another nine locations worldwide.

When Brian Engblad and Asger Daugbjerg started CPHmade in 2011, they represented four craftspeople. Today, about 120 artisans from Denmark's territories promote and sell their products — whisky, leather goods, chocolate, furniture,

jewellery, ceramics — under the CPHmade banner through its **Made in Denmark** boutique in Tivoli Gardens, Copenhagen's vast 19th-century amusement park, and via the CPHmade website.

Daugbjerg says the company's Tour Copenhagen initiative was supposed to be a 'sideshow' to CPHmade's retail business, but it's proven extremely popular with visitors. Nineteen tours, including food and ceramics, collated either by skill set or workshop location, are offered via the CPHmade website, and Daugbjerg runs five to ➤



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10 tours per week, April through September. Daugbjerg leads the two Gentlemen's Tours himself, visiting third-generation tie-maker Søren Skifter and "wizard of wooden spectacles" Rasmus Cold from **Cold Heggem**.

"Brian and I started CPHmade for two reasons: to make a business out of helping small businesses grow and prosper, and also to demonstrate that Copenhagen is so much more than just the traditional sights.

Manufacturing is also a vital part of the city's DNA," says Daugbjerg.

"I'm sure this will catch on elsewhere as people become more interested in products with a story and knowing the people behind them." www.cphmade.org.

JAPAN

In Tokyo's Nihonbashi district, many of Japan's master craftspeople continue to practise their culture's oldest art forms alongside modern businesses. And of the city's 41 metropolis-designated traditional crafts, many offer one-day or multi-day workshops. Study the art of crafting cut glass at **Edo Kiriko**, or make richly textured washi



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paper crafted from mulberry fibres at **Ozu Washi**. Or, if you'd like to explore at your own pace, the Tokyo Craft Guide website offers a PDF download (\$25) of its curated guide to more than 50 local artisans. www.gotokyo.com; www.tokyocraftguide.com.

PORTLAND, OREGON

ADX, which stands for Art Design Portland, offers three public tours of its 1300-square-metre makerspace, learning centre and custom fabrication shop every week. You can explore the wood shop, metal shop, jewellery and upholstery hub **Craft Cube**, and **The Bridge**, a space devoted to 3D printing and laser cutting.

And if you see something that sparks your imagination, you can sign up to learn how to do it yourself (group classes listed on the ADX website range from crafting grain surfboards to metalsmithing for jewellery, with custom-designed sessions also available on request).

Josh Mabry discovered his love for woodworking while exploring classes at ADX in 2014. Today you can find his sustainable lighting and accessories brand **Made by Mabry** on Etsy or at local concept store **MadeHere PDX**, which champions local products and makers.

ADX founder Kelley Roy says she launched the creative hub after



CLOCKWISE FROM

TOP LEFT Made in Denmark boutique; woodworker Josh Mabry with one of his pieces; handcrafted snowboards; ADX's wood workshop; Kawaii Nunohaku craft market in Tokyo.

reading an article about artist collective and collaborative workspace **3rd Ward** (now closed) in New York. ADX has now incubated more than 100 businesses through its mandate to share facilities, tools and information.

"I knew there was a strong need for a place to access tools, space and knowledge in our growing maker culture. One of the things I was really interested in understanding more about was what happens when you put a lot of different people together in one space and give them the resources they need to create." www.adxportland.com.