

The 2024 European Quickstep IFFR Flyaway – 5 to 14 July

Flyaway Programme (as at January 2024)

Please note: most details remain are now confirmed, but with so much to see in Europe, we may adjust the precise programme as the last arrangements are finalised.

We will be operating in accordance with IFFR policies for fly arounds, and so some flexibility in the programme may be necessary in the event of non-VFR weather.

Prices quoted include contingency: if not required, this will be returned to you after the event.

In the event of cancellation, a refund would only be provided if your spaces can be resold. We recommend you have appropriate travel insurance.

Friday 5 July



We come together by land, sea and air in Copenhagen, the capital city of Denmark for the first part of our programme – **the Nordic Section Annual Weekend Meeting.**

The pilots will arrive at the GA friendly airport of Roskilde (EKRK) where lunchtime snacks will be provided. After lunch, they be transported to our typically Danish base at the Strand Hotel, located on the waterfront close to Nyhavn harbour. Those arriving commercially will find transfers into the city from Copenhagen airport quick and easy.

On our first Quickstep evening together, we will have a “*tapas and vine*” dinner cruise, including around the harbour which is the location of the world famous “Little Mermaid” statue.

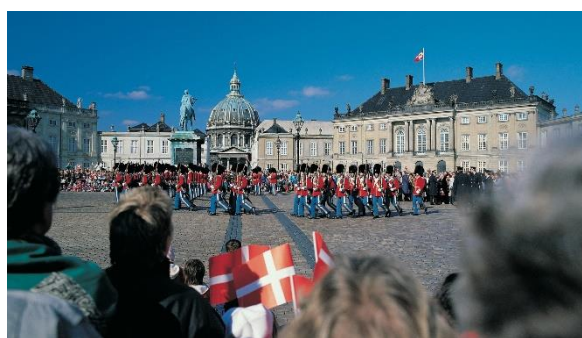


Saturday 6 July

In the morning we will have a guided tour of the picturesque centre of Copenhagen, ending at the Amalienborg Royal Palace to see the ceremony of the changing of the Danish Royal Guard.

In the afternoon, you will have free time to explore Nyhavn, the 17th-century waterfront district lined by brightly coloured 17th and early 18th century townhouses and bars, cafes and restaurants, wander over to Strøget, Copenhagen's main shopping street or just relax.

In the evening we will celebrate in style as we participate in the Nordic Section Gala Dinner in the world-famous Tivoli Gardens. You will have the opportunity to explore the Tivoli Park and experience its vibrant night life.



Sunday 7 July



After breakfast the pilots will be taken back to Roskilde to enjoy a scenic flight of a little over one hour to Säve (ESGP), near Gothenburg in Sweden to visit [Aerozeum](#). This is a world-unique aeronautical museum in an underground hangar hewn from rock during the Cold War, extending over 22,000 square metres.



Non-flyers will go by bus to Helsingør, to visit the 15th Century [Kronborg Slot](#) castle. Kronborg, famous from Hamlet, is on the coast from where one can look across the water to Helsingborg, Sweden. After lunch we will visit the [Luisiana Museum of Modern Art](#).

We will all return to our hotel for a “farewell to Copenhagen” dinner together.

Monday 8 July

Time to leave Scandinavia and head for Germany for our next two night stay in Flensburg, a cosy city at the Flensburg Fjord and close to the Danish border.

The non-flyers will head west across Denmark by bus, breaking the journey near Odense for an visit to [Hans Christian Andersen’s House](#) offering a surprising and fascinating immersive journey into the author’s creative universe – and his beloved fairy tales.

The flyers will take a scenic side tour. On departure from Roskilde, they will head south to the island of Rügen which has a delightful GA airfield ([EDCG](#)) and an excellent restaurant/café. When duly nourished, the pilots will be able to enjoy a scenic flight along the Baltic sea coast to Flensburg. A day of stunning views!

Once reunited, we will then have a guided tour of the city, including a visit to the [Maritime Museum](#).

We return to our hotel for a casual dinner.



Tuesday 9 July



A day for relaxing and exploring the old and the new. Flensburg is an old seafaring city which, under strong Scandinavian influence, has developed from a fishermen's and merchants' town into a progressive touristic city with 2 universities without having lost its historic charm. In the morning, we plan to visit the [PHÄNOMENTA](#) science exhibition: lots to see, and lots to get your hands on.



After lunch we expect, depending on numbers, either to take a trip on the historical 115 year old steamboat [Alexandra](#), starting at the Schiffbrück quay, or to visit the [Flensburger](#) brewery.

Our stay in Flensburg will end with a relaxed group dinner in a local restaurant.

Wednesday 10 July

We are moving on again, heading for the Low Countries for our next two night stay in Groningen, Netherlands. As the planes will probably be quicker than the bus, the pilots may break the journey at Wilhelmshavn (EDWI) a very pleasant en-route stopping point (with an excellent airport restaurant) for lunch.

Groningen was established more than 950 years ago and gained city rights in 1245. Numerous canals (grachten) surround and run through Groningen which is now a university city, with some of the country's leading higher education institutes including the University of Groningen founded in 1614.

On arrival, we will have a personalized and undoubtedly humorous tour, led by IFFR member Maurice Tax, of the old city centre, including its central Grote Markt square, home to the centuries-old Martinitoren clock tower before we have our dinner.



Thursday 11 July



This is “Frisian Islands Day”. The Frisian islands are a chain of environmentally protected barrier islands stretching all the way from the northwest of the Netherlands through Germany to the west of Denmark, protecting those countries from the might of the North Sea. Stunningly beautiful to fly over, many of them also have airfields on them. Flyers will have the opportunity make a scenic aerial tour along some of the islands, before landing on the German island of Borkum (EDWR).



The non-flyers will go by coach to Eemshavn and take the 50 minute ferry ride over to Borkum, as foot passengers,. On arrival, there will be the opportunity to ride the [Borkumer Kleinbahn](#) narrow gauge railway from the port to the centre of town. We will find our own lunch as takes our fancy and then have time at leisure to explore the island on foot, by “Petit Train” or even by rental bike. Pilots may wish to swap passengers for the return journey to allow more of the group to see the islands from the air. We will all return to Groningen for dinner.

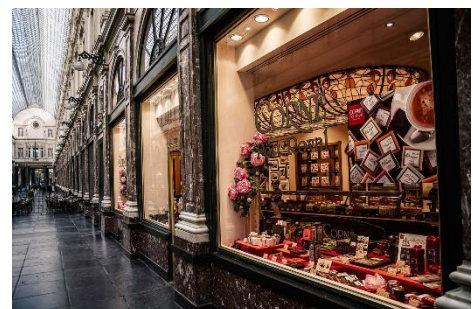
Friday 12 July

An early start as we set off again, leaving the Netherlands for Brussels, capital of Belgium. Our stay here, and this final part of the flyaway, will be the **Benelux Section Annual Weekend Meeting**. For the non-flyers, this will be the longest bus journey. We will have a lunchtime stop coupled with a short cultural experience.

The flyers will arrive around mid-day at Grimbergen/Lint (EBGB), close to the city centre, where a lunch will be waiting for us at the clubhouse. Afterwards, we will visit the unique hangars dating from WW2 before transferring to the Warwick Hotel in the heart of Brussels to check-in and relax while waiting for the bus to arrive.

Brussels is rich in history, architecture, gastronomy, culture and so much more! Warm, welcoming and quirky, Brussels is a bustling city where there’s always something going on. During our time here, we will discover the must-see attractions of the city. But if you think you know Brussels like the back of your hand, think again! There are loads of secret spots and hidden gems to enjoy in this vibrant capital.

At 19h00 we dive into the bustling city life of Brussels. We’ll go on foot to dinner at a very typical Belgian brasserie. After dinner we’ll enjoy a guided evening walk through the medieval city center of Brussels: the UNESCO World Heritage listed Grand Place, the Manneken Pis statue, the famous Galleries, and the Royal Palace. Those wanting to end a warm summer evening with a nightcap will find many nearby street cafes and bars.



Saturday 13 July



Our morning will start with a private guided tour of the Brussels City Hall. Afterwards we will take a guided bus tour to the European district (Brussels being the administrative centre of Europe) and ending at the Atomium, again a must-see symbol of Brussels. After these visits, we will return to have lunch in the heart of the old city centre.



After lunch, again we take the bus to go to the Cinquantenaire Park, the museum district of Brussels where we will visit [Autoworld](#). This private museum holds a collection built on the extensive and well-preserved car collection of the Mahy family, one of the largest in the world. For those who are not so into cars, but more into aviation, ancient or modern art, at the Cinquantenaire there are the Royal Museum of the Armed Forces and the Royal Museum of Art & History.

On the Saturday evening, our final night together, we will hold our Flyaway Reflections Gala Dinner, ending the evening with the traditional Benelux Section party – bring your dancing shoes.

Sunday 14 July

The flyaway formally ends after Sunday breakfast. But there is so much to see in Brussels that we strongly recommend you book another day here. And if you want to party hard on Saturday night, we also recommend you to stay on for the Sunday and recuperate before flying home. We will have a range of recommendations for you of places to explore and if enough folks choose to stay on, we can arrange an informal casual dinner (at cost).

Please note that all participants will receive a Museum pass ‘Visit Brussels’, valid for 48 hours, with which you can visit some 49 museums spread over the Brussels Area. For those who want to extend their visit, please let us know in time: 72 hour museum passes are also available.



Further information

By land or by air?

There has been very little interest from members in other regions to secure their own aircraft rental, so we have not actively progressed this. However, should you wish to do so, please contact us and we will advise further. While it is up to individual participants to make arrangements with participating pilots, we do expect there to be good opportunities to see at least part of the Quickstep from the air.

Getting to and from the Quickstep

Our flyaway starts and ends in capital cities with excellent connections to other parts of the world. Both have direct flights to and from North America and both are well-served by airlines offering easy connections to Asia and Australasia. You may find airlines offering “open-jaw” returns, but if not, flights between Brussels and Copenhagen are readily available.

Extending your stay – exploring further

If you are coming from outside Europe, why not extend your stay and explore further.

- Before the flyaway starts, why not explore Scandinavia more. Copenhagen is well connected with Sweden, Norway and Finland. If you wish to arrive early at our Quickstep Hotel, if you book before 15 May, you will be able to enjoy a 15% discount on the hotel’s usual rates by using this [Hotel Booking Link](#) (altering the days to your arrival and ending on July 5th). Note that the latest day to cancel a pre-flyaway booking is 14 days prior to the first day booked.
- And after the Quickstep has ended, so much of western Europe is nearby. From Brussels, London UK, Paris France and Amsterdam Netherlands can all be reached by train in 2 hours or less. Or low costs flights can take you anywhere in Europe in 3 hours or less!

Europe really is your oyster. Let us help you with plans and suggestions if you would like.



IT’S FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED. SO, PLEASE REGISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!



International
Fellowship of
Flying Rotarians

Photo credits.

Friday 5 July

1. Strand Hotel
2. Pixabay

Saturday 6 July

1. Expedia.co.uk
2. Condé Nast

Sunday 7 July

1. Tripadvisor LLC
2. [Kronborg Castle - Palaces and Gardens - Kongelige Slotte](#)

Monday 8 July

1. VisitOdense
2. Pixabay

Tuesday 9 July

1. www.dampfer-alexandra.de
2. Pixabay

Wednesday 10 July

1. Pixabay
2. George Ritchie

Thursday 11 July

1. [Borkum Island \(Germany\) cruise port schedule | CruiseMapper](#)
2. Pixabay

Friday 12 July

1. Vliegveld Grimbergen Facebook page
2. Pixabay

Saturday 13 July

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Sunday 14 July

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