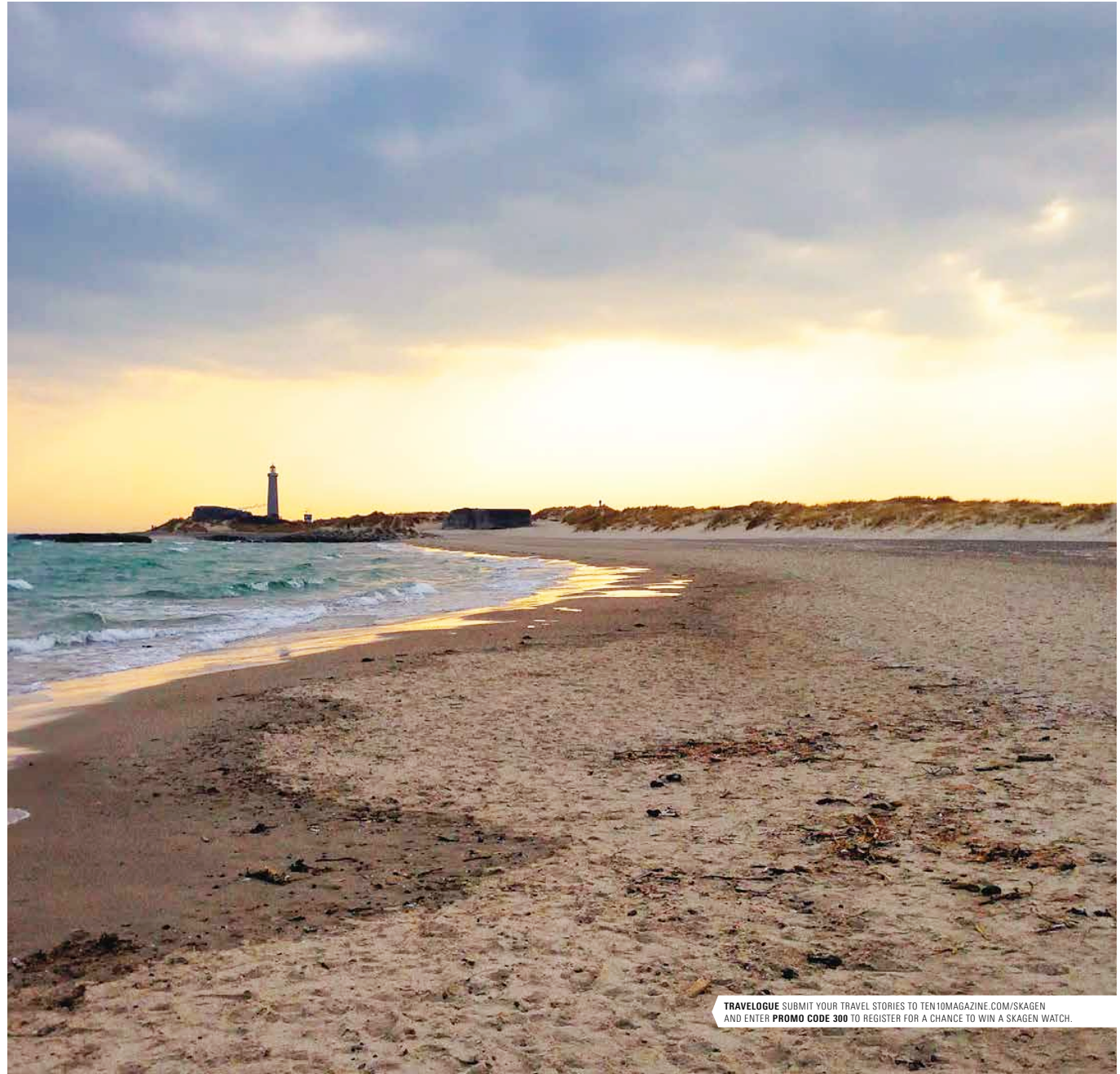

72

HOURS IN SKAGEN

WORLDS COLLIDE IN THIS TINY COASTAL TOWN OF DENMARK. THE AREA'S NATURAL UNION OF SIMPLICITY AND ELEGANCE CREATED THE INSPIRATION FOR THE CLASSIC DANISH DESIGN AND SENSIBILITY OF THE SKAGEN WATCH BRAND.

BY KRISTY ALPERT

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TIM HALE



TRAVELOGUE SUBMIT YOUR TRAVEL STORIES TO [TEN10MAGAZINE.COM/SKAGEN](https://ten10magazine.com/skagen) AND ENTER **PROMO CODE 300** TO REGISTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A SKAGEN WATCH.



GUIDE AND STORYTELLER HANNE ANKERSTJERNE AAVANG HAS LIVED IN SKAGEN FOR MORE THAN 56 YEARS.



REFERRED TO BY LOCALS AS THE “TOP OF DENMARK,” visitors from all corners of the world flock to Skagen, which sits at the northernmost tip of Denmark, close to Sweden. Its beauty and understated, authentic culture have drawn celebrated artists to this location for more than 140 years. Skagen’s geographic advantage? The breathtaking light.

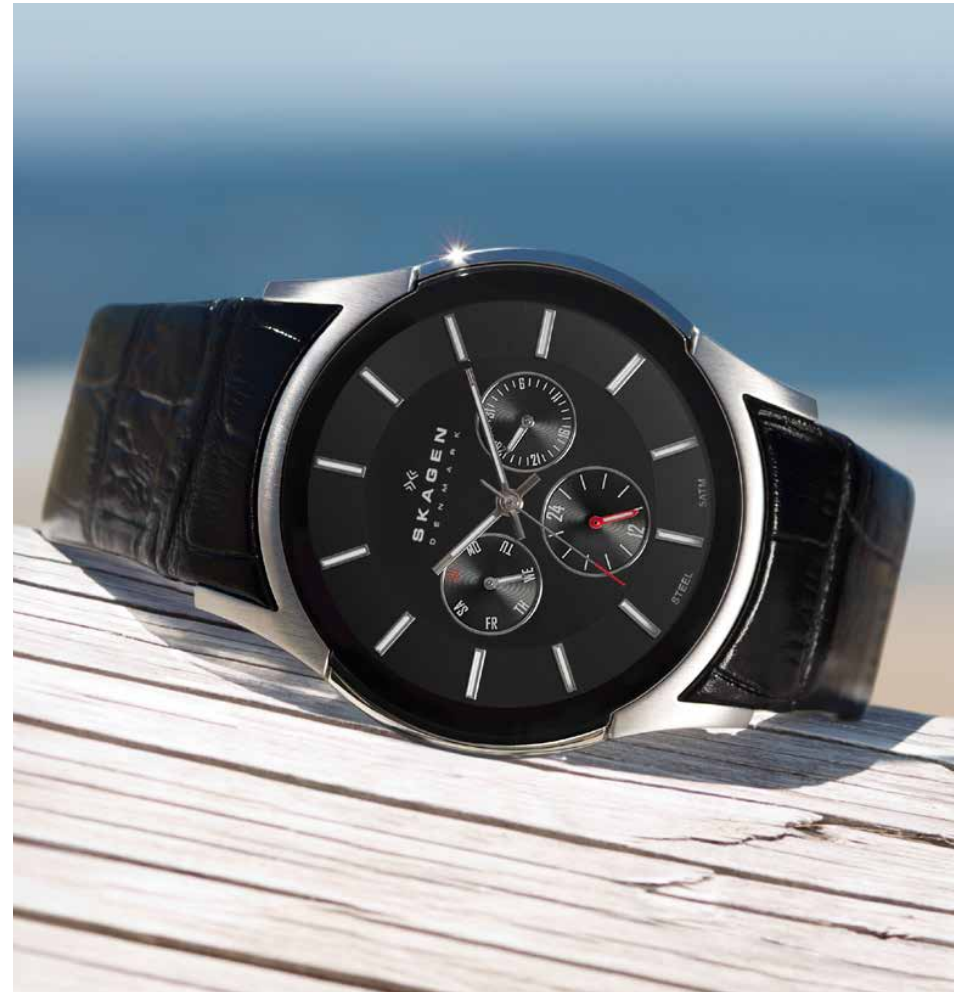
Not just any light, but the unique clarity and glow that painters and photographers find irresistible, which is why this tiny town has cultivated communities of writers, artists, and designers. “The light in the whole Skagen area is famous throughout the country,” explains Hanne Ankerstjerne Aavang, a guide and storyteller with the Skagen Tourism Bureau and Skagens Museum, who has lived in the city for more than 56 years. “The sunlight is reflected from the water on both sides of the narrow peninsula creating a very unique light; you feel surrounded by it.” The Kattegat that borders the Baltic and the Skagerrak that borders the North Sea break together,

and miles and miles of pristine but rough beaches and lovely heaths filled with heather add to the beauty of the surroundings.

Although Skagen sits on the coast where the land ends, it is where Denmark truly begins, drawing design aficionados and leisure seekers alike. As it has been for more than a century, Skagen is the summer destination of choice for the Danish jet set, creating an interesting mix of wealthy travelers dining in the same small seafood restaurants on the harbor right next to tables of tourists, nature lovers, art enthusiasts, and locals.

“The harbor is both a place of work for the locals and a place of leisure and fine dining for the tourists, and this makes for an interesting and lively mix,” Aavang adds, while noting how the once slow-paced vibe of this former fishing village has not been lost. “Time slows down when you’re walking in the dunes of Skagen, or standing with your feet in two different seas. When you stroll through the old parts of town, you can feel transported back to the 19th century.”

“
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SKAGEN
DENMARK

www.skagen.com

SOAKING IN SKAGEN

PACKED WITH BREATHTAKING PANORAMAS, WORLD-RENOWNED ART GALLERIES, REFINED RESTAURANTS, AND TONS OF CULTURAL AND SHOPPING DESTINATIONS, IT WOULD BE EASY TO SPEND A WEEK OR MORE EXPLORING ALL THAT SKAGEN HAS TO OFFER. BECAUSE TIME IS ALWAYS OF THE ESSENCE, HERE ARE A FEW OF AAVANG'S HIGHLIGHTS FOR SEVERAL DAYS SPENT IN THE CITY.

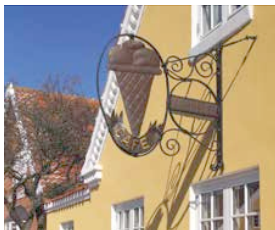


24
HOURS



Skagen is visited by approximately 2.5 million people per year, so on your first day, your tour guide Aavang would steer you to Grenen where the two seas and the entire world meet! This peninsula is one of the world's largest sand spits and it is constantly changing as waves coming from different directions clash. Next, see how the light inspired others at Skagens Museum, an art gallery featuring the Skagen Painters, a colony of naturalists that gathered here from the 1880s and onward. End your day with a dinner at the famous Brøndums Hotel, where the artists lived, dined, and wine.

48
HOURS



Start your second day with a nature quest; the migrating dune of Råbjerg Mile will have you questioning whether you are in a desert. Afterward, soak in Skagen's culture by visiting Michael og Anna Anchers Hus, the wonderfully preserved abode of two of the most famous Skagen Painters. For dinner, Aavang recommends fish and chips at Aavangs Fiskehus, previously owned by one of her family members, or fresh Skagen shrimp at one of the two luxurious fish restaurants in the harbor area.

72
HOURS



A visit to Skagen (or The Scaw, as it is known) wouldn't be complete without trekking to the remains of the old sand-buried 14th-century church, Den Tilsandede Kirke. (Only the tower is left uncovered.) Later, spend some time at Skagen By-og Egnsmuseum, the local cultural-historic museum, where you can learn about living conditions in this area in the 1800s. Finally, savor those last hours in Skagen with a final meal at Ruths Hotel, a beautiful old hotel where former Michelin-starred chef Michel Michaud performs wonders in the kitchen.

UNDERSTATED ELEGANCE

Danish fashion is elegant and smartly understated, with well-cut clothes and a few select accessories. However, in Skagen, even the most fashion forward relax their look because they are vacationing.

KLASSIK MESH NECKLACE

This polished-steel pendant necklace is anchored with the signature Skagen mesh. \$60, skagen.com

SKAGEN TOTE

This gorgeous felt tote is versatile and also shows your sophisticated side. \$195, skagen.com

SKAGEN WATCH

Sleek style and mesh unite in a classically modern timepiece. \$145, skagen.com

KLASSIK MESH

Modern classic Danish design sparkles with mesh and polished steel. \$80, skagen.com