



**Soranernes Hus
Aktieselskab**

Dear Exchange Student.

Welcome to SORANERNES HUS – our college in the capital of Denmark, built in the year 2000 by SORANSK SAMFUND (the society of former students from SORØ AKADEMIS SKOLE) - and based upon traditional education and life at this boarding school, one of the oldest in our country:

The quiet little town SORØ in the middle of SJÆLLAND, some 90 km from FREDERIKSBERG, is the home of SORØ AKADEMIS SKOLE. It has been so since 1586, when King Frederik II decided, based upon the properties of the former Cisterciensian monastery, founded in the 12th century by Archbishop Absalon, to create a school of higher education for 30 of nobility and 30 commoners students. Under his son King Christian IV and again during the reign of King Frederik V this school was given Academy status - and the future economy of the educational centre in Sorø was secured when in 1747 the famous comedy writer Professor Ludvig Holberg donated his estates to the Academy.

Reborn in 1822 under King Frederik VI the present SORØ AKADEMIS SKOLE is a state high school with around 500 students, still in the same surroundings with many historical buildings. First and foremost the original huge monastery church with the graves of Archbishop Absalon and of former kings and queens as well as the sarcophagus of Ludvig Holberg, but also with other old buildings still in use from the long educational era in Sorø. The present school building was built in 1826, but since then many new buildings have been erected, especially to renew the boarding facilities.

The students at the school are named SORANERE, and the former pupils therefore GAMMELSORANERE. These old students, organised in the society SORANSK SAMFUND, raised the necessary funds to build SORANERNES HUS.

That is why the historical background can be found reflected in our House. The bottom floor corridor is named STEN(Stone)GANGEN after the classroom corridor in the schoolbuilding, and the other corridors, GULE (yellow) GANG, GRØNNE (green) GANG, RØDE (red) GANG and BLÅ (blue)GANG after other premises at the school. And that is why the rooms are named either after historical persons and old teachers or old students and donors. Even regular events in the House traditionally recall the old days - among others the yearly introduction of the facilities to the oldest class from the school, taking place on the 3rd of December, the birthday of Ludvig Holberg.

SORANERNES HUS is meant primarily to be a college for former students from the school, but is also open towards the global environment by integrating exchange students in all 5 floors. The College Foundation defines an exchange student as a student who is registered at a foreign university (or equivalent institution), aiming at an education which in Danish terms is equivalent to "short-term", "medium-term", or "long-term" higher education, and who at the same time is registered as a student/exchange student at a Danish university (or equivalent) for normally a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 12 months. So the exchange student must be enrolled in an exchange programme

Integration is a key word at the college - for former students who already have close relationships from their school days - as well as for you exchange students. Each corridor therefore has its own GANGKLUB - and in the communal kitchen at the common entrance all floors have facilities for both advanced cooking and for mutual gatherings - thus creating many possibilities for bringing you all closer together.

Keep in mind that in this House you do not rent a flat, but you join a community for mutual benefit! There is a close community on each floor, but also a unified community between the corridors of all 5 floors: You are always welcome to go next floor and join in (your key gives admittance to all other floors, too). In the top floor, in HAUERSLEVSALEN, there will often be evening cafés or feasts for the entire House (as well as gatherings for GAMMELSORANERE of all ages living outside the House).

In the basement you will find our free laundry machines - and also room for your bicycle etc. During the summer outdoor life can take place in the rotunda at the entrance.

SORANERNES HUS has of course certain rules which must be carefully followed. A long Danish version exists in writing, and the DEGN (deacon) of your corridor can inform you about the details. One thing that must be mentioned, though, is that legal INTERNET admission has firm restrictions (due to problems) and that all inmates must take part in the HOVERI - specified daily/weekly duties to secure the quality of life in the House.

Join in and enjoy – that will guarantee good friends and pleasant memories from your stay in SORANERNES HUS. Do not hesitate to call the DEGN of your corridor, the chairman of the house club SORANI SECURI, the FOGED (deputy) of SORANSK SAMFUND, or me, the EFOR, if you are in doubt or have any questions.

Erling Kristensen
EFOR

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