

# Rosenborg Castle: King Christian IV, Royal Regalia and Crown Jewels

Built in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century by Christian IV, Rosenborg Castle has many art treasures, an interesting sanitary accommodation and it holds the Crown Jewels of Denmark created prior to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Other Crown Jewels can be seen in Amalienborg Castle. Adjacent to the Castle is the King's Garden. It is the oldest royal garden in Denmark.

King Christian IV began his pleasure palace in 1606 when he purchased 40 lots outside of the city's wall. The castle originally was a summer palace. After four renovations, the Castle as it stands today, was finished in 1633. Christian IV died in 1648 at the age of 72. He is remembered as Denmark's most progressive ruler.



Rosenborg Slot (Castle) was built in a Dutch Renaissance style and was used as a residence until 1710, then under the reign of King Frederik IV. There were only two other times that the castle was used a residence, once when the Christiansborg Castle burned in 1794 and again after a siege of Copenhagen by the British in 1801.

The crown jewels of Denmark are kept in the basement of Rosenborg Castle. Besides security, the walls housing the jewels are very thick. The collection includes some of the largest diamonds and amethysts in the world.

Royal Life Guards are stationed at the castle on a 24/7 basis. The Guards' barracks and grounds are next to the castle. The Guard parades from Rosenborg to the royal family residence at Amalienborg Palace Square every day at noon for a ceremonial changing of the guard. For example, if the march is under the Kongevagt (King's Watch) routine, they leave Rosenborg at 11:27am featuring a full marching band consisting of 36 musicians, 12 drummers and another group of 36 Royal Life Guards. Other routines will have less or no musical accompaniment. It all depends on who is in residence at Amalienborg Palace on that date. This photo program shares just some of the interesting artifacts in this castle.







“In this tower chamber, which was easily heated, Christian IV carried out his vast correspondence. The room has been preserved, more or less intact, since the time of Christian IV in the first half of the 17th century: the ceiling paintings with scenes from the Italian epic Orlando Furioso, the paintings inlaid in the panels, and the fireplace. However, the wall coverings of green silk printed with gold ornaments date from around 1700.” -kongernessamling.dk



“This room, formerly known as ‘The Secret’, is the lowest of three toilets, each with its own disposal chute. Originally it had a door in the wall to the left leading to the bathroom (where the Garden Room is now situated).”

There was a water cistern in the room used for flushing. The drain led to the moat which surrounds the Palace. During drier periods it was difficult to get water circulation into the moat, resulting in an unpleasant smell from below.” - kongernessamling.dk



To the Basement





To the Crown Jewels





Sources: <https://www.visitcopenhagen.com/copenhagen/rosenborg-castle-gdk410582>, <http://kongeligeslotte.dk/en/palaces-and-gardens/rosenborg-castle-and-the-kings-gardens.html>, <http://www.kongernessamling.dk/en/rosenborg/castle-history/>, <https://hamlettours.com/rosenborg-palace/>, <https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/destinations/2017/06/28/copenhagen-attractions/432135001/>, <https://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/distributed/T/bo15198693.html>, <https://babyccinokids.com/blog/2018/06/18/the-changing-of-the-guard-marching-at-street-level-from-rosenborg-castle-to-amalienborg-palace/> and <http://www.kongernessamling.dk/en/rosenborg/room/christian-ivs-bedroom/>.

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