



Follow us on [f](#) [t](#)
(<http://bit.ly/...>)

SUBSCRIBE TO

PRINT
([HTTPS://PAY.HINDU.COM/ESUBSPAY/SUBSCRIPTION](https://pay.hindu.com/esubspay/subscription))

DIGITAL
([HTTPS://WWW.MAGZTER.COM/IN/KASTURI-&-SONS-LTD/FRONTLINE/NEWS/](https://www.magzter.com/in/kasturi-&-sons-ltd/frontline/news/))

DISPATCHES ([HTTPS://FRONTLINE.THEHINDU.COM/DISPATCHES/](https://frontline.thehindu.com/dispatches/))

First-ever multi-drug Ebola trial in Congo



CHRISTIANIA

Oasis of anarchy

SHRISHTEE BAJPAI
ASHISH KOTHARI

Print edition : December 21, 2018

T+ T-



The entrance into Christiania. Photo: Ashish Kothari

Christiania, an “experiment” at self-governed community living spread over 85 acres near Copenhagen, is a thriving alternative to a capitalist or statist society, a reminder that another world is possible.

Entering Copenhagen in an unmanned metro train, our first impressions were of a blend of modernist and traditional architecture, canals with quaint bridges, bicycles with carts in front bearing babies or dogs or both. But, above all, there was a structured neatness. Just a few metres from the central part of town, we entered under a colourful archway into a different world altogether: an eclectic, colourful, creative, seemingly chaotic use of space with a huge diversity of architectural styles and profuse graffiti everywhere.

Christiania, an “experiment” at anarchic or self-governed living, began 40 years ago, at a time when the youth movement was at its peak in Denmark. The explicit purpose was to create a “free town” with the principle that everyone has the freedom to live in the way they want as long as it does not

