

Kolding Municipality – right in the heart of the Triangle Region



JETTE HILGER BUSINESS KOLDING

Kolding is in a great location in the Triangle Region and thanks to its good infrastructure, there are plenty of jobs available for those who want to settle in a culturally- vibrant area without commuting too far to work.

“We have a diverse population in Kolding. There are lots of young people from all over the world thanks to the many educational opportunities in the city of Kolding. The Kolding School of Design, the University of Southern Denmark and the International Business Academy attract many creative and innovative people to our region.” - says Jette Hilger, the newcomer guide in Kolding Municipality.

Thanks to the active educational and business sectors, Kolding is rapidly becoming a hub for innovative enterprises and international companies with a bright future ahead of them. This active cultural and ‘business’ life started hundreds of years ago. Since the Middle Ages, Kolding has had an important role as a market town and Koldinghus (the castle in the middle of the city) was one of the most important Danish royal residences for hundreds of years. This historical atmosphere adds an extra spark to the vibrant city life, too.



The vibrant international scene is becoming a natural part of the local community

Thanks to the many international students and expat families who decide to live in Kolding Municipality, there is an active and growing community of internationals. Jette, who takes care of the newcomers, works closely with the local volunteer organisation, TEAK (The Expat Association of Kolding) and with the international students’ organisation in order to have closer contact with expats and their problems and to provide help that they really need.

“I was an expat myself in Germany and in China before, so I have some personal experience about living abroad. I know how hard it can be to find your place without deep understanding of the local culture and without a good supportive network.





When I lived in Germany, it was a bit easier, because I spoke the local language. In China, however, where I used English at work, I had to make a lot of effort to pick up some of the basics of the language, so I could use public transport or do the shopping in the grocery store. Therefore, I sympathise with every expat, as I know it's not that easy to feel at home or to learn the Danish language." - says Jette.

She is happy to help newcomers with a variety of problems. People often ask her about housing or renting opportunities for students and families, schooling or activities for children or the library services. But there are questions about more random topics, too, just like where to find a particular waste collection place in the municipality.

Jette believes that involving internationals in the life of the cities is a key to success – both for the expats and for the municipality.

"We Danes, have practically two duties (besides our family, of course): we work during the day at our workplace and in the

CONTACT

You can call or send an email to Jette Hilger and be sure that she will answer your questions as quickly as possible. Her phone number is +45 24219870 and her e-mail address is jh@businesskolding.dk.

If you wish to learn more about the life and happenings in Kolding Municipality, please visit www.visitkolding.dk or www.oplevelskolding.dk or join the group Friends of TEAK on Facebook or even become a member of their association TEAK.

Message from Jette

"Be open and creative regarding the opportunities that come your way. If you are proactive, and if you make the first move, you can be sure to find some positive reaction from people and from companies, as well. It's also a good idea to start learning Danish from the very beginning, because you will feel more comfortable and over time, as your language skills improve, the window of opportunities will open up, too."

evening, we actively participate in the associations' (foreninger) lives. That's how we provide a place for ourselves and our children to do some sports or cultural activities. This part of our life is equally important and we find a lot of our friends from these groups, as well." - explains Jette.

So it is very useful to be part of these associations, where one can meet both internationals and Danes who are burning for the same activities.

As the region is giving space for more and more small and medium sized enterprises, which are aiming to do business internationally, there are extra potential jobs for expats, as well. Often, the spoken language in these companies is Danish, but employers and colleagues are very open to get to know experienced internationals – regardless of the initial language barriers.



trekantområdet
international
community