

# An Invisible Pilot

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Holbæk Fjord, Denmark

Scandinavia is surrounded by water; every direction you turn you are facing a harbour.

Nyhaven Wharf is arguably the most famous, but it is only one of hundreds of ports along Scandinavian shores.

Sailing vessels are an important part of Scandinavia's past, and they continue to influence modern life. Scandinavian art and architecture, music, and language all have naval influences.



Artwork dedicated to mariners who lost their lives during World War II.

Viking domination of the northern hemisphere for three centuries was made possible by these magnificent sailing vessels.





*The Viking*, a four-mast barque in Gothenburg Sweden, has been transformed into a floating hotel.

Ships and sailing are entwined with Scandinavian spirituality and religious belief.



The burial mound of *King Gorm the Old* is in the hull of a giant stone ship, ready to transport the dead king to Valhalla.



Most Danish churches, like the one in Fole, have a model ship suspended from the ceiling.

The ship is “a symbol of a spiritual journey, with ...  
... *an invisible pilot.*”  
- Wikipedia

Apparently, the only way to get to Heaven from Scandinavia, is by boat.

