

Bokbinderens PRIVILE- GIER.

Kongshabniã die 1. Mart Anno 2001.



BOOKBINDERS'
PRIVILEGE FOR 2001

Auldhabn Association of Bookbinders and Booksellers

INTRODUCTION

What is the Bookbinders' Privilege? A brief introduction to the text.

The *Bookbinders' Privilege* (Bokbinderens Privilegier) is a yearly almanac that provides a comprehensive guide to the city of Auldhavn, with a particular focus on the literary culture that prevades the city, in addition to the basic calendar information about its festivities, celebrations, and important dates. Accurate maps of the urban area (up to and including the surrounding area of Auldkongshavn) are also included, alongside common numerical data including exchange rates, phone numbers, prices for services, taxation rates etc., with special clarification from the relevant government offices to ensure that the information remains up to date.

Almost every household and business in Auldhavn has a copy of this book (usually in Havlandic, with a red cover), and by recent census numbers the total number of almanacs in circulation roughly outnumbers inhabitants by 3-to-1. This edition, the English version, has been optimised for an international audience – where possible, original Havlandic terms and translations are provided to prevent confusion when reading local signage,

and historical or explanatory notes have been inserted for the various locations listed in this guide.

We, the Auldhavn Association of Bookbinders and Booksellers, continuing the legacy of our forbears in the Guild of Bookbinders who won this privilege by royal decree, have undertaken this special responsibility to provide up to date information to citizens and visitors alike since the first publication in 1690, and have not failed to publish an issue in some form for more than a single year since. We hope that you find the information in this text useful, enlightening, and even (sometimes) entertaining.

Auldhavn is a beautiful city. We trust you will find it as beautiful as we do.

Yours sincerely,
JOHANN STRAUSS
Editor in Chief
Bookbinders' Privilege
18th February, 2001

Work in Progress

WELCOME TO AULDHAVN

About the city, its history, and its people.

Overview

From ~1400 to the present

Auldhavn is the oldest city on the main island of Havland. It was established when settlers from the Kalmar Union (the then-union of Sweden, Denmark, and Norway) colonised the island around 1400 A.D. Although Havland had been settled since at least 1000 A.D., this was when it formally entered the historical record. Auldhavn served as a merchant port until the Kingdom was established under Eric the Explorer – The rogue Danish noble claimed it for his own and received royal assent from the Danish-Norwegian king at the Treaty of Malmö, choosing the city as his capital.

Until the revolution of Mori, which replaced the Kingdom of Havland (Kongeriget Havland) with the Republic of Havland (Folkeriget Havland) Auldhavn was referred to as Kongshavn, or the King's Harbour. Since then, the capital of Havland has been transferred to Guldhabn along the Eastern coast, along with most of the trade that once be-

nefitted Auldhavn. Its status as an inlet port, once advantageous and protective against stormy weather, was reduced after the expansion of Guldhabn's Grand Harbour to receive larger and less manoeuvrable ships, which often had trouble making it to Auldhavn. However, the city still enjoys a number of unique privileges, including a separate border and trade relations with nearby nations.

Geography

Ten districts, three hundred thousand citizens

The City of Auldhavn is divided into 10 internal districts (Quarters) with a unique numbering scheme, collectively housing approximately 300.000 citizens. The surrounding urban commune of Auldkongshavn houses another 50.000 citizens, covering a total area of around 110 kilometres squared.

Many districts in Auldhavn have a unique history and function: The centre of Auldkongshavn is the historic Kalmartorv district, hous-

Work in Progress

Work in Progress

ing the People's Council of Auldhavn and many ancient buildings. Grandhavn contains the Auldhavn harbour and the University of Auldhavn. Peersborg is a newly renovated shopping district. Christianstov is the primary guildhall and market district, and contains the famous Guild Street. Odobro has a lively arts scene. The five outer districts serve as residential areas, and contain many small stores and cafes. Commercial and administrative activity is concentrated in the south (close to the harbour), and the city maintains its historic borders with a green belt – although the fortifications around the city have since been decommissioned.

Religion and Culture

A strongly Protestant city

Christianity is the dominant religion in Auldhavn, with more than 85% of inhabitants registering as such. Most Auldhavnites are Protestant (~70%), although a significant minority (~15%) are Roman Catholic. Of the remainder, most identify as agnostic or nonreligious.

Major celebrations in Auldhavn mirror significant celebrations in Scandinavia – Christmas, Walpurgisnacht, New Year, Easter, etc. Unique Havlandic celebrations include People's Day (4th June), which celebrates the revolution that led to the establishment of the Republic of Havland, as well as National Day, a holiday during elec-

tion years when citizens are encouraged to vote.

The primary diet in Auldhavn consists of preserved and fresh seafood, supplemented by imported meat and animal products from Denmark, Germany, and Belgium. The national dish of rødfisk (dried fish preserved in a red and piquant spiced sauce) is served both hot and cold in many restaurants, as well as in shredded snack form from small vans.

Language

A unique dialect of Danish

Practically all citizens of Auldhavn speak Havlandic, which is a local dialect of Danish. Most also speak Danish and passable English, and some speak Norwegian, German, Swedish, or Finnish. Since 1952, English classes have become mandatory in primary and lower secondary schools, and students take an English or Danish exam as part of their high school diploma.

History and Governance

Highly independent and self-governing

Since the establishment of Auldhavn as the capital of Havland, the city has enjoyed many unique privileges. In exchange for swearing allegiance to Eric the Explorer, the city elders of Auldhavn deman-

ded that the new king sign a Haandfæstning – a personal pledge before coronation to ensure the independence of the city. Over time, these rights became codified as:

- A quasi-democratic city council consisting of members of the nobility, elders, and elected guild members
- Control over trade and borders
- Freedom of religious belief for the free men of the city

In return, the city swore allegiance to the king and contributed substantially to the royal coffers. Because of this arrangement Auldhavn's status as the trade and economic centre of Havland, for a long time being an influential elder in Auldhavn carried as much if not more weight than being a noble in the king's court.

This arrangement lasted until the reign of Stefan III (Stefan the Learned, 1654-1695), who liberalised the monarchy and introduced many reforms. There were rumours that he would follow the trend of the Enlightenment and introduce a constitution to Havland, but unfortunately he was deposed and exiled before this could happen.

The period that followed, known as the Absolutist period, lasted until the revolution of Mori. This period saw the codification of the Havlandic King's Law (Havske Kongeloven), modelled after the Danish Absolutist constitution,

which established the King as supreme ruler and ended many of the privileges of Auldhavn. The first Absolutist king, Absalon the Fat, unilaterally merged the city and royal treasuries to fund his new palace, and the city council found itself demoted to an advisory body.

Although many in the royal court and many nobles from outside of Auldhavn initially supported the changes, believing it would end the supremacy of Havland's largest city, they soon found that the now all-powerful king had little interest in supporting their already perilous positions, and in the eighteenth century many nobles were summarily stripped of their land titles as a new state bureaucracy was established.

When the revolution overthrew the monarchy, Auldhavn's ancient rights were reasserted, and the seventeenth commune of Auldkongshavn created to cement this independence. Today, it maintains close cooperation with the Guldhavn government, and many elements of the government (including the state archives) can be found here.

Work in Progress

BOOKS IN PEERSBORG

A trendy shopping district featuring a smattering of bookstores and cafes. A popular tourist spot, and extremely busy during the holiday season.

Artisan Collective

Specialist coffeemakers with English books on offer at 7 Danske Forum

Artisan opened in 2000 to greet the new millennium next to the Danish embassy, and offers a wide selection of specialist and international coffees with the option of “pour-overs”, i.e. coffee brewed by hand. They recently imported a selection of English nonfiction for reading while sipping a leisurely *cortado*, with a focus on books about coffee and food culture.

Bok ond Spiel Peersborg

Book and board game store at 20 Wilhelmsvej ()*

The second branch of the popular Bok ond Spiell (Book and Game) store in Odobro, Bok og Spiel Peersborg boasts several shelves of popular role-playing and board games as well as a decent collection of both fantasy and science fiction, curated by true aficionados

of both. Their “Used Items” collection is a sight to behold, comprising various gems including the original *Dune* board game and original editions of *Lord of the Rings* at commensurately eye-watering prices.

Staff are always at hand to recommend a new selection, and there are board game events with pizza every Thursday evening, open to all comers.

Christoph Bokcafe

Large homely bookstore and restaurant at 12 Wilhelmsvej ()*

Occupying a newly renovated townhouse in the centre of the Peersborg district, Christoph Bokcafe attracts both tourists and locals looking for a hearty meal (We recommend the Granny’s Omelette).

In terms of books, the store has a focus on Havlandic history and literature, with a Masterwork selection of famous historical Havlandic writers. Of special note is their new poetry selection, with English and Havlandic translations of famous Japanese, Italian, and Inuit poetry.

The owner, Christoph Sørensen, is usually around, and handles international book orders for free.

tionery in the basement section. Almost always busy.

Kalmarsboker

*A new branch of the historic antiquarian book collector at 15 Danske Forum (***)*

The first Kalmarsboker store opened in the historic Kalmartorv district in 1889 (see the Kalmartorv section of this Almanac), but they now encompass three locations across Auldhavn, each with eye-catching vintage window displays and large, generous bookshelves sorted alphabetically.

The newest location caters to the international market, and boasts a substantial multilingual collection from across Europe as well as a children’s section, at the cost of sacrificing some of its original vintage charm. Also offers vintage prints, comics, and a discount shelf.

We Love Books

Tourist-focused store with modern offerings at 33 Peersvej

Built to capitalise on the opening of Auldhavn to visitors after 1991, We Love Books has an Espresso House branch built into the three-floor storefront, and international signage. It mostly offers glossy coffee-table books in various languages, as well as toys and sta-

BOOKS IN KALMARTORV

The oldest district of Auldhabn and the former seat of the royal throne. Now it houses the People's Council of Auldhabn and many historic collections, some of which are for sale.

Antikvitets ond Auldboker

*High class antique dealers specialising in rare collectibles and "lost editions" in 14-1 Markedraad (***)*

Established first as an antiques dealer to serve the needs of the rising middle class during the 18th century, A&A has since branched out to cover rare book acquisition services as well. Their main store (identifiable by its neoclassical marble facade and Roman statuary) contains a small selection of valuable books, including relic bibles and hymnbooks, but their main value is in finding rare titles for discerning buyers, for a steep price.

Auldhabn Bookbinding and Print Museum

*Our headquarters, located at 15-3 Markedraad (****)*

The modern address of the Auldhabn Association of Book-

binders and Booksellers, the modern form of the Guild of Bookbinders that first printed the Bookbinders' Privilege in 1690.

The museum occupies the site of a former historical printshop in Kalmartorv, transformed into a three storey living gallery. It documents the long history of scriptoriums, bookbinders, and printmakers in Auldhabn, as well as the development of the print history in Northern Europe in general. Specimens and folios from various periods are on offer, and visitors can engage in a recreation of the historic printing process used by books such as the Gutenberg bible.

Giftschranks

Secret vaults kept by the Havlandic clergy, now open to the public

Like most Scandinavian nations, the Christian church in Havland became officially Protestant in the 16th century, undergoing a radical and at times violent metamorphosis. However, some anti-iconoclastic Havlandic Lutheran

Progress

clergymen realised the value of many of the icons and texts they were censoring or destroying, and thus collected them in locations deemed safe from the prying eyes of an easily-misled public.

These collective efforts resulted in the largest collection of Latin scripture and Catholic ephemera in Scandinavia outside of the Danish Nationalmuseet, most of which were uncovered after the revolution. These so-called *Giftschranks* (the word taken from German archives of banned books, literally meaning "poison cabinet") are now open to the public for either guided tours or limited viewing. The largest of these, Giftschränk V, can be found beneath the Grand Auldhabn Church on 7 Kongens Stræsse.

Havske Statens Arkiber

The official State Archives of Havland, securely stored beneath 1 Kongens Stræsse

The grand Absalonsborg Slot (Absalonsborg Palace) contains a small, somewhat ugly extension to its left wing, built in accordance to the same architectural considerations but with a smaller foundation and extremely poor insulation. It was here that the unpopular Absalon the Fat, absolutist successor to Stefan the Learned, "graciously allowed" the Council of Auldshabn to sit after appropriating much of

the council funds for the construction of his new palace. Today, the People's Council still sits within those halls, while the absolutist occupiers of the palace have come to a brief and bloody end.

However, in his spite and pettiness Absalon gave the Council a great gift – Famously unlearned and with a deep hatred for scholars (he considered book-learning little better than witchcraft), Absalon ordered new Royal Archives to be built beneath the council hall, forcing council members to sit in the cold and listen while construction continued beneath them. It was this pettiness that allowed the archives to survive while the revolutionaries looted and razed the old Palace to the ground.

Since then, the Royal Archives have been rechristened the State Archives of Havland, and if anything security has become more intense. Neither visitors nor citizens are allowed access, although Councillors are allowed entry to reference historic rulings and the President of the Council can bring visitors. Records from the Archives require a special form to be submitted for consideration by the State Archivist, who may then authorise copies to be made for viewing in a special reading room.

Havske Højkultur

An exclusive club and law library for high society members, featuring live events and regular social-

Work in Progress

Work in Progress

*ising at 40-1 Markedraad. (***)*

Born as the Havlandic Law Society, Havsk Højkultur (Havlandic High Culture, a play on words) offered leading lawyers and members of the bourgeois class a chance to socialise during the Absolutism period, trading opinions, advice, and favours. After the end of the monarchy, it became a more general social club, often attracting famous Havlandic or Scandianvian musicians to perform at their events. Their law library remains the best available reference for lawyers without access to the State Archives (See our entry on the Havske Statens Archiver), although the rise of digital communications may soon change that, and members of the bar are offered a discount membership rate.

Kalmarsboker

*The original Kalmarsboker store, with a wide array of antique texts and historical maps at 15-2 Markedraad (****)*

A name famous to most bibliophiles, Kalmarsboker was established as “Odo Auldboker” on the second floor of a small bakery, next to the Odobro Market. The original Odobrograde location has been preserved for historical purposes and is no longer open to the public, but Kalmarsboker soon acquired a second, much more grand building that once housed the local Gold-

smith’s Guild in Kalmartorv.

The building today contains two storeys of wall-to-wall bookshelves, meticulously kept in check by a team of specialist librarians and a confidential Grand Register. If you are looking for historical texts or references for sale, Kalmarsboker is your best bet.

Liber Primus

*The oldest book collection in Auldhavn, a living treasure at 20 Kongens Stræsse (****)*

Its name taken from the Latin for “Book One”, Liber Primus boasts both the longest history and possibly the most well-stocked location in all of Auldhavn. Located down the road from the royal palace, Liber Primus once served as the Royal Library, open only to members of the nobility and (during the Absolutist period) high ranking bureaucrats. Legend has it that Liber Primus’ title comes from the personal device of Stefan the Learned who greatly expanded the archives, which bears the words “Incipit Liber Primus...” (Begin book one).

The site for Liber Primus is impossible to miss, three storeys tall and painted white. Two floors of the austere, manor-like building are dedicated to commercial book-selling operations, with a third for special or rare books that it preserves with a special remit from the Havlandic National Library located

in Guldhabn. In the basement is the famous *sub rosa* chamber or “Rose Room”, where the King’s council met to discuss events and debate policy in complete privacy.

Det Rigsrasaners Residens

*The Residence of the Royal Mathematician, now a specialist school for the mathematical arts at 12 Kongens Stræsse (***)*

During the reign of Stefan the Learned, his reputation for treasuring knowledge spread across Europe, attracting admirers from afar. Amongst these was the Japanese mathematician Mori Koyu, who entered into Stefan’s court after travelling with a Dutch merchant for several years, during which he had picked up German and French. Mori’s skill in mathematics and rhetoric stunned the court, and Stefan appointed him the Royal Mathematician (Rigsrasaner), using the Havlandic romanisation of the Japanese term *wasan*, meaning “Japanese Mathematics”. Mori was given a residence in Auldhavn, and collected several students (the Rasaneren) to whom he taught mathematics and Japanese.

However, this good fortune wouldn’t last. Noble enemies of Stefan accused him of being susceptible to “foreign witchcraft” and “feeble-mindedness”, and he was overthrown in a coup in 1695. Many

of his liberal reforms were repealed and the age of Absolutism began.

Despite these developments, the role of Rigsrasaner was never abolished, although Mori was executed for “manipulating the king” and his pupils exiled or imprisoned. The Rigsrasaner’s nature as a direct confidante of the King operating beyond the confines of the court made the role immensely useful, and in the Absolutist period the role of Rigsrasaner became that of a hybrid spymaster, foreign minister, or personal secretary. Needless to say, all Rigsrasaners after Mori were Havlandic – to this day, mathematicians and intellectuals are known as rasaneren in Havland society.

After the revolution, a mathematics institute was established near the Rigsrasaner residence in honour of its original purpose, and today it houses a valuable collection of both governmental and academic texts, including a small selection of Japanese texts owned by Mori. Free tours are available to the public, and in 1993 the Japanese delegation in Havland established a memorial plaque in the residence’s oriental garden.

BOOKS IN GRANDHABN

Hidden gems near the harbour, alongside the University of Auldhavn

University of Auldhavn

A unique and historic institution occupying Universitet Forum

Established in 1551 after the Lutheran Reformation in Havland, the University of Auldhavn was modelled after the University of Copenhagen on the Danish mainland. Havlandic nobles already sent their children there for an education, but the charitable King Valdemar wished to extend education to the children of less well-to-do families, and therefore authorised the construction of the University.

Underground political bookstore (jar de the)

Sailor's store with nautical handbooks

University of Auldhavn (Rich sent children to mainland Denmark for education, therefore university was for poor scholars)

"Poet's Cafe" with live music and an arts scene

Odo Auldboker on Odobrogade

Work in Progress

