



PHOTO BY CARL JOHAN DAHL

ROSKILDE FESTIVAL

Roskilde Festivals is the largest music and arts festival in Northern Europe, gathering 100,000 guests and 30,000 volunteers from the Nordics, Europe and worldwide. It's also one of the oldest, dating back to 1971. At the end of each June, festival-goers gather south of Roskilde, 35 km from Copenhagen. Roskilde Festival presents a diverse and progressive music and, arts & activism programme with more than 180 acts.

It is an independent, non-profit festival organised by The Roskilde Festival Charity Society, and all of its profits are donated to initiatives benefitting children and youth or supporting humanitarian or cultural projects.

CASE: FLOKKR

Flokkr is Roskilde Festival's community centre. Flokkr is both a stage and a workshop space, acting as a gathering point for guests at Roskilde Festival's campsite. Its name refers to the old Norse word for gathering points. Since 2016, it has been the festival's platform for activists, musicians, writers, hackers, dancers, and scientists.

ART, CREATIVITY, AND MUSIC AS CATALYSTS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

After three years of working with Flokkr and witnessing the project's potential, Roskilde Festival turned Flokkr into an all-year platform, Flokkr on Tour visiting Roskilde Festival, its sister conference and knowledge festival GRASP, democracy festivals and youth events in Denmark. In 2022, Flokkr on Tour included four activist movements, The Green Youth Movement, Fridays for Future Denmark, LGBT+ Denmark, Young Energy and the artist-duo, Baum & Leahy, who work with sustainable materials in their art installations. Together with Roskilde festival's curators, they created a temporary place to debate, gather knowledge, and create together. Its objective is to investigate how artistic and creative methods can contribute to broader youth engagement and focus on climate justice and LGBTQIA+ rights.

PHOTO BY ROSKILDE FESTIVAL





PHOTO BY LARS VIBILD

IMAGINING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

As part of FLOKKR on tour 2022, The Green Youth Movement held future meditation sessions, inviting participants to reflect on what a sustainable future could look like and what we can do better. Every participant put on headphones and got comfortable sitting or lying down while listening to this pre-recorded meditation journey that would guide them to imagine their take on the future.

In another activity, the activists from The Green Youth Movement invited festival-goers to a workshop styled as a debate about how to talk discuss and talk about the climate crisis. Workshop participants got up on stage and picked sides before they knew what they would discuss. This led to some participants taking opposite viewpoints of what they believed, gaining an understanding of a respectful debate and experimenting with how to phrase different arguments.



A COLLECTIVE LEARNING PRACTICE

By participating in the FLOKKR on tour-project, NGOs and activist groups experiment using artistic and creative methods as tools for creating societal change. Karin Gottlieb, project manager for FLOKKR, has observed how FLOKKR has not only an impact on FLOKKR audiences but also on the participating youth organisations that are part of FLOKKR on tour:

“When you create interprofessional collaborations, as it’s done at FLOKKR, you can see how the actors make each other better. I do not doubt that ‘Fridays For Future’ and ‘The Green Youth Movement’, make each other better, and have learned so much from each other by being a part of FLOKKR.”

– Karin Gottlieb, project manager FLOKKR, Roskilde Festival



Name: Roskilde Festival

City & country: Roskilde, Denmark

Capacity: 130,000

Site: Roskilde Dyrskueplads

Camping: Yes

Number of days: 8

Established in: 1971