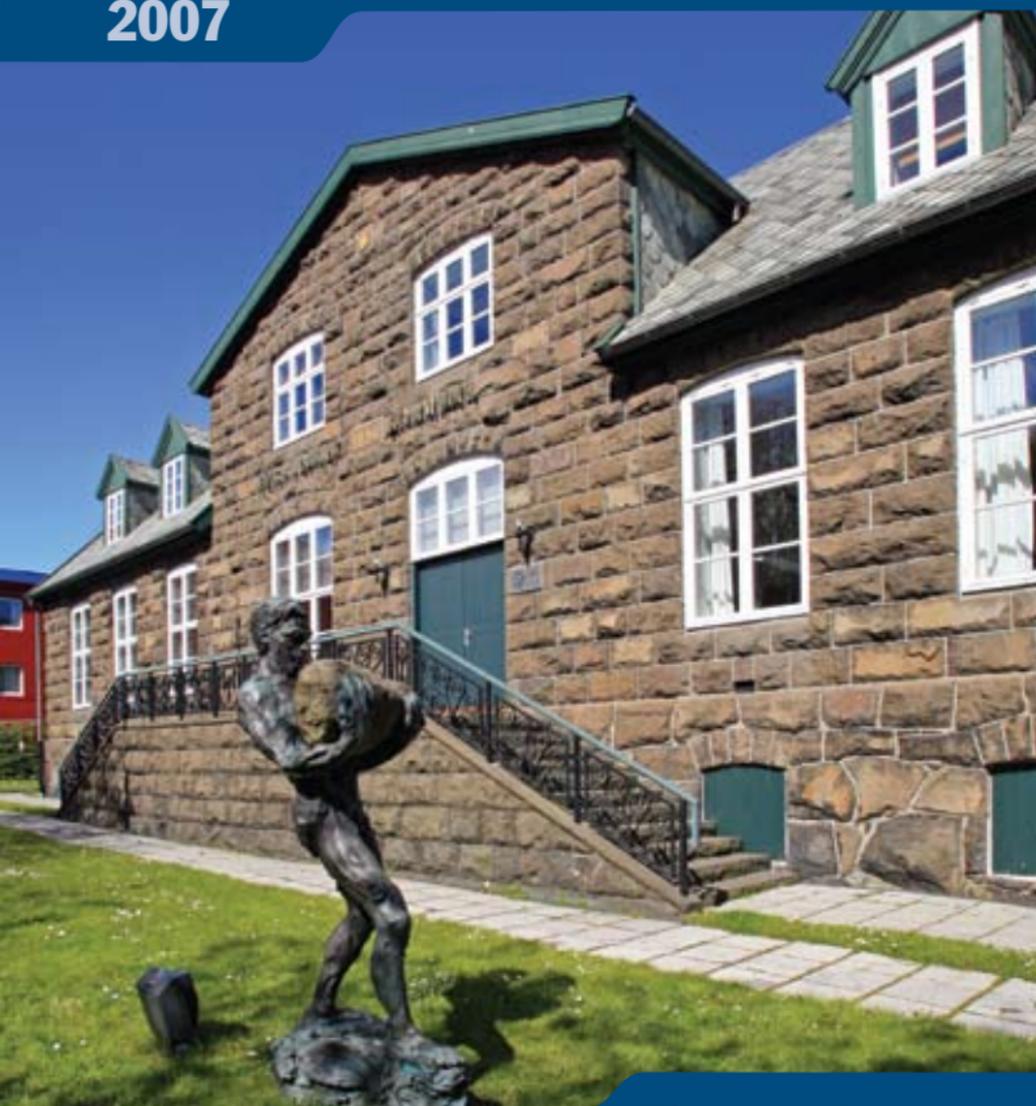


# Welcome to the Municipality of Tórshavn

2007



Tórshavnar kommuna

# Welcome to the Municipality of Tórshavn



The Council of Tórshavn wishes you a warm welcome. As the capital of the Faroe Islands and the largest municipality, we offer a range of services to residents of all ages. This pamphlet provides an overview of these services. Further information can be found at:

## **Snarskivan – the council service desk**

You are welcome to come directly to the counter at Vaglið in the town centre or telephone 302010. Opening hours are: Monday to Friday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Thursday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

## **Information portal on the web**

The Tórshavn Council places great emphasis on keeping residents well informed about activities and services within the municipality, and, thus, has created a new information department. In this connection, a web page has been created to act as a portal for news, information and services. It can be found at: [www.torshavn.fo](http://www.torshavn.fo)

## **Tourist and Information Centre**

A calendar of local events and information about cultural activities can be obtained at the Tourist and Information Centre. Information can also be found at the home page, [www.visittorshavn.fo](http://www.visittorshavn.fo), or by calling tel. 302425.



## Population, area and taxes

There are now more than 19,000 residents within the Tórshavn municipality. The most recent mergers with the communities of Nólsoy, Hestur, Koltur, and Velbastaður/Kirkjubøur have extended the area covered by greater Tórshavn from 116 km<sup>2</sup> to approximately 173 km<sup>2</sup>, making it by far the largest municipality in the country.

The long-standing tax rate, of 18.75% (since 2001), was among the lowest in the Faroes for many years. The tax rate today is 19.75%.

### National residence register

Moving to the Faroe Islands

- **from another Nordic country:**

A registration form must be filled out at Snarskivan, and you must provide your Nordic personal identification number.

- **from other countries:**

A registration form must be filled out at Snarskivan. Residency and work permits are required.

# Waiting lists

## Childcare services

The Council offers childcare for infants and young children in public nurseries, kindergartens and in private childminding arrangements. To be eligible for childcare, the child must be registered on the waiting list and resident within the municipality. It is possible to register on the waiting list half a year before moving to Tórshavn. It is important that children are registered as soon as possible, even if childcare is not required straight away, as the waiting list is based on the date of registration. Please see the “application forms” information below.

## Plots of land for private housing

From time to time the council allocates building plots for private purchase. To be eligible to purchase a council plot it is necessary to register on the waiting list. Please see the “application forms” information below.

## Commercial plots of land

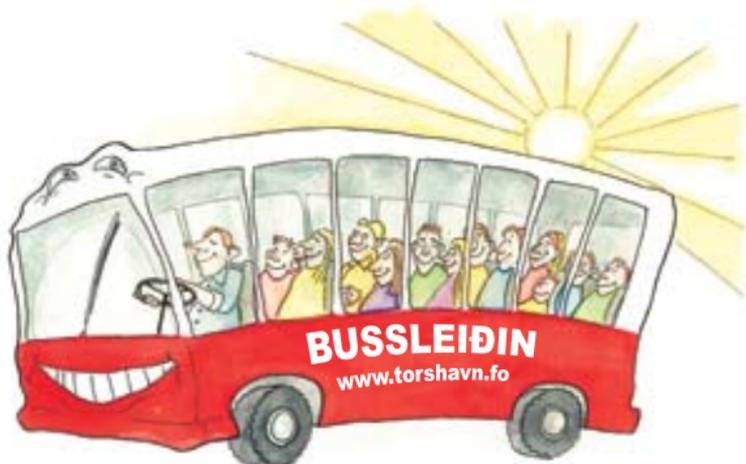
To be allotted a plot for commercial use, a planning application is required, which explains your building site requirements as well as the intended business purpose. Please see the “application forms” information below.

## Berths

Berths at any of the marinas can be obtained by contacting Tórshavn Harbour where a waiting list system is in operation.

## Application forms

Application forms for the above-mentioned waiting lists are available at Snarskivan. Application forms may also be downloaded electronically from [www.torshavn.fo](http://www.torshavn.fo)



## Other council services

### City buses

There are bus connections to all villages within the Tórshavn municipality, and the bus transfer centre is located at Steinatún in the town centre.

As of 2007, bus service has been provided within the municipality free of charge. This free service was originally offered on a trial basis, but as it has been extremely successful, the Council intends to continue it. A complimentary bus schedule and route map is available at Snarskivan or at [www.torshavn.fo](http://www.torshavn.fo)

### Libraries

The libraries within the municipality are the library in central Tórshavn, the Kollafjørður village and school libraries, and ten additional school libraries. In addition to these libraries, the Landsbókasavnið (National Library) is also located in Tórshavn. These libraries are open to everyone, adults and children, and all are welcome to use them free of charge. The homepage for the libraries is at [www.byarbok.fo](http://www.byarbok.fo). Public internet access is available at the libraries.

### Swimming pools

There are five swimming pools in the municipality. A modern indoor swimming facility with pools for all ages is situated in Gundadalur in central Tórshavn. In addition, the facility has a sauna and a solarium. The other four pools are located at Argir School, Eysturskúli (East School in Tórshavn), Kollafjørður School and in the village of Hestur.

### Sports centres

In the Tórshavn municipality there are five sports halls and eight gymnastics halls. Here it is possible to participate in a variety of sports such as football, handball, badminton, volleyball, and basketball, etc. A running track that meets international standards is currently under construction near the swimming facility in Tórshavn.

### Aquarium in Argir

This facility was built to encourage interest in and knowledge about our marine environment. It is open every Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

### Household refuse collection

Household refuse, placed in an authorized bag, is collected from each household

once a week and a replacement bag is left. A green container for paper recycling is provided to each household and emptied every sixth week. Residents are asked to notify the Snarskivan when they move into a newly built house so that this service can be provided.

## **Recycling**

The recycling centre accepts materials from private households and businesses. This service is free to private households; however, businesses pay a fee.

## **Margarinfabrikkin (youth club)**

The Council runs the youth club, Margarinfabrikkin, which is located in the town centre. Children and youth can meet here Monday through Friday to participate in a variety of activities in a safe environment.

## **‘You and Me’ advice service**

Via telephone or the internet, children and youth can anonymously obtain advice. At the homepage, [www.eg.fo](http://www.eg.fo), it is possible to chat with or send an email to a counsellor. Monday through Thursday, 2 - 4 p.m., children and youth can access phone counselling free of charge at tel. 807010 or chat with a counsellor on the website.

## **Child and youth telephone help line**

This help line is intended to assist, in a timely manner, children and youth who are at risk. The help line can be reached at tel. 302010 during normal working hours and at tel. 216012 after hours.

## **Tilhaldið in Tórsgøta (Tórsgøta Centre)**

Tilhaldið is a day centre for senior citizens where they can meet socially and pursue a range of activities.

## **Exhibition space**

It is possible for professional and amateur artists to exhibit their art at the gallery, Smiðjan í Lítluvík. For further information please contact Snarskivan. As this is a popular venue, space should be reserved as early as possible.

## **Whale meat**

Households can register to receive whale meat. When the Tórshavn Council receives surplus whale meat from other districts, the meat is distributed among those registered.

## Schools

There are thirteen schools in the municipality. All these are municipal schools except for two – the Adventist School and the Tórshavn Private School. Work is underway to build a new school in Hoyvik for grades 1 - 9 that will have two classes in each grade level. Enrolment for public schools (first grade) takes place during the second half of January. Specific registration dates are announced in the media and at [www.torshavn.fo](http://www.torshavn.fo).

## Pre-school classes

St. Francis School offers pre-school classes. Administration of the programme and registration is handled at the school.

## After-school programmes

All children attending first and second grade in a municipal school are eligible to attend the after-school programme. At the end of the regular school day, children are transported to the centre. If at all possible, children from the same class attend the same after-school programme. When registering for first and second grade, it is possible to register for the after-school programme. It is also possible to register at Snarskivan.

## Music school

Children and young people may attend the Tórshavn School of Music for music lessons. It is necessary to register at the Tórshavn School of Music at Frúutrøð. For further information, see [www.torshavnarmusikkskuli.fo](http://www.torshavnarmusikkskuli.fo).

## Tórshavn evening school

From September to Easter, the Council offers a variety of evening classes for young people and adults. Registration for evening school is required and takes place at Frúutrøð.





## **Tórshavnar kommuna**

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