Street Voices is a Copenhagen-based social enterprise for the socially vulnerable that the ordinary labour market is unable to cater for. We work to create meaningful employment and an enhanced quality of life – with the ultimate aim of helping each person become independent of government benefits.

We offer guided walking tours that focus on the guide’s personal story of a life on the dark side of society. Street Voices gives the socially vulnerable a voice in the public debate and an opportunity to support themselves – and brings people together in a unique way across social divides.

The tours
Experience the hidden corners of Copenhagen when our street guides show you their world. Street Voices enables the silent to make themselves heard and talk about their lives on the edge. Our guides have each created a special city tour that includes stories from different kinds of lives as homeless, drug and alcohol abuser or in other ways as socially outcasts. Our street experts all want to fight prejudice and ignorance about the socially vulnerable in today’s Denmark on their very different kinds of tour of Copenhagen. What does it mean to sleep on the street all year round? Where can the homeless go? Is it possible to be all alone in the world among so many people? Where do you sleep when you do not have a bed?

We offer routes across Copenhagen – as well as canal tours. Customised tours are available for groups where you decide the time and place. Our open tours are available to share with friends and family or to join on an individual basis.

Why Street Voices?
On our walks through Copenhagen, you will be able to discuss how the living conditions of the socially marginalised can be improved. Street Voices are important because they make the invisible visible and support the vulnerable in gaining unconventional and flexible employment in which they are able to contribute their resources for the benefit of themselves as well as society. Our guides have grown as the project has expanded, and the boost to their self-confidence when they show an attentive group around their world should not be underestimated. Since 1 June 2010, more than 15,000 participants have eagerly asked questions and been keen to gain an insight into an alien world and attempt to overcome their prejudices about some of society’s most vulnerable people.

Background
In 2010, the NGO Projekt Udenfor took the initiative to set up Street Voices (formerly known as Poverty Walks) which was a pilot project from January 2010 to May 2011. The project was funded with both private and public donations. In 2011 Street Voices continued as an employment scheme under the Municipality of Copenhagen.

In July 2013, Street Voices was established in its present form, as a social enterprise.