

## The King of Sweden Visits ESO Exhibition

Four hundred years ago, it was the site of the leading observatory of the world and residence of the Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe. This year, during the final days of May, astronomers and engineers converged on the island of Hven on the occasion of the ESO/SPIE Conference on Optical Telescopes of Today and Tomorrow. The conference was part of a series of astronomy-related activities which take place this year on both sides of Øresund, the narrow stretch of water that separates Denmark and Sweden. Other events include an astronomy summer school, meetings for amateur astronomers as well as two exhibitions in Landskrona and Copenhagen. Both have been organised with the support of Copenhagen 96, the organisation responsible for the extensive activities in connection with Copenhagen being the European Capital of Culture 1996.

The exhibition in Landskrona is mainly a historical exhibition about Tycho Brahe. However, ESO and the VLT are presented in a section called "Tycho's Heritage". The exhibition was inaugurated on April 12 by His Majesty Carl XVI Gustav, King of Sweden. In the picture, Prof. Arne Ardeberg explains the work-



ing principle of the VLT to the King (at the centre) and his entourage. On the King's left is seen Ann Catrin Haglund, head of the regional authority, and Gösta Nilsson of the City of Landskrona.

The second exhibition opens at the Tycho Brahe Planetarium in Copenha-

gen in July this year. This is an ESO exhibition which has been prepared jointly by the planetarium, the Copenhagen University Observatory, Copenhagen Astronomical Society and ESO's Education and Public Relations Department.

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