



Købingsmark Beach

At Købingsmark Beach there is a campground and somewhere to purchase refreshments. The beach is good with wheelchair access and public toilets.

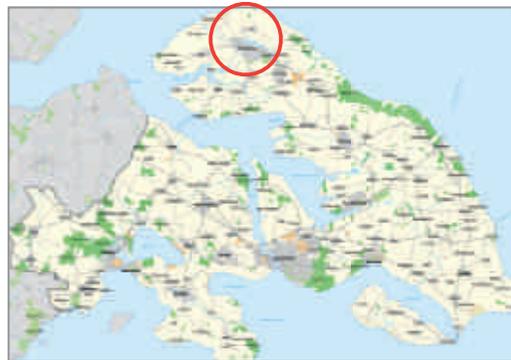
Hopsø Made

On the way to Holm you will pass a low-lying meadow area, Hopsø Made, with its mounds of Star sedge. There was once an inlet here that connected Nordborg Lake with the sea. According to the legend some giants once sailed here and moored their boat at the inlet. Inhabitants of Holm were of course terrified of what might happen, and kept a watchful eye on the giants who held a party and became more and more boisterous. They ran about, howling and hopping from mound to mound. The day after, they moved on without causing a fuss and no more was ever heard from them.

Since the giants had 'hopped' from mound to mound, the people of Holm called the area Hopsø Made. The word 'made' is from the Southern Jutland dialect word for 'meadow'.

Holm

Holm has the characteristics of a typical village in the Als area. It still has a cooperative cold store and fire station. The inhabitants have collected several million Danish crowns to restore the village's famous listed L-shaped farmhouse with its distinctive Als style. A reconstruction of Northern Europe's oldest plank-built boat can also be seen at Linde shipyard. In front of the parish centre now converted to community house, an anniversary monument has been erected to commemorate the return of Southern Jutland to Denmark in 1920.



The North Coast on Als

– a cycle route



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Nordborg Lake-Købingsmark-Holm

This 26-kilometre cycle route traverses the beautiful Northern Als landscape and begins in front of Nordborg Castle. The route takes you through a number of nature areas along the north coast that are only accessible by bicycle or on foot.

The route is rather varied with both asphalt and unpaved roads, and in some places you will need to walk your bicycle. The route can be completed in a couple of hours but it is recommended that you allow 4-5 hours in order to stop at some of the wonderful places you will find along the way.

The tour passes Nordborg Castle and continues along an idyllic path bordering Nordborg Lake. Near the beach at Købingsmark you can stop for a swim or buy ice cream during the summer and enjoy the magnificent view from the Augustenhof lighthouse. En route you can observe rich natural habitats teeming with birds and wild plants. If you are cycling on a warm summer evening in May or June, you may be fortunate enough to hear a choir of green tree frogs or natterjacks near the many local ponds. And if you feel the route is too long, you can split it in two. See the map for route options.

Nordborg and the castle

As with Sønderborg, Nordborg too sprang up around the castle, which is located in an idyllic setting on the castle lake. The castle once belonged to Duke Hans the Younger, who inherited it from his mother, Queen Dorothea. Duke Hans was a merciless ruler who overtaxed his peasants and then incorporated their land. More peaceful conditions later prevailed at the castle, which now houses a residential school.



Nordborg Lake

Nordborg Lake is a beautiful lake near the castle and is home to a wide range of birds including mallard ducks, coots, and tufted ducks. The route goes all the way down to the edge of the lake where trees bend prettily over the banks and into the water. Birds such as nuthatches, wrens, and titmice hop around the bushes and announce their presence in rather loud terms. The route along the lake is also a hiking trail, so please show consideration for those on foot. The route features small story boards and a nature playground for children.

The view to Nordborg

The route winds its idyllic way through the village of Lavensby. The large and attractive farmhouses bear witness

to the fact that the area was once very prosperous. Far from town, a climb to the hilltop offers sweeping views of Nordborg Castle and Vandtårnet (the Water Tower).

Pøl

From here, the Pøl route takes you to Nordborg, where it meets the hiking trail around Nordborg Lake while the cycle route continues straight on.

In Pøl you will find the world's oldest cooperative dairy, established in 1865 just after southern Jutland was ceded to Germany.

Gammelskov Beach

From Pøl, turn right onto the asphalt road. Just before Gammelskov Beach you will see a lay-by with benches where you can find shelter for a break on a windy day. However, the beach offers a better view. From here you can see the white silos of Assens Harbour, the coastal crags at Halk Hoved and the islands of Baagø and Årø.



Legend

- Campsite
- Shop
- Bicycle repair
- Beach
- Toilet
- Cycle route asphalt
- Cycle route gravel
- Short cut