

# The Tour De Dale Cycle Route



### THINGS TO SEE AND DO

1 km: It might be too early in the ride to take a break, but Lalandia's waterpark and entertainment centre sure is tempting. Fun in the shape of bowling, mini golf, video games and a world-class waterpark makes for the perfect place for all the family.

**3.5 km:** As you ride past the airport, you will see a raised piece of ground that offers a great view of the planes making their way into Billund. Stop for ten minutes for a water break and a bit of planespotting.

8 km: As you enter Grindstedvej in the direction of Vandel, you can take a right turn onto Vandel Park and head towards the Vandel Bunker Museum (open Sat & Sun, 12-4pm, May-September, www.bunkermuseum. dk), situated on an airfield built by the Germans during WWII and subsequently used by the NATO Danish defence force. The museum is housed in an old bunker and has some great examples of German war memorabilia including uniforms and equipment of the occupying Wehrmacht. Note: The airfield is closed to the public during weekdays.

**11.7 km:** Randbøl Kirke (Randbøl Church) is a great example of a Danish parish church. As well as the grounds being built on an ancient Viking burial site, there is also a memorial at the north end for five crewmen of an English Lancaster bomber who died while on a mission during WWII. The memorial was paid for by locals as a thank you for the efforts of the Allies in liberating Denmark from the Germans.

13 km: A great downhill run through the forest ends at the picturesque town of Randbøldal. On Dalekildevej, on the right just over the bridge, is the Randbøldal Museet (Randbøldal Museum) (Phone: +45 7681 3100 for opening times, www.vejleegnensmuseer.dk), housed in an old paper and textile mill. The museum has exhibitions on the mill's history, a water exploratorium and workshops where you can try making paper and textiles.

**18.3 km:** A long run through the countryside ends at Bindeballe Købmandsgård (www.bindeballekoebmandsgaard.dk), a general store that has been serving locals since 1897. The shop is like a step back in time, with old adverts for beer and cigarettes adorning the exterior and a collection of old-fashioned food stuff lining the walls inside. You can stop here for some food and a drink, or just a walk around and reminisce about the old days. Those with a sweet tooth beware – the choice of candy is eye-popping, but after 18km on the bike, we reckon you deserve a treat!

**20-25 km:** For 5 km you will be riding on one of Denmark's most famous roads, Hærvejen (The Army Road). More than a 1000 years old, the road lies on the spine of Jutland, from Viborg in the north to Padborg in the south at the German border. It was first used as a trade and pilgrimage route, and later utilised by armies, but now it is one of the most travelled cycle routes in the country. For more info on the entire route, head to www. haervej.dk

**31-36 km:** A 5 km ride through some typically beautiful Danish countryside but with a few more ups and downs than our reputation for being a flat country might lead you to believe.

**37 km:** Båstlundvej is the long, open road that runs down the western side of the airport. After freewheeling downhill for a couple of hundred metres, pick a place to stop midway and watch the planes literally fly overhead as they descend onto the nearby runway.

**38,5 km:** If the lure of waterpark (or a cold drink in relaxing setting) is still pulling you, turn left at the roundabout onto Nordmarksvej, cycle 350 m (past LEGOLAND on your right) and you will arrive at the entrance to Lalandia.

# **SHORT FACTS**

40,5 km

Cycle out of Billund via the airport, heading to Vandel and the Vandel Bunker Museum, and then through to Randbøldal and its old museum. Stop at the Bindeballe Købmandsgård for refueling before heading back via one of Denmark's oldest roads, Hærvejen, and some beautiful country roads.

Highlights: Vandel Bunker Museum Randbøl Kirke Randbøldal Museum Bindeballe Købmandsgård Hærvejen

Car alternative:
Park at the Randbøldal Museum and cycle a loop down to Bindeballe Købmandsgård for a little taste and feel of the old country.





Map and directions next page!



Text and photos for Visit Billund Cycle Routes are made by Paul Hansford. www.pauldoeswords.com

For further touristinformation please call Visit Billund: + 45 7972 7299, www.visitbillund.dk





#### DIRECTIONS

- Begin on Hans Jensensvej by Billund Church, take a right onto Åstvej and ride for a kilometre to the first set
  of traffic lights.
- Go straight over the lights (Lalandia water park will be on your right) and continue down Firehøjvej for just over 4 km
- At the junction with Astvej, turn right and ride 2 km towards the junction with Billundvej (main road). Cycle straight ahead on the cycle path that will bypass the roundabout and enter Grindstedvej.
- DIRECTIONS TO VANDEL BUNKER MUSEUM (Open 12-4pm, Sat & Sun, May to September) On Grindstedvej, take the first right onto Vandel Park and cycle 1 km to Nordlige Parallelbane, where you turn left and cycle 200 m on the old airstrip to the Vandel Bunker Museum. Note: The airfield is closed to the public during weekdays.
- After visiting the museum, take the same route back until you reach the junction with Grindstedvej. Cycle through town for a 1 km, then take a right on Randbølvej.
- Ride along Randbølvej for 2 km until you reach Randbøl Kirke (church), keeping it on your left until you reach Hærvejen.
- · Turn right onto Hærvejen, then take the next left onto Ahornvej.
- Follow Ahornvej through the forest and keep left before turning left onto Dalekildevej (here you will see the Randbøldal Museum on your right, just over the bridge).
- Ride back the way you came, and continue uphill on Dalekildevej until you reach Bindeballevej.
- Turn left on Bindeballevej and cycle 3.5 km until you arrive at Bindeballe Købmandsgård (a general store).
- Ride back the way you came and immediately take a left onto Springbjergvej. After 1.5 km, you will arrive at Hærvejen.
- Turn right onto Hærvejen, and cycle 5 km until you arrive at Gøddingskovvej.
- Turn left onto Gøddingskovvej, and cycle 4.5 km to Åstvej.
- Turn right onto Astvej and cycle for 400 m, then turn left onto Gødsbølvej.
- After 2 km, turn left at the T-junction onto Granlundvej.
- Cycle 2.5 km along Granlundvej until you reach the main road, Billundvej.
- Turn left onto Billundvej, and after 200 m, stay right and join the cycle path (which will allow you to avoid the roundabout) and continue straight.
- · Continue on the Båstlundvej cycle path (the airport will be on your left) until you reach the roundabout.
- Turn left onto Granvej, and after 500 m, turn left at the next roundabout (staying on Granvej).
- Take the first left onto Solsortevej, which turns into Hans Jensensvej, and follow for around 1 km to arrive back at the starting point.



## **BIKE RENTALS**

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