

# The Nature Trail Cycle Route



#### THINGS TO SEE AND DO

**2 km:** Båstlundvej is the long, open road that runs down the western side of the airport. Pick a place to stop midway and watch the planes fly overhead as they descend onto the nearby runway.

**4-9 km:** Kobjergvej is a long country road that runs parallel to the main Billund to Grindsted road. A dirt track at the start of the road, it transforms after a kilometre into a rolling country lane, dotted with trees and the odd farmhouse along the way.

**10 km:** A sign and small parking area denotes the start of Rækkebjerge, a nature track that is actually an inland dune formed 10,000 years ago at the end of the last ice age. Up to 9 m high in places, this 4 km return trail provides excellent views onto the surrounding land, which is similar to how the whole of Jutland looked hundreds of years ago. Along the way you might encounter skylarks, foxes, sheep, even snakes (don't worry, Danish snakes aren't deadly!). While you are allowed to cycle along the path, keep an eye out for walkers who also use the trail.

**14 km:** If you hear the throaty roar of motorcycle engines, don't be alarmed. The Billund Motorbanen (home of the Billund Motorcross Club) is situated on the right, and if there's a racket going on, head down and watch the bikes burn up the track for a while.

**16 km:** Grene Kirke (Grene Church) is a beautiful example of a Danish church, made all the more picturesque when the sun is shining and the giant Danish flag is at full mast.

**17-18.5 km:** It doesn't get more residentially Denmark than Mølleparken and Hybenvej. Single story houses on good plots of land abound (each seemingly with a trampoline for the kids and decks for the adults). If you have the time (and energy!), take a detour down one of the side streets to see how the real Danes live.

Parts of 'The Nature Trail' route are only suitable for mountain bikes and commuter bikes with thicker tires. The first 800m of Kobjergvej is very stoney gravel; the Rækkebjerge trail is a dirt track with a lot of overgrown grass; and Doktorvej is just a gravel path. Road bikes are not recommended on any of these parts of the route.

**Note:** There is a car park at start of the Rækkebjerge trail at Sdr. Egsgårdsvej if you want to just cycle the track. The track ends at a dead end and you return on the same path.

# **SHORT FACTS**

18,5 km return trip + Rækkebjerge (2 km raised track, 4 km return)

Heading out past the airport (remember to duck near the runway!), take the quiet country roads out to Rækkebjerge, a raised cycling path that transports you back to how the landscape of the area looked hundreds og years ago. Head back through the outskirts of the Sønder Elkær Plantage and past pretty Grene Kirke before arriving back in Billund.

Highlights:
Billund Airport
Rækkebjerge path
Danish countryside
Grene Kirke





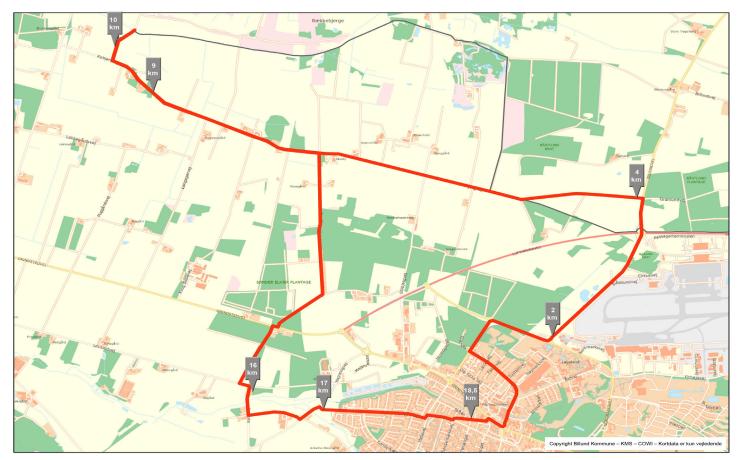
Map and directions next page!



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, and head north until the road turns into Solsortevej and you arrive at the junction with Granvej.
- Turn right onto Granvej and after 500 metres carefully turn left onto the cycle path, just before the roundabout. (This can be a busy road so check for vehicles before performing the turn.)
- Ride along Båstlundvej on the cycle path, taking the path to go under the roundabout and emerge on Billundvei.
- After 200 m, take the first left onto Kobjergvej. Ride 5.5 km until you reach Sdr. Egsgårdvej on your right hand side. Note: the first 800 m of the road is unpaved and not suitable for a road bike.
- Turn right onto Sdr. Egsgårdvej and after 300 m, you will see a sign for Rækkebjerge, a raised 4 km return nature trail.
- When you have finished riding Rækkebjerge, cycle back the way you came down Sdr. Egsgårdvej. Turn left onto Kobjergvej and cycle 2.3 km to Elkjærhøjevej.
- Turn right on Elkjærhøjevej and cycle 1.5 km to Doktorvej.
- Turn right onto Doktorvej (this is not a paved road but a dirt track with several bumps along the way, so be careful!) until you reach Grindstedvej.
- Turn right onto Grinstedvei, then take the next left onto Nordre Kirkevei.
- At the end of Nordre Kirkevej, turn left onto Løvlundvej and then take the next right onto Kirkevej (Grene Kirke will be on your left).
- Cycle over a small river, then take the next left onto Ankelbovej. At the next junction, turn left onto Hejnsvigvej using the cycle path.
- Take the first right onto Mølleparken, using the traffic island to cross the main road. Follow Mølleparken all the way to the junction with Møllevej.
- Turn left on M
  øllevej, then take the first right onto Hybenvej. Ride along Hybenvej until you
  reach the roundabout.
- Take the third exit (left) onto Hohenwestedt Allé, and cycle straight, over the next roundabout and onto Hans Jensensvej where your trip began.



### **BIKE RENTALS**

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