

The North Zealand Route

A long distance path connecting Helsingør and Roskilde

A map of the route can be found at <http://hiking.waymarkedtrails.org/#route?id=3481232&map=10!55.8622!12.3898>

General Notes and Comments

In order to ease your use of this route description we are including some general notes and comments.

All names are in Danish so that the recognition of street names etc. is as easy as possible.

Most roads are signposted with its name. Many woodland tracks also have names and many of them are also signposted. These signposts are very often large stones with the name on it.

Each direction is described in different sections. In each section there is a verbal description of the route and a series of notes. A (#) in the text indicates that there is a short description in the notes section.

The route is subdivided into a number of day length's, starting and finishing near a railway station.

At various points along the route guidance in joining or leaving the path are included. This will usually be to/from a railway station in a town where there are shops.

Along the way and as far as we know we mention shops, cafés, restaurants and other facilities. We also note possible accommodation ranging from 5 star hotels to primitive woodland shelters.

Water:

Unless otherwise indicated all standpipes provide drinking water.

Access:

In state owned woodland you may access 24 hours a day and roam wherever you wish. In privately owned woodland you may access from sunrise to sunset and must stay on the paths and tracks.

You must not stop for any length of time within 75m of buildings unless it is obviously permitted.

State owned woodlands can often, but certainly not always, be recognised by red posts, gates or even arches.

Signposting:

By the end of 2015 Farum to Helsingør will be signposted. Further signposting has to await the availability of resources. This description is written assuming no signposting. Even when signposted throughout you will still need this description, map or GPS because we have been refused permission to signpost in certain areas.

Yellow Paths:

The former Forestry Commission (Skov- og Naturstyrelsen), now Naturstyrelsen (www.nst.dk) have prepared a large number of folders with tour suggestions. These routes are marked with yellow dots on trees, stones and posts. The folders are available at most libraries and at www.nst.dk. Only a few route descriptions are in English.

Kongeveje: Kings Roads

Previously the king frequently moved from palace to palace around the country. When the king moved the entire court moved with him and messengers needed to reach him as swiftly as possible. A network of roads was created for the kings exclusive use. Woe betide any commoner that dared to

use these kongeveje. They were punished with fines, imprisonment or even worse. Almost every king since the Vikings created such roads. We are only interested in the time between the time of Frederik II and about 1800. Of Frederik II's kongeveje only small traces remain. There is a very short section just a few meters from Hamlet's Grave in Marienlyst Castle Park. Other sections are to be found along this route in Nyrup Hegn. The modern roads are now part of the road network and will be crossed several times along the route.

A few helpful words:

Woods, Forest are Skov, Vang and Hegn in Danish.

Hegn originally meant enclosed and even today still means hedge or fence. Around 1800 many woods had drystone boundaries erected to prevent farm animals destroying the vegetation. These can still be seen today.

Copse/Spinney is Lund in Danish

Lake, pond, river and stream in Danish are sø, dam, å and bæk. In Viking Denmark any waterway that a viking ship could navigate was called a river. We have retained the name since then even though they are mostly now small insignificant streams. They are certainly no Rhine, Danube or Thames!

Church – Kirke.

Most country churches have public toilets and a standpipe with drinking water. Some churches are open so do go in and have a look. Several churches have murals from the 14 and 15 hundreds. These were the poor man's bible.

Street, road, avenue – Gade, vej and allé in Danish.

Valley is dal in Danish and hill is bakke.

Farm is gård, shop is butik.

A farm is en gård but the farm is gården

In place names the endings løse and rød both mean clearings in the forest. Løse is a natural clearing and rød a man made clearing.