

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>

INTRODUCTION

Background:

With the opening of the Øresund's Bridge in 2000 part of the Long distance Path E6 was routed from the Bridge to Roskilde. The local Ramblers Association in North Zealand discussed an alternative routing that avoided the Bridge and its difficult access. The alternative branch of E6 was proposed by the late Signe Larsen and the route was tried and tested. There was a problem at one point that meant several kilometres of very busy public asphalted road. In 2008 the Roskilde branch came up with a route that partly avoided the problem. We eagerly await the opening of two municipal footpaths that will further reduce this problem. It is this route that the North Zealand and Roskilde branches of the Danish Ramblers Association (Dansk Vandrelaug) now present.

Being so close to the capital Copenhagen North Zealand is heavily populated but due to far-sighted town planning in the 1940s and 1950s there are also many and large areas of open countryside. The royal fascination for hunting has led to many royal forests and woodlands most of which are preserved to this day.

The entire landscape was formed by the retreating ice after the last Ice Age as can be seen by the relatively flat landscape with many lakes, ponds, marshes and bogs. Some of these are quite deep.

Man has been in the area since the Neolithic Age as can be seen by the many different burial mounds scattered around the landscape. Due to its royal connections there are a number of castles, palaces and mansions dotted around the area. Some have disappeared but there are still several left standing and well worth a visit.

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