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Use of the Mols-route

The Danish Nature-protection laws (Naturbeskyttelseslov) apply to the Mols-route. Some of the main points are as follows:

Use of the route, including stops, is at one's own risk.

The Mols-route is intended for walkers only. Short stops are permitted between 6 in the morning and sunset, though not usually within 150 metres of residential buildings.

Over-night stops may be made only at established tent sites, official camp sites, hotels and similar, or where the land owner has given permission.

Fires are permitted only where there is a specially prepared and equipped fire-place, or where the land owner has given permission. Between 1st. March and 31st. October, smoking is not permitted in woodland or uncultivated areas.

On hunt days, access to some woodland areas, uncultivated land and private tracks may be denied. This will be indicated by means of a notice. Use public roads instead.

Riding and cycling are possible only on certain sections of the Mols-route.

Usually, the Mols-route is signposted, except where it runs directly along the beach, close to the coastline, or through Århus town.

Alternative walking routes are marked on the map, but these are not sign-posted.

The Mols-route was created with support from Friluftsrådet and Århus Amt.



Part of the E1 long-distance route



Walking Grenaa-Århus
The Mols-route

Kulturhistorik & Landskab 2006



Dansk Vandrelaug

Grenaa

The Mols-route starts in Grenaa just south of the harbour, following paths and dirt-tracks southwards through the dunes past the fine old summer-houses of Grenaa Strand. Sign-posting of the route ceases to the south of Polderrev but the route continues un-marked to Glatved Strand. The area is somewhat desolate and the weather can be harsh. Rainfall is slight here, and in the dry dunes the temperature can creep up over 50° C. on the surface of the sand, so remember to take plenty of drinking water on the trip.

The manor houses Katholm and Rugård

The coastal area south of Grenaa is strongly influenced by the two manor houses, Katholm and Rugård.

The manor house at Katholm is a fine 16th century renaissance building. One should also see the impressive ice-cellar, and the equally interesting sunken road to the west of the main building.

Further south lies Rugård Manor. The way to Rugård goes around the south side of Nørresø Lake, using a forest track between stone walls – an old cattle route. The main building at Rugård is also a renaissance building from the 16th century. In addition to this, the other old farm buildings are worth studying - the barn, the long house for the workers - and a rare *horse walk*.

The large pond by the road is popularly known as Heksedammen – the Witches' Pond. It was here that Jørgen Arenfeldt, a previous owner of Rugård, was believed to have carried out his notorious witch trials in the 17th. century. Supposed witches were "tried" in the pond. If they drowned they were innocent, but if they floated on the surface they were witches and therefore burnt. A cruel fate.

Sand, stone and chalk

The area between Katholm and Rugård

is rich in sand, stone and gravel, which are still mined in large quantities. There are also quantities of limestone, not least a special type used in the burning of lime, and which is found only in eastern Djursland. Three small lime kilns have been preserved at Birkesig and are open to the public.

Ebeltoft-Trustrup Railway

South west of Rugård lie the rolling Hyllested Bjerger (Hills). The, now abandoned, Ebeltoft-Trustrup Railway used to run between these hills and Stubbe Sø (Lake). A part of the old railway line is now a nature trail and the Mols-route follows this down to Skærssø Manor.

Skærssø

Perhaps Skærssø is not so impressive today, but never the less it is one of the area's old manors. West of Skærssø the Mols-route follows a fine stone-paved way, before continuing by more modest woodland tracks through some of the many plantations to be found on Mols. The landscape is undulating, and the route through the woods beautiful, varied – and not least, peaceful.

Ørnbjerg Mølle

In the middle of the wooded area lies the old watermill, Ørnbjerg Mølle, and here it is possible to camp overnight in your own tent. The Mols-route continues towards Kejlstrup, but one can also choose to go north to Langsø - an excellent lake for bathing – around the village of Feldballe with it's old church barn, past Møllerup Manor, and so back to the main Mols-route west of Kejlstrup.

The moraine edge

Continuing westward one comes to a very undulating region. This is the easternmost of two large moraine edges



created by movement of the ice at the end of the last Ice Age. There are also several characteristic dead-ice holes here. From up on the high moraine edge there is a good view down towards Kejlstrup and the bay of Kalø Vig with the ruins of Kalø Slot.

The castle ruins of Kalø Slot

These sit on a little island at the bottom of the bay, Kalø Vig. The way out to the ruins across the tidal meadows is an experience in itself, not least because of the 500 metre long Medieval paved causeway. The area between Kalø Slotsruin and Kalø is fascinating and rich in history, with many visible signs, spanning from the Stone Age to modern times. West of Rønde the Mols-route continues along the coast to Løgten Bugt (Bay), over land belonging to the manor of Vosnæsgård, then on to Studstrup.

Studstrup Power Station

The most noticeable building in the area is without doubt Studstrup Power Station. Since 1968 this has supplied electricity and local heating for much of East Jutland. South of Studstrup, the route continues to Riss Skov through Århus' northern suburbs of Egå Strand and Vejlbj Fed. Riss Skov is a very popular green oasis in the middle of Århus, and the town's beautiful old Youth Hostel is situated here.

Århus

In the town, the route goes by way of Mejlgade to the town centre with the cathedral – definately worth a visit. There are, of course, excellent accomodation and shopping facilities in the town centre. There are many possible ways through the town, but the one the route utilises is the most scenic, following the recently re-opened Århus River. At Århus Bymuseum

the route connects with Brabrandstien leading to the Århus-Silkeborg Route.

European long-distance route

The long-distance route E1 runs from Grövelsjön in Sweden to Castellucio in Italy. The E1 is part of a comprehensive network of routes for ramblers operated by the European Ramblers Association. For more information on these european long-distance routes, visit www.era-ewv-ferp.org

The E1 long-distance route in Denmark

In Denmark the E1 runs from Grenaa to Århus. From Århus it connects to Hærvejen (The Military Way) by means of the routes Århus-Silkeborg and Silkeborg-Horsens. Hærvejen, which is part of the E1, continues to the Danish-German border.

The Mols-route. Part of the E1 long-distance route

The Mols-route is approx. 80 kms. long, measured between the harbour at Grenaa and the open-air swimming baths at Riss Skov. Sometimes it follows the coastline, and sometimes it goes inland through the northern part of the Mols area. The route is marked by a little white man on a blue background. Now and again it is also marked with a St. Andrews Cross, the symbol of the International long-distance route.

Walking the Mols-route

If you would like to know more about walking the Mols-route, further information is to be found at www.dvl.dk



Symbol marking Mols-route



Symbol marking long-distance route

