



Venø

- The heart of the Limfjord



The European Agricultural
Fund for Rural Development:
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in rural areas

Beautiful natural surroundings - peace and quiet

Introducing Venø

Venø is located in the western part of the Limfjord, a bit north of the town Struer. The Island is 7,5 km in length and 1,5 km in width. As a result, the 6 km² makes it one of the 27 Danish small islands. A population of 200 permanent residents and 80 boarding school students form the safe and dedicated local community.



The ferry link

Crossing the 17 meter deep fjord with strong current takes about 2-3 minutes by ferry and is one of the shortest ferry rides in the country. The ferry departs every 20 minutes on weekdays and every 30 minutes at night, during weekends and national holidays. It is not necessary to make reservations.





The natural surroundings

Venø is exceptionally beautiful and diverse with noticeable hillsides, ravines, forest areas, green fields and heathlands. The island hosts many wild animals as well as birds. Everywhere you will see pheasants casually walking about and livestock occupying the grazing fields, emphasizing the countryside idyll.

The wild bird reserve by “Nørskov creek” is located in the northern part of the island. This area is classified as an international area of preservation (Natura 2000). During the breeding season, the area is protected starting 1st of April and ending the 15th of July. The rest of the year, tourists are welcome to go for a walk, and with a bit of luck it is possible to get a glimpse of seals sunbathing on the beach.

All around the island you will encounter the beautiful view of the mainland coast and the peaceful atmosphere is present year-round.



Activities

Venø offers a wide range of opportunities for an active holiday and the beautiful outdoors attracts many hiking and biking enthusiasts. Furthermore, there are great opportunities to go for a swim, try fishing, go sailing or take advantage of the great conditions for different kind of surfing.



Attractions

The local *church* measures only 74m² and contains 55 seats, which makes it the smallest in the country. It was built in the middle of the 16th century, and the original frescos are still visible. Within the church you will find a list of previous pastors, which reveals that only a few held the position during longer periods of time. The pastor had another job, which constituted teaching in the local school. This arrangement lasted until 2004 when the school was closed.



Venø harbor was established by local fishermen and farmers more than 100 years ago. Today a great atmosphere surrounds the marina and visitors are welcome to use the barbeque facilities and seating areas. The harbor is the home of the oldest functioning car ferry in the country, “Venøsund” (1931), and inside the nearby shack, you are invited to learn about the history of the ferry ride that has provided access to Venø throughout many years. “Venøsund” is from time to time the stand-in for the current ferry and offers special trips on occasion.



The port office can be found in Venø Havnecafe and Kiosk.

The town consists of both vacation homes, longstanding houses and a typical residential area. This is rather unusual for an island of this size but the ferry connection makes it possible to live on the island while working on the mainland.

By the harbor is Venø Herb Garden, which is a private garden open for visitors. The garden has a large collection of lovely herbs, which in their own way stimulate the senses. In the associated shop it is possible to buy homemade delicacies, applied art and interiors.



Local foods

To the very north of the island, you will find the farm “Nørskov” which is known for its potato production. As of 2003 the farm breeds sheep. *Venø Potatos & Lamb* distributes its products to local restaurants and shops and the great taste of Venø is popular in this part of the country.



The southern part of the island hosts another farm – a fish and shellfish farm. One of their specialties is the “*Veno Oyster*”. Another aim of the initiative is to repopulate the fjord with certain types of flatfish made possible by the fish cultivation facilities.



Artists on the island

Throughout time, Venø has inspired numerous artists amongst others Elise Konstantin-Hansen, Knud Agger and Niels Bjerre. Currently the island hosts one art gallerie.

“Venø Galleri” is a combined gallery and workplace for the artist Lis Møller Jensen. Her own exhibitions include oil paintings, graphics and art with felt-tip. Additionally the gallery hosts paintings made by other artists.



Other artists: Kirsten Yde, Karin Kristensen (Gallery KK) and Per Vestergaard.



Practical information

Means of access: Everyone is allowed to walk along the coast, on paths and on rural roads. Dogs must be on a leash.

Restaurant and café: “Venø Kro” is the local restaurant on the island and the menu offers both international courses as well as local specialties.

“Venø Havnecafe and Kiosk” by the harbour sells kiosk goods, ice cream and light dishes.

Accommodation: Venø has a campsite, B&B, several private rooms, vacation homes for rent and two event houses with room for many people.

Bicycles: Rent a bike by the harbour or by the ferry berth.

Beaches suitable for swimming: There are good beaches on both sides of the island.

Public bathrooms: By the ferry, harbour, church, campsite and one beach toilet on the eastern side.

Public transportation: The bus departs from the island several times per day.

Heart defibrillator: By the boarding school, Nørskovvej 8, by the “Childrens House”, Lønningen 2 and on the bus and by the ferry.

Leaflets with detailed information about practical matters can be found in the ferry house at Kleppen and on Venøs website.



www.venoe.dk — www.facebook.com/venoestruer

Photos: Preben Friis, Karen Damgaard, Christian D. Mortensen, Knud Erik Christensen and Jan Bendix

