



DISCOVER SOUTH ZEALAND & MØN

# TRAVEL.

**CHALLENGE**

YOUR OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE

**THE TRUE**

NATURE OF OUR HISTORY

**FINE DINING**

IN RAW SETTINGS

**SOUTH COAST DENMARK'S  
UNSPOILED STARS  
AND ESCAPES**



SCANDINAVIAS  
GEOLOGICAL  
PLAYGROUND



SYDKYSTDANMARK  
VISIT SYDSJÆLLAND OG MØN



The cover photo was taken by photographer Daniel Buus and shows the view from Højerup Gl. Kirke church towards Stevns Klint, which was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2014

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# Break of dawn

## Dear Reader,

We are proud to reveal a previously hidden piece of Denmark, where the country's kindest people will welcome you to an unspoilt part of the Danish realm with tucked-away places you never knew existed. Listen to the silence as you hover above the azure waters of the Baltic in a paraglider. Swim out to the chalky white seabed, and dive to search for hidden wrecks. Spot basking seals and fossils frozen in time on your coastal ramble. Glimpse rare species as you ride through the hilly landscape.

Visit fairytale castles along our idyllic cycle trails, and learn of the intense cultural history of battles and kings.

Feel the butterflies in your stomach as you ride on our amusements with your loved ones. Be entranced by life's moments, and enjoy the spectacle of magnificent cliffs that speak of millions of years of history. Savour the pleasure of tasting our local produce cultivated in the spirit of South Zealand, and try some retail therapy. You can spend the night enjoying luxurious hospitality, but before you turn in, look up at our special Dark Sky, where the Milky Way calmly twinkles above South Zealand and Moen. Be the first to set foot in this land.

Your journey starts here and now.

*Knud Erik Hansen, Mayor of Faxe Municipality  
Knud Larsen, Mayor of Vordingborg Municipality  
Carsten Rasmussen, Mayor of Næstved Municipality  
Mogens Haugaard Nielsen, Mayor of Stevns Municipality*





# *The powerbase of Denmark*

**T**he year is 1241. Weeks before his demise, King Valdemar the Victorious signed “Jyske Lov”, Denmark’s first civil code. It happened right here, at Vordingborg – the biggest Danish royal

medieval castle. In its heyday, the castle was an imposing edifice with towers, moats and a curtain wall almost 800 m in length, inhabited by powerful kings ruling Denmark.



Construction began under King Valdemar the Great in the 1160s, and for almost 200 years the Castle was a royal, economic and military powerbase due to its strategic position overlooking the Baltic. Vordingborg was where key battles to secure supremacy and trading routes were planned. From here, soldiers were dispatched on expeditions and Denmark conquered swathes of the region.

Denmark later lost all this and became an idyllic small nation, but the history lives on. Tour the ruins, see the moats and make your way up the twisting stairway of the 26 m Gåsetårn (“Goose Tower”), the castle’s one remaining tower and the town landmark. Deep below ground, the Danish Castle Centre opens up one of the

Nordic region’s most up-to-date discovery centres, relating Denmark’s dramatic history of power, kings and wars through films, animations and giant images projected onto raw subterranean walls.

Incredibly, up among the ruins, augmented reality technology lets you experience Vordingborg as it looked in medieval times. You might even hear the horses whinnying in the stables, the noise from the busy kitchens and the men making ready their weapons of war. Peer across the harbour at the foot of the castle, and in the distance you will see ships returning home to Denmark, victorious.

[danmarksborgcenter.dk/en](http://danmarksborgcenter.dk/en)



# *Feathers and steel*

**S**uddenly, you hear your children shrieking with glee, zooming above you. Cries of joy and butterflies in the tummy, because you are in BonBon-Land, the family fun park, where roller coasters and wild, funny, rotating amusements test your courage and allow you to forget for a while: The laundry, homework, reminders, because you're here now, where you and your giggling children can soar to new heights.



A true global mecca. Soaring at up to 400 km per hour, it dives for its prey. The noble peregrine falcon. The world's fastest creature. It is found here, but not many other places in Denmark.

Nearby, a rare black-spotted bluebird butterfly flutters to breed among wild herbs, as choosy about its breeding ground as the peregrine falcon. Only the best is good enough for these creatures – just as for their observers.

If it's your lucky day, you might spot both the falcon and the butterfly, or see seals, porpoises, peculiar fish, protected orchids, wild horses, white-tailed sea eagles and thousands of birds migrating south.

This is a true global mecca for nature lovers.

**bonbonland.dk**  
**visitsouthzealand-mon.com**



## WORLD HERITAGE

Imagine you could witness the split second more than 65 million years ago when a giant asteroid hits the Earth, wiping out the dinosaurs and half of all Earth's creatures. Well, you can – at Stevns Klint, a global sensation of the calibre of other UNESCO World Heritage sites such as the pyramids of Egypt, the Great Wall of China and other world-famous places, giving you a unique opportunity to peer millions of years back in time.

No other place on Earth tells the dramatic story of the dinosaurs' sudden extinction better than Stevns Klint, and you can even participate! Get up close to the cliffs and travel millions of years back in time through the dark layer of "fish clay" formed at the time of the asteroid strike, testifying to a crucial second in Earth's history, as it contains traces of a meteor.

The cliff is not only the best place to learn about the dinosaurs but also one of the most perfect places in Denmark for outdoor pursuits: Surf the white waves with your gaze fixed on these sensational cliffs; take a cycle ride to the extremity of the cliff's edge by Højerup church, and explore 20 km along the cliffs, which, besides revealing Earth's history, also offers dramatic drops, charming harbour life and historical attractions.



# *South Zealand's UNESCO World Heritage*



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*Reason to go!*



**S**outh Zealand's dramatic, scenic cliffs, coastal expanses and few hours of rainfall make this destination the best place in Denmark for active holidays involving land, water or the air!

Give free rein to your thoughts and footsteps on Denmark's coastal Camino – Camønoen, replete with peace, freedom and fossils. If you like a challenge, there are

tough fun runs and an Xterra in the harsh, hilly cliff landscape of Moens Klint, or you could explore the cliff walls below water level on the way out through the up to 4 m high subsea passages.

There are no outsiders in this outdoor environment!

**visitsouthzealand-mon.com**

**F** eet of all sizes patter on the fine, sandy seabed. This is the quintessential hot summer's day in Denmark.

An elderly couple hold hands and wink to each other. Grandchildren grasp their free hands, tugging gran and grandpa along much to the amusement of all four of them. They wade into the invigorating waters, and are soon submerged! Almost as fast as the years have flown since a young man and woman met in this charming old fishing hamlet, where smokehouses, eateries, fishing vessels, little shops and holiday cottages nestle.

Enjoy your food by the harbour while observing the flow of fishermen and boats going about their business all day long, to the sound of music and seagulls. Denmark's flag rises to greet the "M/S Friheden" excursion boat.

Another young couple sit right in the middle, oblivious. They never notice the perpetual movement of people on their way to the beach or home again. They have yet to realise they will be back here with their children one day, and that their grandchildren will paddle on the exact same beach where their gaze first met a few days ago. They sit, blissfully unaware of the ups and downs of life ahead.

This is the place for carefree evenings, where you meet to the sweet strains of music. This is the place of halcyon days in short sleeves, your body still drenched in sunshine after a day at the beach; you dance in silence, close together.

Here, in the warm embrace of romance, this young couple's lifelong encounter will forever be linked with Karrebæksminde.





*A  
lifelong  
encounter*



**A**long the long country road between Copenhagen and South Zealand, you will catch sight of the most exquisite wayside inn. One of the finest examples of Denmark's renowned country idyll, this inn previously also enjoyed royal privilege.

Denmark's royal inns were reserved for the king and his entourage as they rode along the king's highways, meeting their every need for hospitality, lodgings and accommodation for the horses.

# Royal privileged



Historic Rønnede Inn is in magnificent condition. In modern times, too, it has been graced by venerable visitors including Walt Disney. The high standard of cuisine is evident, as well, under the direction of one of Denmark's best, most recognised and acclaimed chefs,

Jonas Mikkelsen. As you turn onto the king's highway on your travels in South Zealand, your own senses will tell you Rønnede Inn's cuisine is fit for a king.

[r-kro.dk/en/home](http://r-kro.dk/en/home)

# Dining with nature

**H**appiness is a lovely meal of local dishes with the family after the day's holiday experiences.

Happiness is allowing the produce proffered by small-scale, local growers to waft you along as you wander around the local marketplace. Happiness is knowing the fish is fresh from the chilly waters, and the ice cream made from farm gate milk. Happiness is letting your lips caress the fragrant, frothing beer from the local brewery, opening juicy figs grown locally, savouring the kick in the mustard made from grains from the local mustard fields, helping yourself to a slice of manchego, cooking meat from cattle raised on nearby meadows, sinking your teeth into crisp salad, picking your own vitamin-rich berries and sipping wine from sloping vineyards basking in the many days of sunshine enjoyed by South Zealand, adding ambience too. Enjoy the spine-tingling sensation as you savour South Zealand's produce.

Find happiness in pleasant farm shops, chill-out cafés and elegant restaurants, or prepare local ingredients over a gentle flame at one of the shelters, located exactly where needed, with the vastness of the sea as the backdrop. Content, you'll be ready for the land of nod as the sun sets to the sound of the fire crackling.







# Outdoor performance

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**N**ight transitions to dawn over the Baltic Sea. On the little island of Moen, a solitary figure launches out in his kayak, alone with nature before daybreak. You can hear your heart beat as the paddle glides through the water as easily as a falcon through the air. The world's fastest creature hovers somewhere high above the cliff as the layer of chalk appears increasingly golden as the sun breaks through.

With more than 65 million-year-old layers upon layers of petrification, this divine cliff covers 6 km of coast, towering 128 m into the sky. A world-class Mastodontic phenomenon of nature is awakening to tell the dawn the story

of Denmark's emergence in the last Ice Age, as colossal layers of chalk were compressed to make Moens Klint. Sitting in his kayak, the man looks tiny in the face of all this, but no one can take away the love of Earth's real treasures.

South Zealand is renowned for its dramatic cycle trails. Recover and rediscover peace in a cosy sleeping bag at the luxury Feddet Camping campsite, where a ready-to-use, comfortable "Bike2Tent" will digest the impressions of the day.

[moensklint.dk/geocentermoensklintuk](http://moensklint.dk/geocentermoensklintuk)  
[feddetcamping.dk](http://feddetcamping.dk)



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# *Island castle*

**T**here is an island with a fairytale castle to set your spine tingling as you catch sight of it from the old stone bridge. Across the water. On Gavnerø island. Flanked by tall trees, its majestic wings, myriad of windows between white pilasters and light-yellow walls look imposing.

Queen Margrethe I ordered the castle's construction in 1402, and it is home to a renowned aristocratic Danish family, the Reertz-Thotts, whose pedigree stretches back 600 years and who have provided board and lodgings to royalty for almost as long. See for yourself the many rooms and halls, all furnished



in the spirit of their respective times with the most fantastic examples of furniture art from bygone eras. Royalty have pursued their conversations, thoughts and activities here. You can explore the impressive long corridors, decked with paintings comprising the largest private collection anywhere in northern Europe.

Outside, the tulips compete in bloom within Denmark's most colourful, engulfing ocean of flowers in the 400-year-old castle park, where you can follow a path through fragrant rose labyrinths, past flitting butterflies

from all over the world, to an elegant 170-year-old wendy house where part of the private doll collection of more than 3,000 dolls greet you.

Almost as warm a welcome as you'll receive from the Reedtz-Thott family, who invite you inside this vital piece of Danish cultural heritage, so lovingly looked after by the family that you, too, can share in the very special experience of this island castle.

[gavnoe.dk/uk](http://gavnoe.dk/uk)



*Where the stories begin*



**S**outh Zealand's dramatic, scenic cliffs, coastal expanses and few hours of rainfall make this destination the best place in Denmark for active holidays involving land, water or the air! Gallop along deserted beaches, or ride below crisp beech leaves. Cycle cliff to cliff on the popular international Berlin–Copenhagen cycle trail in undulating terrain, past inlets and coves.

Ideal wind conditions make South Zealand a paradise for

surfers. Higher up, the wind helps a paraglider remain airborne above the idyllic azure Baltic Sea, above children paddling by the shore and divers searching for wrecks, in the company of lightning-fast seals and peculiar fish.

An angler casts and catches his supper, preparing a camp-fire supper among incredible scenery, while cool, hardcore leisure anglers mingle with a father-and-son's once-in-a-life-time expedition. Everyone can join in. All out door pursuits can be indulged.



# *Stairway to heaven*

**S**lowly but surely, the sun is consumed by the sea, and above you, a belt of stars twinkles in the special Dark Sky of South Zealand & Moen, untouched by light pollution. Here, the Milky Way shines brighter.

You can take a tour of the stars in the dark with Camping Møns Klint, honoured by ADAC for its Dark Sky Area

– the first such zone in Scandinavia, guaranteeing you a heavenly experience of the diamonds shining in the night sky.

Before saying good-night, you might see a shooting star in the distance. Deep down, you'll wish your stay in South Zealand & Moen would never end.

[moensklintresort.dk/english](https://moensklintresort.dk/english)