

Green Urban Paths

EXPLORE THE CITY



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Exploring sustainable paths in Køge



Green Urban Paths

Co-funded by The Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.
KA220-ADU Cooperation partnerships in adult education.
Reference n.2021-1-DK01-KA220-ADU-000033665



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1. How to use the guide?

This guide is accompanied by an Augmented Reality APP: “G&PS” which can be downloaded from the official website at the link: <https://www.greenurbanpaths.com/>.

After download, open the app, select the corresponding city from the menu and frame the photos, to access extra multimedia content.

A photograph of a person walking away from the camera down a tree-lined street. The person is wearing a blue and white shirt. The street is paved and has a yellow curb. There are many trees and bushes on both sides of the street, and a building is visible in the distance.

2. The project

In the last century, urbanization has presented some of the most significant challenges to our planet. However, it also offers potential solutions, **as cities serve as creative hubs** and can offer remedies for various environmental issues. There is a **growing recognition** that compact cities are efficient in terms of resource usage, benefiting both residents and businesses through proximity-driven efficiency gains. **Modern technologies can enhance the environmental performance of urban areas**, improving public transportation systems and the construction and operation of buildings to reduce resource and energy consumption.

The appeal of urban areas isn't just about economic competitiveness but also about the quality of life they offer to both current and new residents. As a result, more and more cities are branding themselves as 'green,' 'creative,' or 'cultural' to enhance their attractiveness by showcasing their environmental assets for the well-being of all citizens. In the postmodern era, where tourists actively participate in choosing and enjoying their travels, it's crucial to adopt new approaches that raise awareness. **Creativity has become a strategic imperative** for cities and regions, fostering innovation and the development of individual abilities.

The Green & Urban Paths project aims to adopt a **transnational strategy encompassing green education, educational tourism, and the sustainable development of urban areas**. This initiative is endorsed by the European Commission, which aspires to facilitate a

series of activities that foster competencies and innovative tourism experiences centered around specific themes with significant growth potential. These initiatives are designed to address societal concerns related to territorial cohesion and the preservation and enhancement of cultural and natural heritage.

The project seeks to establish pathways for enhancing tourism skills, making them more accessible within the realm of adult education. To achieve this, it will leverage next-generation digital products such as apps and platforms, coupled with theatrical storytelling techniques. These tools will be instrumental in creating products that can promote environmentally friendly solutions within cities located in **Denmark (Køge), Germany (Berlin), Spain (Alicante), Italy (Potenza and Brindisi) and Cyprus (Nicosia).**

Green & Urban Paths' main goal is to create **a toolkit to promote sustainable solutions and trends in urban areas** through innovative digital tools and creative solutions.

We hope that all project participants will prioritize sustainability at the levels of community, organizations, and individuals. We are going to inspire, support and actively engage them.

For this reason, we selected **5 intriguing locations** in each partner city to showcase our city's leading sustainable pioneers.

The G&PS consists of a short description of the seven spots and covers a map. Each one of the stops covers at least **3 sustainable development goals out of 17**. The 17 SDGs are: 1) no poverty 2) zero hunger 3) good health and well-being 4) quality education 5) gender equality 6) clean water and sanitation 7) affordable and clean energy 8) decent work and economic growth 9) industry, innovation and infrastructure 10) reduced inequalities 11) sustainable cities and communities 12) responsible consumption and production 13) climate

action 14) life below water 15) life on land 16) peace, justice and strong institutions 17) partnerships for the goals.

You can find more information about tours, further project results on the web page.

Do not forget to check your knowledge on sustainable development and sustainable innovators in your city here:

<https://www.greenurbanpaths.com/>

Enjoy the tour!



1. Green Urban Paths in Køge

Introduction

The green route in Køge starts outside the city, in a wooded area where the original Køge was founded, before it was later decided to move the city of Køge down to the water so that a port could be established.

With its location just outside the capital, Køge municipality is an attractive area with its own identity and solid growth in balance. Køge municipality want to be an attractive area that easily attracts and retains citizens and businesses with new opportunities for a green business life.

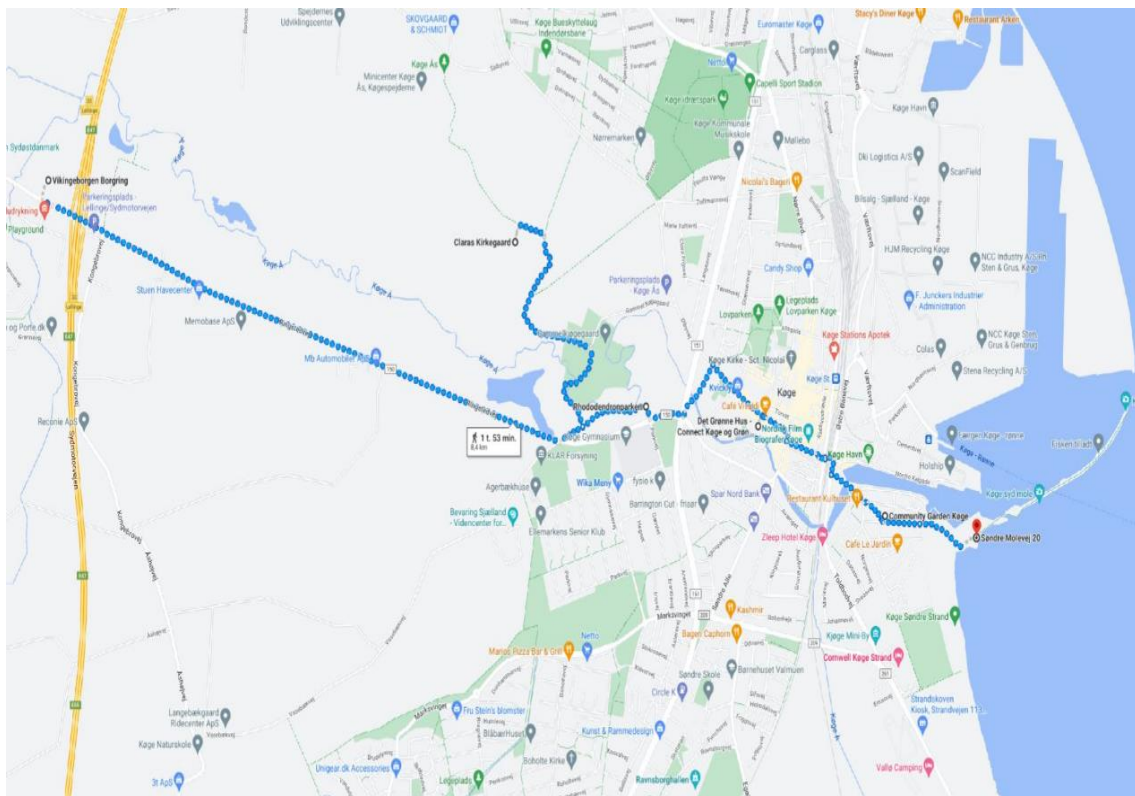
The climate challenges require a collaboration across the public sector and the private sector, a green and sustainable restructuring of energy supply, business, agriculture, transport, housing and consumption.

In green paths in and around Køge, we have chosen 5 spots between which you can walk or cycle.

The Green Urban Paths in Køge

Length: 8,4 Km; Time: 1 hours 53 min

*How to reach it**



4. Stop 1 – Viking castle – The castle ring



Starting point: Køge trainstation (Køge st.) to Ringstedvej 190,
4600 Køge

HOW TO REACH IT

Address: Ringstedvej 190, 4600 Køge



1t 5 Min



16 Min



24 Min (Bus 260R)



9 Min

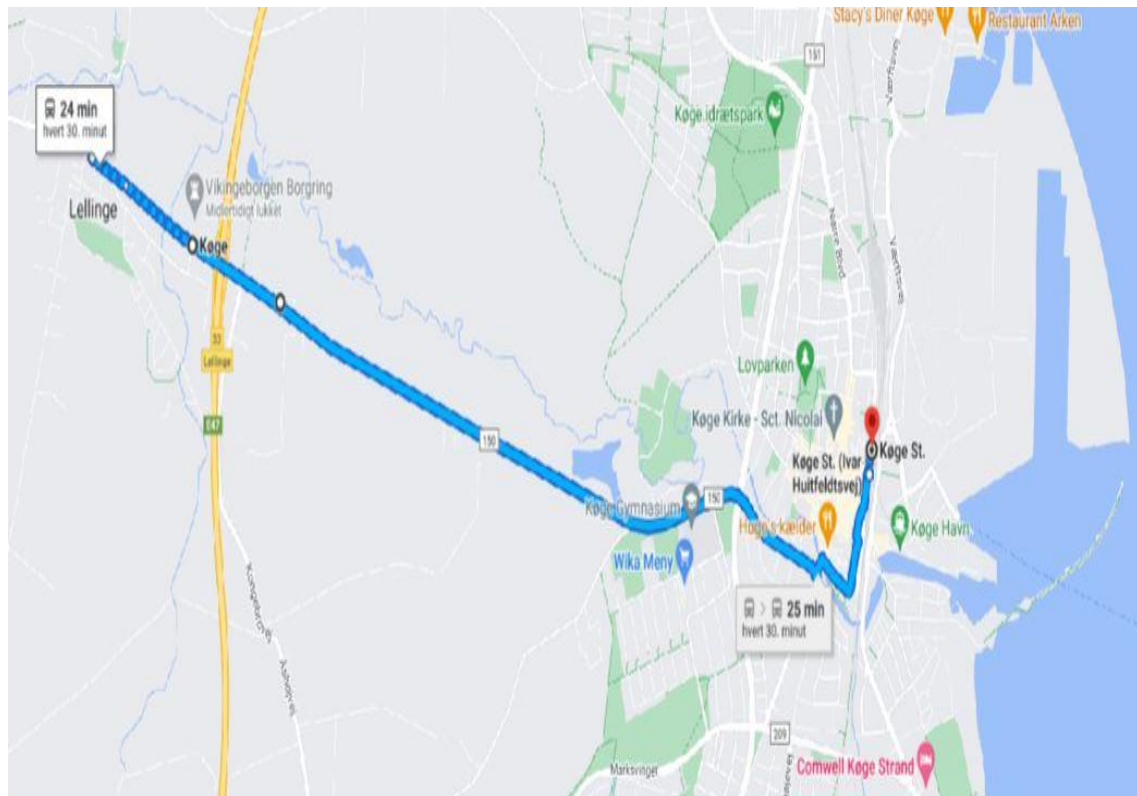


Image 1. From Køge st. to Viking castle, The castle ring

Description

The Viking Castle

In the village of Lellinge you can experience the Viking Castle, which is on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The castle was discovered during archaeological excavations in 2014, and is a circular monument that measures 145 meters on each link. In 2025, a museum will open where you can experience the history of the Viking castle from its construction until today.

Ring castles and Harald Blåtand (Harald Bluetooth)

Harald Blåtand, who lived from approx. years 911-987, is one of Denmark's best-known Viking kings. He built many building complexes in Denmark, i.a. the so-called ring castles, which functioned as defensive works. We know of five ring castles that were certainly built by Harald Blåtand: Trelleborg in Scania (in present-day

Sweden), Trelleborg on Zealand, Nonnebakken on Funen and Fyrkat and Aggersborg in Jutland. The ring castles helped Harald Blåtand secure power in all of Denmark and conquer parts of Norway. The Viking castle at Køge is very likely also built by Harald Blåtand, but we don't know for sure yet. Future archaeological investigations will show that.

Without the Viking castles, Denmark might not exist today

Harald Blåtand spread Christianity throughout his kingdom. There are many explanations as to why Harald Blåtand decided to make Denmark Christian, some more ridiculous than others. Eg. it is said that a German priest named Poppo convinced Harald that the Christian God was more powerful than the Nordic gods by holding a burning hot piece of iron in his hands without being hurt. It is more likely that Harald introduced Christianity for political reasons. His power was threatened by the German Emperor Otto I, who had plans to conquer Denmark under the pretext of wanting to spread Christianity. We will probably never find out if one of these explanations is correct. However, it is absolutely certain that Harald Blåtand, by building the Viking castles and making Denmark Christian, managed to keep the Danish kingdom together, so that the country still exists today - more than 1000 years later.



Image 2. View from the center of Viking castle ring



Image 3. The path that leads to the Viking castle ring

5. Stop 2 – Åsen

– The forest close to the city



Starting point: Viking castle to the forest Åsen (Claras kirkegård)

HOW TO REACH IT

Address: Gammel Køgegaard 9, 4600 Køge



34 Min



15 Min



8 Min (Bus 260R)



6 Min

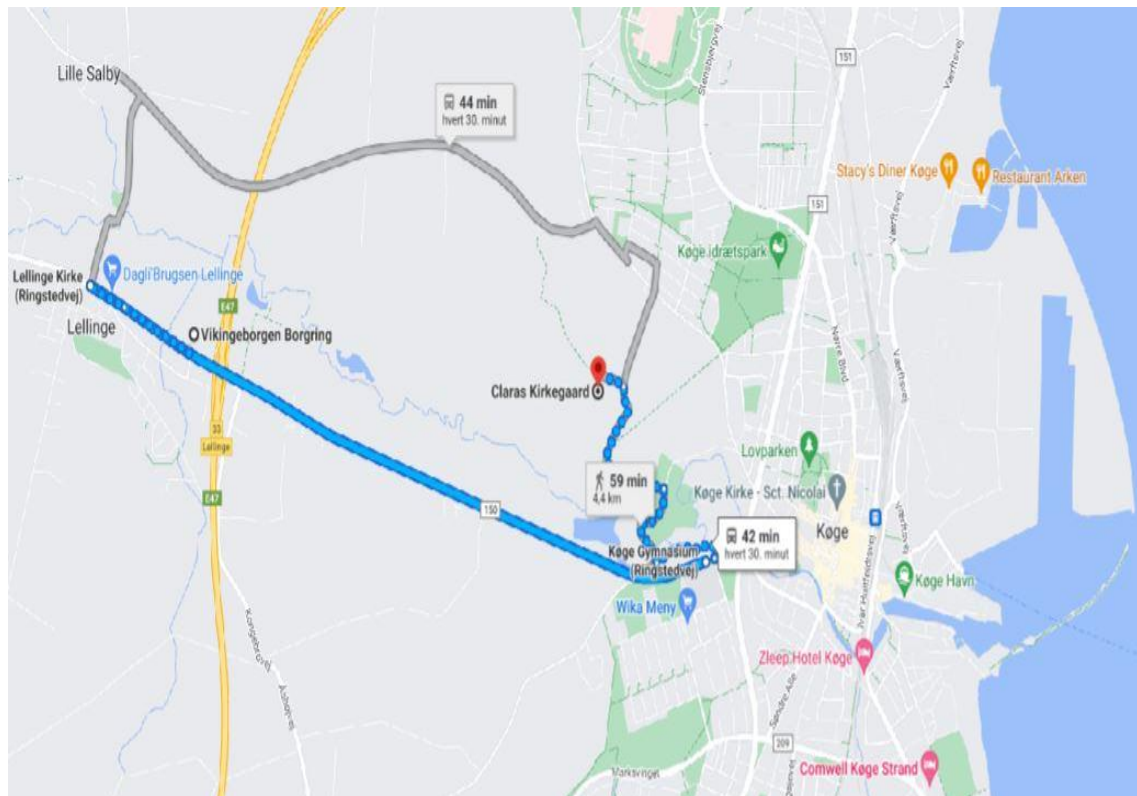


Image 4. From Viking castle to Åsen, Clara's cemetery (Claras Kirkegaard)

Description

Åsen - The forest close to the city

In Køge lies Åsen – a wooded Ice Age landscape. Here you can experience Gammelkjøgegård, whose attractions combine nature and culture. The estate, which in addition to sustainable forestry, also offers exciting experiences in the form of the beautiful Rhododendron Park and Grundtvig's grave (Claras cemetery).

The Rhododendron Park

The Rhododendron Park is one of Denmark's largest collections of rhododendrons. If you want to experience the rhododendron bushes in bloom, you must visit the park in the spring, when most varieties bloom. The rhododendron park was renovated in 1967 according to plans by architect C. Th. Sørensen and court huntsman Else Collet.

Sørensen (1893-1979) is one of the most recognized Danish garden architects. He is particularly known for his influence on social housing developments in Copenhagen, where he designed green outdoor areas and playgrounds for the working class.

Grundtvig's grave (Clara's cemetery)

At Gammelkjøgegård is the burial site for N.F.S. Grundtvig (1783-1872), one of Denmark's most significant cultural figures in the 19th century. Grundtvig had a great influence on Danish nationalism and Christianity, and his ideas still characterize Danish culture. He is today best known for his poems. Grundtvig's career was marked by enormous contradictions: He was a member of the Norwegian Parliament, but opposed to democracy. He was a priest but lost faith in God during depressive periods. As a young man, he disagreed with the leading theologians of the time and he was punished with lifelong censorship - it was later lifted and he ended up becoming a bishop. Grundtvig was thus a complex personality.

Grundtvig had a personal connection to Gammelkjøgegård. The love of his life, his wife Marie, was born and raised there. The happiness was short-lived, however, because Marie died shortly after giving birth to their son. After Marie's death, Grundtvig continued to write love poems to Marie. Grundtvig and Marie are both buried at Gammelkjøgegård.



Image 5. Gammelkjøgegaard which houses The Rhododendron Park



Image 6. The grave where Grundtvig is buried, Clara's Cemetery (Claras Kirkegård)

6. Stop 3 – The green house



Starting point: Claras Kirkegaard to The Green house (Det grønne hus)

HOW TO REACH IT

Address: Vestergade 3C, 4600 Køge



36 Min



10 Min

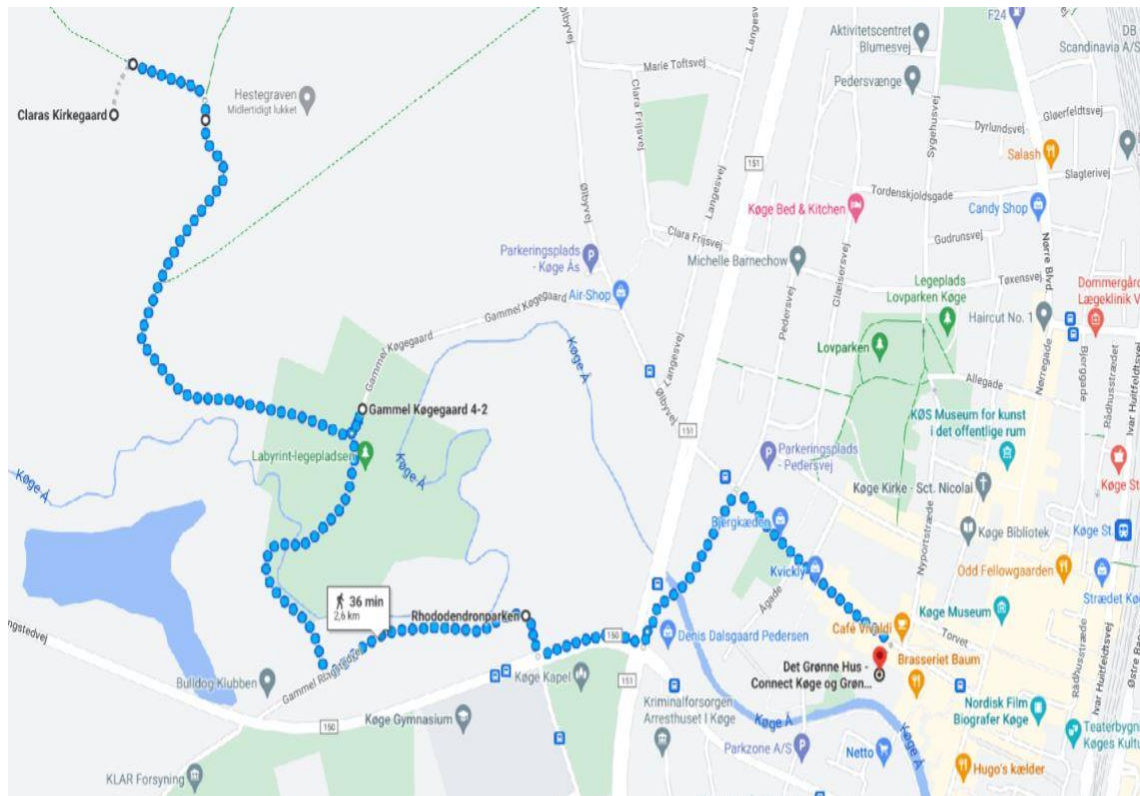


Image 7. From Claras cemetery to The green house

Description

Right in the center of Køge city, it is possible to rent canoes and take a trip on Køge Å. The four rental canoes are located in the backyard of Det Grønne Hus. The boat trip starts from the boat bridge around the idyllic backyard. If you take the trip right up the stream, you sail out past the nearby manor Gammelkjøgegaard. If you sail the opposite way, you can sail out to Køge Inderhavn, before turning back towards Det grønne hus.

On the trip to Gammelkjøgegaard, you will pass all the fine old gardens that lie down to the stream, before you sail under the bridge at the Ringvejen. On the other side of the bridge, you will experience more nature with cows grazing on the field to one side and the forest to the other. In this part of the stream you can also be lucky to see fishing herons.

If you take the canoe trip towards Køge Inderhavn, you will pass some of Køge town's fine old half-timbered houses before the trip goes under the beautiful old Køge Bridge. The bridge is one of Køge's cultural-historical monuments, which both today, but also in the old days, had a decisive importance for access to Brogade and the rest of Køge Midtby.

Originally the bridge was built of wood, but in 1637 the vaulted stone bridge was built at the king's behest. If you look more closely at Køge Bro, the railing's stone columns and iron railings as well as the granite wall over the stream have been preserved and stand as they did when it was originally built in 1637. The bridge was subsequently expanded and rebuilt several times due to increasing traffic, and the bridge we know today is erected in 1802.

Køge Bro was also the place where one of Køge's three city gates was located and where excise duty had to be paid. The excise booths were closed in 1851, as a result of the section on freedom of trade in the Constitution.

Before or after a canoe trip on Køge Å, it is possible to use the old garden in the Green House to eat food you have brought. The green house was built in 1935 using monk stone from the conversion of Torvet 11 and doors from old houses in Køge. Over the years, the house has been a gathering place for enthusiasts and various information activities about sustainable lifestyles.



Image 8. Køge river with rental canoes



Image 9. The idyllic garden at The green house

7. Stop 4 – The new harbor district



Starting point: *The green house to Community Garden Køge
with outdoor kitchen*

HOW TO REACH IT

Address: Søndre Molevej 9, 4600 Køge



13 Min



4 Min

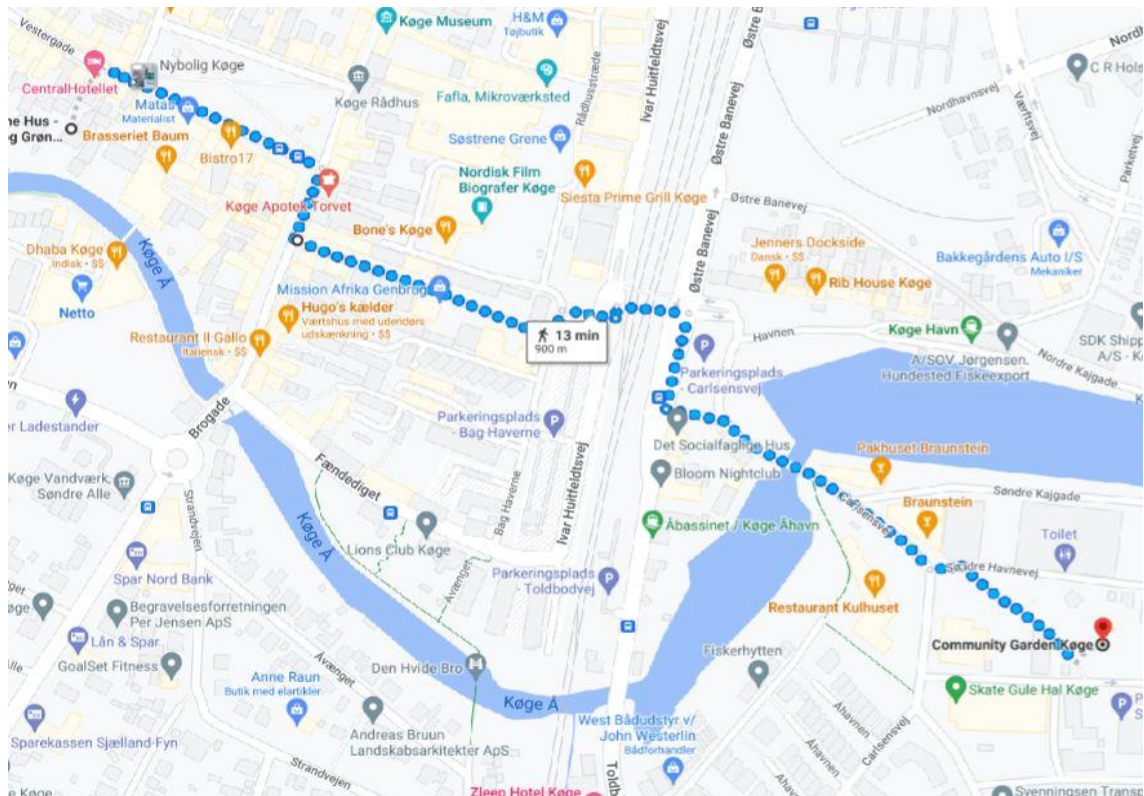


Image 10. From The green house to Community Garden Køge with outdoor kitchen

Description

Back in 1995, the city council in Køge Municipality decided that Søndre Havn should be developed into a new attractive district. They wanted to transform the old industrial area into a sustainable residential area with architectural diversity and new forms of housing that would create a framework for more community, fight loneliness and have room for different family forms and several generations in the same building. There was a focus on association life, activities and culture creating community and giving the new area an identity.

Today, the district is still under development and construction is still underway. However, much of the area is finished now and if you take a walk between the many different housing blocks, you will discover the diversity of green oases, courtyards with welcoming terraces and

stairs, where neighbors can meet and visitors can feel welcome when a trip goes through the area.

In the middle of the old industrial area, a large outdoor kitchen, harbor gardens and playgrounds for both young and old have been established. Everyone has the opportunity to borrow and use the large covered outdoor kitchen, which is suitable for private parties, cooking classes and other exciting events. The outdoor kitchen has four large grills, four workstations with a kitchen table, water and electricity, and a fire pit.

The outdoor kitchen area is beautifully surrounded by the Community Garden, which consist of 85 small garden boxes, where the locals from the new district grow flowers, vegetables and herbs for their own consumption.



Image 11. Outdoor kitchen that can be used by everyone



Image 12. Community Garden Køge for local residents

8. Stop 5 – The Maritime Peninsula



Starting point: Community Gradens to The Maritime Peninsula

HOW TO REACH IT

Address: Søndre Molevej 20, 4600 Køge



7 Min



2 Min



2 Min

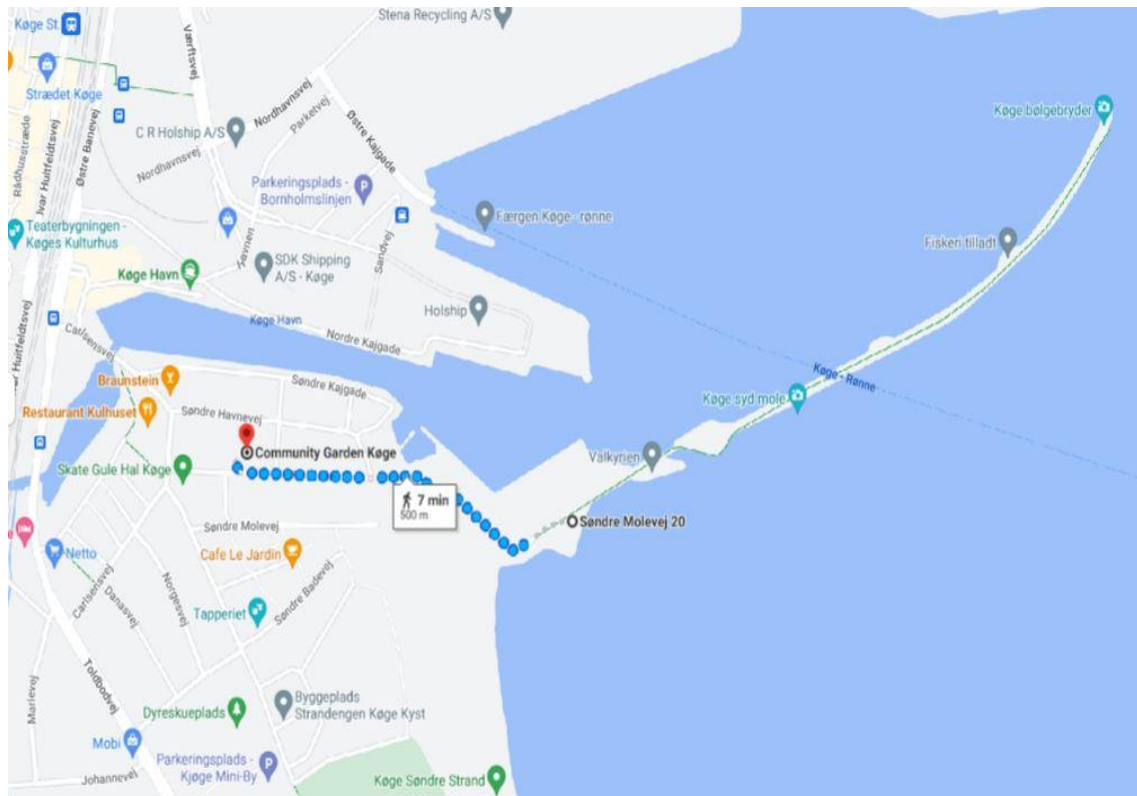


Image 13. From Community Garden Køge (outdoor kitchen) to The maritime Peninsula

Description

The Maritime Peninsula

Engkanten and Kajkanten are both promenade and climate protection. Here you can stroll on the promenade all the way along the border between Søndre Havn's residential quarters and the scenic salt marsh, around the Engkanten - and further along the harbor quay Kajkanten, or take a trip out onto the 1 km long pier. Here you have the opportunity to have an active outdoor life with games, walks, running, cycling, swimming/winter bathing, kayaking or other exercise. Each area lends itself in its own way to an active outdoor life in the green and maritime environment.

Engkanten is a wide car-free path that leads down to the beach between the new residential area and the beach meadow. The area is

characterized by salt meadow planting, large wide stairs on which you can sit and enjoy a quiet moment with a fantastic view of Køge Bay and the salt meadow. You can also go for a walk in the unique salt meadow nature, where with a little knowledge of the vegetation you have the opportunity to harvest edible beach herbs.

Engkanten also functions as a high-water dike and at the end, closest to the sea, there is a lookout for both Kajkanten and Molen. The dyke must protect the area against storm surges and seawater rises, while at the same time it must function as a rainwater conduit in the event of major rain events, where water will be directed from the Engkanten and out onto the salt marsh, where it can slowly seep down.

At the end of the maritime peninsula starts the almost 1 km long pier, which certainly deserves a walk along the end. If you are there at sunset, you will be rewarded with seeing the sun set behind the new district while the last rays of the sun glimmer in the sea.



Image 14. The meadow with climate protection



Image 15. The long pier at the peninsula

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