

BUILT BY KINGS; POWERED BY WATER

A HISTORICAL WALK AROUND THE ARRENÆS PENINSULA

BUILT BY KINGS; POWERED BY WATER

This historical walk begins in the old town centre of Frederiksværk and leads you along the Arresø Canal to the peninsula of Arrenæs, which protrudes into Denmark's largest lake, Lake Arresø. Along the way, you will experience the remarkable and beautiful scenery unique to this part of North Zealand. You will also pass a number of historical sites that bear witness to the sovereign power of the absolutist monarchs of 18th-century Denmark and the vital importance of the water power provided by the canal.

In Frederiksværk, industry and nature have been mutually influential. Great powers were at play here in times past. For many years, flooding and migrating sand dunes ravaged this area. However, the growing spirit of the Enlightenment prescribed the subduing and modelling of nature, and thus the canal was dug and flanked by trees. As an added benefit, this paved the way for the establishment of Frederiksværk and its many industries.

1 THE ARSENAL

In the mid-1700s, Frederiksværk rose from the bare, marshy ground to become Denmark's first industrial town. Sparked by the pressing need for a domestic supply of cannon, gunpowder, and ammunition, the founding of the town was backed by the crown. In 1857, when technological progress rendered the Frederiksværk armaments production obsolete, the Danish state sold off the foundry and all auxiliary workshops except the gunpowder mill. Anker Heegaard, a successful industrialist and owner of an iron foundry in Copenhagen, bought the facilities lock, stock, and barrel. Immediately, production shifted towards civilian wares, e.g., pots and pans, stoves, and generally anything that could be cast in iron. In 1928, the company merged with the conglomerate United Iron Foundries. The early 1940s saw the construction of the fjord-side steel rolling mill, cementing Frederiksværk's status as an industrial hub. The exhibition currently on show in the Arsenal provides a much deeper insight into the history of Frederiksværk.

INDUSTRIMUSEET FREDERIKS VÆRK

The Gunpowder Mill Museum – a dangerous workplace.
Krudtværksalléen 1, 3300 Frederiksværk

The Arsenal – the industrial history of Frederiksværk
Torvet 18, 3300 Frederiksværk

**Information on opening hours, events, and much more
is available online at indmus.dk**



BUILT BY KINGS; POWERED BY WATER

**is part of Historical Walks – a cooperative project by the
Danish Hikers' Guild and several Danish museums.**

This route has been developed by Industrimuseet
Frederiks Værk in collaboration with the Danish Hikers'
Guild North Zealand and Kings' North Zealand National Park.



Naturstyrelsen

Historical Walks is funded by the Nordea Foundation.

**NORDEA
FONDEN**
Vi støtter gode liv



Photo: Kasper Nielsen, Naturen i Danmark



The hiking trail is marked with this pictogram.

Photo: Kasper Nielsen, Naturen I Danmark

2 THE CANALS

The extensive sand migration, which plagued the region at the turn of the 18th century, caused severe flooding. Flooded fields yield no crops; no crops mean no taxes. King Frederik IV acknowledged the severity of the issue and ordered 400 Danish infantrymen and 100 Swedish prisoners of war to dig a canal from Lake Arresø to Roskilde Fjord to create a permanent outlet for the lake.

As early as 1719, the canal was finished, and the water flowed freely and forcefully from the lake into the fjord. By 1756, the potential for harnessing the power of the canal waters in the service of industry was apparent. Backed by the rich investor Just Fabritius, the young and ambitious entrepreneur Johan Frederik Classen established both a cannon foundry and a gunpowder mill on the site. To provide water power to the gunpowder mill north of the foundry, a side canal was dug at a perpendicular angle to the original.



Photo: Kasper Nielsen, Naturen I Danmark

3 ARRESØDAL MANOR

The extensive military production facility of Frederiksværk attracted both royalty and dignitaries from across the realm and beyond. They were drawn by the prospect of seeing gunpowder and cannon in the making. To accommodate such noble guests, in 1786-1788, J.F. Classen ordered the construction of his very own manorial seat – the Arresødal Manor.

4 VINDERØD CHURCH

In 1792, Johan Frederik Classen died at Arresødal Manor. The medieval church in Vinderød was refurbished to make room for the beautifully adorned sepulchre and final resting place of the late Major General. Classen's brother, Peter Hersleb, drew up plans for a grandiose marble monument, which artist Johannes Wiedewelt would then sculpt with tremendous skill. The monument has the form of a rock cavern and is ripe with symbolism referring to the life and work of J.F. Classen.

Vinderød Church took its present form in 1883, when much of the building was reconstructed around Classen's sepulchre. The church welcomes visitors any time the doors are unlocked.

1. THE LATIN INSCRIPTION READS:

**"BY HIS OWN HAND AND GENEROSITY,
HE ARMED AND ADORNED THE NATION"**

2. THE CANNON

A rendering of the cannon known as "The Trial" for its successful trial shooting in 1759. The original now forms the base for a Classen bust and can be found at the west end of the Arsenal in town.

3. MAP

A map of Frederiksværk showing the Gunpowder Mill, the Foundry, and Arresødal Manor.



Photo: Industrimuseet Frederiks Værk



A CHOICE BETWEEN THREE ROUTES:

- GREEN route: 5 km**
- YELLOW route: 7 km**
- RED route: 11 km**

The historical walk offers a choice between three routes of different lengths and terrain. The red route is the longest with its 11 kilometres, the yellow route is 7 kilometres long, while the green route covers 5 kilometres.

The green route uses only roads and paths that are easily passable. It is accessible to everyone – even cyclists.

Both the red and the yellow route use smaller paths, and the terrain is slightly more challenging. Even so, wearing a pair of good walking shoes should make these routes accessible to most.

5 THE ROYAL DANISH ROCKET CORPS

From the beginning of the 1800s right up to 1958, the Danish military had barracks here. In the 1807 bombardment of Copenhagen, the English employed incendiary rockets. Being at the receiving end of this new and terrifying weapon inspired the Danish king to form the Royal Danish Rocket Corps. The area between Arresødal Manor and Lake Arresø was to be its HQ until 1844, when the corps was disbanded. The personnel were mainly occupied with research and development and the production of rockets and other weapon systems.

6 LUNDBYE'S BENCH

The landscape on the brink of Lake Arresø has inspired many a Danish painter. Johan Thomas Lundbye was such a painter, working in and applying the techniques and styles of the so-called Golden Age of Danish art. In a smooth and idyllic manner, he depicted the quintessentially Danish characteristics of this landscape. He was a frequent visitor to the area and created a number of works using local motifs.

Photo: Eva Henschen, Thorvaldsens Museum



Almost 60 years after the death of Lundbye, another painter of some renown came to these parts. Laurits Andersen Ring had heard of a bench in Vinderød, on which Lundbye had supposedly often sat painting. He found the story so inspiring that he sought out the bench and painted it, calling his work "Lundbye's Bench".

7 PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE LAKE

From the Arresødal Park, a 265-metre wooden gangway winds its way across the marshy, almost mangrove-like shallows of Lake Arresø. The prize at the end of this gangway is worth the walk, as at the end a covered platform reveals itself on the edge of the open waters. From here, there is a perfect panoramic view of the lake and its rich wildlife.

The lake is subject to an EU Bird Protection Act, which safeguards its populations of great bittern, western marsh harrier, common kingfisher, common merganser, osprey, and white-tailed eagle. Swans, however, are a rare sight on the lake. Swans feed on aquatic plants usually found on lake bottoms, but the overgrowth of algae in Lake Arresø means that very few of such plants can grow there.

8 DRONNINGHOLM CASTLE RUIN

Dronningholm Castle ranks among the oldest royal castles in Denmark. Such castles were built to consolidate royal power and regional defense as well as to serve as centres for tax collection. For a period of 400 years, Dronningholm was the property of kings, bishops, and nobles.

Photo: Kasper Nielsen, Naturen I Danmark



Photo: Kasper Nielsen, Naturen I Danmark

9 THE BEAVER DAM AT DRONNINGHOLM FENS

In 2009-2011, authorities brought in 23 beavers from Germany to be released in predetermined areas of North Zealand. The purpose of this assisted migration is to expand the biodiversity of the lake area. In this regard, the beaver is a key species. Its behavior brings considerable benefits to the surrounding ecosystem, creating sustainable habitats for an array of endangered animals and plants.

Since the initial release, the beaver population has expanded to around 60 individuals. Local, regional, and national authorities cooperated in building the beaver observation hide nearby

10 THE WOODED HILLS OF SØRUPVANG, 1841

By Johan Thomas Lundbye. The painter worked in the tradition of romanticism and idealism, which was so characteristic of this period in Danish art history. Much in line with the mounting interest in geology among the learned elite, Lundbye took a particular liking to the hilly landscape of Sørupvang. Today, the area is overgrown by trees, making it difficult to determine the exact location of the painting's motif.

Photo: Statens Museum for Kunst

