

#fanoebike



Themed route: The Big Five (37 km)



This cycling route takes you to the 5 highest "mountains" on Fanø.

Of course, these are not real mountains but rather dune peaks. The 5 dunes you will visit are found throughout the island, and not only are they physical representations of the stages in the island's natural development, they also provide scenic views of the most characteristic landscapes.

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1. Klingebjerg



Cycling route:

Starting at the ferry, cycle 3.1 km south using the cycling path. In Rindby, cross Postvejen and continue east on Klingebjergvej. The first 1.7 km of this is concrete road, then enter a gravel path for 1.2 km until you reach a cycling path going south-east. Continue on the gravel path another 450 m, and then you have Klingebjerg on the right side.

Background info:

From the peak of Klingebjerg, a view of the marsh areas north and east of the dune plantation will unfold. These are some of the most important resting places for some of the millions of birds migrating through the area. At the same time they make out some of the most fertile farming soil on Fanø.

Klingebjerg is located in the most northern part of Fanø Plantation. In 1892, planting of the area began and today it spans over 1421 hectare. The plantation was meant to both lower sand flight and produce wood. These days the plantation is only for recreational use and a lot of work is put into renewing it by adding new tree species to the original spruce and pine. Clearings are also made, and with some luck you will be able to meet roe deer, fallow deer or red deer.



2. Annedalsbjerg

Cycling route:

Cycle back 450 m along Klingebjergvej until you reach the cycling path. Take a left turn and follow the path 3.7 km until it reaches Albuevej. Turn left towards east and follow the road another 950 m -on your right Annedalsbjerg will appear.

Background info:

The dunes found between Klingebjerg and Annedalsbjerg are assumed to be some of the oldest on Fanø. Moreover, the first house might have been found in an area here called Hovens Dal. The first church on the island was here, although the name suggests that the place had religious significance before Christianity.

Today, there are no foundations or remains of the original wooden church, nor the granite church that was later erected. It is, however, possible that the foundation for the baptismal font in Sønderho Church is from the original church.

Moreover, it is believed that the original fishing village named Østerho or Albo was located around here, probably close to what is now known as Albue Fuglekøje, but no archaeological research has been conducted.



3. Mosedalsbjerg

Cycling route:

From Annedalsbjerg, go back 1 km along Albuevej until it crosses Postvejen/Landevejen. Cross the road, continue south another 6.5 km towards Sønderho. After the church in Sønderho, go right and continue west 1.6 km on Sønderho Strandvej. Across from the building Odense Kommunes Feriekoloni there is a small path going north. Walk 300 m and get to the peak of Mosedalsbjerg.

Background info:

This "mountain" area is one of the strangest, yet prettiest on Fanø. There is also a larger personnel bunker from World War 2 here, and the area was the most visible point in the Atlantic Wall on Fanø, meaning that the Germans had 4 12,2 cm cannons set up south of Sønderho Strandvej. From the peak there is an excellent view over the southern part of the island.

There is also a place named "Ved Galgen" (By the Gallow), because once upon a time a gallow was placed here to warn off anyone going ashore with ill intentions. The wet beach meadow just west of it is named "Galgedalen" (Gallow Valley).

Galgerev and Galgedyb towards south-west is home to the largest population of seals on Fanø. During ebb, you can walk 1.7 km into the Wadden Sea to get close to Galgerev, where there will be grey and spotted seals on the bank.



4. Pælebjerg

Cycling route:

Back at Sønderho Strandvej, cycle down to the beach, then take a right turn in a northern direction along the beach 5.2 km until you see a sign pointing towards Pælebjerg. Follow the path 500 m.

Background info:

Pælebjerg (21 m). This dune was formerly known as "Geneuserbjerget", named after a ship stranded back in 1690. From 1742 onwards it was renamed Pælebjerg and is now a nice picnic spot. The view from the peak reveals the ocean, Fanø Dune Plantation, as well as a soft heath landscape.

North of the dune you find Pælebjergsøen, a little lake thought to be the remains of the channel, Elses Gab, which used to split Fanø into two.

This lake is one of few natural lakes on Fanø, and the blooming water lilies in late summer make for a beautiful sight, whereas other beach lakes dry out during summer.



5. Kikkebjerg

Cycling route:

From Pælebjerg, continue on east on the path ending on Mågekolonivej after 600 m. The concrete road was made during World War 2; follow it east 500 m. At the end, you reach the cycling path following Postvejen/Landevejen between Nordby and Sønderho. Turn left and follow the path 5.5 km, then turn left on Sønder Storetoft, past Fanø Fiskesø. After 175 m the road becomes Storetoft; take a right and follow it 475 m until it ends at Strandvejen. Cross the road and go another 50 m west, then turn left and continue on Vestervejen for 1.2 km. Cross the road and go left onto Kikkebjergvej. After 400 metres you will reach a concrete path on the left, going to the top of Kikkebjerg.

Background info:

From the peak of the 18 m tall Kikkebjerg, you can enjoy a magnificent view over the northern tip of Fanø, Nordby and Esbjerg.

During the sailing ships era, Kikkebjerg served as the view point of the local pilot guiding the ships into Nordby. As Esbjerg Harbour took over any sailing traffic, the function of Kikkebjerg ceased. In 1999 there was a strong storm, destroying the old pilot house on top of Kikkebjerg and the current house is a reconstruction.

6. Back to the ferry

Cycling route:

Go back to where Kikkebjergvej and Lodsvej meets, continue east on Lodsvej for 630 m until it ends at Hovedgaden. Turn left on Hovedgaden, go past the butcher (Slagter Christiansen), then turn right down the short Færgevej.