

Marked nature trails

Stenbjerg dune plantation from the car park on Stenbjergvej

The Løvbakke trail red, 1.2 km. Follows mixed terrain with a variety of tree species.

The Embak trail yellow, 5.7 km. Starts in undulating, varied forest and takes in the Bislet wetlands and Embak Vand.

Stenbjerg dune plantation from the car park at Førby Linie

The Enebærstrø trail blue, 2.3 km. Traverses a section of burned plantation and skirts the Enebær lakes.

Stenbjerg dune plantation from the car park on Kystvej

The Bislet trail red, 1.5 km. Heads for the viewing tower and follows the southern edge of Bislet.

The Fredskilde trail green, 8 km. Is a continuation to the east of the red trail. The depression leads to more fertile woodland south of Fredskilde lake.

Stenbjerg dune plantation from the car park on Tyskebakken

The Priest's trail red, 4.5 km. Starts and ends in luxuriant woodland. It descends over the stone age coastal cliff at its westernmost point, crossing some burned forest.

The Barrow trail yellow, 3.5 km. Starts and ends like the red trail but follows the top edge of the old coastal bluff. This trail passes many bronze age tumuli.

Faddersbøl mill:

The Faddersbøl trail red 1.5 km. Crosses the meadow and rounds the "dog" wood.

The Ålvand trail blue, 3.8 km. Leads to the eastern edge of Ålvand heath, returning via Tvorup dune plantation.

Suggestions for walks from Stenbjerg Landingsplads (no marked trails).

Sønder Vorupør 6.5 km: Follow the beach northwards for about 1 km then climb the bluff for path D114. Follow the gravel path to Sdr. Vorupør and return on the metalled road.

Beacons 4.5 km: Walk southwards on the beach for 800 m to Path no. D102. Ascend the bluff and follow the gravel path from here past the beacon to Stenbjerg village. From here, Kirkevej takes you back to your starting point.

Sandy heath 8 km: Follow the beach for 2.5 km in a southerly direction. A red post at the foot of the dunes indicates where you must climb upwards (it is rather steep!). From here, follow the track northwards to the North Sea Trail which will bring you back to Stenbjerg landing place.



Welcome to Stenbjerg in Thy

Roughly at the centre of Thy's national park lies the attractive Stenbjerg landing place, a group of fishermen's huts by the sea against a backdrop of dunes, heath, and forestry plantations. The varied natural landscape of this area offers many opportunities for outdoor activities.

Nature trails: This leaflet describes nine marked trails and suggests three unmarked routes.

Cycling trails: The West Coast Route (national cycle trail no. 1) runs through the area, and cycling is also permitted on the many good forest roads.

The West Coast Route /North Sea Trail: The section of the North Sea Trail that runs through Thy coincides with the West Coast Route Agger-Bulbjerg and to a large extent follows the old Rescue Route northwards.

Spending the night: You are welcome to use the simple camping area near the North Sea Trail at the west end of Stenbjerg plantation. The site has a shelter, bonfire site, and toilet. There are also camp sites and hotels in the vicinity.

Bonfire site: Located at Gåsekærvej, just north of Nørhå. Please help yourself to the firewood supplied at the bonfire site.

Woods suitable for dogs: Within the plantation just to the west of Faddersbøl is a fenced-in wood suitable for walking dogs. Dogs may be let off the lead here, but please remember that they must always be kept under control.

Facilities for the disabled: There are toilets for the disabled at Stenbjerg Landingsplads. Many forest tracks are passable in a wheelchair for most of the year.

Nature tours: The Forest and Nature Agency, Regional Office, Thy organises nature tours both as events that are open to the public or by private arrangement.

Further information: State-owned land is controlled by the Danish Forest and Nature Agency which can be contacted locally through The regional Office, Thy, tel +45 97 97 70 88 or by e-mail: thy@sns.dk. For more information go to the website www.skovognatur.dk/thy.

Stenbjerg in Thy



The "Nature Trails" series of leaflets covers selected nature areas. They are available at libraries, tourist information offices and at the entrances to many of the areas. See also www.skovognatur.dk

Danish Ministry of the Environment
The Forest and Nature Agency

- administration of state-owned forests and other nature areas in Denmark
- management with a view to recreation, timber production and the protection of natural and cultural assets

**The Forest and Nature Agency manages
190,000 ha of forest and other nature areas**

Stenbjerg in Thy

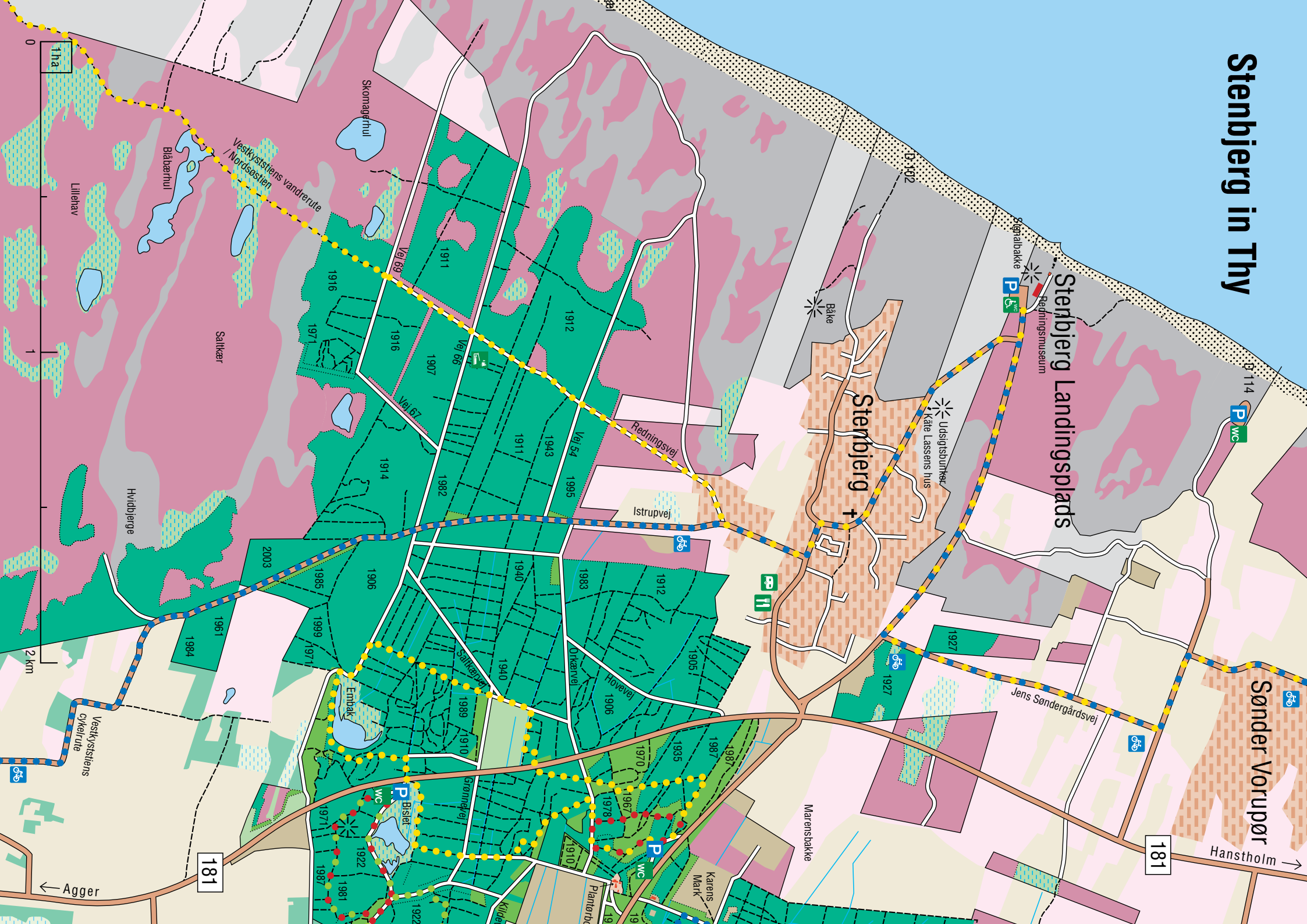
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Danish Ministry
of the Environment
The Forest and Nature Agency
Nature trails series no. 126E



Stenbjerg in Thy



Sønder Vorupør
Hanstholt →

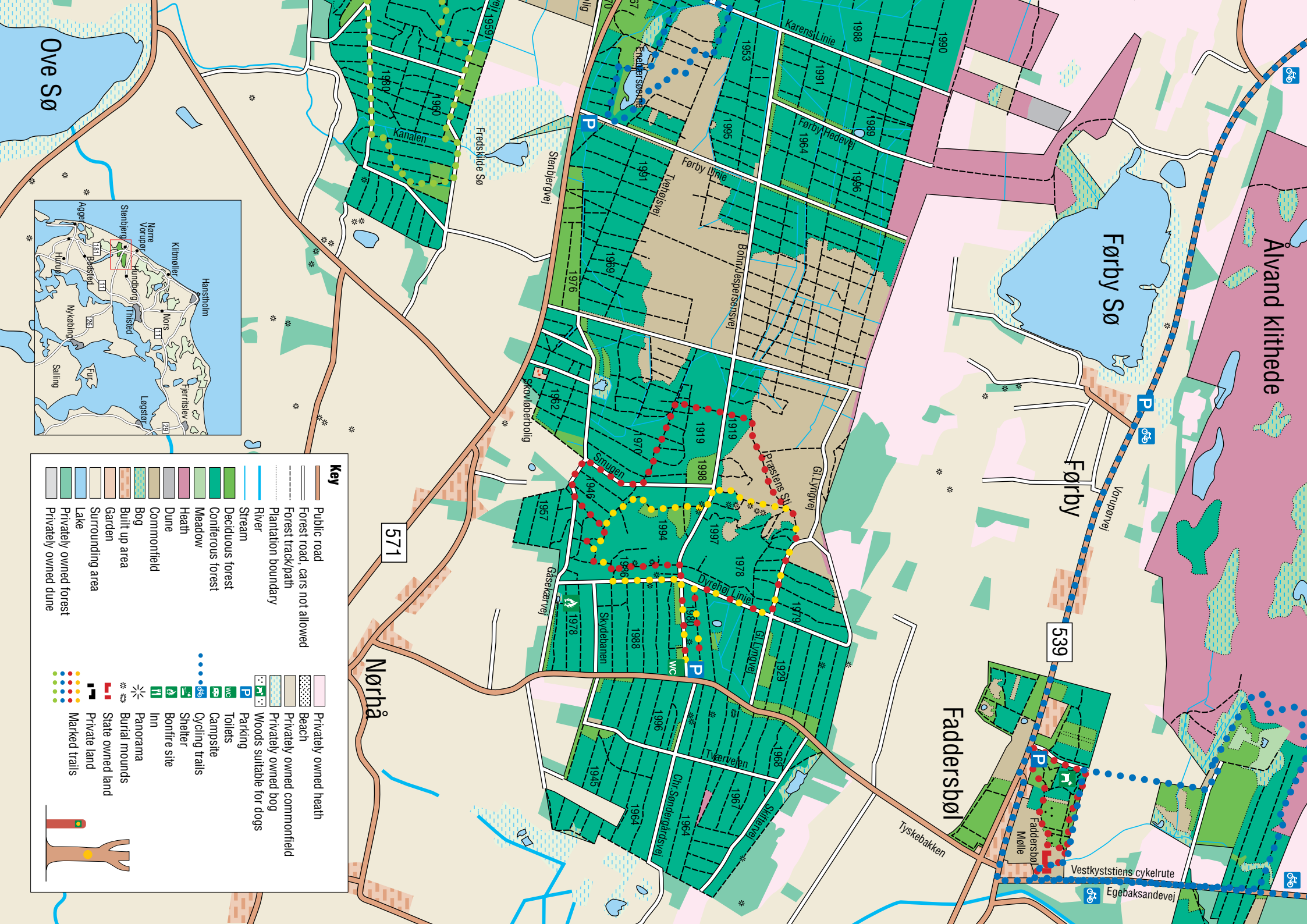
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Stenbjerg Landingsplads

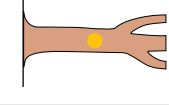
Stenbjerg +

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← Agger



Key	
	Public road
	Forest road, cars not allowed
	Forest track/path
	Plantation boundary
	River
	Stream
	Deciduous forest
	Coniferous forest
	Meadow
	Heath
	Dune
	Commonfield
	Bog
	Built up area
	Garden
	Surrounding area
	Lake
	Privately owned forest
	Privately owned dune
	Privately owned heath
	Beach
	Privately owned commonfield
	Privately owned bog
	Woods suitable for dogs
	Parking
	Toilets
	Campsite
	Cycling trails
	Shelter
	Bonfire site
	Inn
	Panorama
	Burial mounds
	State owned land
	Private land
	Marked trails



Stenbjerg landing place

The picturesque huts at Stenbjerg landing place were built by fishermen around the year 1900. At the time, the motorised vessel was changing old traditions, so that waters previously fished by line were now seeing nets, including trawl nets and ring nets or Danish seine. For this reason, it became important to keep and maintain tackle under cover. Commercial fishing by larger boats ended in 1972, and the huts, constructed from home-made brick and such materials as came to hand, were in danger of falling into ruin. The Association for the Preservation of Stenbjerg landing place managed comprehensive restoration of the huts in 2000. They are now used by anglers with one hut devoted to an exhibition on the local landscape and nature.

The Rescue Station was built in 1931 and is a listed monument. It is Stenbjerg's second rescue station, the first dating from 1894 and situated in the village centre, just south of the church. Another exhibition at the rescue station tells of local history and the part played by local lifeboats. The boat displayed here was originally built for the fishing village of Thyborøn in 1892 but is the same type as Stenbjerg's first lifeboat. The other artefacts on display were all in use at Stenbjerg's rescue station. Behind the rescue station is a signal hill, from which up to three globes might be hoisted on a mast to signal to fisherman the best action to take in the event of bad weather.

Stenbjerg village

The exact date of Stenbjerg's origins is not known, but it is thought that the village was inhabited at the end of the 17th century. At that time, Thy was beset by drifting sand which covered fields and made it impossible to cultivate the soil; farmers were driven eastwards. Those who did not own land managed to settle in the midst of the drift area and survived on sea fishing and such food as could be cultivated on the poor soil.

The harsh, somewhat exotic landscape of Stenbjerg has influenced artists throughout the years. There is a small exhibition on this in Käte Lassens house, situated at the western extremity of Stenbjerg Kirkevej.

It includes work by the well known Skagen painter, P.S. Krøyer who with his bride Marie spent two months of the year 1899 at the inn here on his way back from their honeymoon in Paris. The artist Jens Søndergaard had a summer house near Stenbjerg and painted many of his Thy pictures here. His daughter, Anelise Søndergaard, also used motives from Stenbjerg.

In contrast to these landscape artists, Käte Lassen, a German who painted in Stenbjerg from 1924 to 1944, depicted the people and their lives and feelings in her art. A path leads from Käte Lassens house to a World War II observation bunker from which there is a view to the north and west.



P.S. Krøyer: Marie Krøyer painting on Stenbjerg beach. 1899. From the collection of Skagens Museum

Stenbjerg dune plantation

Most of Stenbjerg plantation is seafloor uplift, and hence sandy. The terrain ranges from flat plains to extensive stretches of sand dunes. The coastal cliffs of the ancient stone age sea are visible 5 to 6 km inland. East of this, where the soil is clay and gravel on chalk, vegetation is completely different. The tree species and their growth provide clear evidence of more fertile growing conditions.

The plantation at Stenbjerg began in 1895 and roughly was done by "rolling out a carpet of mountain pine" over the landscape. Gradually, as the trees provided shelter from wind and frost, other species such as sitka spruce, noble fir, Scotch pine, and oak could be introduced.

In 2004 the plantation was hit by the worst forest fire in living memory. The fire raged for two days and destroyed roughly 150 hectares. Parts of the affected area have now been cleared, others planted with groups of deciduous trees and others will be left fallow until the blackened roots rot away.

The paths from Tyskebakken or from Førbj Linie lead across fire-affected areas.

There are many burial mounds in the east of the plantation including the impressive 'Store Dyrehøj' and a series of exposed tumuli along the stone age coastal cliff line.

Sandy heaths

The large sandy heaths on the west coast of Thy are a major contributory factor in the creation of the Thy National Park. Sandy heaths are a rare phenomenon in Europe; their distinctive flora and fauna are adapted to the particular habitat of dune, heath, heather moor, bog, and pond. The typical plants of this habitat are heather, crowberry, bog bilberry, bell heather, cranberry, and sundew whilst breeding birds include the crane and the wood sandpiper.

The sandy heath is a protected area and a European Natura 2000 site. European guidelines are prescribed for these sites with recommendations for achieving and maintaining a balance of nature. In practice this means that the heaths are kept free of superfluous trees, and they are managed through regular cutting and burning. Animals are free to graze the area.

A maritime marker or beacon is stationed south west of Stenbjerg, one of 23 such markers which were erected in 1884-85 along the west coast of Jut-

land. The beacons were of different designs to enable ships to determine their position. Today, 11 beacons remain and are listed monuments. Besides the beacon at Stenbjerg there are two other examples in Thy, at Vigsø and Bøgsted Rende.

Faddersbøl Mill

Faddersbøl mill is first mentioned in 1662. Originally, a watermill driven by the run-off from Sjørring lake, it was purchased and demolished in 1859 by Captain Jagd, the man in charge of draining the lake. The miller used the money



from the sale of his mill to construct a new Dutch windmill which is the present Faddersbøl mill and can be seen on the rise west of the former watermill's location.

This mill operated until 1968, whereafter it stood bereft of its sails and covered in galvanized tiles. In 2001, a restoration project reinstated its original appearance.

The mill houses an exhibition on nature, landscape, and the cultural background and history of mills. The stream which passes close by is a good place for spotting kingfishers and dippers, if one is lucky. Two trails start at the mill. One goes to the edge of Ålvand heath and, depending on the time of year, affords excellent opportunities for spotting deer, breeding cranes and thousand-fold flocks of geese which interrupt their migration to rest here.

The mill and its surrounding land were purchased by the state in 1992 for forestation. There is a wood suited for dog-walking in one of the new plantations west of the mill.

Thy National Park

Almost all areas mentioned in this leaflet are part of Thy National Park - 24,370 ha stretching along the west coast in a belt of land up to 12 km wide, from Agger Tange in the south to Hanstholm in the north. The park comprises coast, dune, heath, dune plantation, and large lakes as well as a few areas of agricultural land.