



## What is Par force Hunting?

### "Par force" is French for "by force"

Par force hunting was a grand spectacle. Hunters on horseback and hounds pursued a selected animal, usually a large red deer, for hours until it was exhausted. The hounds held the deer at bay until the finest participant delivered the final blow with a short hunting sword - a hirschfänger.



To facilitate the hunt and enhance the experience for spectators, long, straight roads were built through forests and open landscapes. These roads often converged in star-shaped formations, allowing hunters and spectators to track the prey and progress of the hunt. Hunters blew signals with hunting horns to convey the hunt's developments.

In the forests of North Zealand, the king led the hunt, typically showcasing his power by making the kill.



**Sika deer** (100 indiv.) Originating from East Asia, sika deer were introduced to the park in 1923. Their coat color varies throughout the year. The rutting season is from October to November.



**Roe deer** (20-30 indiv.) Denmark's smallest deer species. Outside the Deer Park roe deer are the most widespread deer species in the country. The rutting season is from July to August.



**Red deer** (300 indiv.) Denmark's largest terrestrial wild mammal, the red deer migrated here 10,000 years ago. Males are recognized by their large, pointed antlers. The rutting season is from September to October.



**Fallow deer** (1.600 indiv.) Often seen on the plain, Eremitagesletten. These deer come in three color variations: white, black, and brown. The rutting season is from mid-October to mid-November.

## World Class Power and Hunting

Christian V designed Gribskov, Store Dyrehave, Jægersborg Deer Park and Forest for par force hunting - a hunting tradition and a demonstration of power that Danish monarchs practiced for over 100 years. The last royal par force hunt in Denmark took place in 1777. Today par force hunting is prohibited.

### Experience the game of Par force Hunts

The deer in Jægersborg Deer Park are descendants of the deer from the era of par force hunting. Deer from surrounding areas were driven into Christian V's hunting grounds. Today, you can encounter four species of deer in the Deer Park. Only red deer and fallow deer were hunted during the par force hunts. The white red deer and fallow deer are color mutations, not albinos.

Around 2.100 deer live within the park's enclosure today. The population is managed by The Nature Agency. Every summer, 700 calves are born, and each winter 700 animals are shot. The royal family still participates in hunts in the Deer Park.

## Embark on a journey into the earliest par force hunting landscape in Denmark

[www.parforce.dk](http://www.parforce.dk)

The Par force Hunting Landscape in North Zealand is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Here, you can experience the baroque vision of designing landscapes specifically for hunting. This tradition began in the 1600s and 1700s, a time when monarchs across Europe demonstrated their power by reshaping nature.

### The Founding of the Deer Park

In 1669, Frederik III enclosed a small deer park to create the perfect setting for royal hunts. When Christian V ascended the throne in 1670, he expanded the enclosure fivefold to establish a deer park dedicated to par force hunting.

This marked the beginning of a larger par force hunting landscape in North Zealand, symbolizing even greater displays of power.

On the map, you can see the long, straight roads laid out starting in 1669. Many of these roads remain the ones we walk today.



**Nature Agency**  
[www.naturstyrelsen.dk](http://www.naturstyrelsen.dk)

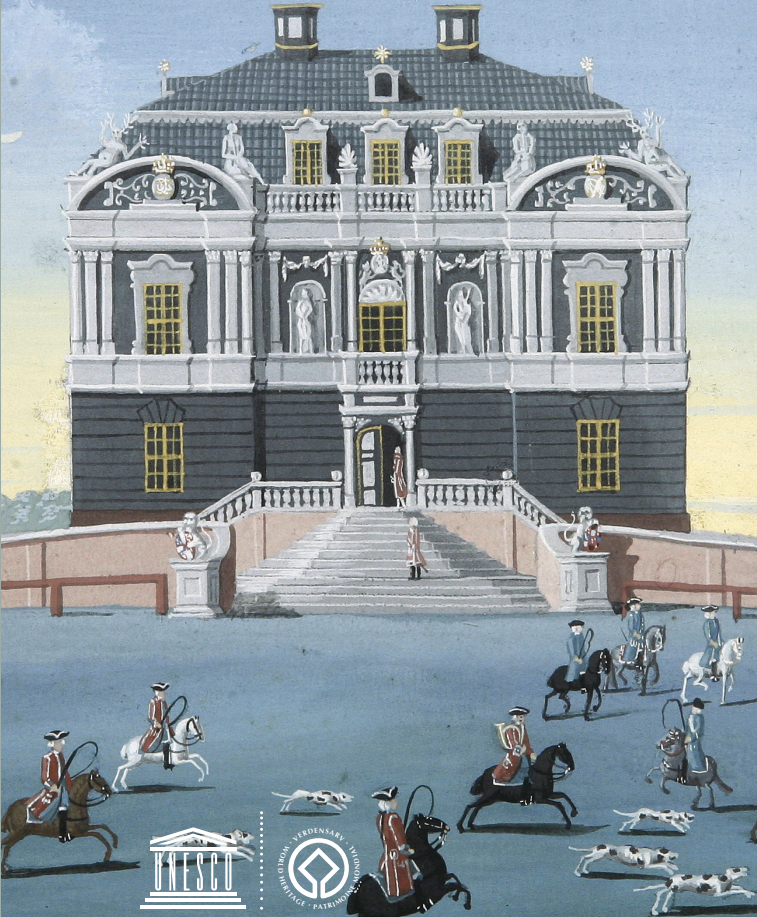


Nature Agency

## World Class Royal Hunts

Explore the Par force Hunting Landscape in Jægersborg Deer Park and Forest

UNESCO World Heritage



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



The par force hunting landscape in North Zealand inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2015



# Experience the par force hunting landscape

**1 Eremitageslottet (Eremitage Palace) - The Heart of the Hunt**  
Built by Christian VI in 1736, the Eremitage Palace served as a rest stop during hunts and a venue for entertaining hunting guests with a fine meal. The dining table was fitted with a mechanical lift connecting to the kitchen, allowing guests to dine undisturbed by servants. From the dining room's windows, guests could watch the hunt. Mirrors reflected sunlight, directing it towards the earthly representative of the sun, the absolute monarch.



**2 Christian V's Oak - A Fateful Encounter**  
Here Christian V was kicked by a dying deer during the final act of a par force hunt in 1698. This injury likely contributed to his death the following year, as he was already in poor health. The antlers from the famous deer are on display at Rosenborg Castle.



**3 Nature Bent to Royal Will**  
The absolute monarch reshaped nature as he wished. Several hunting roads were constructed through marshes to ensure long, unobstructed views. One such road can be found near Dousbad Mose.

**4 Out with the Farmers!**  
The royal hunting grounds left no space for farmers or agriculture. The village of Stokkerup was dismantled, and the farmers were given land outside the Deer Park. Traces of the village's farmsteads can still be seen around Stokkerup Kær. Imagine the small village surrounded by cultivated fields.



**5 The Atmosphere of Par force Hunting**  
The Sports Riding Club organizes the annual Hubertus Hunt on the first Sunday of November. This event recreates the spirit of par force hunting, featuring a thrilling ride by distinguished participants. Over 30,000 visitors gather in the forest to witness the spectacle, with all riders crossing the pond, Magasindammen, much to the audience's delight.



## Main Entrances to the World Heritage Site

Here you can find Information, public transport connections, parking, restaurants, and cafés.

**Route Suggestions from each Entrance**  
Explore the par force hunting roads and discover historical landmarks steeped in history.

- From Springforbi 3 km
- From Hjortekær 5 km
- From Klampenborg 5 km
- From Fortunen 6 km
- From Skodsborg 7 km

The routes are not marked in the landscape—bring the guide with you.

## Signaturforklaring

- Deer Park Gate
- Main entrance
- Small primitive campsite -stay for a maximum of 2 nights
- Small primitive campsite with a shelter
- Campsite, Reserve: [www.udinaturen.dk](http://www.udinaturen.dk)
- Forest playground Kronhjorten
- Dogs are permitted to run free here if the owner has full control of their dog
- Riding trail
- Bicycle rental
- Ancient burial mound
- Public road - open to motor traffic
- Forest road - motor traffic not allowed
- Forest track
- Riding trail
- Deer Park fence
- Forest
- Plain/meadow
- Cultivated field/cultivated field private
- Built-up area
- Owned property

