

Tvorup dune plantation

The dune plantation here is the oldest in Thy. Most of the area was planted in the second half of the 19th century, but it is possible to find some 200 year old trees. The plantation is bordered in the west by the sea and in the east by agricultural land and reclaimed land which was formerly lake Sjørring. To the north and south are the large protected sites of Vangså and Ålvand heaths.

Tvorup beacons

In 1884-85 a system of beacons was installed to guide sailors off the west coast of Jutland. The beacons were of different designs to enable ships to determine their position. At Bøgsted Rende, the beacon is in the shape of an hour-glass. All 11 remaining beacons have been restored and are listed monuments. In Thy there are two other examples of beacons, at Stenbjerg and Vigso.

Thagaard's dune plantation

Thagaard's plantation occupies the northern part of the dune plantation, just west of Kystvejen (the coastal road). Planted in 1816 by the sand drift commissioner Laurits Thagaard, this is an early example of an attempt to halt sand drift by means of forestation. Inspired by plantings on the heaths of central Jutland, the trail began with the sowing of spruce and birch seed. It was soon found that spruce does not tolerate salt air and birch needs protection from the westerlies; Thagaard's project was abandoned after a few years. Only when surrounding plantations had taken root and provided some lee did the surviving specimens in Thagaard's plantation begin to thrive. Today, it resembles a primeval forest with stunted forms of birch and spruce, sometimes as wide as they are tall.

Tvorup church ruins

Tvorup church was in use until the year 1794 when it gave way to the destructive effects of drifting sand. There are few places where the humble grain of sand has wreaked such damage as the parish of Tvorup. Reports dating back as far as 1596 and over the next 200 years tell of the many farms that were abandoned in the wake of sand drifts which laid their fields bare. Tvorup church – like other churches – was the responsibility of the parishioners but as their numbers dwindled, church taxes could not cover the maintenance of the building. It was demolished in 1794, and some of the stone was used to repair the neighbouring church in Vang. Now, the ruins are an idyllic, peaceful spot bounded by the remnants of the church wall. In amongst the grass to the south of the church, you can just make out some gravestones.



Gryden (the hollow)

The chamberlain H. C. Riegels organised three trial plantings in the dunes in the years 1853 - 1861. The Tvorup hollow was one of these locations and saw the introduction of mountain pine, Scotch pine, Austrian pine, sitka spruce, silver fir, beech, oak, and aspen. The trials proved that the mountain pine was particularly suited to the poor soils and shifting sands of the dunes. For this reason, the 1870's saw the unrolling of a mountain pine 'carpet' over the landscape. Once this was established, it provided the necessary protection from wind and frost to allow the sowing of other species. Descendants of those first trials are visible today. Despite sand drifts of over 6 metres, the various species are now doing well and in their turn providing a substantial wind break. More and more deciduous trees are being planted with the aim of increasing the proportion of native deciduous treespecies - especially oak - in the plantation.

Bøgsted Rende

The name "Bogsted Rende" might suggest the beech ("bøg" in Danish) but in fact means the 'building site by the ditch'. Old accounts state that before the sands began their march inland a windmill stood on this spot. There must at certain times of the year have been a fair amount of water in the ditch.

The trees at Bogsted Rende have been planted right up to the line of littoral dunes and have been much affected by onshore winds. The old watercourse forms a peaceful place, contained and sheltered by bluffs in which the underlying clay loam is visible at intervals.

Tvorup Hul

Tvorup Hul is a pond of about 4 ha which lies in a trench-like depression. Its floor is sand, and its waters, which are clear and poor in nutritional value, are up to 6 metres deep. The pond has conservation status because of its flora which includes the water lobelia, shoreweed, spiny and ash grey quillworts, the whorled water-milfoil, and the very rare water awlwort. In recent years, the forestry district has stopped the input of water from forest ditches and removed coffers from the immediate vicinity of the pond. This has resulted in an improved water quality.



The great heaths

Tvorup dune plantation is bounded to the north by Vangså heath and to the south by Ålvand heath. Dune heaths are fairly rare in Europe; here, flora and fauna is adapted to the conditions of dune, heath, heather moor, bog, and pond. Typical plants of this habitat are heather, crowberry, bog bilberry, bell heather, bog myrtle, and cranberry. Heaths are tended, mown, and burned to keep them free of unwanted trees.

Clearance

In recent years, several parts of the western plantation have been cleared of mountain pine. This has been done to recreate the original sand dunes. The straight lines of the plantation are being softened to create new outlines and greater variety in the landscape.

Welcome to Tvorup dune plantation

The centre of this area features one of Jutland's oldest dune plantations with trees up to 200 years old. To the west, the plantation is bordered by dunes and heath along the North Sea, whilst to the north and south are the sandy heaths of Vangså and Ålvand respectively. Dune heaths are a rare phenomenon in Europe.



The great outdoors: Bøgsted Rende is a favourite destination for tourists and locals alike. On warm summer days, people come here to swim, but the area is worth a visit at other times of the year too. Depending on the weather, you can search for amber on the beach and mushrooms in the woods or walk by a sheltered stream whilst the wind roars in the tree tops. From 1 April to 15 July - Ålvand heath is closed to the public - due to the breeding season for the birds which include golden plover and common crane. There will be a sign to indicate that access is forbidden during this period.

Bonfire and camp sites: By the car park at the southern extremity of Boligvej there is a combined bonfire/barbecue area and camp site. This includes two shelters, firewood, water supply, and a privy. In the south west part of the plantation, 1 km from the sea, there is a simple camping area with a single shelter, firewood, and a privy. Campers must bring their own water.

Facilities for the disabled: The trail from the barbecue site on Boligvej has been constructed with wheelchair users in mind. The trail is just 1 km. Many car parks and picnic areas are suitable for the disabled, and many forest trails are wheelchair friendly for a large part of the year.

Nature trails: There are seven marked nature trails here or you can use the brochure to plan your own excursion.

Mountain bike trails: Two mountain bike trails depart from the car park at the southern end of Boligvej. The white trail is 6 km, and the more demanding green trail is 10 km.

Further information: The local contact number for the Forest and Nature Agency, Regional Office, Thy is tel. +45 97 97 70 88, e-mail: thy@sns.dk or www.skovogtnatur.dk.

Tvorup dune plantation



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.skovogtnatur.dk

Danish Ministry of the Environment
The Forest and Nature Agency

- administration of state-owned forests and other nature areas in Denmark
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Areas belonging to the Forest and Nature Agency are
recognisable by the red posts as seen here (right)

Tvorup dune plantation

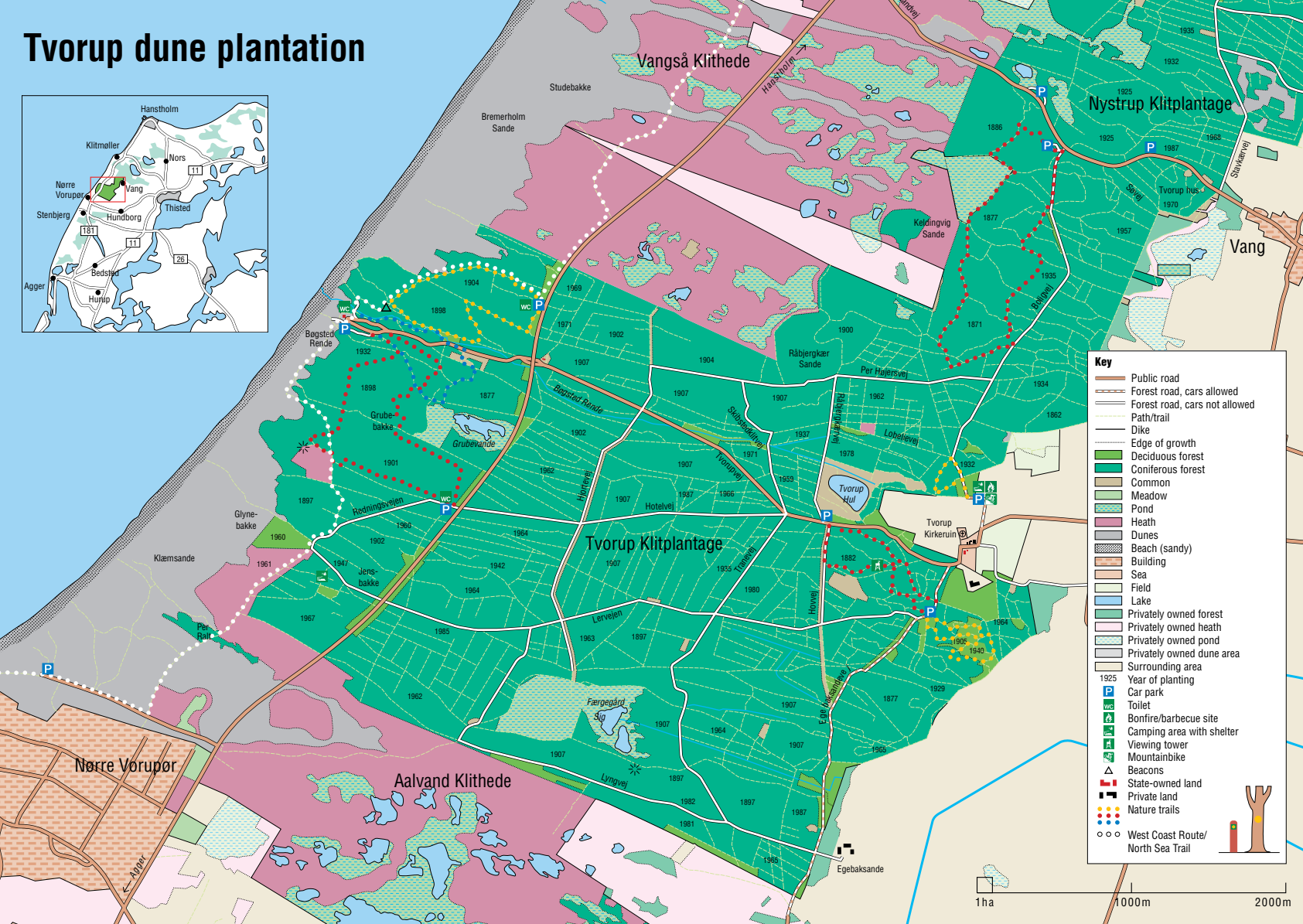
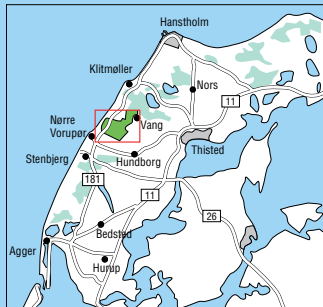
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The Forest and Nature Agency
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Key	
	Public road
	Forest road, cars allowed
	Forest road, cars not allowed
	Path/trail
	Dike
	Edge of growth
	Deciduous forest
	Coniferous forest
	Common
	Meadow
	Pond
	Heath
	Dunes
	Beach (sandy)
	Building
	Sea
	Field
	Lake
	Privately owned forest
	Privately owned heath
	Privately owned pond
	Privately owned dune area
	Surrounding area
	Year of planting
	Car park
	Toilet
	Bonfire/barbecue site
	Camping area with shelter
	Viewing tower
	Mountainbike
	Beacons
	State-owned land
	Private land
	Nature trails
	West Coast Route/ North Sea Trail

Marked nature trails in Tvorup dune plantation

South Kystvejen car park

The red trail (5 km) is across undulating dunes and affords expansive views. A degree of fitness is required. This trail can also be joined and cut short at Bøgsted Rende.

North Kystvejen car park

The yellow trail (3.5 km) leaves Thagaard's Plantation and heads west towards the beacon and Bøgsted Rende.

Trapsandevej car park

The red trail (4.5 km) takes in some mountain pine forest as well as more luxuriant woods with a variety of species.

Bøgsted Rende car park

The blue trail (2.3 km) starts in hilly terrain and returns along the line of the stream.

The red trail (5 km) follows the same route as described under South Kystvejen car park.

Egebaksandevej car park

The yellow trail (1.6 km) winds along the trench traversing changing and hilly terrain.

The red trail (2.4 km) includes the viewing tower at Vildandstag sands.

Boligvej car park (300 m north of Tvorupgård)

The yellow trail (0.9 km) has been designed with wheelchair users in mind. This means that for most of the year the trail is easily passable in a wheelchair.



1ha

1000m

2000m