

## Welcome to Lake Esrum

Lake Esrum invites you to a broad variety of experiences. Take a nice one day trip, or have an overnight stay at one of the campsites. The Westside of the lake contiguous with "Grib-skov". There are opportunities to go on land and marked fire places.

In the southern end of the lake at "Nødebo Holt", there is a primitive campsite. Here you can spend the night but remember to bring a tent and enough fresh water to spend a night in nature.

Another primitive campsite is located close to "Gravervang" and is reserved for organized groups such as scouts and school classes etc. To use it you have to make a reservation at: [www.udinaturen.dk](http://www.udinaturen.dk)

The lake has two small marinas ("Sørup-" and "Fredensborg marina"). They are both located in the southern end. At Sørup marina there is a slipway. Here you can launch your boat but remember to contact the harbour master before doing it.

When sailing in the southern end of the lake, be aware that "Møllekrogen" is a bird reserve. It is not allowed to sail within the yellow buoys bounding the protected area. Due to the King Fisher "Pibersletten" in Nødebo is closed from April to November. The bird has its breeding ground here and it requires peace during the mating season.



At Fredensborg marina you can rent a boat, canoe or a sea kayak but if you prefer to sit back and relax the old tour boats will take you on a trip around the lake.



## Rules when visiting Lake Esrum

- The bird reserve "Møllekrogen" in the south end of the lake is a protected area and it is not allowed to trespass the yellow buoys.
- It is not allowed to sail in areas with water lilies and reed forest.
- Noisy behaviour, use of ghetto blasters and other noisy objects are not allowed.
- It is only allowed to light a fire at the marked fire places. Dry wood is usually located right next to the fire place.
- Putting up tents is only allowed at the campsites
- It is only allowed to go on land in public areas. To go onto private land you need permission from the owner.
- It is not allowed to sail on Esrum canal in the area from Lake Esrum until you have passed "Snevret" forest.
- Keep a distance to the birds on land as well as on the lake. Kite surfing is not allowed on Lake Esrum.
- To use out- and inboard gasoline motors a permit from "Skov- og Naturstyrelsen, Nord-sjælland" is required.
- All traffic on Lake Esrum is with reference to the International Collision Regulations.



## Lake Esrum

Lake Esrum was formed during the latest ice age "Weichsel" which occurred between 110.000 and 11.000 BC.

The lake is formed like a large bathtub with steep slopes close to land and a large flat bottom.

Lake Esrum is the lake in Denmark which contains the largest amount of water. It has a surface area of 17,3 km<sup>2</sup> and in the middle it is 22 m. deep.

The lake has its outlet in the Northern end through Esrum canal, Esrum Abbey and "Møllegård" with the old watermill. From the watermill the water flows to the outlet at "Dronningmølle"

Compared to many other Danish lakes, Lake Esrum is clean and you can go for a swim in it. Like in other clean lakes trematode parasites occasionally occurs and are known to cause what is called "swimmer's itch".

On warm and sunny days there is also a risk of algae in the water.

Lake Esrum hosts a broad variety of fish. Some of them are; lake trout, eel, pike, perch, bream and roach.

To fish in the lake you need a permit. For further information visit the homepage: [www.fd.fvm.dk](http://www.fd.fvm.dk)



## Birds at lake Esrum

Lake Esrum has a great variety of birds. The Golden eye was rarely seen breeding in Denmark but thanks to a great effort making nesting boxes around the lake it has become one of the characteristic birds at the lake.



The last couple of years the Kingfisher have been seen breeding along the banks of the Lake and Esrum canal. The Kingfisher is quick and shy but if you are lucky you can get a glimpse of the blue bird flying across the lake or along the canals.



You might also see the Kingfisher sitting on a low branch close to the water scouting for fish.

The white-tailed sea-eagle is a rare guest in Denmark. During the last years the eagle often have been seen floating high above the lake or resting in the trees along the lakeside.

A colony of Great cormorant lives in the reserve "Møllekrogen". Since 2008 the colony has consisted of approx. 500 breeding couples. There is a good chance of experiencing the great cormorant as it flies across the lake or sits on a pole drying its wings.

Apart from the rare birds there are also a lot of common birds to be seen nearby or on the lake. Birds like; The Eurasian coot mallard, tufted duck, great crested grebe and the mute swan all live here.



## Good advice

- Always use a life jacket.
- Respect the anglers on and around the lake.
- Steer right when meeting others coming towards you.
- Keep distance to other boats while sailing the lake.
- If canoeing or kayaking, do not stand up.
- Do not bring dogs on smaller boats. Keep your dog on a leash when approaching land.
- In bad weather, stay close to land.
- If your boat capsizes or fills with water, stay close to it until you are absolutely certain that you can reach land.
- If several groups happen to be at the same rest area, show consideration and coordinate your stay so that everyone is satisfied.
- Take care of the environment and bring everything you brought along, back with you again.

Enjoy your visit

Danish Forest and Nature Agency  
Regional Office North Zealand  
Gillelejevej 2B  
3230 Græsted

For more information see:  
[www.skovognatur.dk/Nordsjaelland](http://www.skovognatur.dk/Nordsjaelland)



# Sailing at Lake Esrum



Skov- og Naturstyrelsen  
Nordsjælland