



WELCOME TO VEJLE TOUR DE FRANCE - GRAND DÉPART

The Kingdom of Cycling welcomes the world's greatest cycling race.

INTRODUCTION TO VEJLE

Vejle is a hidden gem – some even call it the most underrated city in Denmark. However, while it might be underrated at first, Vejle definitely has wow-factor. Vejle is rich on culture, trade, tourism, architecture and nature. The area is known for its unique place in history and proud merits in the sport of cycling. Look forward to spectacular scenery, architecture and world-class attractions combined with urban pulse, unique shopping experiences and high-level gastronomy.

Vejle has a unique place in history. The Danish nation was born and created in Jelling. The Jelling Monuments with the runic stones, the two large mounds, the church, the world's largest stone ship and an impressive palisade fence are among the world's most significant monuments and included on UNESCO's World Heritage List. The riders of the Tour de France will get a glimpse of our Viking history up close as they will race just beside the Jelling Monuments.



In Vejle, modern architectural gems gleam alongside beautiful historic buildings. Renowned architects and artists, local as well as international, have made their mark on Vejle. Not least along the waterfront, where over the past few years an exciting urban district has been created with recreational environments, award-winning architecture and sustainable housing. The 3rd stage of the Grand Départ Copenhagen Denmark 2022 takes place at the waterfront with the famous Fjordenhus and the Fjord as a beautiful backdrop.

Vejle is also for foodies. Enjoy fine gastronomy and the good life. Experience a wide range of culinary flavours that will surely titillate your senses. From classic Danish open-faced sandwiches to gourmet experiences on the highest international level - at small cosy cafés and luxurious restaurants. From deli stores to artisanal breweries, vineyards and whiskey distilleries. The local restaurant, Restaurant Me | Mu has proudly been awarded a Michelin star for their gourmet experience with quality produce from the local area.

Vejle offers a unique shopping experience – maybe one of Denmark's best. Vejle has been voted Denmark's Most Beautiful Shopping Town 2020-22 and Denmark's Best Shopping Town 2018-20, and not without reason. Vejle is the region's leading commercial city with a large variety of shops.

Not far from the city, you will find Denmark's most scenic nature. From the rolling coastal woodlands to the meandering valleys of Grejsdalen and Vejle Ådal. The lakes of Fårup Sø and Rørbæk Sø are scenically situated in the downs. You can cross this landscape along the Ancient Road from the river springs of Gudenåen and Skjern Å and the woods of Tinnel Krat to the moorland of Randbøl Hede. You will also experience breath-snapping bike rides along Denmark's toughest hill climbs as well as open countryside with inlet, lakes, heath, forest and meadows. There is room for families and pro riders alike. You can also challenge yourself to the mountain bike trails.

In Vejle, you will find experiences for the whole family. There are shrieks of fun in LEGOLAND, roaring wild animals in Givskud Zoo, Viking warriors in Jelling and hands-on learning about nature and the climate at the Ecolarium.

We welcome you to Vejle – the Kingdom of Cycling.



DENMARK'S BEST CYCLING TERRAIN

The Kingdom of Cycling – a landscape made for cycling. In Vejle and its vicinity, you will find a whole kingdom of opportunities on a bike – no matter what kind of bike you ride. The terrain is entirely unique – the best cycling terrain in Denmark – and offers an enjoyable environment for you and your bicycle.

The Kingdom of Cycling offers a landscape shaped by the Ice Age, ensuring you enjoy the most amazing panoramic views. Like being whirled into true adventures, here you can discover landmark history by pedal power. Stand on the spot where Viking kings ruled and learn about the lives of Vikings in the visitors' centre Kongernes Jelling. You can ride along the Ancient Road/ Hærvejen and follow in the footsteps of the kings who once travelled this thoroughfare with their marching armies or stand face-to-face with the kings of the animal world, the lions, at Givskud Zoo.

Here, you will also find Denmark's toughest hill climbs, which lend their tarmac to countless road cycling races, from the Queen's Stage of PostNord Danmark Rundt (Tour of Denmark) and one of Denmark's largest recreational road cycling races, Grejsdalsløbet, to something truly special – the king of all cycling races, the Tour de France, which will visit the area in 2022.

The Kingdom of Cycling also offers alpine ascents in Vejle's suburban forests which are bound to take the breath away from even the hardest mountain bike rider. Hone your mountain biking skills in Vejle BikePark, test the professional tracks in the woods of Nørreskoven or follow the blue track in Sønderskoven. There are challenges for everyone, seasoned riders and beginners alike.

The Kingdom of Cycling offers countless experiences and history plays a leading role. Vejle's many hills and steep climbs make the area unique for two-wheeled travellers, and offers beautiful, exhilarating and inspiring experiences like nowhere else.

Shooting locations, experiences and story ideas

Vejle Waterfront: Vejle's waterfront has over the past few years been transformed into a modern and charming canal district with a vibrant maritime club life. Today the area features award-winning architecture and sustainable housing. Here you find the iconic buildings Bølgen (the Wave) and Fjordenhus, designed by world-renowned artist Olafur Eliasson. The 3rd stage of the Grand Départ Copenhagen Denmark 2022 takes place at the waterfront.

<https://www.visitvejle.com/vejle/plan-your-holidays/vejles-waterfront-gdk1082121>

Bike friendly destination: We take pride in being bike friendly. Vejle's Bike Friends is ready to help you with a bicycle pump and repair kit and you can get water for your water bottle. If you are looking for bike-friendly accommodation, you will also find it in Vejle. The Bed + Bike accommodations ensures you the optimal conditions for your cycling holiday. Borrow tools for repairs and get your bike locked securely inside.

<https://www.visitvejle.com/vejle/experiences/cycling-holidays/bike-friends-vejle>

<https://www.visitvejle.com/vejle/experiences/cycling-holidays/bed-bike-vejle>

UNESCO World Heritage: In the tenth century, King Harald Bluetooth had Denmark's name engraved on a rune stone in Jelling and erected two barrows and a church. The Jelling Monuments have enjoyed UNESCO World Heritage patronage since 1994. In the visitor and experience centre, Kongernes Jelling, you can discover the exciting world of the Vikings and their monuments.

<https://www.visitvejle.com/vejle/plan-your-holidays/jelling-monuments-unesco-gdk607895>

The toughest hill climbs in Denmark: Alpine-grade ascents are usually not something you associate with Denmark. However, the area around Vejle is an exception. Here, you will not only find some of Denmark's steepest hills, it's also the area with the most and steepest road climbs in Denmark.

<https://www.visitvejle.com/vejle/experiences/road-cycling>

Go Green: VisitVejle and MeetingVejle has just received HORESTA's prestigious GREEN TOURISM ORGANIZATION (GTO) certificate for an active effort to develop sustainable tourism. The certification is a mark and great recognition that Vejle has since 2018 worked strategically with sustainable leisure and meeting tourism.

(In Danish): <https://www.meetingvejle.dk/historie/meetingvejle-og-visitvejle-anerkendt-med-horestas-certificering-for-baeredygtig-turisme/>

Cycling Routes

The Ancient Road: Thousands of years ago, before cars filled the roads and before railways linked the major cities, the largest thoroughfare through Jutland followed the rivers. Wandering here were people from all walks of life - pilgrims, robbers, noblemen, beggars, artisans, traders, drovers with their cattle and kings with their armies. The Ancient Road (Hærvejen, National Route 3) was never planned. It was a trodden track that wound through the landscape where the seasons permitted people to pass. A network of humble gravel roads and wheel tracks taking you from town to town, the Ancient Road was one with the landscape.

The East Coast Route: The beech forest and beautiful beaches beckon when you take the East Coast Route (National Route 5). On this stretch of the route, you cycle past a string of small castles and manors, namely Barritskov, Rosenvold, Rohden Manor and Tirsbæk Castle, where you can also swim.

Bindeballestien: Bindeballestien (Regional Route 36) is an inspiring cycling and hiking route through the scenic Vejle Ådal valley. The 36-kilometer route is almost car-free and runs across open countryside from Vejle to Bindeballe and on to Billund.

Denmark's undisputed toughest bike route: It's quite unique that a single route in Denmark offers a total ascent of 3,000 metres. Indeed, to find routes that are steeper you would need to head far south into the continent. The route has several loops in order to reach all the hills in the valley of Vejle Ådal and avoid roads with heavy traffic.

Accommodation

Budget

- [Cabinn Vejle](#) offers the lowest prices in the city and a super central location by the river in the centre of Vejle, close to the cinema, cafes and shops. Cabinn Vejle is part of Bike Friends Vejle and Bed + Bike.

- [Danhostel Vejle](#) is a family friendly hostel situated in the center of Jutland close to some of the most popular attractions in Denmark. Danhostel Vejle is part of Bike Friends Vejle and Bed + Bike.
- [Vejle City Camping](#) is beautifully situated close to the centre of Vejle. Just outside the campsite there are green areas, forests and beaches with rich opportunities for running, biking and hiking.

Mid-range

- [Vejle Center Hotel](#) is a modern business, conference and family hotel on the outskirts of Vejle, surrounded by beautiful nature. Vejle Center Hotel is part of Bike Friends Vejle and offers bike friendly package deals.
- [Haraldskær Sinatur Hotel & Conference](#) is beautifully situated in the lush and idyllic Vejle Ådal valley. Here you can savour the moment and enjoy fine gastronomy rooted in the riches of nature. Haraldskær is part of Bike Friends Vejle.
- [Scandic Jacob Gade](#) is situated in calm and quiet surroundings, very centrally in Vejle City Park. The hotel is housed in the same building as Vejle Music Theatre and placed next to Vejle Museum of Art.
- [BEST WESTERN TorVEhallerne](#) is a modern 4-star hotel in the centre of Vejle. The inspiring surroundings and the many offerings in central Vejle are perfect for a weekend stay or a family trip.

High-end

- [Munkebjerg Hotel](#) is surrounded by pristine beech forests. With Vejle Inlet and Vejle Golf Club as its nearest neighbours, Munkebjerg Hotel is one of Denmark's most superb destinations. Here, you will find highly professional staff, 5-starred conference facilities and banquet rooms suitable for many different purposes.
- [Hotel Vejlefjord](#) is often referred to as "the castle in the forest". The impressive building is located by the banks of the fjord and surrounded by beech wood. Relaxing spa stays await in beautiful surroundings with smiling nature and amazing wellness.
- [Comwell Kellers Park](#) is a destination of charm set in beautiful and historic surroundings overlooking Vejle Inlet. Here, you will find some of Denmark's most luxurious spa facilities as well as facilities for meetings, conferences and parties in addition to a brasserie and restaurant.

Restaurants

Taste your way through Vejle with our new Gastro Guide. With this guide, you get high-class experiences with a focus on authentic places, local ingredients, a sense of the local food traditions and sustainability.

Find your gastro tour on www.gastro-guiden.dk

Facts about Vejle

- Vejle is the ninth largest city in Denmark.
- Vejle has approx. 115,000 citizens and the municipality is the fifth largest in Denmark.
- The location of Vejle in the middle of Denmark has created an international city with large international companies in the local area, such as Siemens and LEGO.
- Vejle is ranked as Denmark's Most Beautiful Shopping Town 2020-2022 and has previously been hailed as Denmark's Best, Denmark's friendliest and Denmark's most service-minded shopping town.
- Vejle has a rich heritage but has also been very forward thinking, which can be seen through the architecture. The oldest building is the Sct. Nicolai Church from the mid-1200s, while Spinderihallerne, Den Smidske Gård (merchant house), Vejle Town Hall and the Vejle Windmill are all from the 1800s. Adding to Vejle's exciting new impressions are the waterfront promenade with Fjordenhus and Bølgen (the Wave), dockland canals, a floating kayak club, a marina, restaurants and contemporary residential estates.
- The internationally acclaimed artist Olafur Eliasson have created Vejle's new iconic building, Fjordenhus, which is built in the harbour basin at Vejle Marina. Eliasson has also designed the exclusive Restaurant LYST at Fjordenhus, and the ground floor, which includes artworks by Eliasson, is open to the public.
- In Vejle, you will find Denmark's best cycling terrain and the toughest hill climbs. The toughest in all of Denmark is Chr. Winthersvej with a max. Gradient of 25.5 % shortly followed by Gl. Kongevej with a max. Gradient of 19.5 % and Kiddesvej with 19 %.
- Since 2004, Vejle has been the finish destination of the most difficult stage of the Post Nord Danmark Rundt (the tour of Denmark), the so-called Queen's Stage, with the road 'Kiddesvej' as the crucial climb. Kiddesvej has a maximum Gradient of 19% and an average of 12.9%.
- Vejle's many cycling hills are now even more fun to scale. Vejle Municipality has signposted 34 of the most popular climbs. The permanent signs feature information about the length of the hill, maximum Gradient, average Gradient and total ascent in metres.
- Most museums in Vejle takes no entrance fee.
- The Jelling Stones are among the most significant monuments in the world and is included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. The Danish nation was born and created in Jelling.
- LEGOLAND Billund is Denmark's best known and loved entertainment park among families and children of all ages, who love action, speed and fun and is located just 30 minutes from Vejle.

Useful links

www.visitvejle.com/cycling-holidays

www.kingdomofcycling.dk

www.tour.vejle.dk