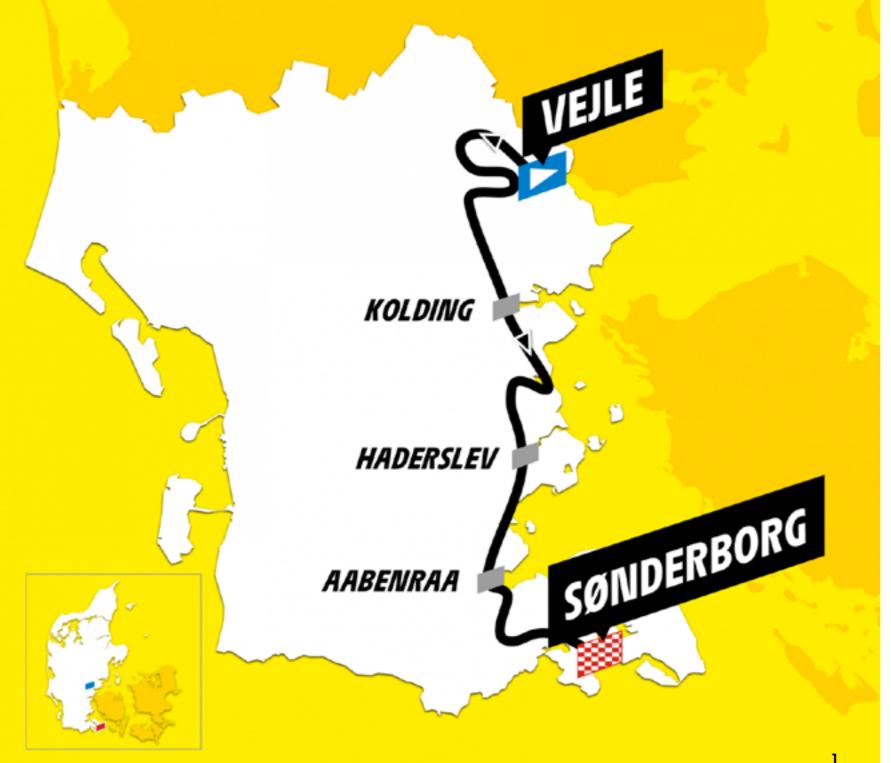


# and stage in Aabenraa Kommune TOUR GUIDE





# **Tour de France in Aabenraa Kommune**

The first three stages of the Tour de France 2022 are cycled in Denmark. The third stage goes through Aabenraa Kommune. The 182 kilometer long stage starts in Vejle and ends in Sønderborg. After 124 kilometers, the riders arrive at Aabenraa Kommune and start with a mountain sprint in Genner. The trip continues towards Aabenraa town and after 149.7 kilometers in the legs, the riders reach Felsted and then continue towards Sønderborg.

The third stage offers three short but steep mountain sprints. The last is shortly after the riders cross the municipal border to Aabenraa Kommun in Genner (1.6km at 3.3%). Today's third climb at Genner Strand may well determine who is wearing the polka dot mountain jersey during the ensuing day of rest. From here it is a battle between the field and the breakaways for the stage victory through Aabenraa and towards the finish city Sønderborg. There is less likelihood of disruptive crosswinds than the day before, so for the sprint teams, the 3rd stage is a day where nothing should go wrong.

In this Tour Guide we have collected exciting events and cultural and historical sites and buildings, which are located along the route. Read more about the tour in Aabenraa Kommune at <u>aabenraa.dk/tour</u> or <u>facebook.com/aabenraakommune</u>.



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# 1. Genner Bay and picturesque Kalvø

KM 121,5

Genner Bay is around four kilometres wide and more than 10 metres deep. It cuts a path through the moraine hills between Sønderballe and Løjt Land northeast of Aabenraa.

At the innermost part of the bay, which is part of a tunnel valley, you will find Genner Beach and Sønderballe Beach with lots of holiday homes and the island of Kalvø, which in the Age of Sail was home to a small shipyard and village. Today, the island houses a museum and stone park.

The island and surrounding waters have been designated a game reserve, and Kalvø is connected to the mainland via a dam. In the old days, no one lived on Kalvø, but in 1847 ship owner Jørgen Bruhn purchased the island and built a shipyard here, which would go on to build large clippers and frigates. In 1870, the yard closed, but the yard workers' houses remain.

Jørgen Bruhn only built ships for his own shipping company, and they were large ships, including the most famous ship to have come out of Aabenraa, the frigate Cimber, which in 1857 sailed from Liverpool to San Francisco via Cape Horn in a record time of 104 days.

At the time of his death in 1858, Jørgen Bruhn was the largest ship owner in the country and by far the wealthiest man in Aabenraa. But after his passing, his business fell apart. His headstone can still be seen in the cemetery in Aabenraa.

**Sporting point**Mountain sprint











## Meeting place for the German minority and the highest point in Southern Jutland

In 1893, people supporting the German occupation of Southern Jutland turned the 97-metre hill of Knivsberg (Knivsbjerg), the highest in Southern Jutland, into a rendezvous. A 45-metre granite tower and statue of Otto von Bismarck were erected in 1898-1901, though the statue was moved in 1919 and later re-erected at Aschberg (Askbjerg) by Eckernförde in Schleswig-Holstein.

Knivsberg continues to be a key meeting place for the German minority in the area, which throw a party here once a year in June. Today, a memorial and view platform have been erected at the top of the hill, which is also home to a large conference centre used by the German minority.

The various institutions and organisations belonging to the German minority in Southern Jutland are united in the umbrella organisation the Bund Deutscher Nordschleswiger (BDN).

Today, BDN acts as umbrella organisation for i.a. 23 child care centres, 17 schools, Deutsche Nachschule Tingleff and Deutsche Gymnasium für Nordschleswig in Aabenraa as well as the General Secretariat in Aabenraa and the Secretariat in Copenhagen.

It has a total budget of around DKK 235 million, 45 per cent of which come from Denmark, 33 per cent from Germany and 22 per cent from the organisation itself. Today, the German minority includes around 15,000 individuals.







# 3. Town of Genner

KM 123,9

58,1

The town of Genner is located on the east coast of Southern Jutland in an extremely picturesque part of Aabenraa Municipality, where you are never far from the woods or water.

Genner boasts an active associational life, which is characterised by great local commitment. Among other things, the associations have helped get up the large Tour de France folk festival to the delight of the citizens, tourists and many cycling fans.

#### Land art

Grass art in the form of a bicycle 60 metres wide. Next to the bicycle is a yellow banner reading "VIVE LE TOUR" in black, painted pallets.











The 140-hectare plantation, Lerskov Plantation, is located around six kilometres north of Aabenraa and two kilometres southwest of Genner. The most significant kame in Jutland, Genner Kame, follows a southwest/northeast route through the area with mossy hollows on both sides.

The Lerskov Battery, a WWI emplacement with pillboxes, can be seen from the road in the westernmost part of the woods. The battery was one of eight large emplacements comprising Sikringsstilling Nord built by the Germans in 1916-18 to prevent a British attack from the north following an expected landing in Esbjerg.

From the ammunition bunker, a narrow-gauge track runs west into the privately owned woods to the 24-cam gun platform.













# 5. Aabæk Efterskole The oldest practical continuation school in the country

Aabæk Efterskole opened in 1970 as the first continuation school in the country for children with learning disabilities, and therefore, the teaching was allocated to workshops. The school has subsequently led to the creation of similar schools.

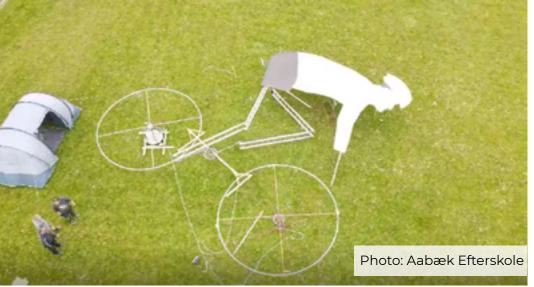
According to Aabæk Efterskole's educational goal description, the individual student shall, through practical work, build positive self-knowledge of their social and physical competences.

This should boost their self-confidence and self-esteem, insofar as the individual student's resources and competences are allowed to grow.

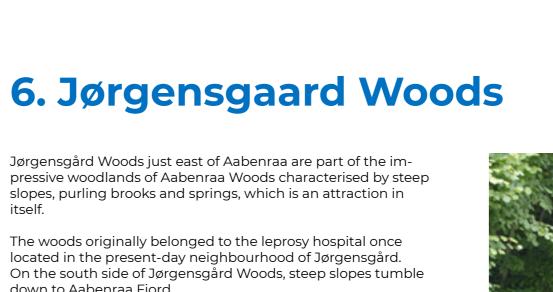
#### Land art

Tour de France mobile made of recycled material and tricolore-coloured grass.













Jørgensgård Woods just east of Aabenraa are part of the impressive woodlands of Aabenraa Woods characterised by steep slopes, purling brooks and springs, which is an attraction in

The woods originally belonged to the leprosy hospital once located in the present-day neighbourhood of Jørgensgård. On the south side of Jørgensgård Woods, steep slopes tumble down to Aabenraa Fjord.

By Aabæk in the south-eastern corner of the woods is a nice bathing beach with a great view of the fjord. Here you will find the wooden sculpture known as The Viking, created in 1995 by the Lithuanian artist Julius Urbanavicius, stand looking out to

North of the woods, you can take the trail known as Knapstien to the village of Stollig and restaurant Æ Knapp. The combined foot and cycle path runs along an old narrow-gauge railway,



Kleinbahn, built during the German occupation of Southern Jutland in 1864-1920.

In Denmark, alpine newts live in around 150 waterholes just north of the Aabenraa-Rødekro road and in the woods around Aabenraa, which is the northernmost home of the species.

The alpine newt was first discovered in the area in 1948, though its occurrence in Denmark was not fully mapped until 1975. In 1987, a programme to improve its habitats was introduced; this among other things involved digging new waterholes. The alpine newt is distinct from other newt found in Denmark by its uni-coloured dark yellow or red belly, a striking contrast to its dark back.

It also has a large, wide head. On the side of the body, the male has a white line on with lots of round, black spots, and during breeding season, it develops a yellow crest with black spots on the back. The male reaches nine centimetres in length in total, the female 12. In Denmark, the alpine newt is protected.







# 7. Haus Lensnack

#### Famous ship owner's more than 100-year-old listed villa

Haus Lensnack was built in 1909-10 for Jacob Jebsen, the son of ship owner Michael Jebsen, a local personage: enterprising ship owner, cosmopolitan executive and committed to the Danish/German identity issue.

He was also senator of Aabenraa, which at the time was part of Schleswig-Holstein and thus Germany until the Reunification in 1920.

In 2018, Michael Jebsen's more than 100-year-old house, Haus Lensnack, in Aabenraa became a listed property because it, according to the Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces, constitutes "a prominent and well-preserved example of a luxury villa in Southern Jutland from the German period."

Haus Lensnack is situated in the centre of a large, hilly plot of land with a view of Aabenraa Fjord close to where the city gives way to the countryside.

The grounds were landscaped at the time of the house's construction in 1909, and around the house they are characterised by more formal gardens, including e.g. a rose garden, with baroque features east of the house and by the water south of it.









## 8. Port of Aabenraa





The Port of Aabenraa is a commercial harbour with two kilometres of quay, a large crane capacity and a water depth of up to 11 metres as well as a marina. In spring 2021, Aabenraa Municipality purchased the area "Nord for Kilen" from the Port for urban development, whereas the Port acquired the former power station block 3 at the Port of Ensted, EV3, with a view to continuing its future-proofing of the Port. The area "Nord for Kilen" can house hundreds of homes as well as cafes, restaurants, specialty shops, open spaces, streams and storm water reservoirs – and not least a new museum for South Jutlandic art and seafaring history.

Up until today, the Port of Aabenraa has been characterised by traditional activities, focussing mainly on shipping and unshipping of goods. Such activities are the lifeblood of much of Southern Jutland's businesses and agricultural sector, both of whom receive and ship raw materials and products via the port.

The Port of Aabenraa is the only remaining commercial port in Southern Jutland, and today traditional activities are being supplemented with new activities at the Port of Ensted, which in the future will house production activities. For example, the largest industrial gas company in Northern Europe, Linde Gas, plans to build a large power-to-X facility at the Port of Ensted capable of producing the climate friendly hydrogen which other companies in the area will need to produce green, hydrogen-based products.

Since the Middle Ages, the Port of Aabenraa has been a gateway to the world. The port was mentioned for the first time on 3 May 1257, when King Christoffer I exempted the Cistercians at Løgumkloster from duties when they called into port at Aabenraa. On 1 May 1335, Aabenraa was granted a municipal charter, and in the following 500 years, the port saw both ups and downs.

After the end of the English Wars in 1814, the town's merchant navy grew significantly. Especially the large ship owners with connections to Hamburg and China were responsible for the increased activity and prosperity. Beginning in the 1800s, the port thus grew into its present form. In 1889, the railway reached the port, making it possible to ship timber and other goods directly to and from the Old Harbour (Gammelhavn).

The South Harbour was built in 1899 to accommodate the need for more quay space, and subsequently, the Old Harbour was modernised and the New Harbour at Kilen inaugurated in 1925. Later, the depth of the water was increased in parts of the port, which has also been equipped with tanker jetties. The Southern Jutland Quay (Sønderjyllandskajen) with a depth of 11 metres was built in 1983, and a Ro-Ro terminal was added in 1996.



# 9. Town of Aabenraa



Aabenraa, situated by Aabenraa Fjord, which is 10 kilometres long and three-four kilometres wide, was granted a municipal charter in the 1200s, but remained a relatively small town centred around the old town centre comprising Søndergade and Søndertorv, Skibbrogade, Gildegade, Vestergade and Store Torv and the eastern-most part of Slotsgade.

Aabenraa was relatively small and poor up until it heyday in the late 1600s, when the shipping and shipbuilding industries began to pick up speed and facilitated the growth of the town.

In the mid-1800s, Aabenraa had developed into a significant shipping town, and the late 1800s saw the introduction of industrial production in the form of iron foundries and machine factories.

After the Reunification in 1920, the town grew considerably, as the port was expanded and the town's Danish educational institutions were supplemented with schools and an upper



secondary school for the German minority. The town's central location in Southern Jutland has facilitated the localisation of regional institutions such as the hospital, the cultural centre Sønderjyllandshallen, the former South Jutland County authorities and the radio station DR P4 Syd as well as institutions catering to the German minority.

Meaning of the name of the town: The first mention of the name was in 1257 in the form Obenroe. Later sources refer to the town as Øpneræ (1259), Opneraa (1355) and Apenra (1436). The name is a compound of the village name of Opnør (1231) and the noun å (stream), meaning "the stream by Opnør". The stream that is referred to here is most likely the one known today as Mølleå.

The village name of Opnør is made up of the old Danish adjective opæn (open) and the noun ør (gravelly beach), meaning "the open, gravelly beach". The village that was replaced by the market town is mentioned for the last time in the 1300s (in 1335 as Gamel Opner and in 1352 as Silva Opner).





# 10. Folkehjem Village house for all of Southern Jutland

Folkehjem is a Danish village hall in Aabenraa purchased by the Language Association (Sprogforeningen) in 1900; before that it had been known as Schweizerhalle. Under the guidance of architects Johannes Magdahl Nielsen and Jep Fink the hall was expanded in 1910-11 and included i.a. meeting rooms, lending and reading rooms and a restaurant. In 1965, Folkehjem became a self-governing institution. It is home to the picture room with portraits of key actors in the Danish party of the Danish-German nationality conflict in Southern Jutland in the 1800s. Today, it is also home to the Aabenraa Libraries.

In fall 1918, it was obvious that the German Reich – of which Southern Jutland was a part – would lose the World War. In October, the German Government requested a ceasefire, and H.P. Hanssen, Southern Jutland's own member of the German Parliament in Berlin, glimpsed the opportunity of raising the Northern Schleswig issue with reference to section 5 of the Peace of Prague



and US President Wilson's statement of principles for peace, the famous Fourteen Points. Adopting a clever multi-pronged strategy, H.P. Hanssen managed both to raise the issue in the German Parliament, to brief the Danish Government about internal German deliberations and to launch a regional petition which resulted in massive support from 287 Danish-oriented associations in Southern Jutland. In the Aabenraa Resolution of November 1918, the constituency association of the Danish-oriented citizens of Northern Schleswig ("Vælgerforeningen for Nordslesvig") called for an en bloc referendum in the area north of the Tønder-Kruså line and in the individual municipalities in the area south of the line which also demanded a referendum. The resolution was adopted at Folkehjem in Aabenraa on 17 November 1918, and from the balcony, H.P. Hanssen read it out loud to a crowd of 3,000. The resolution would become vital to the further developments. The Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Scavenius, passed the resolution on to the allied negotiators and confirmed – after pressure from the allies – that the Danish Government supported the resolution. Both the referendum and subsequent demarcation in 1920 would follow this model.

H.P. Hanssen (1862-1936) was a Danish-oriented politician and editor of the newspaper Hejmdal from 1893. The Constituency Association for Northern Schleswig was established on his initiative in 1888, which marked the beginning of his (Nationalist) political career. In 1886 -1908, he represented the Danish-oriented citizens of Schleswig in the Prussian Landtag and in 1906-1919 in the German Parliament. Following the German defeat in WW1, H.P. Hanssen demanded that the Danish-German border issue be solved by a referendum. Countering the Danish Nationalist demands for a border south of Flensburg, H.P. Hanssen supported a border resembling the one that resulted from the 1920 referendum. In 1919, he became a member of the Danish Government as Minister for Southern Jutland Affairs, and in 1924-26 he was a Member of Parliament for Venstre – The Liberal Party of Denmark.

Through the ages, Folkehjem has housed the Danish associations in Southern Jutland as well as key events in the history of the region. E.g., the association Landeværnet was established here on 24 January 1927, and this was where the English troops were greeted on 5 May 1945. In 2020, to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the Reunification, the square in front of Folkehjem was restored. Countless footprints in the flags tell the story of H.P. Hanssen's speech in November 1917, and benches on the square have been decorated with a series of important quotes from the dramatic history of the Danish-German border region.







# 11. Tilting at the ring

Southern Jutland has a long tradition for tilting at the ring, which is a shared cultural heritage dating back to the old duchies of Schleswig and Holstein and thus to the Reunification.

It began in 1896 – and can even be traced all the way back to 1838 - and the sport that is unique to the region can be described as a South Jutlandic version of the Roskilde Festival.

The 125-year anniversary will be celebrated on Ringriderpladsen (tilting at the ring site) on the day the Tour de France passes through Aabenraa. The folk festival lasts four days and includes tilting at the ring, a funfair, drinking and dancing.

Aabenraa will house 300-350 riders aged four to +80 during the days of the Danish Tour de France stages.

The day the race passes through Aabenraa Municipality, the city will host a funfair, beer stands and other events on the site, but no tilting at the ring.









# 12. Brundlund Castle World-class art with a French connection



Is South Jutlandic art unique to the region? Answering this question is key to the collections at Art Museum Brundlund Castle, which exhibits South Jutlandic art from the late 1700s till today. The collections include works by great artists such as C.W. Eckersberg (Blåkrog, 1783-1853) and Franciska Clausen

(Aabenraa, 1899-1986), but also a number of other interesting artists whose artistic career and work is somehow connected to the border region.

Together, they paint a picture of an artistically varied and vibrant region, which has also always related to the national and international art scenes as well as changing isms and genres.

Franciska Clausen, who grew up in Aabenraa, is one of the most famous South Jutlandic artists. Early on, she proved to have a talent for drawing and painting and received training in Copenhagen, Berlin and Paris, where she met famous personages from the interesting inter-war period, including the Frenchman Ferdinand Leger in Paris, whom she received instruction from and developed a close relation to as his mistress. She was a member of the international group of artists, Cercle et Carré, and did portraits of i.a. Her Majesty the Queen and Queen Ingrid.

In connection with the handover of Aabenraa to Queen Margrethe I from the Holstein counts in 1411, the queen secured the right to build a new castle to replace the existing. However, the large, moat-encircled castle hill, Brundlund, west of the city was probably built by Eric of Pomerania. Unfortunately, no trace of the castle exists. The existing castle, a combined gatehouse and main building, was built by King Frederik I around 1530.

At the same time, the water mill was constructed, comprising a mill, moat lock and part of the castle's defence, as was the southern-most end of Nybro and the western-most end of Slotsgade to establish a direct route between the town and the castle. Around 1590, under the Gottorps, the castle was rebuilt in the Renaissance style by Hercules von Oberberg, who added two octagonal corner turrets, a small stair turret and an open gallery on the south side.

Finally, in the years 1805-07, C.F. Hansen rebuilt the castle in the New Classicist style. The castle is situated in the open, green space on the verge of the city centre, separated only by the road Møllemærsk. Both the islet, which used to house a garden, and the meadow are characterised by an abundance of large, old trees. A dam built in 1744 and flanked by trees bridges the moat, and part of the old moat has been turned into a lake. Since 1998, the castle has been home to Art Museum Brundlund Castle, which in 2006 became a part of Museum Southern Jutland.

The museum collections and exhibitions present artists from Southern Jutland and the duchies from the 1700s up until today. Especially remarkable is the museum's large collection of works by the avant-garde artist Franciska Clausen, around 2,500 works in total, which were transferred to the museum in 2011 after having spent a period of years at the Kolding museum of modern art, craft and design, Trapholt. The museum also houses a collection of art from the Danish Golden Age, where especially C.W. Eckersberg and C.A. Jensen are well-represented.





# 13. Sønderstrand - the Nice of Aabenraa

Sønderstrand (South Beach) in Aabenraa is close to the city and extremely child-friendly, offering a range of activities, including a playground and beach volley course.

It is also equipped with a disability-accessible bathing jetty, toilets and changing rooms.

Close to Sønderstrand you will find the promenade Strandpromenaden, which is a recreational urban space connecting beach and the city centre.

The promenade houses a series of attractions and experiences along the beach and harbour.















## 14. Aabenraa City Hall The old county hall

Following the municipal reform, Aabenraa Municipality in 2007 acquired the current city hall, which used to house the administration of the then Southern Jutland County.

The county was created in connection with the 1970 municipal reform, which merged the four counties in Southern Jutland: Haderslev, Tønder, Sønderborg and Aabenraa. A few years later, the county built the new county hall in Aabenraa.

The first chairman of the county council was Erik Jessen, who in 1982 was followed by Kresten Phililpsen and in 2000 by Carl

The Southern Jutland County was abolished as of 1 January 2007, at which point some county responsibilities were transferred to the four new municipalities of Haderslev, Aabenraa, Tønder and Sønderborg, whereas the administrative responsibility of healthcare, marginalised citizens and regional development was transferred to the new Region of Southern Denmark.

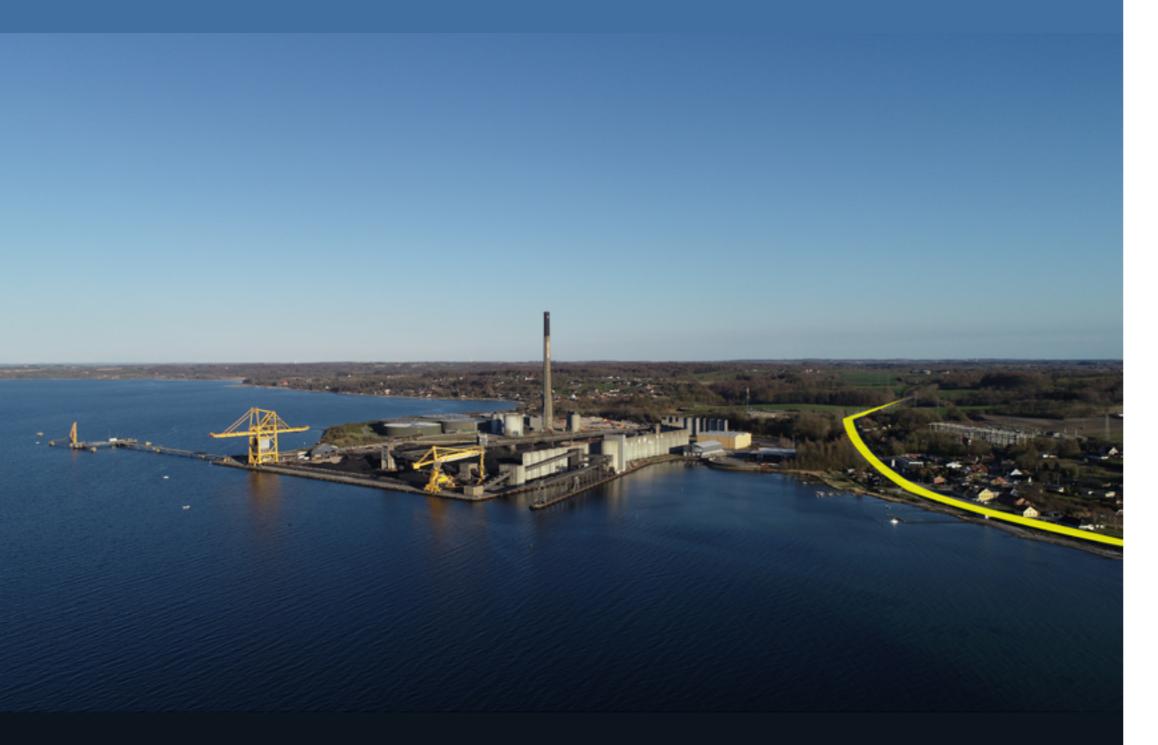
Aabenraa town arms: Since 1421, possibly even earlier, the royal borough of Aabenraa included in its seal three mackerels surrounded by waves to symbolise one of the main trades of the town: fishery. Aabenraa Municipality has continued to use the motive, though reducing the many waves to three.

The new town arms were designed by Ronny Andersen and approved by the Danish National Archives on 9 January 2007. Description of the arms: On a blue base, three silver mackerels swim across three silver waves.









# 15. Port of Ensted

#### From black to green energy

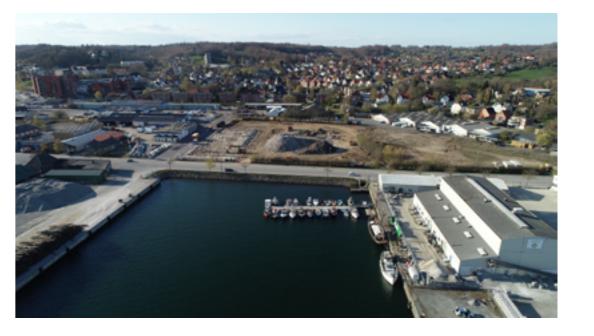
In spring 2021, Aabenraa Municipality purchased the area "Nord for Kilen" from the Port of Aabenraa for urban development. whereas the Port acquired the former power station block 3 at the Port of Ensted, EV3, with a view to continuing its future-proofing of the Port. The area "Nord for Kilen" can house hundreds of homes as well as cafes, restaurants, specialty shops, open spaces, streams and storm water reservoirs – and not least a new museum for South Jutlandic art and seafaring history.

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With a water depth of 16-18 metres, Ensted is one of deepest ports in the Baltic Sea, and its infrastructure, location and great hinterland makes it ideal for sustainable production of green energy and similar activities. The area is 350,000 square metres large in total, including 65,000 square metres of quay and guay areas as well as 285,000 square metres of hinterland and 480 metres of guay.

The Port of Ensted used to house the power station Enstedværket owned by DONG Energy, which closed in 2012-13. The station was built in 1958 by the deep Aabenraa Fjord, and it was home to the largest coal and oil port for power stations in Northern Europe. Coal arrived in the port on large ships, and some of it continued on barges to other power stations in Jutland or on Funen.

The station's 600-MW production unit, EV3, was inaugurated in 1979 and was the result of the first foreign co-investment in Danish electricity production, as it was constructed by the former Danish An/S Sønderjyllands Højspændingsværk and the German Nordwestdeutsche Kraftwerke (today E.ON). In addition to electricity production, Enstedværket had a district heating capacity of a maximum of 85 MW. The station's flue gas cleaning system was expanded to also include a desulphurisation system and a system for removal of nitric oxide, just as a 40-MW biomass-fired unit was put into operation in 1998.

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### 16. Town of Felsted 1,000-year-old town with a French connection

The town of Felsted is well situated between Aabenraa. Sønderborg, Gråsten and Flensburg. Felsted has existed for more than 1,000 years, originally as a village with farms side by side on both sides of the then only two streets in the town. It remained this way until the great redistribution of the land in 1784, at which point most farms were relocated from the village to the surrounding farmland.

In the centre of town, you will find the community centre Damms Gård, which used to house a smithy and inn. In 1899-1926, the Aabenraa County Railway connected Felsted with Aabenraa and Gråsten via a way station across from Damms Gård.

This meant that the farm's thatched roof had to be replaced by a solid roof due to the danger of fire caused by flying sparks from the steam locomotive. In connection with the recent revival of the town centre, Aabenraa Municipality purchased Damms Gård, removed the outbuildings and launched an



extensive restoration co-financed by the Maersk Foundation and the European Fund for Rural Development. The farm was put to use as a community

Felsted Church is dedicated to Saint Dionysius, who died a martyr on Montmartre in Paris. Legend has it that the church was meant to have been built on Kirkebjerg around two kilometres to the east in a site where archaeologists have found a series of urn graves.

The church was built around 1250 on a safe, strategic location surrounded by streams on all sides. The stone building is likely to have replaced one or two wooden churches.

Meaning of the name of the town: The first mention of the name was in 1287-1307 in the Latin accusative form Felstedensem. Later sources refer to the town as Veddelsted (1436), Veddelstede (1462) and Feelstede (1543). The name is a compound of the Old Danish noun fætil (ford), meaning "the settlement by the ford". However, the name may also simply consist of a similar Old Danish compound noun, fætilstath, meaning "ford", most likely referring to a path across the marshland of Tumbøl Mose.

#### Land art

Yellow banner on the roof of the school The Triccolore, the Eiffel Tower, the Little Mermaid and a yellow bicycle

