

called "Æ Nyku". This is from the Als dialect and means "new forest on the hillside". In "El Skov" (Love Forest) you will find a romantic little lake that is home to geese and deer. The forest also features marked hiking paths.

### The old factory

From here the route is overgrown with foliage and you feel as though you are cycling through a tunnel. This is known as the old factory road because it leads to the home of Mads Clausen, who founded Danfoss. The company began operations in an old hen house with offices in the attic. In Clausen's boyhood home you can learn the story of Danfoss, and up in the attic Mads Clausen's old office has been maintained just as it was in the old days. Next door is the adventure park Danfoss Universe with the large blue cube. Across from Mads Clausen's house there is a monument to commemorate the reunion of North Slesvig with Denmark in 1920.

### Church path

Show caution when you pass across the busy highway. The route continues along Majlykke and 300 meters further along you will find the Kirkestien (Church path). This is a steep gravel road so most cyclists will opt to walk their bicycles the last 500 meters up to Havnbjerg Kirke (Havnbjerg Church) and Havnbjerg Mølle (Havnbjerg Mill).

### Havnbjerg Kirke and Mølle (Havnbjerg Church and Mill)

The church is located high up on a hill and the view of it is beautiful from all sides. The altarpiece was painted by the well-known Golden Age artist Eckersberg, who was from Sundeved on the other side of Alsford.

The mill is from 1835 and for many years it had sheet metal roof. It is now again straw-roofed as it was originally – exciting, magnificent and unusual. The mill is a museum.

From the mill hill there is a georgeous view across Lille Bælt (Little Belt) and at the foot of the hill lies the vicarage.



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# Havnbjerg Strand

Havnbjerg Beach – a cycle route





## Havnbjerg cycle route

This pleasant cycle route begins at Havnbjerg Center and is approx. 11 km in length. Almost immediately you will start cycling along narrow, winding country roads and across beautiful landscapes, along twisting paths with old hedgerows, through forests and along beaches. If you are cycling during the summer months you may get the opportunity to swim along the way, and at the end of the route you can stop to visit the experience park Danfoss Universe or enjoy the view from the straw-roofed Havnbjerg Mølle (Havnbjerg Mill). So make sure you set sufficient time aside to make the most of this route.

## Idyllic setting

While waiting for the trafficlight to change, you can look up to the right and see Havnbjerg Kirke (Havnbjerg Church) and the straw-roofed mill towering above on the top of the hill. You will pass by here at the end of the route. The start can be a little tricky, as the route goes right at the traffic lights and then to the left after just a few metres, at which time the road winds its way into a pleasant, idyllic country setting.

## Havnbjergskov (Havnbjerg Forest)

Do not follow the sign for the beach but continue along the gravel road. Here you will pass Havnbjerg Forest, which is a coppice forest. This is a special kind of forestry that was once used in many farming forests. In a coppice forest, trees are felled at a sufficient height above the ground and new trunks grow out of the stump. These new trunks grow large and from them spring 2-3 additional trunks. This form of forestry, which is practiced in many

places on Als, provides a good environment for a very stable yet varied flora on the forest floor, which often features rare plants such as orchids.

If the “trunks” are allowed to grow old, they can reach impressive sizes and attract a certain amount of superstition. In some places they say that elf girls live inside them, and that one must take care not to be seduced by them and lured into the trunks. It might be fun to begin with, but no one ever comes out alive – according to the legend, that is.

## Lillebælt (Little Belt) and Havnbjerg Beach

Beyond the forest you can enjoy a gorgeous view across the Lillebælt (Little Belt) and perhaps also see a sparrow hawk hunting smaller birds that it catches in a surprise attack. You will pass by the straw-roofed, half-timbered

house in its idyllic setting at the edge of the forest, then continue down to Havnbjerg Beach. Here you will find public toilets and a good swimming beach with tables and benches so you can enjoy a comfortable picnic while you take in the view of eider ducks, red-breasted mergansers and seagulls. From here you will follow local cycle route #37 for a while.

## Traneodde Fyr (Traneodde Lighthouse)

The cycle route turns to the right at the little green cottage. But if you have plenty of time, we recommend taking a detour straight to Traneodde Lighthouse. There is a path here to the lighthouse where you will find tables and benches suitable for picnicking.

## Newly planted forest

At Vejsled the route turns to the right and you leave local route 37. Soon you will pass a newly planted forest where song thrushes try to outsing each other during breeding times. The various sites have been named and you can read them on signs posted along the route. One site is

