

NATIONALPARK THY

WHERE: Northwest Jutland, along the coast from Hanstholm to Agger. North to south: 55 kilometres, east to west: 5-12 kilometres.

TYPE OF NATURE: Coast, dune, dune plantation, low nutrient wet hollows, lakes and coastal limestone cliffs from the stone age, dune heaths with a great number of conifers.

FOUNDED: August 22th, 2008, as the first of five.

AREA: 244 square kilometres.

OUTDOOR LIFE: Marked hiking and cycling trails, places for a bonfire, primitive overnight accommodation, some with shelters, forest playgrounds, bird watching and other lookout towers, marked mountain bike trails, horse riding trails, and fishing and bathing possibilities in the sea and lakes. The facilities are described and shown on maps in the Nature Agency's hiking folders.

HOW YOU FIND NATIONALPARK THY:

By car: Route 181 from the south and ferry from Thyborøn to Agger Tange. Route 11 from Oddesund to Thisted has several slip roads towards the west to Nationalpark Thy. Route 26/571 from island Mors towards the west to Stenbjerg.

By train: To Thisted and Hurup. From there various bus connections to the coastal villages.

By bus: To Thisted. Line 888 from Copenhagen and Aarhus to Thisted. X-bus from e.g. Aalborg, Vejle and Viborg. Local lines from Thisted to coastal villages and from Hurup to Agger.

By airplane: From Aalborg or Karup airport.

TOURIST INFORMATION:

Thy Tourist Office, Thisted and Hurup, phone +45 9792 1900, www.VisitThy.dk

Summer offices in Hanstholm, Vorupør and Agger.

MAPS: Maps in the Nature Agency's hiking folders. North Sea Trail folder Agger-Bulbjerg

NATIONALPARK CENTRE: Thematic centre at Stenbjerg Landingplace, Address: Stenbjerg Kirkevej 120, DK-7752 Snedsted, opened April 1th - October 31th, 13 - 17 h. Exhibition, information and hiking folders.

NATIONALPARK TV: See our videos at www.nationalparkthy.dk

NATIONAL PARK?

A Danish national park contains the most unique and characteristic Danish nature. National parks are created in close interaction between the park's board, the Environment Agency, municipalities, local communities and organisations, where planning, voluntary approach and a say in the decision-making process is central.

The idea is about improving and strengthening the Danish nature, and giving both local and foreign visitors better possibilities to experience, use and get knowledge about nature, the landscape and the history of civilization.

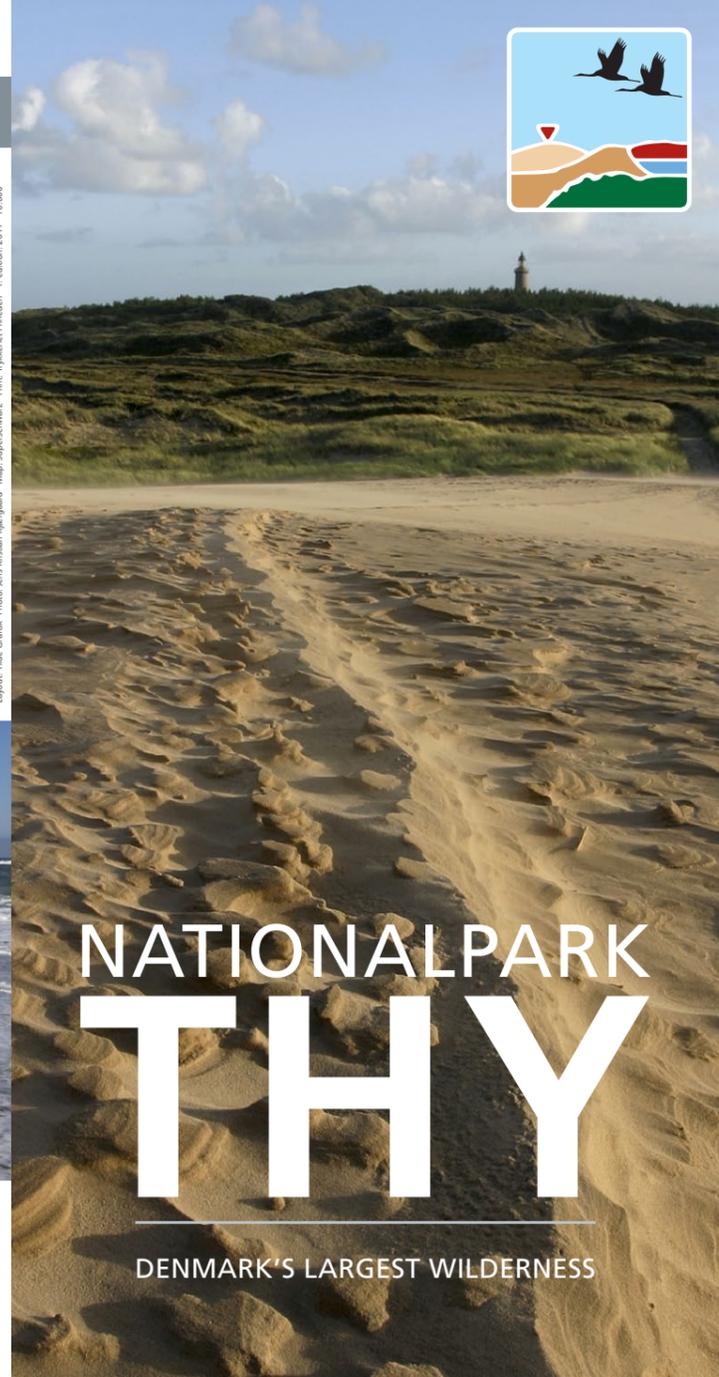
More information can be found at www.danmarksnationalparker.dk



NATIONALPARK THY

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NATIONALPARK THY

DENMARK'S LARGEST WILDERNESS

NATIONALPARKTHY.DK



DANISH NATIONAL PARKS

NATIONALPARK THY - DENMARK'S LARGEST WILDERNESS

HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION
Nature's powerful forces have always been of great importance for the life of the people of Thy. During several periods sand drift has damaged cultivated areas and forced the inhabitants to move. Beach grass and trees were planted to protect against the sand, making up the national park's large plantations today. Formerly the fishing was exclusively done from the beach in small boats - at the high risk of loss of human lives. Therefore it was a great improvement when lighthouse and lifeboat services were developed seriously during the 19th century. Lighthouses and sea marks were built, still towering the landscape along the coast. Today all trade fishing takes place from the modern port of Hanstholm. But in the villages along the sea you can still meet anglers setting out in their boats from the coast catching crabs or plaice.

ANIMALS AND PLANTS
Lookout towers and points near the hiking trails give you the opportunity to watch animals and birds, especially if you bring binoculars. Thy National Park has got a nice population of red deer and roe deer. You may also be lucky to hear and see cranes breeding in the open areas. The plantations are dominated by pine trees and spruces. Hardy plants, able to live in the low nutrient sand and wet hollows are growing in the dune heath, such as crow berries, bog bilberries, heather and willow.

NATURE EXPERIENCES
Everywhere nature shows signs from the wind and the rough environment. Hiking between leaning, crooked, wind-shaped trees, or staying overnight in shelters listening to the roar of the waves are attentive nature experiences. Here is a lot of fresh air and no crowds. A vast number of hiking- and biking paths are described and shown on maps in the hiking folders of the Nature Agency.

The national park covers Thy's western coast line by the North Sea. The characteristic and unspoiled dune heaths have been created by the sea, the wind, the salt and the sand. Large plantations and some of Denmark's clearest lakes complete the picture of Denmark's largest wilderness. A perfect place for plants, birds, animals and humans who enjoy a lot of space, high skies and lots of fresh air. The extent of the dune heath in Thy, you will only find at few other places in Europe. The nomination to status of a national park guarantees the protection and preservation of the dunes and the dune heaths for the future. The national park contributes to visitors experiencing great nature without causing damage to the vulnerable countryside.



NATIONALPARK THY

AROUND

SIGHTSEEING IN

NATIONALPARK THY

ISBJERG



ACCESS:

From route 26 to Nors.
At the church take Hindingvej to the end of road.
Here is a parking place, (N57.0408, E8.61624, toilet, tables with benches and place for a bonfire.

1

As you move up the slope towards the viewpoint Isbjerg, you will realize, why Nationalpark Thy is called Denmark's largest wilderness. The area has been a wildlife reserve since 1949. At 56 metres above sea level, you have a free view across the unspoiled landscape and to the sea 6 kilometres away. If using binoculars you may be lucky to see red deer and cranes – maybe even an osprey or white-tailed eagle.

During the stone age the area was an archipelago. Where the dune heath lies today, there was the sea bed. The Isbjerg was on an island and lake Nors Sø was a bay. At several places in National Park Thy the original coast line can be seen as steep slopes. It's exactly such a slope you walk on, when you walk up to the Isbjerg on the marked trail.

See more information in leaflet "Hansthalm Wildlife Reserve and Tved Plantation".

STENBJERG LANDINGSPLADS



ACCESS:

In the roundabout where route 181 meets route 571 towards the National Park Thy's thematic centre at the landing place.
Here is a parking area (N56.9293, E8.33910), toilet and tables with benches.

2

The white houses near the sea have been built by fishermen from Stenbjerg in the beginning of the 20th century for keeping their tools. They stand as originally built, because the locals have kept the unique atmosphere. Today the houses are used by weekend anglers, keeping their boats on the beach. The fishermen themselves have always lived further inland in shade of the wind and the salt. The red lifeboat station contains a little rescue museum.

From the landing place you can take a nice walk to the village. On the beach you turn south until you reach mark D102. From here you walk through the dunes and follow a path to the village. Follow the road passing the church and the row of fishermen's houses back to the beach. From the bunker at the edge of the village you will get a magnificent view across the landscape. The length of the tour is 4,5 kilometres.

See more information in leaflet "Stenbjerg in Thy".

LODBJERG FYR



ACCESS:

From route 181 on the slip road towards Lodbjerg.
On the road you pass the church Lodbjerg Kirke, one of the smallest in Denmark.
At the lighthouse there is a parking place (N56.8234, E8.26332) and a tap.

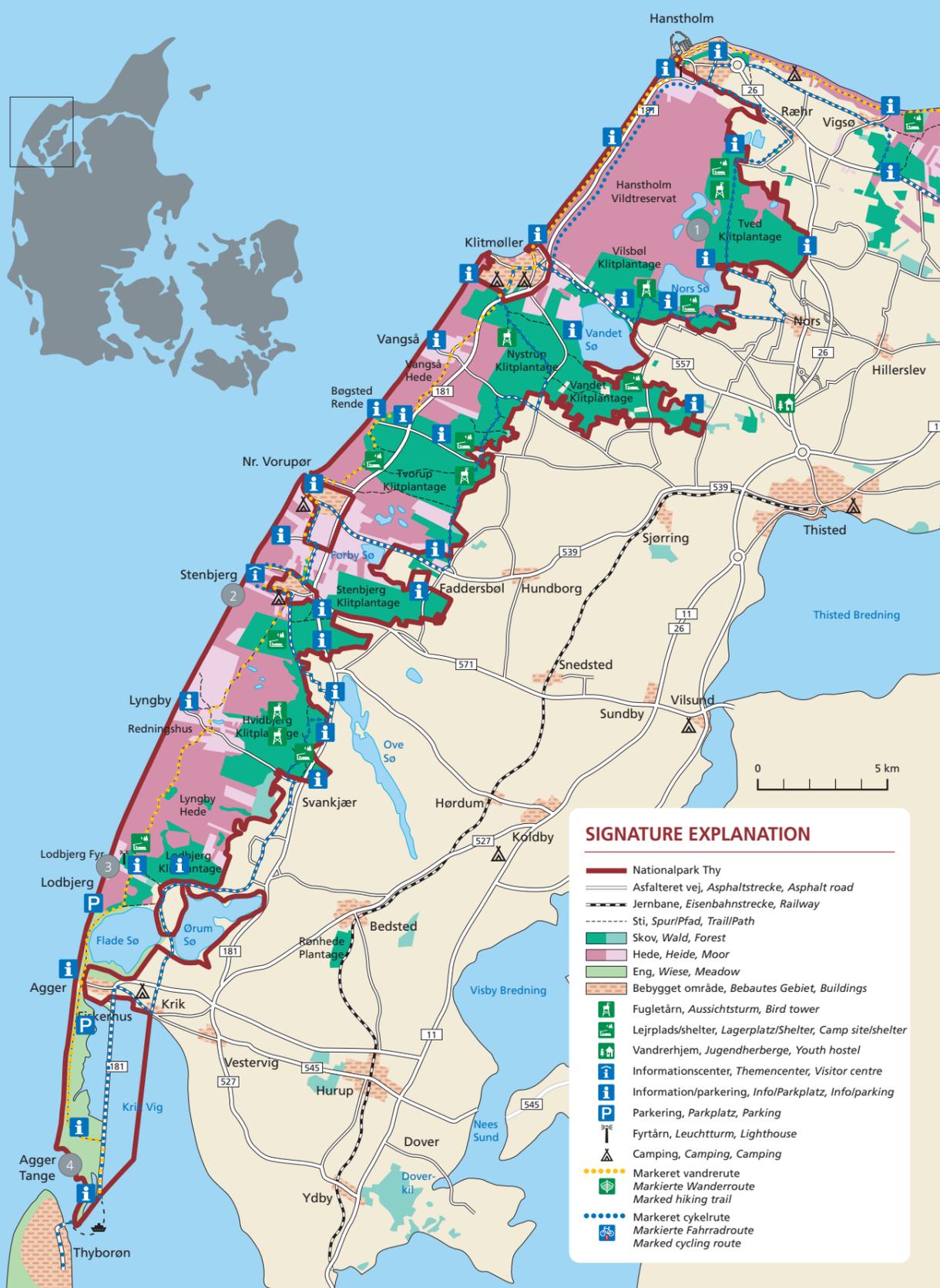
3

The road to Lodbjerg goes through the plantation and ends at the yard of the lighthouse. This area was a large, open dune landscape at the time when the lighthouse was built in 1883. At this desolate place a lighthouse keeper and his family lived together with at least two lightmen. Today the lighthouse is automated. For a modest amount you can climb the 133 steps up the tower. From the top you have a fantastic view across the landscape and the sea. Note how the outer dune towards the north is open to the sea. There the sand is allowed to move creating a migrating dune.

From the parking area the trail leads out into the dune heath and to the sea. Between the trees north of the lighthouse you will find a shelter, place for a bonfire, a privy and tables with benches.

See more information in leaflet "Dune Plantations in Sydthy".

MAP OF NATIONALPARK THY



You can hike, bike, ride, fish, bath, go on a picnic and a lot more in Nationalpark Thy.

Maps and information about the possibilities is found in the Nature Agency's hiking leaflets:

Hansthalm / Hansthalm Wild Life Reserve and Tved Dune Plantation / Dune Plantation at lake Vandet Sø / Tvorup Plantation / Stenbjerg in Thy / Dune Plantations in Sydthy / West Coast Trail Agger-Bulbjerg
The folders are available at the tourist offices, parking places in the area and at nationalparkthy.dk.

AGGER TANGE



ACCESS:

Route 181 follows the eastern dike between Agger and the ferry berth. At the parking area about 2 kilometres north of the ferry berth near the beach is a toilet. (N56.7235, E8.23121). In Agger you will find a path for people with a wheelchair leading up the dike.

4

The tongue of land Agger Tange is an international bird protecting areas. It is one of Europe's most important resting area for water birds. At the same time it is an important breeding area for threatened marsh birds. Walking on the dike with the sea on one hand and the quiet lagoon and the fjord on the other is a special experience. In the Limfjord, farthest away in the south groups of common seals often lie and relax on the sand banks.

Originally the sea and the fjord were separated by a tongue of sand, but in 1825 the sea broke through into the fjord. This caused a minor nature catastrophe for the life in the Limfjord, which turned into salt water. On the other hand this provided good possibilities for landing in the harbours of the fjord. Beforehand the fishermen were dependent on the dangerous landing along the west coast. To the south and north of the channel a number of groynes were built to protect the coast.