

TOUR DESCRIPTION

Tour Facts:

- Individual tour (24HAER-2)
- Length: 5 days
- Date: 01/04 – 01/10
- Difficulty grade: 1-2
- Accommodation grade: 1-2
- Hiking with transportation of luggage.
- Price per person based on 2 people travelling together. Solo surcharge for single tour participant.
- Price: 3500



Magnificent scenery and compelling history make The Ancient Road a very special walking experience. People have been walking and riding on this path for hundreds of years - armies and nobles, stud drivers, pilgrims and other good folk. The landscape you walk through has been formed by the movements of icebergs, during the last ice-age. Huge forces and melt water have moved sand and clay, soil, gravel and rock and formed hills and valleys, fjords, lakes and streams. The main highway has occurred where it was easiest to pass dry-footed. In old times, the Ancient Road formed several different tracks that met where a major water-way had to be crossed. Today, The Ancient Road follows one track that goes through the same beautiful countryside of Jutland, and many of the same cities as the historical route.

This hike on the Ancient Road starts in Løgstør near Limfjorden and ends at Viborg Cathedral. Along the way, you walk through the beautiful Himmerland, which offers beautiful scenery and an interesting cultural history. The route leads you down through the Himmerland heaths, through the westernmost part of Rønhøj Plantation and past the beautiful Sjørup Lake. Between Løgstør and Aalestrup you follow the now closed railway line, between Løgstør and Viborg. Here you will experience the railroad's special way of cutting through the landscape and the buildings that grew up with the railroad. You walk through the towns of Aars and Aalestrup.

South of Aalestrup, the Ancient Road crosses the beautiful, winding Simested Stream, which flows through the protected area past the beautiful Borup heaths and over Skinders Bridge at the bottom end of the Limfjord. From the small cozy town of Hjarbæk, which lies at the water's edge at the lower end of Hjarbæk fjord, the Ancient Road continues through large plantations into Viborg, one of Denmark's oldest cities. On the tour you will stay at hotels, inns and B&B's. Your luggage will be driven to the next place of accommodation, so you can enjoy the walks.

- Enjoy the walk while your luggage is driven to the next place of accommodation
- Experience the beautiful route of The Ancient Road between Limfjorden and Viborg
- The tour starts in Løgstør with it's fine old fishing houses. In old times there was herring fishery here. The town also houses the Limfjord museum.
- Hike along the fjord, lakes, streams and on the closed down railway line between Viborg and Løgstør
- The endpoint of the tour is Viborg Cathedral. Near the cathedral you can experience the cozy old Latin Quarter at Latinerhaven and the Latin School.

DAY-TO-DAY PROGRAM

Day 1: Arrival in Løstør

The tour starts in Løgstør, where you will check in to your accommodation. If you arrive early, we recommend that you have a look around the cozy old fjord town, which offers many fine cultural experiences. Løgstør became a market town in the year 1900, with fine old fisherman's houses and a very relaxing harbor environment. At the western end of town, you will find the Limfjord Museum, which is also worth a visit. (-/-/-)

The code above in parentheses shows the meals that are included (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner), (-) is not included.

Day 2: From Løgstør to Gatten

The Ancient Road leads out of Løgstør along the old, now closed railway track, which until 1960s connected Løgstør with Viborg. It does not take long before you have a view of open fields. You are now on your way and can enjoy the calm, only interrupted by birdsong from the live fences and small woodlands which you pass through.

You walk through the small town Vindblæs and down over Vindblæs Heath, which is the westernmost of the Himmerland heaths, and runs like a beautiful band of rugged nature through Himmerland farmlands. Himmerland heath is today a small remnant of Jutland's great heathland, which 200 years ago covered the area from Rold Forest to Limfjorden.

If you're up to it, take a little detour into the heath, where there are both shorter and longer routes you can follow. The area is filled with burial mounds and iron age findings. In late summer you can enjoy the sight and scent of the flowering heather. Maybe if you're lucky, you might get a glimpse of the common adder sunbathing in the heather. Carry on through the western part of Rønhøj Plantation, until you come to the small town of Gatten and the beautiful Sjørup Lake. Overnight accommodation is in Gatten. Today's hiking is about 15 km. (B/-/D)

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Day 3: From Gatten to Aalestrup

The After a good night's sleep and a good breakfast, continue your walk from Gatten and Sjørup Lake towards the small town of Hornum. Several of the old railway stations still exist on the line between Løgstør and Viborg.

The railway station in Hornum houses Denmark's smallest railroad museum. The museum is run by local enthusiasts and has no fixed opening hours, but it is open, and is worth a visit. Along the way you will also come across several so-called 'Story Tables', where you can sit down, enjoy the view of the landscape and immerse yourself in some of the area's many interesting stories, written on the benches.

North of Aalestrup you pass the tower less church, Testrup Church, where there was once a monastery hospital and its associated holy spring. Carry on along the field roads to Aalestrup. Accommodation is in Aalestrup. Today's hiking is approx. 27 km. /B/-/D)

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'Story Tellers' bench



Day 4: From Aalestrup to Skals

After Aalestrup, The Ancient Road heads towards the small cozy town of Gl. Hvam, and Kallestrup Farm. At Kallestrup Farm you walk down the road to Simested valley and cross Simested stream into Ettrup Plantage. Here is beautiful and quiet and you really get the feeling of being far from everything.

The Ancient Road now follows gravel roads and old hollowed out roads, which create deep furrows on the slope down towards Skinders bridge, which has served as a crossing point since ancient times. Take a small detour on Brakbjerg hill, which with its 27 meters above sea level, offers magnificent views of the area. At Sønderborup you again cross Simested Ådal and walk the last beautiful kilometer towards Skals. Here you will be collected and driven to your accommodation near Skals. Today's hiking is approx. 23 km. (B /-/D)

The code above in parentheses shows the meals that are included (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner), (-) is not included.



The Ancient Road North: From Løgstør to Viborg, 5 days



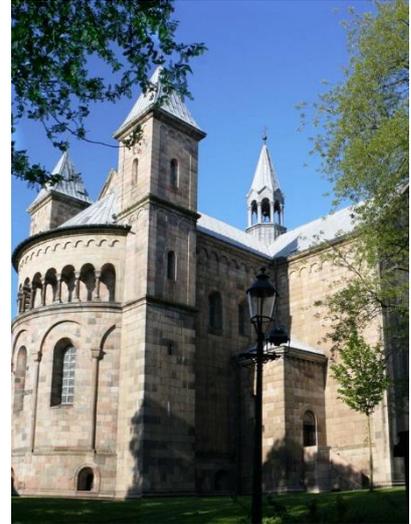
VAGABOND TOURS

Day 5: From Skals to Viborg

You have now reached the last hiking day of the tour on the route towards Viborg. The day starts with a short transfer back to Skals. The village of Skals is situated on a ness (headland) – that is Skalsnæs - and is largely surrounded by water.

Follow the Ancient Road out of town and across Skals stream. There is a fantastic view over Hjarbæk Fjord to one side and Skals river valley to the other. Hjarbæk Fjord is today a wildlife reserve and home to many animals and birds. You may see otters and seals, and if you come in autumn you may have the opportunity to glimpse an eagle, catching fish in the fjord.

Your walk continues along The Ancient Road along Hjarbæk Fjord, past Vorde Church and down through the cozy old village of Hjarbæk. The towns history dates to the Viking Age. Continue through Hjarbæk and down to the small town of Fiskebæk at the lower end of the fjord. After Fiskebæk, the route turns to the southeast and you walk through open farmland with lovely views of the area. South of Rogenstrup, you come back on to a small stretch of the old railway track and carry on through the large plantations Undallslund and Margrethelund. Enjoy the last piece of forest before your hike goes into the city of Viborg.



The tour ends at Viborg Cathedral in the afternoon. Today's hiking is approx. 24 km. (B/-/-)
Optional extra night in Viborg can be booked.

The code above in parentheses shows the meals that are included (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner), (-) is not included.



Sct. Mogensgade Viborg



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

ACCOMMODATION

During the trip you will stay at a different place of accommodation each day. You will stay in a double room at local hotels, inns and bed and breakfasts (B&B's). Single rooms can be booked for an additional fee.

The Ancient Road hiking trail goes through a sparsely populated area of Jutland and passes through very small towns. Therefore, not all places of accommodation are located along the route itself. Most of the places of accommodation are located some distance from the hiking routes. On this tour, however, it is only a few hundred meters. There is a single overnight stay, where you will be collected by the host couple and driven to the place of accommodation. The next day you will be driven back to The Ancient Road route, so you can continue your walk.

The accommodations vary in standard, as you stay overnight in a combination of hotel, inn and B&B's. Some places are en-suite and with toilet and other places with shared bathroom and toilet. Common to all accommodations is the good host. The hosts will do their best for you to have a good experience.

CATERING

The tour is inclusive of half board. A lunch pack is included on days 3, 4 and 5. The "day 2" lunch pack is at your own expense. A packed lunch can be ordered at the place of stay (remember to inform the evening before).

The daily program indicates which main meals are included in the price of the trip, and which are not. (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner).

WALKS

The days walks are between 12 - 27 km. The day-to-day program specifies the number of kilometers per day. This is an approx. indication as the number of kilometers per day depends on which accommodation is reserved for you and how close to / far from the route it is.

Your luggage will be transported to the next place of accommodation, so you only wear a small backpack with the items you need for the days hike, such as lunch pack, rainwear, camera etc.

HOW TO GET THERE

The tour starts in Løgstør. You must make sure to get to the starting point of the trip (by public transport or private car).

Start: The walk starts in Løgstør

End: The walk ends in Viborg (in the afternoon after about 24 km of hiking). There are trains to the whole country from Viborg. See www.rejseplanen.dk

You can extend your trip with an overnight stay in Viborg.



THE ANCIENT ROAD

The 'Military Road' is just one of the names of the traditionally-rich road that goes from North Jutland via Viborg to Hamburg. It is one of the oldest roads known in Denmark, and it was originally called Studevej (Stud Road), Oksevej (Ox Road), Old Viborg Way or Kongevejen (Kings Road). There were three crossings over the Limfjord: At the Viking towns of Aggersund, at Nibe and at Nørre Sundby.

From Viborg the road continues along the Jutland glacial ridge towards Flensburg across Nørre Snede, Randbøl, Vejen, Vojens and Rødekro. The road runs more-or-less parallel to the glacial ridge of east Jutland. There was no major watercourse, as the ridge divided the streams and waterflows, running from both the east and the west. The Ancient Road was in old days, not one road but many different tracks that met at a major water crossing, such as at the Stone bridge over Immervad stream, Gejlå and Bjerndrup stream (Povls bridge).

The road was used to drive cattle and livestock down through Jutland and from Funen to markets in Hamburg and the Netherlands. Along the route royal privileged inns were introduced, so stud drivers and other travelers could get accommodation and supplies. At that time, a day's travel was 30-40 km, so the inns were located at suitable distances from each other for a day's travel. There were also folds for the animals, in the form of a circular enclosure made with barley.

In the Middle Ages, The Ancient Road was also used by pilgrims on their way to the sacred sites of southern Europe, of which the most distinguished (and distant) were Santiago de Compostela and Rome. Pilgrims from Iceland and Norway also followed the route down along the Jutland ridge.

Today, The Ancient Road follows one route that goes through the same beautiful landscape of Jutland, and many of the same towns as the historical route. One walks through a diverse cultural landscape of hills and valleys, fields and meadows, lakes and streams, marshes and forests. In August and September, you can experience flowering violet heather, for example at Dollerup on Grathe heath and Vrad Sande. The heather is a habitat for lots of butterflies, grasshoppers and bees, who produce the fine heather honey.



INFORMATION ABOUT PRICE

INCLUDED

- Accommodation at hotels, inns and B&B's
- Breakfast all days
- Dinner all days, excepting on 'Day 1'
- Lunch pack on days 3, 4 and 5
- Return Transfer on day 4 from the hiking route to overnight accommodation
- Transportation of luggage (1 per person, max 15 kg) between the accommodations
- Hiking map (1 set per couple / group)
- Information, recommendations and practical tips
- Product liability insurance
- Fee for travel guarantee fund

EXCLUDED

- Transport from residence to Løgstør and back
- Supplement for single room (can be ordered, DKK 1250 per person)
- Baggage surcharge for solo traveler DKK 200
- 1 x Lunch pack (can be ordered at the place of accommodation the night before)
- Beverages
- Extra set of hiking maps (can be ordered, DKK 150 + postage)
- Optional extra night (DKK 400 per person in shared double room and DKK 800 per person in single room)
- Cancellation Insurance, 6% of the price of the trip (can be ordered)
- Booking fee DKK 145

