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## [opsamling \[1\]](#)

### Holiday Apartments

If you stay in a holiday house or apartment you can enjoy a wealth of activities right on your doorstep. Depending on the accommodation you choose, your family can be near a swimming pool, sauna, tennis courts, mini golf, playground, billiards, badminton, table tennis, climbing wall... phew, we're tired just writing it all!

See a list of holiday apartments in and around Billund

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### Hostels

While large dorm rooms might not be the best option for travelling families, many some dorms offer large rooms for two-six people, often with a private shower and toilet. Many places even provide half-board options and packed lunch for your onward journey! Quite often there is a playground, bike hire, nature walks or sports facilities for the children to enjoy too.

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### Bed and Breakfast

If you think hotels are a little too impersonal, private accommodation can be a great alternative. Staying at a Bed and Breakfast can be the ideal option if you're looking for the 'personal touch', relaxing and socialising in a cosy environment, while getting some great tips on the local area from your host.

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### Farms

If there are small children in your travelling group, a farmhouse can be a real hit! With plenty of animals to pet and lots of tractors and farming machinery to clamber on, it's a brilliant chance to experience Danish rural life up close. A lot of farms allow guests to take part in the daily farming activities, although we think that means things like milking cows rather than driving the combine harvesters! Farmhouses offer quarter-, half- and full-board.

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## Summerhouse

Taking a holiday in a summerhouse will give your family the most amount of freedom. With no timetable and a wealth of space, your group can make their own fun in and around the accommodation – playing ball games, fishing or just exploring the local countryside. If you're by a forest, you can follow the animal tracks or hunt for wild berries; by the beach, you can take a dip or build giant sandcastles. Kids quickly make friends with others in the neighbourhood (even if they don't speak the same language!) and before long the parents meet and make new friendships too – usually over a bottle of well-deserved wine at the end of the day.

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## Tourist Information

Visit Billund is situated in Billund town centre, close to LEGOLAND and Lalandia (Rådhuscentret 16). Pop in and speak to our friendly staff for great holiday ideas and advice on:

- Attractions
- Activities
- Events
- Accommodation
- Nature and culture

You can also use our tourist information touch-screens to get information and inspiration both during and outside Visit Billund opening hours. The touch screens are located outside our offices in the Rådhuscentret

You can also buy tickets to LEGOLAND and Givskud Zoo from our office.

## Opening times

Weekdays 9am-3pm

Saturday during summer holidays (weeks 26-32) 10am-2pm

## Billund Activity Pass/Experience Pass/Adventure Pass

Whether you enjoy canoeing, tree climbing, visiting museums or indoor playgrounds, the Activity Pass gives you access to more than 50 of the area's best experiences – all of which are within driving distance of Billund.

The Activity Pass gives you access to a variety of activities in Billund, Vejen, Vejle, Fredericia, Middelfart and Kolding.

This 'passport of fun' provides access to 52 attractions which cover the entire spectrum of the holiday experience, including family adventures, nature walks, water and wellness, arts and culture and design and history.

The pass provides either free or up to 20% discount on the entrance to included attractions.

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The passport is written in Danish, English and German and folds down to a handy folder, which also includes a map, description of the attractions, prices, opening times and GPS coordinates.

The best part of the Activity Pass is that it's free, and as it's valid for 14 days, there's more than enough time to get out and explore.

The Activity Pass is issued by tourist offices in the Triangle Area (Billund, Vejle, Kolding, Vejen, Fredericia) and by most participating attractions.

Have fun with the Adventure Pass! ?

Adventure Pass Fast Facts

### **Included**

Access to 52 attractions, with free entry or up to 20% discount on the ticket

### **Price**

Free!

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The pass is valid for 14 days after issue

Geocaching in Billund

Try geocaching in Billund and experience a treasure hunt like no other

What is geocaching?

Geocaching is a modern-day treasure hunt using GPS, where you interact with your environment in the search for hidden messages, treasures and trinkets. It's an activity that is growing in global popularity and fun for all ages. So stock up your backpack with supplies, grab a GPS and go hunting for treasure in and around Billund.

How do you find the treasure (cache)?

Geocaching is internet-based, with sites like [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com) [2] listing caches in your area that you can choose to search for, including their GPS coordinates. You can also find some special caches in our own brochure on caching. Sometimes the hidden treasure is just to be looked at, other times there's keepsakes you can take with you. (Remember to leave..) It can also be fun to bring treasure yourself to leave for other treasure hunters to find in the future.

See the brochure on geocaching

In the majority of cases, there are clues on how to find the caches. You put this information into your GPS and then follow the directions, negotiating the urban or country landscape in search of the hidden treasure.

The treasure - or caches - are usually small, waterproof boxes containing a notebook and a pencil.

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Each successful treasure hunter records that they have found the treasure, as well as how many participated and how easily they found it. Sometimes there are small keepsakes that you can take away too! Remember to put the box back just the way you found it, so the next geocachers can enjoy the same experience.

After a successful treasure hunt with geocaching, you can log your find on 'koordinatsiden' on [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com) [2]. Now you are a true geocacher!

### Facts about geocaching

Geocaching has been around for about a decade and is slowly entering the mainstream as a popular outdoor activity. Many people participate in geocaching as a way to keep fit and spend time with their families. Central to the activity is the GPS receiver, and although a few years ago you had to rent or buy a unit to enter the coordinates, nowadays you can use your smartphone to search for treasure. All you need to do is download a geocaching app and you're ready to go hunting!

### Worth knowing about geocaching

If you don't have a handheld unit or smartphone, you can rent a GPS unit from the Visit Billund office. We can also provide information on the nearest caches in the area.

Price per day: 50kr

Deposit: 500kr

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### Relevant Links

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### Where can you find the treasure?

Visit Billund have hidden several caches around the local area, but you can find many more by logging onto [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com) [3]

### Be careful with the treasure you find

Much of the treasure is placed by private individuals, so please respect the locations and content of the boxes you find. If you are going to swap treasure, try to make sure you leave something of equal value to what you take.

### Golf

Do you love golf? Courses in the Billund area provide high quality golfing experiences for all levels of player.

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## Gyttegård Golf Club

Gyttegård Golf Club is one of the most beautiful golf courses in the region. A challenging, well-maintained course, it is also very scenic – from one of its highest greens you can enjoy a great view of the surrounding countryside. In addition to a top quality course, the club also features a driving range, a par-3 course, a chipping and putting green.

There are several golf courses in the area:

[Jelling Golfklub](#) [4]

[4][Brande Golfklub](#) [5]

[5][Give Golfklub](#) [6]

[6][Holsted Golfklubs](#) [7]

[7][Vejen Golfklubs](#) [8]

[8][Vejle Golf Club](#) [9]

## Denmark's Golf Museum

A fun and different experience for the golf enthusiast

Do you have children?

Why not try a round of mini golf or football golf together?

Want to know more?

Read about Danish golf courses

## Danish Golf Courses

Golf is very popular in Denmark and the visiting player has a range of options if they want to play a round.

Danish golf courses are known for their high quality and varying degrees of difficulty. Most courses allow guest players, although tee times on weekends and public holidays can be harder to secure, especially on courses near big cities.

### Handicap limitations

Some golf clubs have handicap limitations, so it is recommended you make contact with the club pro or office before you book.

### Facilities

Most clubs have a well-appointed clubhouse with dressing room, bathroom, lounge and pro shop, while larger courses also have their own restaurants or cafeteria. All these facilities are guaranteed if you choose one of Golf Denmark's accredited courses.

See Golf Denmark's approved courses

### Green fees

Green fees start from 200kr on weekdays and from 300kr on weekends.

### Golf season

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Golf is a year-round sport in Denmark, and between November and April you usually play on the winter greens.

#### Documentation

When you arrive at the club, you must be able to document your handicap and membership of a golf club.

#### Billund Shuttle

The Billund Shuttle can take you to all the places you need to go - the centre of town, the attractions, hotels and the airport. Or you can set aside some time and see the sights with the family. The bus is free and runs several times an hour during the summer.

Get Billund Shuttle timetable [here](#)

### **Billund**

A special city well worth a visit...

People who visit Billund for the first time nearly always say the same thing: "Wow, it is all so new!". And there is some truth in that: it is a very new town.

Billund is a rare example of a Danish town that has grown and developed because of a single company: the LEGO Group. When local carpenter Ole Kirk Christiansen first began producing wooden toys from his workshop in 1932, no one could have predicted how big his dream would become.

Not only has LEGO created thousands of jobs in the region, but it has allowed Billund to flourish into the tourist destination that it is today.

... that's also a thriving town

Billund began its expansion with the opening of an airport in the 1960s, the construction of a library and church in the 1970s, and by the opening of a horse track, hotels and various shops over the last two decades. Today, LEGO is not as important to the survival of the town as it once was. Several smaller companies have been established or moved into town and Billund now has many strings to its bow.

However, the toymaker remains the heartbeat of the town, by far the largest manufacturer and employer in town.

Since the opening of LEGOLAND in 1968 tourists have flocked to Billund in their tens of thousands every year and the establishment of the town as a tourist destination has allowed other attractions, such as Lalandia, to become popular too.

With the second largest airport in the country, Billund is not just a holiday destination for Danes, but for a host of nationalities arriving from all corners of Europe and the world.

And while Billund is built of the twin pillars of tourism and manufacturing, more and more facilities are being built for children and young people, driven in no small part by the initiative to make the town 'the Children's Capital'. There's no doubt that Billund is a young town with a very exciting future.

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## **Grindsted**

### The Station City

The town of Grindsted, 14km from Billund, features a charming blend of classic 1920s and 1930s Danish architecture with more contemporary buildings. It has a thriving centre with excellent shops, cafes and a museum, as well as large parks and walking paths to take a relaxing walk or bike ride.

But things weren't always so calm in Grindsted. When the railroad came roaring into town to connect the east and west of Jutland in 1914, the population of the sleepy town on the heath soon exploded. Grindsted became the fastest growing town in the country and with six lines coming in and out of town, it was the third largest railway hub, attracting many large companies in the process.

Grindstedværket, which for many years has been part of Danisco, was established in 1924 and soon became the town's leading industrial plant. From 1931-2006, a meat processing plant was another major privately owned enterprise.

Today there are many other thriving companies, such as KA Interior (a specialist in sliding-door wardrobes), Grindsted Billardfabrik, KG Beton and Tajco, an exhaust manufacturer which has become a big player in the international market.

The railway lines have long since disappeared but the town still manages to attract and develop a wide range of companies that are vital to the Jutland economy.

## **Vorbasse**

### Little town, big history

Vorbasse's history is not just unique to Denmark - it also stands out in the larger Northern European context too. While residents of other towns can only guess as to the history of former residents, Vorbasse can date inhabitants back to the first century AD, thanks to the largest archaeological excavations ever undertaken in Denmark.

There have been eight recorded villages in the small region around Vorbasse since the first century, but since 1100 the town has been situated in its current location. Such information has been gathered by painstaking scientific excavations between 1974 and 1987 and the wealth of knowledge gathered has made this small Danish village a subject of study throughout Europe.

### The country's largest market

Dating back to the Middle Ages, Vorbasse has always had a market and it is now the country's largest. Held every year over a long weekend in July, the market attracts up to 250,000 people looking to trade, barter and bargain hunt, as well as enjoy the fairground rides and live music. It was in this area that the famous street performer Professor Labri is said to have named the local lake "Vorbasse Krigshavn" (Vorbasse War Harbour). Nowadays, a warship with his name sits in the beautifully renovated lake - albeit a little smaller than the original.

Vorbasse also has a large popular campground, a swimming pool and an inn, and is well worth a visit.

## **Filskov**

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## 'Village of the Year'

Just south of the Omme river is the village of Filskov. The village and its residents are known for being of the finest stock, something that was officially confirmed when Filskov was named the 'Village of the Year' in 2003.

It might be small but it's perfectly formed and boasts a thriving business community, sport and leisure centre, church and a cosy inn, as well as a yearly festival that looks to the past, present and future of the region.

The locals have common aims, setting up a company which supports local business in the area and the community spirit shines through.

## The Mystery of the Church

In the distant past, the village was of a far larger size, including a second church that welcomed the added influx of people to the area. However, for reasons not entirely known - maybe the Black Death epidemic which swept Europe in the 1300s - the population dropped and the church was abandoned, it's location lost to history. Several skeletal remains were unearthed in the 1860s in a spot that was assumed to be the site of the old churchyard and a memorial was placed in the spot. Filskov's new church dates from 1877.

Filskov's red brick inn is typically Danish and has been serving famished travellers and locals alike for more than 100 years. It was particularly popular when the village had a railway station, which ran from 1917 until the early 1970s.

Every May since 1980, Filskov has held a popular fete, called the Viaduct Festival, allowing visitors to experience a charming village with a rich history and promising future.

## Sønder Omme

### Home of the Royal Inn

Situated by the beautiful River Omme, Sønder Omme is the northernmost town in the Billund municipality.

The jewel in it's crown in the local inn, which received a royal charter in 1780, and today is a perfect setting for a great meal, a golfing break or a spot of relaxing with lovely views of the river.

The Omme is the focal point for many of the activities to do in town, with fishing and walking along a path following the old 19<sup>th</sup> century drainage canal proving most popular.

As with many of the towns and villages in the region, the community spirit is strong, with a huge summer fete the centrepiece. Since 1974, thousands of people visit from all over the country to sample the music, entertainment and hospitality of the region.

However, music and cultural activities are not just confined to the festival period. Sønder Omme has a flourishing musical and artistic community, as well as welcoming locals who are happy to show-off their home town to visitors.

In contrast to other towns in the area, Sønder Omme's past is there for all to see. It's church - thought to be built in the Middle Ages and known as 'Long Maren' - is one of the oldest and largest in the area and is a source of great pride to residents.

Thanks to its superb location and facilities, Sønder Omme is a great place to make a base or visit during your Danish holiday.

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## Stenderup-Krogager

### Twin Town

In the south-west corner of Billund municipality lies the village of Stenderup-Krogager. We won't go into the details of how it got its double-barrelled name – we'll leave it to you, the visitor, to ask a local. If you receive the same answer twice, then you'll be doing a lot better than us Danes!

Whatever the answer, we can tell you that the parish has been named Stenderup since the 13<sup>th</sup> century, but it was only when the railway arrived that problems arose. You see Stenderup is a very popular place name in Denmark – there are ten others dotted around the country! – and the Danish State Railway refused to allow them to use the name when a station was built in town. Whether that was the reason for the double-barrelled name change is unclear, but it certainly proved useful.

### A cosy town

The village's double identity is also appropriate considering it's heritage: a mix of traditional cooperative farming and railway based development. The town and country met – and co-existed – in one place.

However, that is not the end of the duality. There are two schools in town: Stenderup School, a state-run school, and Hestkær Friskole, a private school based on Gruntvigian principles. And even the church leads a bit of a double life, being a satellite of Ansager Church, as well as being built by renowned Danish architect and fellow double-barreller Aage Lønborg-Jensen.

Today the village has all the facilities you would expect from a cosy village – a supermarket for supplies, hairdresser, fish farm and even a disco! So why not come and visit the town with the dual name and dual history – you might just find it double the fun!

## Hejnsvig

### Hejnsvig On Top

Currently the name of a local organisation formed to promote and create growth in the village, 'Hejnsvig On Top' also refers to the fact that Hejnsvig is built on what is geologically known as a 'hill island' formed during the Ice Age. And not just your run-of-the-mill hill either but the highest in the Kingdom of Denmark no less!

### Kirken og banen

Hejnsvig has a rich history dating back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, when the original version of the village's church was built. And it's the church that has been a constant in the settlement's history ever since. The first building was built 800 years ago and was likely built of wood. It was then replaced by a tiny stone building during the 14<sup>th</sup> century and it was around this time that Hejnsvig first appeared in written accounts of the region. Although the church was relatively small, the parish grew in power and was one of the most important in the region up until the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Finally, the church was extended at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and has stood in its current state ever since.

In many ways the growth and expansion of the church over the centuries matches that of Hejnsvig itself. It grew in influence and prosperity over the years and even had its own train station from 1917 to 1968.

As well as a proud history, Hejnsvig has a solid business community and a beautiful golf course, where the buildings have a special status.

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Billund – A town built one brick at a time

A brief history of how LEGO helped build a town and become the world's favourite toy

A close-knit family and a brilliant idea was all it took for LEGO to become the world's favourite toy. In 1932, a Billund carpenter Ole Kirk Kristiansen began producing children's toys after his business was hit hard by the economic downturn. Initially making wooden toys, the business proved to be a success and in 1949, under the management of Ole Kirk's son Godfred, the company began producing the first version of the LEGO brick. In 1959, the plastic bricks that we know and love today – with piping on the underside to ensure the blocks properly connect – began to take shape and after a fire in the original store destroyed much of LEGO's stock in 1960, a decision was made to focus exclusively on plastic toys.

Today LEGO is owned by the third and fourth generations of the Kristiansens – Kjeld Kirk and his children. Over the years the company has produced more than 560 billion LEGO bricks for small and big kids around the world.

[Read more about LEGO products](#)

[Or watch the short film about LEGO](#)

There are no set tours of LEGO, but visits for special guests and groups can be arranged. You can read more [here](#).

It Began Here: LEGO production began in the Kristiansen family house in the centre of Billund. 'The Lion House' – named because of the two stone lions which guard the entrance – is still standing today and is a reminder of LEGO's humble beginnings when it was just the Kristiansen family and their tools.

[Sightseeing in Billund by foot](#)

[Hovedgaden and the Lion House](#)

Billund is such a young town that there's something almost American about it. Nowhere is that illustrated more than on Hovedgaden, which can be literally translated to Main St.

On Hovedgaden, just by Systemvej, is the Lion House, a legendary place in Billund's history. It was here that carpenter Ole Kirk Kristiansen had his business and invented what became the modern-day LEGO company.

In 1924 the original house burnt down after his children were playing with matches and Kristiansen replaced it with the so-called 'Løvehus' (Lion House). The centrepiece at the front of the building were the distinctive stone lions guarding the entrance. Rumours were that they were to keep creditors from the door, a problem that Kristiansen didn't need to worry about for much longer.

[Art in Billund](#)

It's a case of the new replacing the old as you head to the town square. The town hall (Rådhuspladsen) now houses a Danish bank – Den Jyske Sparekasse – and a fountain sculpture sits in the middle of the road. Actually there is art dotted all over town, with the Sculpture park the centrepiece.

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## Billund Centre

If you continue from the city hall over Hans Jensensvej, you will find Billund Centret, the town's cultural centre. Within the buildings lie a library, theatre, historical archives, music school, disco, cafe and Billund Church.

## Hotel LEGOLAND

Billund has a mixture of residential and industrial architecture and it's definitely worth walking up Åstvej, at Hans Jensensvej's left hand side by the bus stops. You will find the main building of LEGO Group's headquarters, closely followed by Hotel LEGOLAND and the Billund swimming pool on your right. At the end of Åstvej, the entrance to LEGOLAND is on your left, while over the road is the Lalandia water park.

It's also worth visiting the Billund Kro (Inn) at Buen 6, near the ABC Supermarket. This building can be traced back to the late 1700s and used to be a stagecoach stop which welcomed hungry travellers from all over the country. It is still a working inn today and serves up fine Danish fare for the modern-day traveller.

## Museums in Billund

Denmark is a nation of enthusiastic collectors, so it should come as no surprise that there are more than 800 museums dotted around the country. In the Billund area there are lots of places to visit including Museumsgården Karensminde (Karensminde Farm Museum), Egtved Pigen the burial place of a perfectly preserved bronze age woman and even a mead brewery.

**Top 10 Attractions:** In Billund we have LEGOLAND with it's millions of LEGO bricks, as well as many other top quality attractions all within easy driving distance.

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## Gyttegård Golf Club

Gyttegård Golf Club is one of the most beautiful golf courses in the region. A challenging, well-maintained course, it is also very scenic - from one of its highest greens you can enjoy a great view of the surrounding countryside. In addition to a top quality course, the club also features a driving range, a par-3 course, a chipping and putting green.

There are several golf courses in the area:

[Jelling Golfklub](#) [4]

[4][Brande Golfklub](#) [5]

[5][Give Golfklub](#) [6]

[6][Holsted Golfklubs](#) [7]

[7][Vejen Golfklubs](#) [8]

[8][Vejde Golf Club](#) [9]

## Denmark's Golf Museum

A fun and different experience for the golf enthusiast

Do you have children?

Why not try a round of mini golf or football golf together?

Want to know more?

[Read about Danish golf courses](#)

## Danish Golf Courses

Golf is very popular in Denmark and the visiting player has a range of options if they want to play a round.

Danish golf courses are known for their high quality and varying degrees of difficulty. Most courses allow guest players, although tee times on weekends and public holidays can be harder to secure, especially on courses near big cities.

### Handicap limitations

Some golf clubs have handicap limitations, so it is recommended you make contact with the club pro or office before you book.

### Facilities

Most clubs have a well-appointed clubhouse with dressing room, bathroom, lounge and pro shop, while larger courses also have their own restaurants or cafeteria. All these facilities are guaranteed if you choose one of Golf Denmark's accredited courses.

[See Golf Denmark's approved courses](#)

### Green fees

Green fees start from 200kr on weekdays and from 300kr on weekends.

### Golf season

Golf is a year-round sport in Denmark, and between November and April you usually play on the winter greens.

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## Documentation

When you arrive at the club, you must be able to document your handicap and membership of a golf club.

## Billund Shuttle

The Billund Shuttle can take you to all the places you need to go – the centre of town, the attractions, hotels and the airport. Or you can set aside some time and see the sights with the family. The bus is free and runs several times an hour during the summer.

Get Billund Shuttle timetable [here](#)

## Billund

A special city well worth a visit...

People who visit Billund for the first time nearly always say the same thing: “Wow, it is all so new!”. And there is some truth in that: it is a very new town.

Billund is a rare example of a Danish town that has grown and developed because of a single company: the LEGO Group. When local carpenter Ole Kirk Christiansen first began producing wooden toys from his workshop in 1932, no one could have predicted how big his dream would become.

Not only has LEGO created thousands of jobs in the region, but it has allowed Billund to flourish into the tourist destination that it is today.

... that's also a thriving town

Billund began its expansion with the opening of an airport in the 1960s, the construction of a library and church in the 1970s, and by the opening of a horse track, hotels and various shops over the last two decades. Today, LEGO is not as important to the survival of the town as it once was. Several smaller companies have been established or moved into town and Billund now has many strings to its bow.

However, the toymaker remains the heartbeat of the town, by far the largest manufacturer and employer in town.

Since the opening of LEGOLAND in 1968 tourists have flocked to Billund in their tens of thousands every year and the establishment of the town as a tourist destination has allowed other attractions, such as Lalandia, to become popular too.

With the second largest airport in the country, Billund is not just a holiday destination for Danes, but for a host of nationalities arriving from all corners of Europe and the world.

And while Billund is built of the twin pillars of tourism and manufacturing, more and more facilities are being built for children and young people, driven in no small part by the initiative to make the town ‘the Children’s Capital’. There’s no doubt that Billund is a young town with a very exciting future.

## Grindsted

### The Station City

The town of Grindsted, 14km from Billund, features a charming blend of classic 1920s and 1930s Danish architecture with more contemporary buildings. It has a thriving centre with excellent shops, cafes and a museum, as well as large parks and walking paths to take a relaxing walk or bike ride.

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But things weren't always so calm in Grindsted. When the railroad came roaring into town to connect the east and west of Jutland in 1914, the population of the sleepy town on the heath soon exploded. Grindsted became the fastest growing town in the country and with six lines coming in and out of town, it was the third largest railway hub, attracting many large companies in the process.

Grindstedværket, which for many years has been part of Danisco, was established in 1924 and soon became the town's leading industrial plant. From 1931-2006, a meat processing plant was another major privately owned enterprise.

Today there are many other thriving companies, such as KA Interior (a specialist in sliding-door wardrobes), Grindsted Billardfabrik, KG Beton and Tajco, an exhaust manufacturer which has become a big player in the international market.

The railway lines have long since disappeared but the town still manages to attract and develop a wide range of companies that are vital to the Jutland economy.

## **Vorbasse**

Little town, big history

Vorbasse's history is not just unique to Denmark - it also stands out in the larger Northern European context too. While residents of other towns can only guess as to the history of former residents, Vorbasse can date inhabitants back to the first century AD, thanks to the largest archaeological excavations ever undertaken in Denmark.

There have been eight recorded villages in the small region around Vorbasse since the first century, but since 1100 the town has been situated in its current location. Such information has been gathered by painstaking scientific excavations between 1974 and 1987 and the wealth of knowledge gathered has made this small Danish village a subject of study throughout Europe.

The country's largest market

Dating back to the Middle Ages, Vorbasse has always had a market and it is now the country's largest. Held every year over a long weekend in July, the market attracts up to 250,000 people looking to trade, barter and bargain hunt, as well as enjoy the fairground rides and live music. It was in this area that the famous street performer Professor Labri is said to have named the local lake "Vorbasse Krigshavn" (Vorbasse War Harbour). Nowadays, a warship with his name sits in the beautifully renovated lake - albeit a little smaller than the original.

Vorbasse also has a large popular campground, a swimming pool and an inn, and is well worth a visit.

## **Filskov**

'Village of the Year'

Just south of the Omme river is the village of Filskov. The village and its residents are known for being of the finest stock, something that was officially confirmed when Filskov was named the 'Village of the Year' in 2003.

It might be small but it's perfectly formed and boasts a thriving business community, sport and leisure centre, church and a cosy inn, as well as a yearly festival that looks to the past, present and future of the region.

The locals have common aims, setting up a company which supports local business in the area and the community spirit shines through.

The Mystery of the Church

In the distant past, the village was of a far larger size, including a second church that welcomed the added influx of people to the area. However, for reasons not entirely known - maybe the Black Death epidemic which swept Europe in the 1300s - the population dropped and the church was abandoned, its location lost to history. Several skeletal remains were unearthed in the 1860s in a spot that was assumed to be the site of the old churchyard and a memorial was placed in the spot. Filskov's new church dates from 1877.

Filskov's red brick inn is typically Danish and has been serving famished travellers and locals alike for more than 100 years. It

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was particularly popular when the village had a railway station, which ran from 1917 until the early 1970s.

Every May since 1980, Filskov has held a popular fete, called the Viaduct Festival, allowing visitors to experience a charming village with a rich history and promising future.

## Sønder Omme

### Home of the Royal Inn

Situated by the beautiful River Omme, Sønder Omme is the northernmost town in the Billund municipality.

The jewel in it's crown in the local inn, which received a royal charter in 1780, and today is a perfect setting for a great meal, a golfing break or a spot of relaxing with lovely views of the river.

The Omme is the focal point for many of the activities to do in town, with fishing and walking along a path following the old 19<sup>th</sup> century drainage canal proving most popular.

As with many of the towns and villages in the region, the community spirit is strong, with a huge summer fete the centrepiece. Since 1974, thousands of people visit from all over the country to sample the music, entertainment and hospitality of the region.

However, music and cultural activities are not just confined to the festival period. Sønder Omme has a flourishing musical and artistic community, as well as welcoming locals who are happy to show-off their home town to visitors.

In contrast to other towns in the area, Sønder Omme's past is there for all to see. It's church - thought to be built in the Middle Ages and known as 'Long Maren' - is one of the oldest and largest in the area and is a source of great pride to residents.

Thanks to its superb location and facilities, Sønder Omme is a great place to make a base or visit during your Danish holiday.

## Stenderup-Krogager

### Twin Town

In the south-west corner of Billund municipality lies the village of Stenderup-Krogager. We won't go into the details of how it got its double-barrelled name - we'll leave it to you, the visitor, to ask a local. If you receive the same answer twice, then you'll be doing a lot better than us Danes!

Whatever the answer, we can tell you that the parish has been named Stenderup since the 13<sup>th</sup> century, but it was only when the railway arrived that problems arose. You see Stenderup is a very popular place name in Denmark - there are ten others dotted around the country! - and the Danish State Railway refused to allow them to use the name when a station was built in town. Whether that was the reason for the double-barrelled name change is unclear, but it certainly proved useful.

### A cosy town

The village's double identity is also appropriate considering it's heritage: a mix of traditional cooperative farming and railway based development. The town and country met - and co-existed - in one place.

However, that is not the end of the duality. There are two schools in town: Stenderup School, a state-run school, and Hestkær Friskole, a private school based on Gruntvigian principles. And even the church leads a bit of a double life, being a satellite of Ansager Church, as well as being built by renowned Danish architect and fellow double-barreller Aage Lønborg-Jensen.

Today the village has all the facilities you would expect from a cosy village - a supermarket for supplies, hairdresser, fish farm and even a disco! So why not come and visit the town with the dual name and dual history - you might just find it double the fun!

## Hejnsvig

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## Hejnsvig On Top

Currently the name of a local organisation formed to promote and create growth in the village, 'Hejnsvig On Top' also refers to the fact that Hejnsvig is built on what is geologically known as a 'hill island' formed during the Ice Age. And not just your run-of-the-mill hill either but the highest in the Kingdom of Denmark no less!

## Kirken og banen

Hejnsvig has a rich history dating back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, when the original version of the village's church was built. And it's the church that has been a constant in the settlement's history ever since. The first building was built 800 years ago and was likely built of wood. It was then replaced by a tiny stone building during the 14<sup>th</sup> century and it was around this time that Hejnsvig first appeared in written accounts of the region. Although the church was relatively small, the parish grew in power and was one of the most important in the region up until the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Finally, the church was extended at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and has stood in its current state ever since.

In many ways the growth and expansion of the church over the centuries matches that of Hejnsvig itself. It grew in influence and prosperity over the years and even had its own train station from 1917 to 1968.

As well as a proud history, Hejnsvig has a solid business community and a beautiful golf course, where the buildings have a special status.

## Billund - A town built one brick at a time

A brief history of how LEGO helped build a town and become the world's favourite toy

A close-knit family and a brilliant idea was all it took for LEGO to become the world's favourite toy. In 1932, a Billund carpenter Ole Kirk Kristiansen began producing children's toys after his business was hit hard by the economic downturn. Initially making wooden toys, the business proved to be a success and in 1949, under the management of Ole Kirk's son Godfred, the company began producing the first version of the LEGO brick. In 1959, the plastic bricks that we know and love today - with piping on the underside to ensure the blocks properly connect - began to take shape and after a fire in the original store destroyed much of LEGO's stock in 1960, a decision was made to focus exclusively on plastic toys.

Today LEGO is owned by the third and fourth generations of the Kristiansens - Kjeld Kirk and his children. Over the years the company has produced more than 560 billion LEGO bricks for small and big kids around the world.

[Read more about LEGO products](#)

[Or watch the short film about LEGO](#)

There are no set tours of LEGO, but visits for special guests and groups can be arranged. You can read more [here](#).

It Began Here: LEGO production began in the Kristiansen family house in the centre of Billund. 'The Lion House' - named because of the two stone lions which guard the entrance - is still standing today and is a reminder of LEGO's humble beginnings when it was just the Kristiansen family and their tools.

## Sightseeing in Billund by foot

### Hovedgaden and the Lion House

Billund is such a young town that there's something almost American about it. Nowhere is that illustrated more than on Hovedgaden, which can be literally translated to Main St.

On Hovedgaden, just by Systemvej, is the Lion House, a legendary place in Billund's history. It was here that carpenter Ole Kirk Kristiansen had his business and invented what became the modern-day LEGO company.

In 1924 the original house burnt down after his children were playing with matches and Kristiansen replaced it with the

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so-called 'Løvehus' (Lion House). The centrepiece at the front of the building were the distinctive stone lions guarding the entrance. Rumours were that they were to keep creditors from the door, a problem that Kristiansen didn't need to worry about for much longer.

#### Art in Billund

It's a case of the new replacing the old as you head to the town square. The town hall (Rådhuspladsen) now houses a Danish bank - Den Jyske Sparekasse - and a fountain sculpture sits in the middle of the road. Actually there is art dotted all over town, with the Sculpture park the centrepiece.

#### Billund Centre

If you continue from the city hall over Hans Jensensvej, you will find Billund Centret, the town's cultural centre. Within the buildings lie a library, theatre, historical archives, music school, disco, cafe and Billund Church.

#### Hotel LEGOLAND

Billund has a mixture of residential and industrial architecture and it's definitely worth walking up Åstvej, at Hans Jensensvej's left hand side by the bus stops. You will find the main building of LEGO Group's headquarters, closely followed by Hotel LEGOLAND and the Billund swimming pool on your right. At the end of Åstvej, the entrance to LEGOLAND is on your left, while over the road is the Lalandia water park.

It's also worth visiting the Billund Kro (Inn) at Buen 6, near the ABC Supermarket. This building can be traced back to the late 1700s and used to be a stagecoach stop which welcomed hungry travellers from all over the country. It is still a working inn today and serves up fine Danish fare for the modern-day traveller.

#### Museums in Billund

Denmark is a nation of enthusiastic collectors, so it should come as no surprise that there are more than 800 museums dotted around the country. In the Billund area there are lots of places to visit including Museumsgården Karensminde (Karensminde Farm Museum), Egtved Pigen the burial place of a perfectly preserved bronze age woman and even a mead brewery.

Top 10 Attractions: In Billund we have LEGOLAND with it's millions of LEGO bricks, as well as many other top quality attractions all within easy driving distance.