

5 — The Natterjack Toad

Bøtø Nor is the only place on Falster where you can find the rare Natterjack Toad. The Natterjack Toad is recognisable by the characteristic yellow stripe down its back. It prefers to breed in ponds with bare banks or in hollows, preferably ones that are seasonally dry. Several new ponds have been established in Bøtø Nor over the last few years to help this species.

6 — The bottom of the ‘Nor’

Bøtø Nor was originally a fjord. The deepest part of the fjord today is 2.5m below sea-level. The trail covers quite a distance along the bottom of the Nor. On your walk, heading east, you come up onto the edge of the Nor. On the bottom of the Nor, you’ll find a unique bird hide. From the shelter of the hide and surrounding vegetation, you can come very close to the birdlife.

7 — The edge of the Nor

When the ice retreated at the end of the last Ice Age, it formed an elongated, hilly landscape on South Falster facing Guldborg Sund. A bay was formed east of the range. Over time, the sea created a reef of sand towards the Baltic Sea. The reef became sand islands that merged, and a dune landscape was formed. The summer house area Marielyst has been built on these sand islands. When you leave the summer house area and make your way to the west along the trail, you are walking on the bottom of the Nor.

8 — The Giant Forest

In 2020, Guldborgsund Municipality established a new recreational zone in a 2.5 ha area. The area was planted with the offspring of the giant oaks of Lolland-Falster. In the southern part of the area, there are some elevated areas which offer a unique view of the flat Nor. The Giant Forest also has a dog-friendly area where dogs don’t have to be kept on a leash. There are also picnic benches. At the forest, the trail runs towards the south along an old entrance road, which once connected three southerly farms in the Nor. The entrance road is 12 ‘alen’, or 7.5 metres, wide and the road is lined with dirt embankments and established bushes and trees.

9 — Ditches and canals

Draining of the Nor began in about 1860. Embankments, ditches and canals were established as part of the works. Today there are more than 67 km of canals, 62 km of which are open channels, and the remaining 5 km are piped channels. All the water is directed to the pumping station in Marrebæk and then pumped out into Guldborg Sund. The Bøtø Nor Land Reclamation Association is responsible for drainage of the area.

10 — Bøtø Nor Old Pumping Station

The pumping station is located at Marrebæk and ensures the drainage of Bøtø Nor. The first steam engine and pump were installed in 1871. The old pump house has now been converted into a museum. In the pump house you can see one of the old pumps as well as an exhibition of the area’s cultural and natural history. There is also a picnic shelter. Read more about the museum at www.pumpemuseum.dk



Is sponsored by Nordea-fonden and the Danish Ministry of Environment, in cooperation with The Danish Society for Nature Conservation, The Danish Forest Association, The Outdoor Council, Local Government Denmark, The National Council for Rural Affairs and The Danish Hunters’ Association.

This trail is a cooperative project involving The Danish Nature Fund, The Bøtø Nor Land Reclamation Association, Pedersdal Landowners’ Association, private landowners and Guldborgsund Municipality. The project is kindly financed by SPOR, The Outdoor Council, Nordea-fonden and Guldborgsund Municipality.



TOUR-BOGULDBORGSUND

Practical information

You are a guest on the landowner’s private property and the owner has kindly given permission for walking access to the trail. The trail is partially a ‘goat track’ and is therefore impacted by the weather and vegetation. Some areas can be damp/ wet at times, so sturdy and perhaps waterproof footwear is recommended. So that everyone can enjoy the area, it is important that dogs are kept on the leash.

- Please do not leave rubbish in the nature and follow the marked paths.
- Information boards and QR-codes are posted on the trail with extra information.



Welcome to nature

SPOR is providing access to Nature. In collaboration with danish farmers, landowners, and volunteers, SPOR is offering numerous experiences in the countryside. SPOR is walking trails through farmland in the entire Denmark, and you are welcome to take a walk.

For further information about the trail Bøtø Nor, please contact Guldborgsund Kommune. Center for Teknik & Miljø, phone: +45 5473 1000 or e-mail: teknik@guldborgsund.dk

For further information about SPOR in general, please contact SPOR’s secretary: Axeltorv 3, 1609 København V, phone: +45 3339 4090, www.spor.dk www.spor.dk

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Region Seeland



Welcome to the trail

Explore the Bøtø Nor area and follow the trail along a network of 15 km of paths on Falster. The trail starts at the Bøtø Forest and ends at the Old Bøtø Nor Pumping Station at Marrebæk. The trail takes you into the countryside, following ditches, canals and gravel roads. Along the route, you will come across cultivated fields as well as nature areas like wetlands and dry grasslands.

Bøtø Nor was originally a fjord with a large, flat beach, lake and salt marsh area, around 2,000 hectares in size. The fjord was approximately 15 km long and up to one km wide. Draining of the area commenced in 1860 with the building of dykes, digging of canals and the establishment of a pumping station. The result of these works created the setting for the Bøtø Nor we know today. Here is a short description of some of the highlights you can experience on your walk:

Legend

- FOREST

BUILD UP AREA

BUILDINGS

WETLANDS

WATERCOURSE

LIVE FENCE

ROAD

PATH

TRAIL
- STARTING POINT

STARTING POINT W. BROCHURE

POINT OF INTEREST

LAVATORY

PARKING

MUSEUM

BIRD WATCHING TOWER

BENCH

PICNIC TABLE

PICNINC SHELTER

SPOR

At the starting point you will find the yellow brochure box



The trail is marked with white arrows



1 — Bøtø Forest

The southernmost point of the trail is at the carpark at the entrance to Bøtø Forest. With its approx. 150 ha, Bøtø Forest is a large nature area which lies south of the summer house area of Marielyst. The forest was purchased by The Danish Nature Fund in March 2017. Guldborgsund Municipality is responsible for the day-to-day running of the area. 'Working' in the forest are wild horses and cattle which manage the vegetation. The animals are not fed – they live on the plants and grasses they find in the forest. The animals are robust breeds: Konik horses and Galloway cows, and they can handle being out in the weather all year round. The aim of this type of nature management is to ensure better habitat conditions for rare species of butterflies, bats and birds.

2 — Bøtø Nor Bird Reserve

The Bøtø Nor Bird Reserve is the last uncultivated part of the original 'Nor' (cove). In 1975, a 175 ha area was scheduled in order to protect birdlife in the area. 105 ha of the 175 ha were designated for the Bøtø Nor Bird Reserve, and the rest is for farmland with hunting access. The entire reserve has restricted access and walking in the area is prohibited. The Danish Nature Agency is responsible for the reserve and there are two birdwatching towers on the edge of the bird reserve, which give a good view of the area.

3 — Natura 2000 area

Most of Bøtø Nor is part of a network of European nature areas known as the Natura 2000 protected areas network, within which Denmark has committed to ensure that the state of the area is improved or sustained. Bøtø Nor is designated a Natura 2000 area due to, amongst other things, its unique prevalence of water birds: primarily geese, swans and ducks. Bøtø Nor is known for its abundance of thousands of roosting barnacle geese, which visit the area on their migration between their breeding and wintering grounds.

4 — Conversion of agricultural land

In the middle of Bøtø Nor, The Danish Nature Fund and Guldborgsund Municipality are cooperating to re-establish natural habitats on a formerly intensively cultivated agricultural area. The most important part of converting farmland to nature is to remove the nutrients that have been added to the soil. Over a number of years, winter rye will be cultivated to deplete the soil. Winter rye has proven to be the most effective choice to deplete the soil of nutrients. The area will then be ploughed to a depth of 28 cm to get rid of the seeds that don't naturally occur in the area. Finally, to give nature a helping hand, seeds from wild plants – harvested from a local nature area, will be sown.