



Southern Jutland

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Why Go?

Southern Jutland gets its inspiration from a few different sources – from the North Sea, naturally, but also a little from the south. This is the only part of Denmark connected to mainland Europe (by a 68km-long border), and in some places you can feel the historic ties with Germany.

This is a region of salty offshore islands, understated royal palaces and character-filled historic towns, with unexpectedly modern treats in the form of edgy art and architecture, and offbeat design museums. The jewel in the crown is Ribe, the country's oldest town – this is historic Denmark at its most photogenic. The islands of Als, Fanø and Rømø have clear-cut appeal for beach-going holiday-makers, and bird-watchers also love this region. The tidal rhythms of the west-coast Wadden Sea bring an abundance of feathered friends (and their fanciers). An eclectic mix of royal-watchers, castle-collectors and design-enthusiasts may also be ticking must-sees off their list.

Best Places to Eat

- » Mormors Lille Café (p212)
- » Sønderho Kro (p199)
- » Otto & Ani's Fisk (p208)
- » Sælhunden (p204)
- » Café Ib Rehne Cairo (p213)

Best Places to Stay

- » Hotel Koldingfjord (p192)
- » Sønderho Kro (p199)
- » Schackenborg Slotskro (p212)
- » Weis Stue (p203)
- » Danhostel Ribe (p206)

When to Go

If it's sunshine and beaches you're after, June to August is the obvious time to join the crowds on islands such as Rømø, Fanø and Als, and the region's biggest festival (Tønder Festival) farewells summer in style in late August.

A town such as Ribe charms at any time of year – December is especially delightful, with a Christmas market and festivities that make the atmosphere extra-*hyggelig* (cosy). The attractions of larger towns (Kolding, Esbjerg, Sønderborg, Tønder) are also year-round. Note that in spring (March to April) and autumn (September to October) there's some unique bird-watching to enjoy by the Wadden Sea.



Southern Jutland Highlights

1 Join the night-watchman on an evening walk through historic **Ribe** (p202)

2 Dial the cuteness factor up to 11 in fairy-tale **Møgeltønder** (p211)

3 Head from modern, industrial Esbjerg to salty-

dog **Fano** (p198) in only 12 minutes

4 Envy **Kolding** (p191) its appealing mix of the old and the new

5 Check out the wind-driven blokarts and kite-buggies at Sønderstrand on **Rømø** (p207)

6 Wrap your head around the mind-bending exhibits and experiments of **Danfoss Universe** (p215)

7 See birds dance across the sky during the 'Sort Sol' in the new **Wadden Sea National Park** (p206)

Kolding

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Kolding is a picturesque and eminently likeable mid-sized town with a crowd-pleasing mix of old and new, wonderfully summed up in one of its major drawcards, the hill-top castle of Koldinghus. After a stroll through the old quarters at the town's heart, you can head to Trapholt to admire the modern fur-

niture design that Denmark is renowned for. It's a winning combination.

Sights

Koldinghus

CASTLE, MUSEUM
(www.koldinghus.dk; Markdanersgade 1; adult/child 70kr/free; ☀10am-5pm) Koldinghus is the town's extravagant showpiece, with the requisite turbulent history. A fortress occupied the land in 1268, while parts of the castle