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Panoramarute

The Commander and the Whale Route is one of 25 panoramic routes along the Danish coastline. Panorama Routes are premium cycle routes offering places to eat, accommodation and entertaining experiences. The routes provide spectacular views, but also secret hideaways with space for quiet contemplation. The Panorama routes are part of the Powered by Cycling: Panorama project supported by the European Regional Development Fund.

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Cycle Route, 29 km The Commander and the Whale

The best of Rømø awaits - places you would never see from a car window. Hop on a bicycle and ride on idyllic cycle paths through dunes on your way to irresistible views and adventures for all the family.

Where the route takes you...

This route can be started at any point. This guide begins in Havneby **(1)** whose harbour was founded in 1964. Ever since, ferries have sailed from here to the German island of Sylt. Follow the cycle path from Havneby north parallel to Havnebyvej. Stay on this path until you reach Kommandørgården **(5)**.

The first sight on the route is the old emergency station **(2)**, dating from 1887, which currently houses the island's voluntary fire brigade. The tower was previously used as an observation post for ships in distress.

A short distance from the emergency station is Rømø Kirke **(3)** (Rømø Church) - or Sct. Clemens Church - dating from about 1200. In the 19th century, the church allowed people to buy name plates for the church benches. Here the name of H.P.P. Møller, grandfather of the founder of the famous Danish Maersk shipping company, can still be seen on one of the front benches.

Well on your way north you pass Naturcenter Tønningård **(4)** which will inspire you to take more trips into the landscape. Drop in to hear more about the many experiences the centre has to offer.

Energetic pedalling is now needed as you head up to Toftum where the Danish National Museum's Kommandørgården **(5)** is located. In the years 1784-1874, part of the Manor was a school, but now it is a museum where you can find a whale skeleton from a whale that stranded in 1996 and 1997.



Follow the cycle path from Kommandørgården back south until the route continues along Ringvejen. If you need a rest, go up Høstbjerg **(6)** and enjoy the spectacular view across the north of Rømø. After the fresh air of Høstbjerg, continue along Ringvejen. You come to a holiday home area from the 1970s where you will find one of the island's most beautiful sections of cycle path. A small path on the right leads to Lakolk **(7)** through a splendid salt meadow. Enjoy the serenity of the view.

Lakolk offers life and fun: a buzz of activity in the summer months where people shop and enjoy themselves. Stock up here on provisions for the rest of your journey.

Småfolksvej automatically takes you back to the main road. On the way, you will have a magnificent view of Rømø's dunes. Follow the yellow path by the first car park on Havnebyvej until Spidsbjerg **(8)** on the right opens up yet another fantastic view of the dunes.

Follow the road on the right a short distance from Spidsbjerg. After 200 metres, the forest road joins a riding trail. You may have to dismount for the last 250 metres to Grammarksvej. The route now turns right along the gravel road and continues on forest roads to Rimmevej. The famous Sønderstrand **(9)** (beach) with its impressive open expanses is only a short distance from the route.

Take time to enjoy the beach before the route takes you back to Havneby along safe cycle paths. A well-deserved ice cream or treat ends the day's cycling.

Bicycle hire

Rømø Cykler - www.romocykler.dk, Havnebyvej 60, 6792 Kongsmark

Accommodation

VisitRømø, www.romo.dk, Nr. Frankel 1, 6792 Havneby

Find out more about other local Panorama routes and cycling packages at www.cykelsafari.com which includes maps, videos and much more. Kommandørgården and Strandsejladser are two of the 18 unique **Spot On** attractions in Southwest Jutland. www.sydvestjylland.com/spoton



Lakolk Beach (7)



Plantation (8)



The Commander and the Whale



Naviki, Open Street Map



Cycling in the plantation (8)



Kommandørgården (5)



The Emergency Station (2)



Trip with Tønninggård (4)