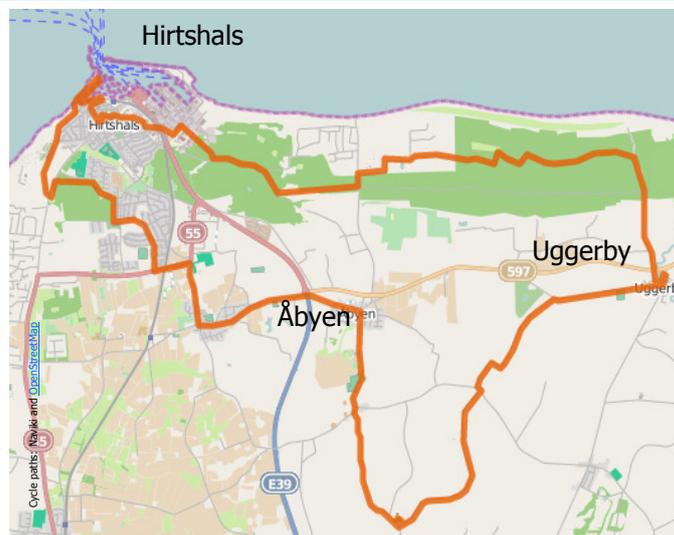




This route is one of 20 panoramic routes along the Danish coastline. Panorama Routes are premium cycle routes offering places to eat, accommodation and entertaining experiences. The routes provide spectacular views, but also secret hideaways with space for quiet contemplation. The Panorama routes are part of the Powered by Cycling: Panorama project supported by the European Regional Development Fund.



Cycle Route, 35 km Pedal & Paddle

The sea is your companion on the Pedal & Paddle Cycle Route which takes you along rivers and over bridges. Go canoeing on the calm Uggerby river or watch the fishing boats in the busy harbour and anglers on the river hoping for trout. The ride takes you 89 metres above sea level, but this is a leisurely route through beautiful landscapes.

Where the route takes you...

The route can be started anywhere, but this guide takes Hirtshals Hostel as its starting point. Complete the route 'anti-clockwise' for the benefit of shelter through Uggerby Dunes westwards on your way home.

Skagerrak Strait - fish in deep water

Off Hirtshals lies the Norwegian Trench where sea depths reach 775 metres. Deep sea fish that can also be found at the North Sea Oceanarium live in this hidden darkness. From the coast of Skagerrak, the route takes you south through the town of Hirtshals. The town, founded in 1919, is Denmark's gateway to Norway and the Faroe Islands, and more than two million passengers pass through Hirtshals each year.

Asdal - medieval fortress

Follow the route from Hirtshals towards Horne, an old village with a medieval church high on a hill. The route continues from Horne down to Åbyen whose name, which means 'river town' is no coincidence: Åbyen is on the River Kjøl. Through Åbyen on to Asdal whose long history is underscored by a moat system (1) from the 15th century. Even in the Middle Ages, water played a role in conflict and war. Control of the water was about fishing and trading rights. During an attack, the moat system, which lies 11 metres lower than Asdal Manor, and almost 136 acres of the surrounding land could be flooded.

Hellehøj - views to Vendsyssel and Skagerrak

From Asdal, the route continues to Hellehøj (2). At the top (89 metres above sea level), count the number of visible fishing vessels. Or church steeples. Or see how the light from sky and sea constantly changes the colour of the landscape. Careful as you ride down Hellehøj: it is a winding road!

Services and experiences along the route

Places to eat and shopping

Hirtshals, grocery shop in Åbyen and Uggerby

Bicycle hire and repairs

View options at www.visithirtshals.dk.

Museums and art

Gallery in Uggerby. Art in Mygdal. See www.visithirtshals.dk.

Trains (bicycles permitted): Hirtshals, Lilleheden, Emmersbæk, Horne,

Uggerby

Uggerby (3) has a grocery shop and a kiosk. This is where you can opt for a trip on the river: Canoes are available for rent. Or try to catch a fish (don't forget your fishing licence!). Visit Gallery Uggerby (4) north of Uggerby. The gallery is among the oldest galleries in North Jutland. Many international artists exhibit at the gallery and its sister gallery in Lønstrup.

Trees and sea air

The route now continues along the river: out towards the salty waves of Skagerrak. The river follows the valley while you follow the paved road down towards the coast through Uggerby Plantation. The plantation was established at the end of the 19th century to prevent sand drift. The route now turns west along Uggerby Skovvej, then north and west to follow the North Sea Cycle Route, National Route 1. This section is part of the 6000-kilometre-long North Sea Cycle and EuroVelo Routes. With each kilometre, you will increasingly sense the presence of the sea as the salt air mixes with the smell of trees. Now comes the road to Kjøl Strand (5) (Kjøl Beach). Soon you will see the Blue Flag of beach quality fluttering in the wind.

North Sea Oceanarium and Hirtshals Harbour

The route continues westwards to the nearby North Sea Oceanarium (6). The centre boasts Northern Europe's largest aquarium with 4.5 million litres of fresh sea water. Next stop is Hirtshals Havn (7) (Hirtshals Harbour) with its fishing boats and ferries. Experience life in the harbour when the fishing boats land their catches and ships are serviced and repaired. The harbour is a key employer in the town - not just for fishermen, but also for many on land. Consider leaving your bicycle and enjoying a fishing trip on one of the fishing vessels. Don't forget your angling licence!

Angling licences:

Post office, tourist office. See www.visithirtshals.dk.

Links

www.visithirtshals.dk, www.oceanarium.dk.



Pedal & Paddle Map 1



Facts about the route:

35 km, of which approx. 23 km paved and 12 km gravel roads (paths, forest tracks etc.). Effective cycling time at 16 km/h: 2 hours 11 min. Highest point: Hellehøj, 89 metres above sea level. Max. 5% slopes. Difficulty: medium route with some hills at start, then flat terrain. Road safety: the route runs mainly along minor roads with limited traffic. Main road intersections in two places. Shortcuts/detours: the route can be shortened by cycling directly from Asdal to Uggerby via Mygdalvej which avoids cycling up to Hellehøj.

Toppen af Danmark 
Lysets Land

This cycle route was created in a partnership between Toppen af Danmark and the Panorama cycle project. Find out more about cycling experiences, accommodation, activities, attractions and services at www.toppenafdanmark.dk.