

Culture and history at Kirkeå

Skjern is not an old town, but its location near Skjern River, the ford over the Kirkeå by the church, where many paths met, and its later role as a station town and railway hub provide a lot of material for interesting stories about the town's culture and history.

On the 5 information boards, you can, among other things, read about:

- Skjern's development from a ford to a station town and Denmark's youngest market town
- Traces and finds from ancient times
- The 800 year history of Skjern church and the lost treasure in the church wall
- The heavy flooding in the seventeenth century but also recent floodings
- The use and enjoyment of Kirkeå through the ages
- The vicarage's garden and the town's other gardens and fruit orchards
- The old farms along the river, and their use of the meadows
- The straightening of Skjern River in the 1960's
- The tank ditches from World War 2



The Green Corridor of Skjern, "Den Grønne Korridor" in Danish, runs approximately 5 km along Kirkeå, through the town of Skjern from Skjern Birk Plantage (Skjern Birch Plantation) in the east to Skjern Enge (Skjern Meadows) in the west, where it merges with the Ganer River to a shared outflow into Skjern River.

The Green Corridor is split into 5 town areas:

- Skovkanten (The Wood Edge) with horses and animals, lakes as well as paths to the Skyggehus Dam and Skjern Birk Plantage
- **Byengen** (The Town Meadow) with a paddling/fishing lake with sandbanks, a bowling green and a sledging slope with activities
- Anlægget (The Grounds) with the Mirror Pond, flowers and trees, a stage as well as play and activity areas
- Urskoven (The Primeval Forest), a natural area with wilderness, bird life, a lake as well as a viewpoint and sledging slope
- **Klosterengen** (The Monastery Meadow) with meadows and cattle, lakes, birds, barbeque areas and a bird-watch with a view over the Skjern River valley

The Corridor has an extensive system of paths, and information boards have been erected in several places with overview maps and sections detailing the area's history, nature and potential activities. Also worth noticing are the beautiful, renovated bridges and the 50 artistic birdhouses.





Learn more about nature

The Green Corridor offers a variety of nature experiences. Regardless of whether you go for all or part of the trip, on foot or by bike, you will pass through different types of nature and vegetations, encounter cattle and horses within enclosures and many species of flora and fauna.

Take your time in studying the sections of the information boards and read all about:

- Frogs, toads and other small animals in and around the
- Trees and bushes including invasive species
- Birds, such as the kingfisher
- Otters and other animals we rarely see
- Salmon, pike and the other fish in Kirkeå and the lakes
- River plants
- Animal tracks and droppings
- Skjern Birk Plantage with Galgehøjen (Gallows Mound), lakes and paths
- Climate change and floodings
- Protection against climate change, such as the Skyggehus Dam
- Ochre pollution and weed cutting

- There are sledging slopes in Urskoven and Byengen with steps up to the viewing platform. There is a ropeway, a slide and climbing ropes at Byengen.
- There is exercise equipment at Anlægget, as well as a playground for smaller children, and there is an obstacle course on the Kirkeskole (Church School) playing field. There is also an obstacle course at the Amagerskolen (Amager School) sports facility. Both places have "bird nests" of willow branches.
- 10 mystical "Black Stones" that you can sit or climb on. • The aquarium at Ganer River gives you a close-up view of the fish in the river.
- Primitive accommodation can be found in the hammock hut in Skjern Birk Plantage, where you can also find a barbeque and toilets.



Many potential activities

The Green Corridor provides a wealth of potential recreational and physical activities for people of all ages:

- Tables and benches in several places, and a sheltered barbeque area on Klosterengen.
- The lake in Byengen has a sandy bank and stepping posts, and hook fishing is permitted in a part of it. There is also a bowling green.

- You can see the location of the various facilities on the map on the inside of the leaflet.
- You can get ideas for potential activities from the sections on the information boards:
- Nature learning and games
- Edible herbs and what you can obtain from them
- Bird boxes and insect hotels
- Art made from natural materials

Practical information

The main route is marked with this sign: 🚯



The information boards are marked with this sign:

The paths are suitable for walking-impaired people and wheelchair users, but may be flooded in places during wet periods.

- Riding and the use of motor vehicles on the paths is prohibited
- Dogs must be kept on a leash
- Fishing is permitted and free most places. Read more on the website
- Sailing on Kirkeå is permitted from 16/6 to 1/3 from 7 AM to 8 PM
- The use of the area and the various facilities is done at your own risk
- The municipal authorities will set up signs at the lake in Byengen, when the ice is safe. People are cautioned against walking on the ice outside of such times.
- Skjern Udviklingsforum (Skjern Development Forum) does not perform water tests and is not responsible for the water quality in the lakes.
- Help the volunteers (and municipal authorities) in keeping the area free of rubbish.
- Be considerate of the neighbours of the Green Corridor.

Other routes in the area:

Kløverstierne (The Clover Paths) Hjertestierne (The Heart Paths) in Vester Birk Plantage. National cycle path no. 4 passes through a part of the corridor.

Read more on the home page:

www.skjernudviklingsforum.dk – Den Grønne Korridor

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SKJERN UDVIKLINGS NORDEA

FONDEN





GO ON THE TRIP AND EXPLORE ...







- 1 Stepping stones
- 2 Small lookout platform
- 3 Platform by the water
- 4 Barbeque, bird watch, Black Stone, lifebuoy, platform by the water, high water marker



- 5 Aquarium, Black Stone
- 6 "Bird Nest"
- Obstacle course
- 8 Platform by the water
- Sledging slope, steps, fishing lake, life buoy, platform by the water
- 10 Black Stone, platform by the water





- 11) Stage, party area, Go Play
- 12 Black Stone, high water marker
- (13) Play area, exercise equipment
- (14) "Bird Nest", Black Stone
- (15) Obstacle course
- (16) Vandhaverne (Water Gardens)

- 17) Fishing lake, paddling lake, stepping posts, platforms by the water, life buoy, Black Stone
- 18 Bowling green
- 19 Platform by the water
- 20 Sledging slope, steps, ropeway, slide, "worm holes", Black Stone



21) Black Stone

