

A walk through the market town of Assens



The walk is around 2 km long.

Start – Tobaksgaarden:

The centre of the old market town of Assens is unusually well-preserved and offers much to see on a walk.

Tobaksgaarden – Assens Cultural Centre.

The Tobaksgaarden Cultural Centre, which opened on 1 October 2004, covers an area of almost 3,000 m². The building houses exhibition halls, a music and theatre hall, a cinema, a restaurant, Assens municipal music school and a number of small meeting rooms and group rooms for use by associations and the business community. Tobacco manufacturer Georg Gundersen came to Assens in 1863, where he moved into the property at Østergade 50. In 1880, he acquired Østergade 35 (Tobaksgaarden) with a view to starting the manufacture of tobacco in 1883.

Go out onto Østergade and continue down towards the harbour. Østergade has been Assens' high street for centuries. There are a number of merchant houses on the street, which are well worth a visit. One such is Plums Gård, a very large complex with a huge wooden barn built in 1915. The barn is the biggest wooden building in Denmark. At Østergade 36, you will find Willemoesgården, where naval hero Peter Willemoes was born in 1783

From here, you can walk along Damgade, which has been an important approach road for more than 800 years. In the Middle Ages, the houses around the church and facing the square comprised the town's finest neighbourhood. Walk past Strandmøllen and continue along the mill dam. On your left is Assens town hall, which was formerly a sugar factory. From 1884, this was one of the region's most important companies, but production ceased in 2006.

Continue along Sønder Ringvej and turn left into Willemoesgade, a street that was established in the 1880s as a connection to the newly built railway.

Continue down to the harbour and turn right. This is where the ferry sails to the island of Bålgø. At the harbour stands the statue of naval hero Peter Willemoes. There are also a number of listed buildings here, such as the small cooking house from 1824, where sailors used to cook their meals on stopovers, as open fires were not permitted on the ships at the dock. At the former customs house, Tolbod, turn right into Strandgade. Until 1859, one of the town's walled gates extended across the street behind Strandporten/Bådmandsstræde. The gatehouse was equipped with a lighthouse and was used as a jail for a number of years. Within the old ramparts was Postgården, where royalty and other wealthy people waited for the boat when travelling to and from Haderslev (Årø-sund).

On Strandgade, you can make a detour along Ramsherred and visit Assens Miniby model village. Since its inception in 1990, more than 60 houses have been built.

Continue straight on along the atmospheric Ladegårdsgade. At Gåsetorvet square, make a detour to Korsgade 11, the oldest house in town— probably 450 years old. Return to Ladegårdsgade and continue along Baronevej to Nygade, where you turn right. Most of the small, well-preserved houses in this street were built by artisan families in the 1880s, when the town outgrew its old borders. A couple of the buildings at the south end once housed the Technical School and J. Ernst's silverware factory. Turn right into Østergade.



Links:

www.tobaksgaarden.dk
www.museumvestfyn.dk
www.assens-miniby.dk

Map of the route

