



Ministry of Environment  
of Denmark  
Nature Agency

## Møns Klint and Klintholm Estate





## Møns Klint is a unique natural area



Peregrine falcon

### The peregrine falcon - the world's fastest animal

When you're on the beach, don't forget to look up! You might be lucky enough to see and hear the peregrine falcon, a small bird of prey the size of a crow. It feeds on other birds that it catches in the air. When diving through the air, it can reach speeds of up to 400 km/h. It has a loud and easily recognisable screech. In 2001, the peregrine falcon returned to Denmark after disappearing for 30 years. Møns Klint was the first place it started to breed. It doesn't build an actual nest, but lays its eggs directly on the substrate on a ledge or in a cave in the cliff. Ask at the Geocenter about where you might see them.

### Flowers

You can see as many as 18 of Denmark's wild orchids in Klinteskov and at the exits north and south of the forest. The large number of orchids is the result of high calcium content in the soil, preservation and nature conservation. Some of the species are extremely rare. Jydelejet is the most important place in Denmark for the hornbeam species. In spring, you can see three kinds of anemones on the forest bed, namely blue, white and yellow anemones. The blue one comes first and is already in bloom by early March.



Pyramiden-Hundswurz

### Untouched forest

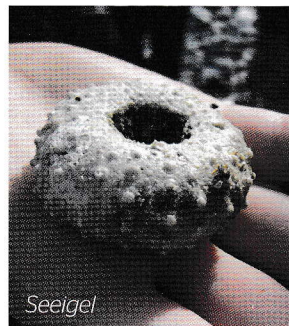
The entire state part of Klinteskov is today untouched forest, which means that there is no longer forestry here. Instead, the forest preserves the many rare plants, animals and fungi associated with the calcareous soil. The forest is kept open and varied by removing trees and letting animals graze. Fallen trees are left lying, creating habitats for insects and fungi. Klinteskov is today Denmark's best mushroom locality, and people are welcome to visit.

### Geology

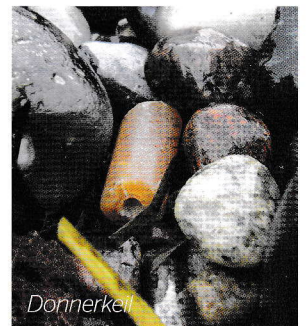
Approx. 70 million years ago, Møn was part of a tropical sea with a rich wildlife that covered most of northern Europe. This was home to large quantities of a certain group of microscopic algae - coccolith algae. The surface of the algae contained fine limestone plates, which formed a shield around the algae. The limestone plates are called "coccoliths". When the algae died, the plates disintegrated on the seabed and after millions of years they formed thick layers, which we know today as chalk. Black flint came afterwards, the result of a complex chemical process. The flint typically settled in thin layers and followed the structure of the seabed. The Ice Age began around 2 million years ago, and Møn was covered by several thick layers of ice. Every time the ice melted, it left layers of sand and clay over the chalk layers. However, it is the very last part of the Ice Age that played an important role in the formation of the steep chalk cliffs. Glaciers came down from the east and north and, like bulldozers, they pushed up layers of frozen chalk, clay, and sand, sometimes in completely vertical layers. When the ice melted away again, East Møn had been completely transformed. The originally fine horizontal layers had been pushed up and often mixed together into what we know today as Møns Klint and Højle Møn.

### Fossils

Fossils give us an important insight into the rich wildlife that lived in the tropical sea around 70 million years ago. A fossil is



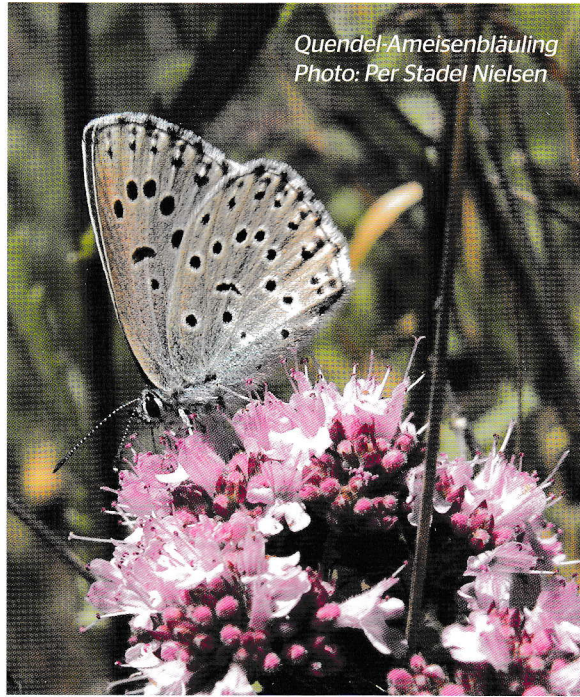
Seeigel



Donnerkeil

the inner imprint of an animal, such as a sea urchin, where flint has filled the animal's shell after its death. Another important fossil is the Belemnitida, which is easy to spot with its brown cigar shape. It is a petrified calcareous spike that once sat inside the hind body of an octopus.

If you find a ball of flint with holes in it, it probably contains a petrified sea sponge. Sponges are animals and not to be confused with the fungi we find on land today. Try giving it a shake - if it rattles, the sea sponge is loose inside the ball, and you have yourself a stone rattle.



### **The butterflies on Høvblege**

Høvblege is the only known place in Denmark where the rare Large Blue butterfly is still spotted. When it is a small larva, it usually lives on the herb thyme, although sometimes also marjoram. At some point, the larva falls to the ground, where it is picked up by a heather ant and carried down into the ant-hill. The larva secretes fragrances that trigger brood care in the ant. The larva eats ant fry, apparently without the adult ants noticing. When it has eaten approx. 1000 ant larvae, it pupates and winters in the anthill. Only the following summer does the fully developed butterfly emerge.










## Worth experiencing

- 1 Møns Klint** consists of vertical layers of chalk that rise more than 100 metres above sea level. The chalk consists of skeletal remains of algae, which are approx. 70 million years old. On the beach you can find fossils of Cretaceous wildlife.
- 2 GeoCenter Møns Klint** takes you on an interactive journey 70 million years back to the Cretaceous period. The Center offers a mix of exhibitions, reconstruction, films and virtual reality. See [moensklint.dk](http://moensklint.dk).
- 3 Klinteskov** consists of approx. 700 ha of deciduous forest on a very hilly terrain. The eastern part is state-owned untouched forest, while the western part belongs to Klintholm estate's forestry.
- 4 Timmesø Bjerg** is a refuge castle from the Late Bronze Age (1,100 - 500 BC). This is where the locals took refuge when enemies approached. There are clear remnants of ramparts and tombs on the north and south sides of the hilltop. Some of Denmark's oldest beech trees grown on this hilly terrain and are approx. 400 years old.
- 5 Liselund Castle and Park** are Denmark's best-preserved, romantic gardens. The soft architectural style with lakes, streams, waterfalls, exotic trees and small buildings was very popular in the late 18th century. Liselund is managed by the National Museum.
- 6 Høvblege** is a south-facing, calcareous grassland with nine different orchid species, rare plants and the rare butterfly - the Large Blue. At an altitude of 135 metres, the view of the Baltic Sea from Kongsbjerg is impressive and one of the best places for star-gazing.
- 7 Jydelejet** is the name given to this gentle valley between two large chalk planes. Orchids thrive here along with rare plants and insects in the nutrient-poor, calcareous environment.
- 8 Hundevæng Overdrev** is a hilly landscape, formed by the vertical chalk planes, with a unique view of southern Møn. Orchids and rare insects thrive here.
- 9 Busene Have** is a small grove by the coast with over ten burial mounds. In spring, it blooms with flowers.
- 10 Mandemarke Haver** is another small grove by the coast, where there is basic overnight accommodation intended for walkers and kayakers.

## Welcome to Møns Klint

Møns Klint is a unique natural area, not only in Denmark, but also worldwide. It is rightly one of Denmark's most visited nature areas and also an area with a high biodiversity. The landscape behind the cliff is called Høje Møn. The state owns approx. 660 ha, and Klintholm Estate owns approx. 450 ha of forest, and both work together to enable visitors to experience the nature here.

- P** There is a large car park at GeoCenter Møns Klint. Parking here for a fee. The area also has several other smaller car parks.
-  There are 9 marked hiking trails on the cliff of varying lengths. Please note that some routes pass through privately owned land where other traffic rules apply.
-  You are permitted to cycle on roads and paths that are suitable for standard bikes. NOTE! It is dangerous to cycle on the road to the GeoCenter Møns Klint, which is why the Kridtstien cycle path was laid and takes you through the forest.
-  There are two marked MTB tracks in Klinteskov. The starting points are at the GeoCenter and Havrelukke.
-  At GeoCenter Møns Klint, there is a footbridge for wheelchair users.
-  Dogs are welcome but must be kept on a lead. In areas with grazing animals, please keep the dog on a short lead and keep a good distance from the animals.
-  There are bridleways in Klinteskov. Riding along the cliff edge or on hiking trails is prohibited.
-  There are several basic overnight lodgings in the area. You may only pitch a tent on the designated pitches that you can see on the map or [udinaturen.dk](http://udinaturen.dk).

Please see the digital guide at [nst.dk/moensklint](http://nst.dk/moensklint).  
Find inspiration at [udinaturen.dk](http://udinaturen.dk) - Denmark's guide to activities in nature.

 KLINTHOLM GODS

 **GEOCENTER MØNS KLINT**

 **Ministry of Environment of Denmark**  
Nature Agency  
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 **Møns Klint and Klintholm Estate**





-  Disabled
-  State-owned property
-  Private property
-  Grave mound
-  The chalk path, cycle and walking path to the GeoCenter
-  6 Marked hiking route
-  Klintekongens Rige
-  Bridle path

