

BACKGROUND INFO

Vigelsoe is a small island situated in the middle of the shallow waters of the Odense Fjord, a fascinating and important area of Funen for breeding and nesting birds. As a result, *Vigelsoe* provides you with excellent possibilities for observing and studying birdlife. As well as enjoying the birdlife, a stay on the island gives you first-hand experience of the continuing process to regenerate the environment from long ago.



Vigelsoe Field Centre is housed in the beautifully restored 'Vigelsoegaard', which was once a farm. The Field Centre is well equipped with a modern kitchen, bathrooms and sleeping facilities for up to 30 people. In addition you'll find a small library with light reading and handbooks especially produced for the Field Centre, fishing tackle, camping equipment and various audio-visual equipment - including laptops / IWB - necessary for indoor activities. You can also study the extensive birdlife and marine animals of the shallow fjord on CD-roms, if you so wish so. The *Vigelsoe Field Centre* has its own *website* location, which can be reached at <http://www.naturskolen-vigelsoe.dk>. More detailed info can be found here.



Herdman's residence / exhibition room

SPECIAL INFO

A good starting point is the *Herdman's Residence* at the end of the pier. Here visitors will find a small exhibition of photographs, paintings, maps and light literature providing some background information on the history of the island, the countryside and about the off-limits areas. Visitors can also find a recently updated free walking guide containing important facts and suggested routes. In the house - which is open to the public around the clock - there is also a toilet for visitors.

THE NATURE GUIDE

At the *Vigelsoe Field Centre*, both practical types of equipment for students to use and the natural surroundings are available in terms of planning various outdoor activities. The items listed below are merely meant as starters or ap-

petizers, but all student activities at the Field Centre must be organised well in advance with the nature guide responsible. They will then be well adjusted to the wishes, qualifications and background of the group in question.

Guide's phone + 45 6483 1293



Nature guide in action

CARING FOR NATURE

■ The environment

Since the Danish State bought *Vigelsoe* in 1990, great efforts have been made to restore the original, natural countryside for the benefit of both the wildlife and the public by means of a programme



Aerial view of the island

of afforestation and wetlands rehabilitation. Naturally, a discussion of this initiative and its effect on the flora and fauna would be a useful learning activity.



Arctic tern in the air at *Vigelsoe*

■ Birdlife

The *Odense Fjord area*, an official EU - bird sanctuary since 1995, is a paradise for migrating and breeding birds. *Vigelsoe* is one of the best locations in the area for observing and watching these activities in terms of behaviour, habits and appearances. Binoculars are available for you, if needed.

■ Other Animals

The island provides you with good possibilities for searching for various species of invertebrates along the beach, inland and in the small ponds, particularly if you are equipped with nets, catchers, buckets, magnifying glasses, dishes, microscopes and other relevant tools for field studies.



Marine biology at low tide

CONTACT OFFICE

- if you need more info on booking, prices, possibilities etc.

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The ferry service will be taken care of as well, as part of our standard procedures.

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