

Brandtsgade-Løngang-Alsgade



From Helgolandsgade, the walking tour leads over Rønhave Plads and Perlegade to the area around Brandtsgade-Løngang. All the buildings here are from the Art Nouveau period, such as Løngang 29, where a plaque can be seen, reading "Erbaut 1905" (built by entrepreneur J.C. Schmidt). On the north side of Alsgade lies a lovely row of houses from 1908-09. The large complex in nr. 11 a-c is actually three properties. Nr. 15-17 was constructed in 1906 by the firm Lorenzen & Christiansen. Nr. 15 is in pure Art Nouveau style, while nr. 17 is more inspired by the half-timbered houses on the Rhine and Mosel rivers.



Kongevej



Kongevej was originally built in 1864 for the passage of military columns. In German times, it was named Kaiser-Wilhelm-Allée, and was the city's most exclusive residential area. The northern part has been rebuilt with smaller terraced houses and here, you should notice the four beautiful houses in nr. 4-10, built in 1904 by local architect H. Naeve.



The villas begin further down the street and here, nr. 30 is noteworthy. It was, as were other villas on the street, built by marine architect Eugen Fink. East of Kongevej lies the area known as "New Town", established in 1910. The streets were named after German poets but, after Reunification in 1920, they were all renamed, except for Goethesgade (Goethe Street). The winding streets here are typical of the Art Nouveau garden city ideal.

Sønderborg's new concentration of official buildings emerged around the junction of Kongevej and Østergade. The eldest is the old part of Ahlmann School (Kongevej 35), built in 1907 in typical North German national romantic style with an addition from 1926-27 (architects Andreas Dall & Holger Mundt). The parish hall, Østergade 1, was built in a mixture of Art Nouveau and regional styles, designed in 1909 by architect Carl Voss, Kiel. The other buildings in the area are in typical Southern Jutland style, but show how German state architects adopted regional style after 1910. The High School's attractive red brick complex (Kongevej 37) was built in 1910-11, the result of a competition won by architects Jür-



gensen and Bachmann. Their atelier was in Berlin, although both came from Schleswig-Holstein. On the opposite corner (nr. 41) lies the large courthouse built in 1911-13 by government chief builder Rahn, Flensburg. An interesting building is nr. 58, the former German national bank at the end of Østergade, built in 1908 by government architect Julius Habicht, and decorated by the director of the arts and handcrafts school in Flensburg, Anton Huber. The style is largely regional, with a leaning to the modern simplicity which became fashionable in the 1920s.



Sønderborg's most beautiful villas line the southern end of Kongevej. Nr. 64, built in 1905 by builders Lorentzen & Christensen, has beautiful Art Nouveau decorations, while nr. 53 across the road (by architect Theede, Kiel) is in the more romantic "Black Forest" style. A number of these villas were designed by Eugen Fink, including nr. 63 (1909). Villa nr. 49, in typical marshland regional style, is quite different from its neighbours, designed in 1912 by the Danish-minded architect P. Gram from Haderslev.



Voldgade

The four semidetached houses in Voldgade 10-20 look quite Danish, but were built in 1910 as housing for German customs employees by government builder Kurt Otto. The construction, which was also inspired by the English garden cities, raised opposition in the town council, as constructing a "workers' colony" in the midst of the city's finest villas was frowned on.



On the way down toward Sønderborg Castle, you can make a detour along, for example, Batterivej/Strandvejen, where Batterivej 29 is a very beautiful, romantic Art Nouveau villa, constructed in 1909. Another option is along Christian II's Gade, where nr. 1 is a lovely property in pure Vienna style (architect H. Naeve, 1907). In the city centre, there is also a wonderful building, namely the former Sønderburger Bank, at Perlegade 26 (1906-07). On the stately granite facade, there are a number of typical Art Nouveau details, including a fine wrought iron gate.



At Sønderborg Castle Museum there is a permanent exhibition on the city of Sønderborg from 1864-1940 as well as a small collection of Art Nouveau wall hangings from the weaving school in Skaerbæk (1895-1919).

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SØNDERBORG

– Denmark's Art Nouveau City



A walking tour

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Art Nouveau was the new style around 1900. It was a reaction against the historic styles of the 1800s, inspired by nature, technique and the recently discovered art of Japan. Art Nouveau was prevalent in many parts of Europe from 1900-10, although not in Denmark. Here, as in England, the preference was for the national romantic style of the past comprising excellent handcrafts, known as "arts and crafts". This reaction against the modern Central European/German style means that there are very few Art Nouveau buildings in Denmark, apart from Southern Jutland, which was part of Germany from 1864-1920. Here, there are quite a few examples of Art Nouveau architecture, first and foremost in Sønderborg, where there was a great growth in population and construction after the establishment of the German navy's marine station in 1906-07. Flensburg, across the border in Germany, also has an impressive concentration of Art Nouveau architecture. If you are interested in Art Nouveau, a visit to both Sønderborg and Flensburg is a must!

Buildings constructed in Sønderborg from 1905-15 comprise both "lively" Art Nouveau with curves and leafy forms, the more geometric Vienna Art Nouveau, and the "regional" style, inspired by the rural architecture of Southern Jutland, which replaced the international style around 1910.



In front of you is the large former marine station, now Sønderborg Barracks, designed by Eugen Fink in 1906. Like the marine stations in Flensburg (Mürwik), Kiel and Wilhelmshaven, the whole complex was modelled on the German fortress Marienburg in East Prussia (now Malbork in Poland), but details such as the patterned brick walls and the weathervanes are in typical Art Nouveau style.

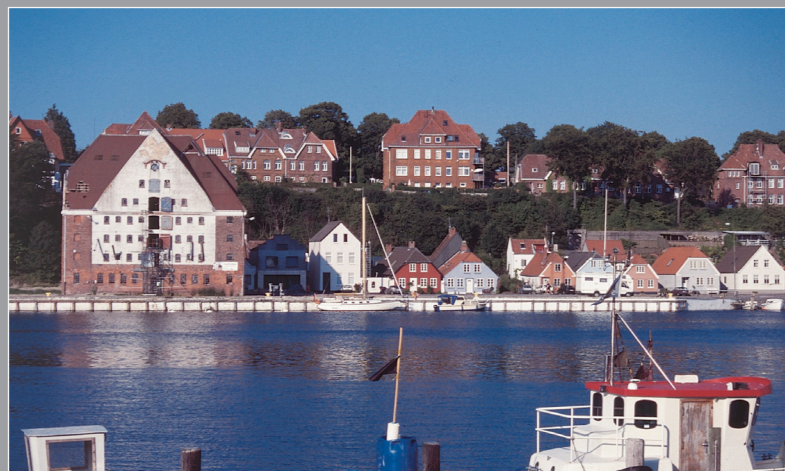
Helgolandsgade

This street, known as Prinz-Adalbert-Strasse in German times, has a fine row of Art Nouveau houses. The first two, nr. 37 and 39, are in true Art Nouveau style with facades decorated with curving plants and a wonderful tree (nr. 39), built in 1907 by entrepreneur J.C. Schmidt. Nr. 39, formerly an hotel, originally had fine spires over the bays. Nr. 25-29 were built as housing for junior naval officers, designed by marine architect Hagen in a simple regional style. Nr. 23 was built in 1910-11 by architect S.H. Bötter. The middle section with its "broken" front is typical of the New Baroque style introduced by the Berlin architect Messel. Helgolandsgade 11 is in decorative Art Nouveau style with



spires and bays. It was built as a restaurant and hotel by brewer P. Petersen, with G. Willrath, Flensburg, as architect. In 1920, the building was named "Adalbert House" and became a meeting venue for the German citizens' association. A lower wing in North German regional style was added in 1926. The tower was recently restored with support from the Municipality of Sønderborg.

A walking tour: Start at Sct. Marie Kirken
– End by Sønderborg Castle



Jomfrustien

Most of the buildings on the street were constructed in 1908-09 as officers' residences for the German navy, designed by marine architect Eugen Fink. The houses lining this romantically winding street were inspired by the English "garden cities" which were the height of fashion at the time. The front and rear walls of the red villas mirror the style of the buildings on the older Havbogade further down the hill. The large warehouse on the quay, built in 1909, was also designed by architect Fink. The first drawings showed a large, square warehouse, but the Royal Marine intervened and the drawings were changed in order to better suit "the excellent artistic town" image on Als Sound. This shows an early example of consideration for attractive town planning!

Marinestationen

