



## Foreign Study Tour to Denmark

4-7<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### INVITATION, PROGRAMME AND BOOKING FORM

#### INTRODUCTION (based on a 2013 document)

Danish forests cover 580.000 ha (2009) or about 13, 5 % of the total land area of the country. Denmark is the northernmost part of the central European temperate forest zone, just south of the boreal coniferous forest zone. The most common tree species are Norway spruce (16 %, almost all planted), beech (13 %), pine (12%) and oak (10%). Species grown for Christmas trees and greenery production adds up to 7 % of the total forest cover. About 60 per cent of the species are conifers (all are non-native apart from *Pinus sylvestris* and *Juniperus*) while the remainder is made up of broadleaves.

The total volume of the growing stock in Danish forests amounts to 113 million m<sup>3</sup> or 195 m<sup>3</sup>/ha. The growing stock and the forest area have been constantly increasing from a level of about 3% forest cover in 1800. Today the annual increment is calculated to be 5 million m<sup>3</sup>, whereas annual felling amounts to 2.5 million m<sup>3</sup>. Privately owned forests amount to 74 % of the land area and there are about 25,000 private forest holdings. Over 90 per cent of the private holdings are owned by private individuals while the remainder is owned by private foundations and other types of owners. Publicly owned forests make up the remaining 26 % of the forest area. Most of these are owned by the Danish state, but some are owned by other public authorities, mostly municipalities. Over 250,000 hectares, around 43%, of the Danish forests are certified under the Danish PEFC scheme. Nearly 200,000 hectares, around 35 % of the Danish forest are certified under the Danish FSC scheme. Almost all of this is publicly owned forest, double certified under both FSC and PEFC.

#### The Danish Forest Act

The Danish Forest Act was passed by the Parliament in 2004. The purpose of The Forest Act is to conserve and protect the Danish forests and to increase the forest area and to promote sustainable forest management. Sustainable management includes consideration of economic, ecological and social values. Sustainable management entails that when managing the individual areas designated as forest reserve land and when administering The Forest Act one should strive to:

1. promote the establishment of robust forests
2. ensure the production of the forests

3. conserve and increase the biological diversity of the forests
4. ensure that proper attention is given to landscape, natural history, cultural history, environmental protection and outdoor recreation.

### **The Danish National Forest Programme**

In 2002 a National Forest Programme was adopted by the Danish Parliament to meet the changing conditions in the Danish forest sector and the obligations outlined in the various international agreements and conventions to which Denmark is a party. The Programme can be viewed in the report [“The Danish national forest programme in an international perspective”](#). The Danish National Forest Programme is aiming at sustainable forest management equally based on economic, ecological, environmental and social concerns. The programme aims at a long-term conversion towards a forest management regime, which increasingly utilises natural forest processes.

### **Close-to-nature forestry in Denmark**

Thus close-to-nature forest management practices in Denmark are based upon the following aspects:

- Selection of species well adapted to the local conditions, both for native and non-native species;
- Single tree management among the larger trees;
- Maintenance of the productivity, stability and regeneration potential of the forest by avoiding interventions which damage the climate, soil conditions and biodiversity of the forest – for instance clear-cutting and the use of pesticides;
- Utilisation of natural and semi natural regeneration and natural differentiation in forest management;
- Development towards forests with a mixture of different tree species in different age groups.

Conversion to close-to-nature forest management is seen as a long-term exercise, where conversion

of specific areas only takes place for instance at optimal rotation age or when stands are to be logged anyway, e.g. due to instability, health etc. Consequently, it may take one or more tree generations before a full conversion to close-to-nature management practices has been achieved and even longer before the expected ecological benefits have occurred.

### **Relevance to Great Britain**

As noted above, Denmark’s forest history is quite similar to that of the British Isles, with much of the country becoming deforested during the Middle Ages and subsequent centuries. However, the task of reforestation was started earlier than in Britain with both the state and private initiatives such as the famous Danish Heath Society becoming actively involved in forest planting during the 1800s. Indeed the techniques used in reforestation in Denmark were subsequently to be trialled and adapted to British conditions during the first part of the last century. In recent decades, forest policy in Denmark has given considerable emphasis to transforming the simple, often single species forests established during the reforestation era into species rich and irregular forests. During our visit we hope to see some of the silvicultural techniques that are being used to achieve this transformation in both private and public forests. The trip will involve visits to a range of different

forests from those with only conifers, through mixed forests to broadleaved forests. The forests are located on a range of soil types from poor soils to very rich soils and soils of intermediate fertility.

## **PROGRAMME**

### **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

Delegates arrive at Copenhagen airport. A bus will take all delegates from Copenhagen airport to the hotel in Aalborg. The drive is circa 4.5 hours and the bus will leave Copenhagen airport by 15.00 so delegates need to arrange their flights to suit.

Hotel – Comwell Sport Rebuild Bakker <https://www.comwellrebuildbakker.dk/comwell-sport/om-hotellet/>

### **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

State forest in Rold Skov south of Aalborg and private forest St. Hjøllund near Silkeborg in Jutland.

The State forest in Rold Skov is 2.200 ha, and in total the Forest district manages 5.800 ha. The district areas are 50% open areas and 50% forest areas. Broadleaves dominate 50% of the forest areas and conifers dominate the other 50%. The average volume of the growing stock is 238 m<sup>3</sup>/ha, and average increment is 8,9 m<sup>3</sup>/ha.

All the areas in Rold Skov are classified under Natura2000, and most of the broadleaves are designated habitats.

800 ha of the forest are classed as untouched forest and forest managed with traditional operating modes, such as grazing or selective felling.

Rold Skov is an optimal location for growing conifers in Denmark. The soil is deep and well drained moraine, formed during the last ice age. It is nutrient poor and represents some of the most productive forest areas in Denmark. Beech is also growing well without damage to the timber, although the production is somewhat lower than in the conifers. The forest was hit by storms both in 1981 and 2005. These storms have taught us that the conifers in monocultures are vulnerable. Due to the storms and the Danish national forest programme, the national forest changed its silvicultural strategy in 2004 and started the conversion towards close-to-nature forestry.

#### Hjøllundhus:

Privately owned forest (owned by a forester): Hjøllundhus Plantage.

The visit tells the story of afforestation of former heathland which will be illustrated with some pictures. It will be followed by a visit to a conifer forest established during the last 140 years.

Hotel – Hotel Pejsegarden <http://pejsegarden.dk/>

## Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Salten Langsø Skovadministration A/S near Silkeborg. Close to nature forestry in beech and spruce forests.

We will show you the technique of transforming stands of even-aged single species to stands with several species and different ages, as applied in both conifers and broadleaves. We will show you PEFC certified forests and the impact of the silvicultural regimes. We have been working with “close to nature forestry” since 1990.

Hotel – Scandic Roskilde <https://www.scandichotels.dk/roskilde>

## Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017

State forest and private forest Svenstrup on the island of Sjælland

*Svenstrup is a private Estate.*

The estate comprises 2800 ha of forest producing about 25000 m<sup>3</sup> of timber per year, 1000 ha of agriculture, and a pig unit with 40.000 pigs/year. We would like to show you natural stand development, both after clear cuts and under shelter, of conifers mixed with broadleaves. Species involved include Douglas fir, grand fir, Sitka spruce, and western red cedar with different ages of Norway maple.

*Bidstrup, a state-owned forest, managed by the Nature Agency - West Zealand*

- Natural Regeneration of Beech
- Conversion from conifers to broadleaves
- How can we make these forests attractive to a small population of dormice and other rare wildlife?

Depart. The bus will return all delegates to Copenhagen airport by 1700.

## Hosts

Our trip has been arranged by members of ProSilva Denmark who are also employees of Salten Langsø Forest Administration Ltd (SLS) which is a service company that offers consultancy and services within forest management, environment, cut greenery and Christmas tree production, certification, hunting etc. based on the customer's operational objectives along with their values and business principles. SLS specialises in the transition to nature-friendly forestry and PEFC certification. The company is owned by 72 forest owners and growers of cut greenery and Christmas trees. SLS administrates 109 properties from 2 to 821 hectares; a total of 7811 hectares.

## MAP



## WEATHER CONDITIONS, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

Average temperatures during September in Denmark are mid-teens Celsius. It can be chilly in the mornings and evenings. You will need to be prepared for rain showers with waterproof clothing. Suitable footwear for walking is essential.

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

We assume that most people will be travelling by plane to Copenhagen airport and so we have arranged for a bus to collect all delegates from the airport. The bus will leave Copenhagen airport by 15.00 on Monday September 4<sup>th</sup> and it will take 4.5 hours to arrive at the hotel. The bus will be with the party for the whole trip and will return to Copenhagen airport on Thursday September 7<sup>th</sup> at the end of the visit.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

We will be staying at a different hotel each of the three nights.

Night one – Comwell Rebuild Bakker

Night Two – Hotel Pejsegarden

Night Three – Scandic Roskilde

We have made a provisional reservation. Due to the higher costs in Denmark we have reserved twins and double rooms as singles would be too expensive. Please indicate on the form if you have any preferences about who you would like to share with – otherwise we shall allocate people to share rooms by gender and using alphabetical surname order as a guide.

## **BUDGET**

The fee to attend is £325 per person.

The fee includes:-

- 3 nights' accommodation (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)
- 3 breakfasts (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)
- 3 packed lunches (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)
- All bus transportation from Copenhagen airport and return including the field visits
- Excursion guides
- Preparation and organization expenses

Delegates will need to purchase their own evening meals at the hotels or in nearby restaurants each evening.

The fee to confirm booking the accommodation costs are to be paid directly to CCFG in advance of the meeting.

## **CONTACT DETAILS**

Emergency telephone number for police, fire brigade or ambulance is 112.

International telephone code for Denmark is +45

### **Organisers / CCFG Contacts**

Bill Mason – Chair – bpmason@blueyonder.co.uk – 07941 938992

Mandy Clinch – Administrator – administrator@ccfg.org.uk – 07730 373933

## **REGISTRATION**

In order to register to attend this event, please complete the attached registration form and send it by email to the organisers, CCFG GB, Mandy Clinch at [administrator@ccfg.org.uk](mailto:administrator@ccfg.org.uk).

**Deadline for completed registrations is 3 July 2017.**

## **PAYMENT**

Once we have received your application form, we will send you an invoice confirming the amount you should pay, the method of payment and the date by when the amount is required.

We require all payments in advance.

**Deadline for receipt of payments is 1 August 2017.**

Refunds are at the discretion of the organisers.

## REGISTRATION FORM

CCFG Foreign Study Tour to Denmark 4-7<sup>th</sup> September 2017

**Please complete one registration form per person attending.**

### Delegate Details

First Name: ..... Surname: .....

Tel: ..... Mobile: .....

Email: .....

### Accommodation Preference

Please tick one per night.

Mon 4 Sep             Twin room with ensuite             Double room with ensuite

Tues 5 Sep            Twin room with ensuite             Double room with ensuite

Weds 6 Sep            Twin room with ensuite             Double room with ensuite

Please confirm the name of the person with whom you wish to share so we correctly allocate rooms. Otherwise we will allocate rooms by gender and alphabetical order of surnames.

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### Travel

Please advise us of your travel arrangements.

Plane      Departing from ..... Time .....  
                 Arriving at ..... Time .....  
                 Flight Number ..... Date .....

Car      Estimated arrival time at Hotel / another location?.....

Other      .....  
                 .....

### Dietary Requirements

Please tick one only.

No special dietary requirements             Vegetarian

Pescetarian     Vegan

Other, please specify .....

**Payment**

We will invoice the delegate above with the cost of the conference fee and the accommodation. If you require that we invoice your organization directly, please confirm the correct details below.

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**Receipt**

Do you require a receipt or letter of confirmation of your attendance on this event? We will provide this at registration.

- Yes       No

**Other**

If you have any additional requirements, please advise us.

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**Please send completed application form to Mandy Clinch, CCFG's Administrator  
[administrator@ccfg.org.uk](mailto:administrator@ccfg.org.uk)**

**Deadline 3rd July 2017**