



**RASMUS
CLAUSSEN**

RASMUS CLAUSSEN **RED ROUTE – 29,5 KM.**

Rasmus Claussen was born on 3 February 1835 on Langeland and died 5 August 1905, buried in Idestrup churchyard.

Claussen was originally a farmer, moving in 1870 to Falster, where he bought a farm, initially in the parish of Idestrup and later near Nykøbing Falster.

He was a strong proponent of local interests, becoming a noted agitator and debater. He was asked to stand for election by Venstre, Denmark's Liberal Party, to represent Lolland-Falster, and was elected to parliament in 1872 with a large majority. Claussen founded the Folketidende newspaper in 1873, still the largest on Lolland and Falster today.

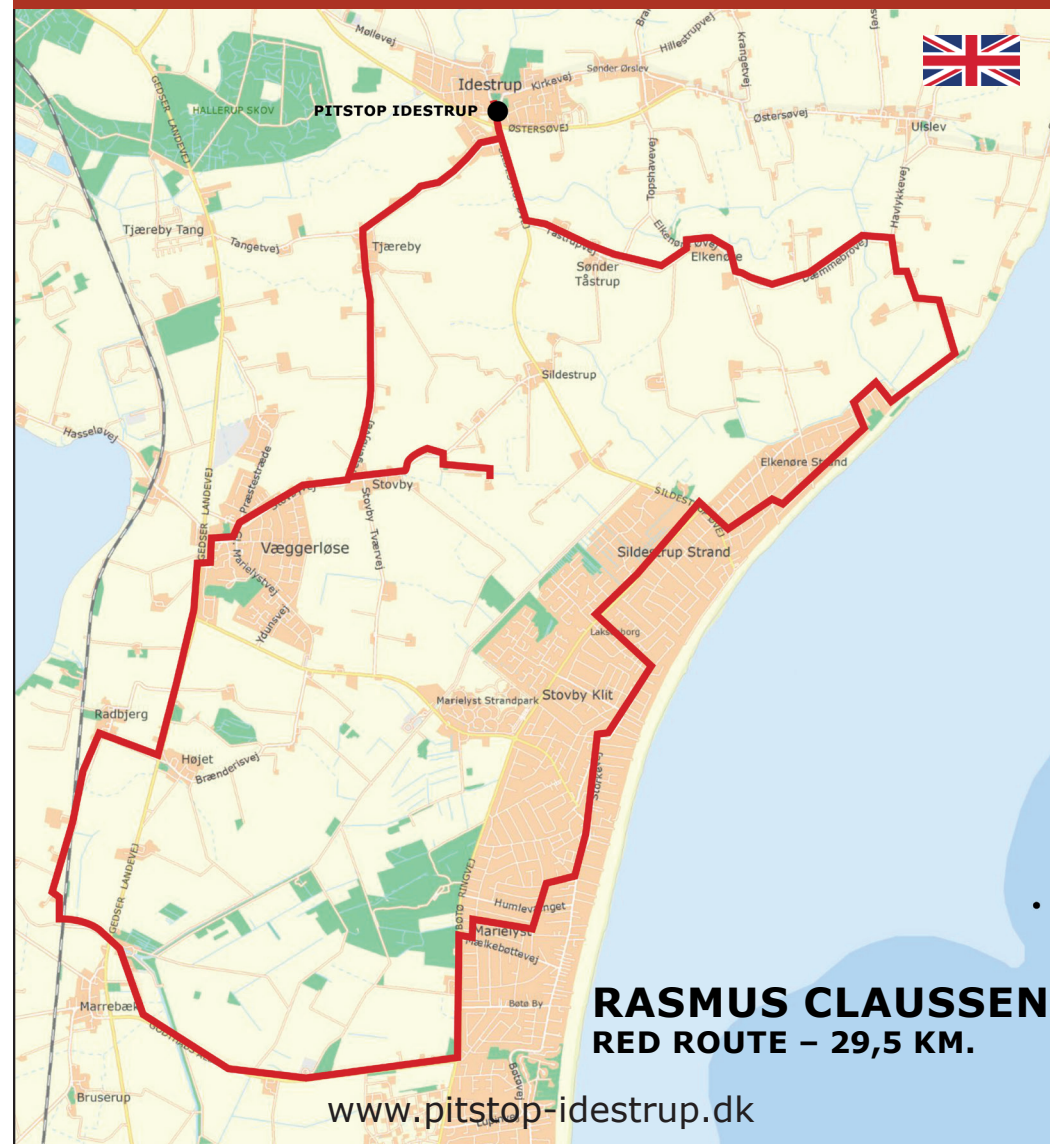
His years in politics and as a newspaper owner made him an influential man on the Danish South Sea Islands. His ideas and projects often put him at odds with landowners and right wing politician Edward Tesdorpf. Even though both of them wanted the best for the islands, they often had very different opinions. Claussen was the first farmer to become elected as Speaker of Parliament, in 1894.



PITSTOP IDESTRUP
Møllevej 20B
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– LOCAL HISTORICAL CYCLING ROUTES



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WHICH ROUTE DO WE TAKE?

The route starts at Pitstop Idestrup



1. Møllevej 20b, 4872 Idestrup

Pitstop Idestrup. Built in 1911 by local farmers as a cooperative, the spirit of which lives on today. Nowadays, it's home to a youth club, café, multipurpose room, a host of activities and hotel rooms.



2. Møllevej 22A, 4872 Idestrup

Idestrup Kirke and churchyard, dating from around 1100 AD. Legend has it that the church was supposed to have been built in nearby Hillestrup, but trolls foiled the plan by moving its stones to Idestrup at night. Rasmus Claussen is buried just to the right in the new section of the churchyard, east of the actual church on the other side of Kirkevej.



3. Havlykkevej, 4872 Idestrup

Havlykke Strand Fricamping. A great place to camp, with fireplaces, table and bench sets and toilets. A picturesque and peaceful site at the water's edge. A bit further south along the water is Elkenøre Strand. The beach itself follows the northernmost part of the Falster dyke.



4. Marielyst Strandvej, 4873 Væggerløse

Check out the old seaside town of Falster, including a visit to Højskolen Marielyst at Bøtøvej 2, 4873 Væggerløse, where the quadrangle farmyard named after the farmer's wife and dating from the 1880s has given its name to the whole Marielyst area. It became the area's first beach hotel in 1906, and was converted to a 'højskole' (a school for adults offering short courses) for retirees.



5. Møllesøvej 2, Marrebæk 4873 Væggerløse

The old Bøtø Nor Pump Station was opened in 1871, but "I/S Bøtø Nors Udgravnings- og Inddæmningsselskab" (excavation and dyke-building company) was founded earlier, in 1860, at the initiative of Edward Tesdorpf. The lagoon of Bøtø Nor was dammed and drained by building dykes, canals and the pump station. Rasmus Claussen was a member of the committee set up to oversee the draining of Bøtø Nor. The building is now a museum with exhibits covering the drainage programme.



6. Væggerløsevej 19A, 4873 Væggerløse

Væggerløse Kirke was dedicated to St. Olav in the Middle Ages, and features a Romanesque choir and nave, but a Gothic tower. The vault of the tower is decorated by limewash paintings dating from 1510-1520. The church once belonged to the Orupgaard estate, but became independent in 1917.



7. Stovbyvej 19 A+B, 4873 Væggerløse

Stouby Mill was built in 1750, and moved to its current location in 1790. It's the only surviving post mill in Denmark, with a star-shaped wheel driving 3 millstones. The mill is still intact and working. It became a listed building in 1998. Stovby Glaspusteri, shop and working workshop is adjacent to the mill.



8. Stovbyvej 52, 4872 Idestrup

Rasmus Claussen owned Ibgaard farm at Stovbyvej 52, 4872 Idestrup for many years. Rasmus Claussen's son, Sophus, wrote a poem entitled Landsby-Veje, about the route he took to school from Ibgaard. The farm is now privately-owned.