

FOLLOW THE HERITAGE TRAIL THROUGH HISTORIC SKUDENESHAVN

IN THE EARLY 1800S the great herring fishing period created a hectic industry in Skudeneshavn from which the town

grew. The extensive shipping fleet brought home cultural impulses from many parts of the world. The townscape became influenced by European architectural styles, particularly the romantic Empire style which became fashionable after excavations in Pompeii in the 1700s.

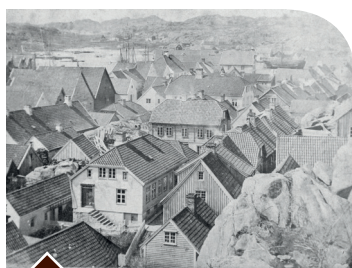
Historic Skudeneshavn is often called «The White Empire town». It is exciting to see details and decoration from the stone temples of antiquity recreated in the wooden houses here.

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1 / Heritage of national importance. With some of the best preserved wooden houses in Norway, Skudeneshavn is of great cultural significance. In 2015 the Directorate for Cultural Heritage commenced with conservation regulation of the town. The statue you see here is of O.M. Wikre who was Mayor of Skudeneshavn for many years. He started the Historic Skudeneshavn Association, which still works with the aim of preserving the town's wooden buildings. From here you can walk past the Smiå Restaurant, which up to 1989 functioned as a forge. Throughout its existence, the Smiå forge was a social gathering point in the town.



2 / Korneliusholmen. When you are standing on the bridge with your back to the islet you can see Normeshuset, a combined seahouse and dwelling. The house was brought from Riga as return cargo for herring and was erected in Skudeneshavn in 1830. Operated as a guesthouse since 1912, the large boathouse has provided accommodation to many travelers. In Sørågåda Street, you will pass another historic guesthouse, the corner building known as Lundin's Hotel. This building characterises the pure Empire style and is distinctive for its imitation of broadstone on the ground floor.

3 / Nullen. As a result of the activity of the 1800s, many shops, factories, a tea room, and a pharmacy were established in the town. At Nullen, the traffic from the steamship quay merged with everyday life along Sørågåda Street. No. 23 is the Baker's House, which functioned as a bakery and baker's shop from 1850 to 1980. Today, it is a café and guesthouse. Riisdahlhuset at No. 18 has a charming playhouse in what was formerly an outside lavatory.



4 / Holmen. It was from this area that the town grew. The house behind the museum was probably erected at the beginning of the 1770s. Previously, there was a canal here and one can see the ochre-coloured quayside building that is still standing. A bridge existed between the museum and the back of the old pharmacy. At the museum in Mælendsgården one can experience the town's rich history in authentic surroundings. The house with cannons on the steps was erected in 1829 for the customs and excise service. The house is known as Bytunet and served as a hospital for fishermen until World War II.



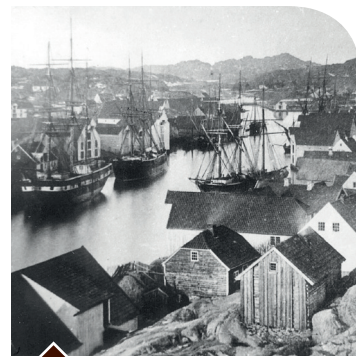
5 / Historic Cafés. From Verdens Minste Kafé (the World's Smallest Café), follow Sørågåda Street to the next café along the street – Majorstuen. The name of the building is derived from the time the Salvation Army started its activities here in Skudeneshavn. Further along on the Dampskipskaiaen (the Steamship Quay) you will find Tåkelurfabrikken, a fog horn factory that today features a café and activities connected to arts and crafts. O. C. Hansen obtained a world-wide patent for his fog horn in 1881. Normally boats signalled with flags but in bad weather and fog, they could use sound signals. The fog horn was sold abroad to naval fleets and lighthouse authorities, and has also been used to warn of sand storms and forest fires.



6 / Vaskehuset. The house at Sørågåda Street No. 60 is one of the most distinctive in historic Skudeneshavn. Adapted and formed around the adjoining hillside, it was built as a laundry and woodshed for the house on the opposite side of the street. This building was erected in 1835 and had a sea house and farmhouse.



7 / The Park. At the top end of Sørågåda Street you are welcomed into the park by the figurehead of the Lady in the Park. The history of the park started with Dr. Jensen's plant nursery and the Skudeneshavn Park Association's work in the early 1900s. The park is an idyllic oasis where you get a closer look at the renowned Moonstone. The stone is believed to be from the Ice Age and can be as much as 800 million years old! Take a walk up to the view point in order to enjoy the scenery, or take a potential boyfriend or girlfriend to the Yes/No Bench.



8 / The View Point. Walk through the park and follow the path to the left out onto Havnafjellet Hill (by the flagpole). Here, you can see out over Skudeneshavn and its sea approaches. You can also see two of the three lighthouses that ring the town: Vikeholmen Lighthouse to the left was erected in 1849 as part of the development that took place during the great herring fishing period. Geitungen Lighthouse has a characteristic architectural style and is one of the youngest lighthouses in Norway, built in 1924.



9 / The Quadrature. Go to the left and follow the road north to Skudeneshavn Gamle Gård. Here, by the telegraph station from 1907, you are now in part of the Quadrature and the new town centre. You can clearly see the transition from an organic town to a regulated town centre with gridded street pattern. There are elements of Swiss-style, Art Nouveau/Jugend and Functionalism in the newer section of the town. Several of the service buildings, such as the old Dairy and the old Bank, from the beginning of the 1900s still form the townscape.

