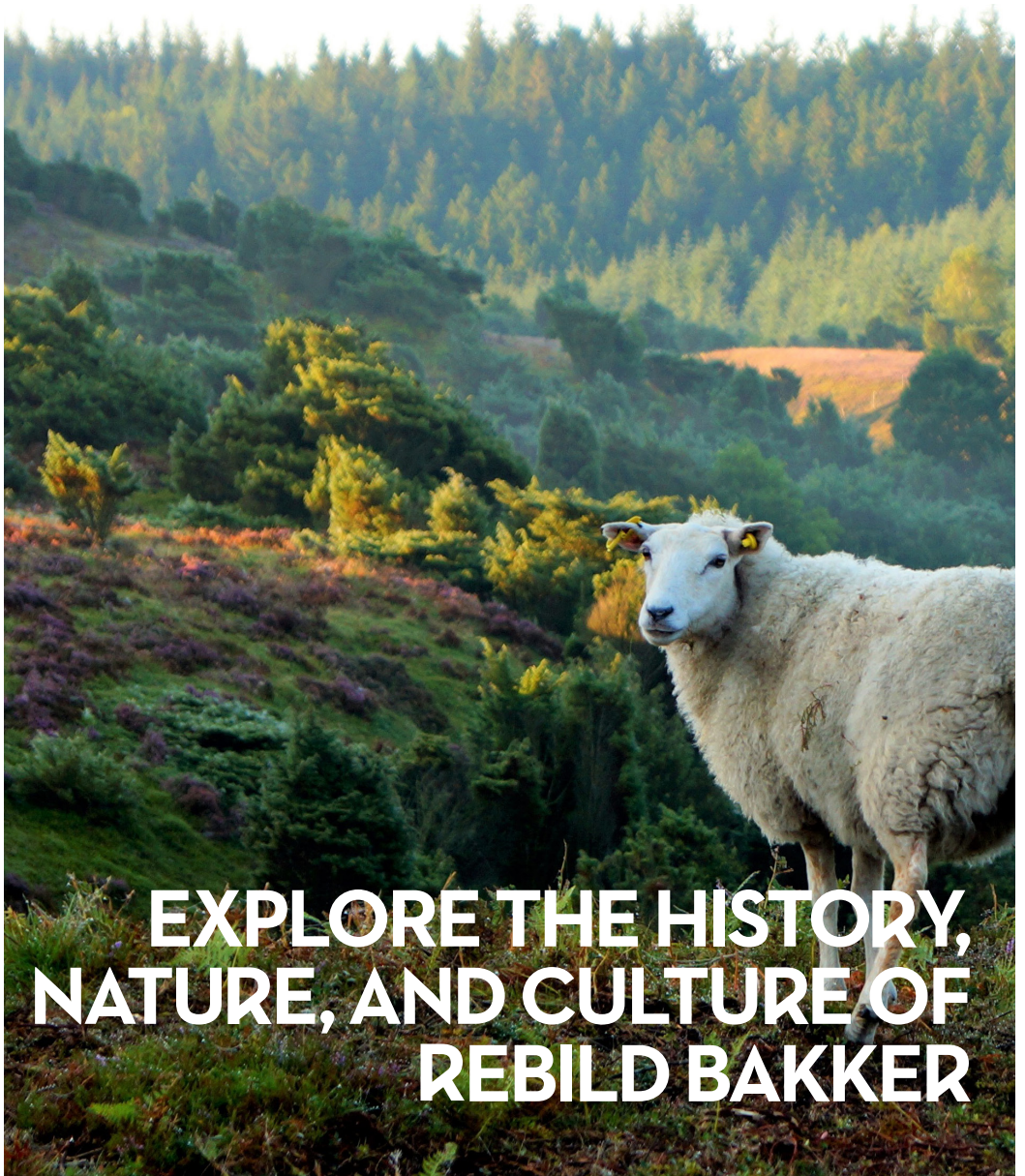
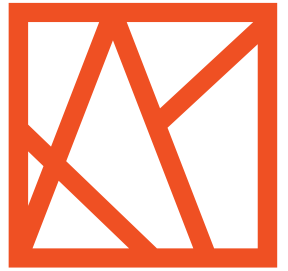


**WELCOME TO
REBILD BAKKER**



**EXPLORE THE HISTORY,
NATURE, AND CULTURE OF
REBILD BAKKER**

THE NATIONAL PARK, THE TALES, THE BUILDINGS, THE SCULPTURES, THE MONOMENTS AND MUCH MORE



THE NATIONAL PARK AND THE NATIONAL PARK SOCIETY

Rebild is the name of a small town in Northern Jutland with 618 inhabitants. Rebild is also the name of the municipality that was formed by a joint authority in 2007.

But Rebild is much more. You can only experience such a varied and abundant landscape as in and around Rebild Bakker a few other places in Denmark. The landscape was formed by ice and water during and after the last ice age, which has made it full of contrasts. The highest peak is Sønderkol, which is 102 meters above sea level. From here you have a view of Gravlev Ådal, which at its lowest point is only nine metres above sea level. The heathers bloom on the hills, and surrounding them is the mighty and majestic forest. The area boasts an abundance of experiences, hiking trails, bike trails, springs, and historical sites.

In addition to its breath-taking landscape, Rebild is known to be a meeting point for Danes, Americans, and Danish-Americans.



View from Sønderkol.

REBILD NATIONAL PARK AND THE NATIONAL PARK SOCIETY

In 1910, a group of Danish-Americans bought a plot of land near Rebild. In 1912, the area was granted to the state and became Denmark's first national park. The buyers, the most prominent of whom was Max Henius, formed the Rebild National Park Society in order to arrange and host the Rebild Bakker festivities. The first Rebild Festival took place in 1912, where Christian X of Denmark spoke to a crowd of 10.000 people.



Queen's stairway to Gryden, where the Rebild Festival is celebrated on the 4 July every year.

Except for the years during the First and the Second World Wars, the Rebild Festival has been celebrated every year on the American national holiday Fourth of July.

'GRYDEN' AND THE MAX HENIUS BONFIRE HUT

GRYDEN

At the foot of the hills there are two flag poles. This is 'Gryden' (translates to 'The Pot'), where the famous Rebild speeches take place on a stage every year on the 4 July. The royal Danish family are frequent guests. Danish prime ministers from Thorvald Stauning to Lars Løkke Rasmussen have been among the keynote speakers, as have the American presidents Richard Nixon and George H.W. Bush. The most famous former keynote speakers from the entertainment industry are Victor Borge and Walt Disney.

The hills surrounding Gryden form a natural amphitheatre. Here, members of the audience can find a place to sit during the Rebild Festival or other cultural events – like when the dancers from Royal Danish Ballet pay a visit in the hills.



The Rebild Festival in 'Gryden' in Rebild Bakker.

THE MAX HENIUS BONFIRE HUT

On the way down to Gryden – on the left side of the pathway, behind some trees – you will find the Max Henius Bonfire Hut, an octagonal bonfire hut shaped like an Indian tipi. The hut is 8.5 metres high.



The Max Henius Bonfire Hut.

Everyone is welcome to use the bonfire hut, whether it's to light a fire, take a rest, or eat a picnic. The hut cannot be booked in advance. Users of the hut are responsible for keeping it clean, so you must take your trash with you when you leave.

The bonfire hut is named after Max Henius, who founded the Rebild National Park Society. The hut was built in 2018 and is owned by Rebild Municipality. It was funded by LAG Himmerland and The Danish Foundation for Culture and Sports Facilities.



Photo: K. Frisk

THE MUSEUM LINCOLN LOG CABIN

THE LINCOLN LOG CABIN

In 1929, Max Henius shared his idea for a museum in Rebild Bakker. He wanted to safeguard the remembrance of the emigrating pioneers and create a place for future generations to learn about the emigration to America and life in the unknown. Moreover, Max Henius wanted to make Rebild a popular excursion spot - and not just on the 4 July.



The Max Henius bust in the outskirts of Rebild Bakker.

Max Henius got the idea for the log during his visits to pioneer families in the United States. Here he saw how the emigrants would surround themselves with things that they had brought with them from Denmark. Max Henius wanted to make a museum for the pioneers' tools and things. He wanted the building to be constructed by timber from all of the 50 American states. That did not happen,

but the building did see the light of day, and it was decorated just the way he had envisioned. The project was drawn up by architect Axel V. Teisen, Chicago. On the 4 July 1934 the American ambassador, Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen, gave the log the official name The Lincoln Log Cabin, in Danish known as 'Blokhuset'.

The Lincoln Log Cabin Museum became a crowd-puller and had many visitors every year until it burned down on the 11 November 1993.

The Rebild National Park Society soon began the preparations for a new log museum.



'Blokhuset' - The Lincoln Log Cabin, which is located at the peak of Rebild Bakker.

THE KOLTEEN TOTEM POLE

The Lincoln Log Cabin was first put together in Washington using timber from 70-250 year old cedars. The house was then disassembled and shipped to Rebild, where it was put back together on the plateau at the peak of Rebild Bakker. The museum officially re-opened on the 4 July 1995.



The old museum, Museum Rebild, is located next to RebildPorten and Roldhøj, where the artefacts are exhibited.

In 2019, the exhibition artefacts were moved from the log to Roldhøj next to Museum Rebild. The exhibition is now a part of the museum's permanent exhibition. The Lincoln Log Cabin is now used as an event venue and administered by Erik and Vivian Eriksen from Top Karen's House.

THE KOLTEEN TOTEM POLE

The Kiksadi totem pole, also called Kolteen, is located next to the log cabin. The totem pole was originally carved in memory of the Indian chief Kolteen, who ruled the Kiksadi tribe near Wrangel in southeast Alaska.

The pole is a replica of the original by Ferdinand Sørensen, Solvang California. It has been marked by the fire that destroyed the original Log Museum.



The Kolteen Totem Pole located next to The Lincoln Log Cabin.

TOP KAREN'S HOUSE

TOP KAREN'S HOUSE

The house, also called 'Tophuset', was built in 1875 by Karen, also called 'Top Karen', and Jens Andersen in the materials at hand. Back when Karen and Jens lived there, the little house and the stable could house both children and pets and everyone who wanted to enjoy a cup of Top Karen's coffee, bread, and Danish 'æbleskiver'. Today, the house is owned by The Rebild National Park Society.



Tophuset in the outskirts of Rebild Bakker.

Above Tophuset's portal, guests can still read the words "Sodavand, øl og kaffe, Det kan Karen skaffe". A rhyming slogan invented by Top Karen herself, which roughly translates to: "You can always count on Top Karen for sodas, beer, and coffee".

When the Rebild Festival started in 1912, Tophuset and the neighbour Per Hyldgaard's house were the only houses in the hills. Karen and Jens had lived a frugal life, but when the Rebild National Park

Society got them a confectioner license, things started to turn around. Jens died in 1921, and Top Karen, the more outgoing of the two, continued the work for eight more years.

There are many stories about Top Karen. She was blunt, whether she was talking to the king or stray travellers. Once, when a young girl asked Top Karen if she sold confectionary cakes, she answered: "I won't have anything to do with such foulness".

When Jens was on his deathbed, Karen took good care of him and shared a bed with him just like she had done all the years before. Jens was coughing all day and all night, and Karen could never really rest. A Danish-American visitor, who was worried about the out worn woman, suggested that she slept in the living room so she could have some peace and quiet. Top Karen did not like that. "I won't do that. I was good enough to lay by Jens' side my whole life, and I will lay by his side till the end" she replied, and that's exactly what she did.

During the Rebild Festival in 1928, Top Karen was to hand Queen Alexandrine a bouquet of flowers in the colours of the Danish flag. She did so with the words: "Here's a flower for your castle!".

Top Karen worked in Tophuset until she

THE WESTERN HOUSE AND HYLDGAARDSMINDE

died in December 1929 at the age of 86. She was buried at Gl. Skørping cemetery next to Jens.

In 2002, Top Karen's great grandson, Erik Eriksen, leased Tophuset, and today visitors can still enjoy coffee and much more in the low-ceilinged rooms. Erik Eriksen is a trained carpenter and later became an architect. He decorated the rooms in a traditional style and the walls with old pictures.

THE WESTERN HOUSE

Between The Lincoln Log Cabin and Top Karen's House you will find The Western House. It is owned by The Rebild National Park Society and is also leased by Erik Eriksen, who built the house as a carpenter apprentice in the beginning of the 1960s.

Erik Eriksen renovated the house which is now a supplement to Top Karen's Hus, primarily used for bigger events.



The Western House located next to Tophuset.

HYLDGAARDSMINDE

On the left side of the entry point to Rebild Bakker, you will find Hyldgaardsminde, which houses The Rebild National Park Society's representation offices.

Per Hyldgaard's old property was purchased by The Rebild National Park Society in 1963. Even though P. Hyldgaard (1865-1945) was a storyteller of Munchhausen dimensions, he could not have imagined that his old rooms would one day be used to welcome kings, queens, and presidents.



Hyldgaardsminde.

The Rebild Festival and the tourists became a steady source of income for Per Hyldgaard. He would boil water for people who came through the hills with their picnic basket for coffee or tea. However, his house never became an actual eatery.

FRIENDSHIP LAWN AND THE MEMORIAL PARK

FRIENDSHIP LAWN

On the right of the entry point of the national park you'll find the Friendship Lawn. The central sculpture here is called 'The family'. It was made by the artist Dennis Smith, who is a descendant of Danish emigrants.

The statue depicts an emigrant family – a father, a mother, and three children. The mother is looking at her new-born baby, while the father and the two oldest children symbolically gaze backwards toward foreign land. On the back of the sculpture the grandmother is looking back with a weary look in her eyes. Her husband had to stay home, and she knows that it will be difficult to learn a new language.

Dennis Smith also made the three busts on the Friendship Lawn. One of the busts was raised in memory of the entertainer Victor Borge, who was the keynote speaker at the Rebild Festival several times.

Another depicts the founder of The Rebild National Park Society Max Henius, and the third bust was raised in memory of the 27th president of the United States, President Howard Taft, who was The Rebild National Park Society's first honorary president. The busts were revealed in 2001, 2002, and 2003.

THE MEMORIAL PARK

The Airmen's Stone

On the left side of the entry point to the Rebild Bakker national park is a memorial grove that traces back to the German occupation. Here you can see a monument raised for the 69 allied pilots who lost their lives during the Second World War, as they were dropping weapons and explosives for Danish freedom fighters.

Behind the monument is a selection of some of the prominent names of the resistance movement – Jørgen Hæstrup, Flemming Juncker, Ole Lippmann, A. Toldstrup, Svend Truelsen, Erik Frandsen, and Colonel Helge Gram. A large part of the dropping operations took place in Northern Jutland, and the group wanted the memorial to be raised in a place where it would be seen by a lot of people. The monument was revealed at a ceremony on the 5 May 1990.



The Airmen's Stone in Rebild Bakker.

THE CIMBRIAN STONE AND THE MEMORIAL PARK

On the stone you can see an inscription that reads: “During dropping operations for the Danish resistance movement during the occupation in 1940-45, 69 allied pilots lost their lives. They defied the dangers of the dark and evil in the fight for freedom and peace. Therefore, they shall always be remembered with Denmark’s eternal gratitude”

Jens Toldstrup memorial

Jens Toldstrup took over after Flemming Juncker and was the head of the reception of weapons in Jutland. He also led the resistance movement in Northern Jutland, Region 1, in the years from 1944 to 1945. Jens Toldstrup died in 1991, and in 2006 also he got a memorial.



Jens Tolstrup's bust.

It seemed natural to place the memorial next to The Airmen’s Stone. On the 5 May 2006, the bust of Jens Tolstrup’s daughter, Tove Uth, was revealed. The artist

behind the bust is the American sculptor Dennis Smith, who also created the busts in The Rebild National Park Society’s memorial park.

THE CIMBRIAN STONE

The monument The Cimbrian Stone by sculptor Anders Bundgaard was raised in Rebild Bakker in memory of the Cimbri. It depicts the characteristic Cimbrian Bull, and the inscription reads: “The Cimbri emigrated from these parts in the year 120 before Christ”.



The Cimbrian Stone.

The monument was gifted by Søren J. Heiberg, Chicago, to Max Henius who passed it on to The Rebild National Park Society.

It is a porphyry stone from Rold Skov forest and was transported to Rebild on a sleigh in 1933.

MUSEUM REBILD AND THE PLAYGROUND 'HEKSEGRYDEN'

REBILDPORTEN

RebildPorten is Rebild's official tourist office and information centre. Every year we welcome 74,000 visitors looking for inspiration, and our exhibition offers lots of tips and information about exciting experiences in the area.

RebildPorten opened in 2013. The building was designed by the architect firm Cebra, who found inspiration for the timber framing pattern in trees and twigs. The building was funded by Realdania and The Obel Family Foundation.



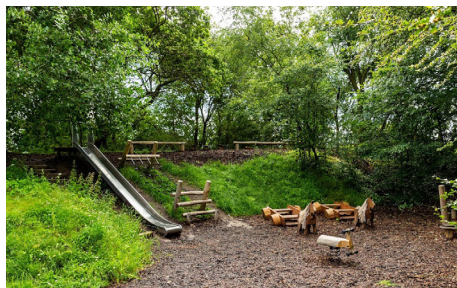
RebildPorten.

MUSEUM REBILD

Museum Rebild opened in 1951 with the name 'The Fiddler Museum'. The museum houses cultural-historic collections from the Rold Skov forest area and Rebild's folk music archive.

THE PLAYGROUND 'HEKSEGRYDEN'

South of the parking lot, not far from Hyldgaardsminde, you will find a fund and adventurous playground behind the trees.



The playground Heksegryden ('The witch's pot'), Rebild Bakker.



REBILDPORTEN

Rold Skov · Rebild Bakker

Rebildvej 25A, 9520 Skørping, info@rebildporten.dk,
www.rebildporten.com, tlf. +45 99 88 90 00