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WALKING INSIDE ENCLOSURES WITH GRAZING ANIMALS

There are many great hiking trails in the national park, and many traverse enclosures where a variety of grazing animals work to restore natural habitats.

As a rule, grazing animals are not dangerous and just want to be left in peace. However, if you get too close to the flock or between a cow and her calf, the animals will react instinctively and either run away or defend themselves. Especially dogs may provoke defence reactions. Most animals interpret dogs as wolves and hence consider them dangerous. Perhaps the animals have experienced being chased by loose dogs or roaming wolves. The safest thing to do, therefore, is not to bring your dog into the enclosures.

Tips to protect yourself and your dog in animal enclosures

- Pay attention even when walking along chattering.
- Keep a safe distance to the animals.
 The animals are not, as a rule, aggressive, but might be frightened of you and especially your dog.
- Avoid getting between adult animals and calves or foals.
 Never walk through a flock of animals. When the animals have offspring, they will do anything to protect them.
- Keep your dog on a short leash and make sure it doesn't bark.

Bypass the animals in a big curve and keep you dog quiet. If the animals start approaching you, leave the enclosure immediately. If they get very close to you, let your dog off the lead to enable it to escape. This will divert the animals away from you.

 Move quietly and calmly inside enclosures and avoid gesturing and loud noise – particularly when you pass the animals.

This will give you a better experience and not frighten the animals into moving suddenly – endangering yourself and other visitors. Sådan kommer du ud

Getting there

The National park Mols Bjerge app lists all the paths in the national park. There is also a function indicating whether the enclosures contain animals or are empty. Download the app in App Store or Google Play.

The paths are also listed on the national website <u>udinaturen.dk</u> (in Danish) hosted by the Danish Nature Agency and on the National Park's interactive map <u>nationalparkmolsbjerge.dk</u>.

Learn more about animal enclosures here: *naturstyrelsen.dk* om indhegninger.

