

# The new harbourfront unfolds

Aalborg and Nørresundby each enjoy a unique geographical location on opposite banks of the Limfjord. The area along the fjord contains beach parks, marinas, cultural attractions, service enterprises, port industry, residential housing and green areas.

The city centres of both Aalborg and Nørresundby are situated close to the fjord, thus providing a unique opportunity to regenerate disused industrial areas into an attractive new harbourfront that is closely linked to the existing city.



The fjord paints new picturesque scenes every day throughout the year.



Housing alongside new and old businesses at the western end of the Aalborg side.

Several of the city's old industrial buildings along the fjord are being converted to residential, business and cultural purposes. This provides a unique chance to create exciting new environments without demolishing our historical heritage.



The former power station will become a cultural and sports centre hosting theatre, music, concerts, dance and education.

## Service and events

Service and events will make up an important economic basis for the city and North Jutland as a whole. The House of Music and the converted power station, Nordkraft, will become symbols of the region's ability to create growth and development. The harbourfront and cultural buildings will contribute to Aalborg's international reputation in business, education and culture.



Grain and feedstuff facilities dominate the harbour in Aalborg and Nørresundby.

## New jobs

The new harbourfront is part of the historical development in Aalborg. The harbour areas were the home of Aalborg Shipyard and the other major industrial enterprises that drove Aalborg's growth following the Second World War, a growth which made Aalborg one of Denmark's most important industrial, working-class cities. Aalborg and North Jutland are now focusing on knowledge-based enterprises in which the employees make up the most important resource. It is therefore logical that these enterprises are established at the harbourfront. The view of the fjord and the central location are two factors which make it such an attractive site. An example of this is provided by the IT enterprise KMD, which has seized the chance to build a new centre on land previously belonging to the shipyard.



The maritime aspect is always central to any harbour with sailing ships providing a magnet for both old salts and landmen.

## Aalborg's cultural heritage

The transformation from industrial city is taking place whilst fully taking into account Aalborg's cultural heritage. Nordkraft is thus a completely new conversion of the former power station, which for many years has been one of the harbour's – and indeed Aalborg's – most striking and recognisable buildings. Historically it provided the energy needed by industry – in the form of electricity and heat. In future it will provide guests and performers with energy and new inspiration in the form of theatre, music, sport and dance.

The former cattle market will also be preserved and indeed continue to be a marketplace – featuring cultural activities, workshops and exhibitions.

[www.aalborgekommune.dk/harbourfront](http://www.aalborgekommune.dk/harbourfront)



Market atmosphere at Rosdahls.

## Life at the harbour

What makes the new areas attractive and exciting is the sheer diversity of life and activities. The harbourfront hosts many different functions, different urban spaces – and thereby different types of urban life. On warm, summer days families with children flock to Lindholm Beach Park, where they can play ballgames on the grass and bathe in the fjord. In the marina there is plenty to see and enjoy in the maritime atmosphere. In the new mixed residential and business areas, people live right on the edge of the quay and are able to take in the view and observe the diversity of life in the area.

The central harbourfront on the Aalborg side will be linked directly to the city centre. Small parks, places to sit and many opportunities for activities will be established. The castle square will be renovated to form an attractive green square with the castle forming a natural link between the city and the harbour.

The new harbour areas will also contain restaurants and housing, as well as providing venues for concerts, exhibitions, sport and education, all of which will of course attract and create life. A walk through the city will therefore often take in the harbour, where there will be life and activity until late in the evening.



The former cement works in Lindholm is now an attractive residential and business area.

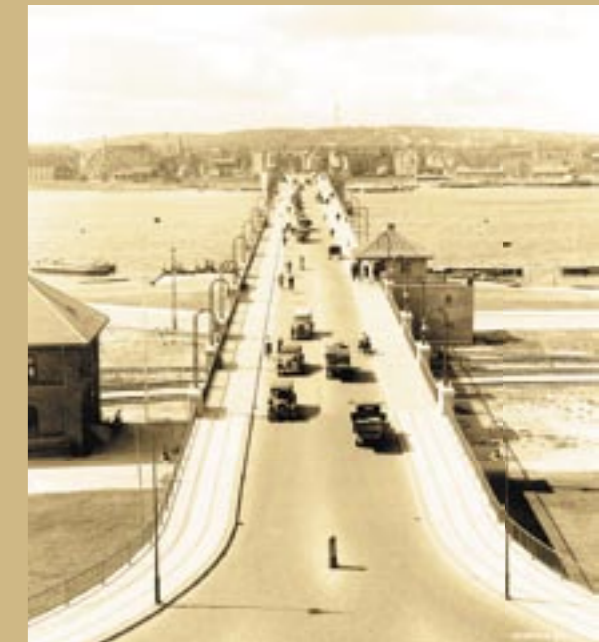


The city and harbour have always been closely linked. Østeraa in around 1865 (Aalborg City Archives).

## The history of the city and the fjord

The history of Aalborg and Nørresundby has always been closely linked to the fjord.

The first harbour was Slotsbroen, used from the middle of the 17th century. It later became Honørkajen. From 1842-1970 there were scheduled shipping services from Aalborg to Copenhagen. On the Nørresundby side merchant Peder P. Hedegaard began the commercial trade of grain and feedstuffs in 1842. From 1912-1998 there was also an acid factory on the north bank of the fjord. A pontoon bridge between Aalborg and Nørresundby was opened in 1864 until it was replaced by the current road bridge in 1933. The motorway tunnel opened in 1969.



Limfjord Bridge 1934 (Aalborg City Archives).

Cement has been a very important part of Aalborg's industrial activities for more than 100 years. Aalborg Portland was established in 1889 on the current site in Rørdal. Today Aalborg Portland is Denmark's only cement works – in the middle of the last century there were no less than 5 in Aalborg alone. Dansk Andels Cement (DAC) was established in 1911, and the works were in operation until 1979. The characteristic silo was demolished in 2003 – and rebuilt with a twin tower as a high-rise apartment block.

Aalborg Shipyard was founded at Østre Havn by Brdr. Stuhr in 1912. From 1937 and until its closure in 1988, the shipping company J. Lauritzen was responsible for operations at Aalborg Shipyard, which in its heyday had more than 2000 employees.

Another activity at the harbour that has disappeared is cattle trade. The first cattle market was held in 1891, and in 1912-1915 Aalborg Cattle Market was built. The final market was held in 2001, and a private investor has undertaken to preserve and maintain the facility.

Another well-known chapter in Aalborg's industrial history was written by the distillery - now V&S Distillers - with Rød Aalborg as its primary product. In spite of protests from temperance societies, the distillery was established in the west of the city in 1931, and the old buildings are still in use today.



The harbourfront will become a place for local citizens and visitors from Denmark and abroad to experience different attractions and activities

