

FACTS

KÆRSHOVEDGÅRD, 13 km from Ikast, Jylland:

Open deportation center with access control, in use since March 2016.

Used for rejected asylum seekers not signing for voluntary return, persons on Tolerated Stay and persons with an expulsion sentence, women and men. These groups are not separated during day time.

Built as an open prison in 1943 (used to house 60-229 prisoners, now the goal is 600, requiring the building of new 'pavillons'). No fences or bars, inside or outside. A fence will be put up soon.

Rooms for 2 persons, but in the future 6 persons will live in each room according to the staff.

Food in canteen from now on, whereas the prisoners were allowed to cook their own food.

Duty to report to police every day or several times a week, depending on status.

Duty to spend every night in the center, unless special permit has been obtained from Immigration Service to stay outside. However, electronic registration is not working yet.

Guests only between 1 and 8 PM.

No alcohol in the center.

No internships or other tasks in the center for those not signing to return voluntarily.

Not allowed to use the busses nearby (decision from the council, out of concern for the local residents).

WiFi-access, but almost no mobile coverage.

At the moment no access for the press, and visitors are not allowed to take photos.

SJÆLSMARK, Hørsholm (30 km from Copenhagen):

Open deportation center with access control, in use since 2015.

Used for asylum seekers in Dublin procedure and rejected who are not signing to go back voluntarily. So far, only single men and women stay there, but the plan is to house families with children and asylum seekers in Manifestly Unfounded procedure.

Built as military barracks, only a small part of the buildings are in use. 2 m high fences are put up, around the center as well as dividing parts of it. Access control, gatekeeper.

Room for 158 at the moment, plan to expand up to 400.

Rooms with 2 people, shared toilet and shower in the hallway.

Electronic registration every 4 days.

Food in canteen three times a day.

Visitors can come every day from 10 AM to 10 PM, only register at the gate.

No alcohol prohibition.

No internships or other tasks in the center (for this reason, very dirty in the common areas).

Public busses 1-2 times an hour. Connection to train to Copenhagen.

Free access to WiFi, personal mobile phones are allowed.

ELLEBÆK, Allerød (30 km from Copenhagen):

Closed prison for asylum seekers, in use since 2001.

Has been used for many years to detain asylum seekers when there is a doubt about identity and for rejected asylum seekers who are suspected to go under ground. Rejected persons should only be put in Ellebæk when a deportation is "imminent", however there are numerous examples of people having spent many months there, even years. Besides asylum seekers, around 10% of the detainees are criminal foreigners, serving a sentence.

Double outside fence (4 m high, Nato wire), entrance only through lock, bars on windows and doors.

Room for 118, but often overcrowded. Men and women in separate departments.

Cells for 2 persons (toilet and shower in the hallway). Free movement inside each of the four blocks during daytime.

Food served in each of the four blocks three times a day.

Visitors only on appointment and after a written security clearing (besøgstilladelse).

Daily activities to a certain degree: work, cleaning, sports, school.

No personal mobile phones allowed, but access to call or use the internet if needed.

According to Kriminalforsorgens (Danish Prison and Probation Service) own information, also small children with parents, unaccompanied minors and pregnant women have been detained here. There is no screening process concerning the persons' mental or physical condition before the insertion.

VRIDSLØSELILLE, Albertslund (18 km from Copenhagen):

Closed prison for asylum seekers, in use since March 2016.

Used for rejected asylum seekers not willing to sign for voluntary return.

Built in 1859 as a closed prison for inmates serving long sentences; closed down because of antiquated conditions in 2015. Curtain wall, blocks in starshape, bars on windows and doors.

Originally room for 241 prisoners, but can hold 500 if two persons share each cell of 7 m².

The detainees are locked into single cells most of the day. Only access to meet with other asylum seekers a few hours in the cell, access to closed court yard for one hour. When the Ombudsmand visited, there were 63 detainees (8 women). 10 persons had been there more than one month. The detainees came from 14 different countries, several had no countrymen inside. From language reasons, this can prevent some of them to speak properly to another person, as mobile phones are not allowed.

Former activities in the center were closed down when the prison was supposed to be shut down.

Only visitors on appointment once a week.