

# A manor house with room for everyone

South Langeland is home to a historic gem that has undergone a major transformation in recent years. Owner Sofie Amalie Hansen explains how Broløkke Manor has become a place for everyone.

Over the years, counts, barons and royalty have had their turn at Broløkke Manor. For more than 245 years, the site served as a hunting castle and summer residence for one of Denmark's most powerful countships, Ahlefeldt-Laurvig, who still own Tranekær Castle. Recently, ownership has changed several times, but in 2021 the place was taken over by a family who wanted to breathe new life into the historic gem.

*"Broløkke has been used for many things, and the idea is that it should be for everyone. We are often asked what our target group is and I can't answer,"* says owner Sofie Amalie Hansen.

*"There are hotel rooms, holiday apartments, great food, excellent wines, beer brewed on site, padel tennis, sports on the big screen, concerts. So it offers plenty of experiences and space for everyone."*

## Room for dreams

Sofie's father, Jørgen Hansen, bought Broløkke by chance. For many years, he had dreamt of buying a place like this when he no longer had to work so much. This happened a little earlier than expected when he became very ill and was forced to slow down on the work front. A clairvoyant told him that he shouldn't stop dreaming,



Foto: Sandra Musone



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because his health would recover and that he would soon buy a place in the countryside. A few days later, Broløkke came into the picture.

Since the Hansen family took over the site in 2021, it has undergone extensive renovation – with great respect for the historic buildings, nature and landscape – and is undergoing constant development. For example, the old cow barn is now a modern bistro with a brewery, and a spa is also on the way.

*"There was no vision or goal from the start,"* says Sofie. *"We have worked very intuitively. It hasn't necessarily been the most rational thing, but it has felt right, and we have invested our hearts in it 100 percent. It was completely by chance that we ended up here – but I also think there was a higher meaning to it."*

## A warm welcome

The Hansen family is originally from Solrød and has not previously had any connection to Langeland. But fortunately, that hasn't been an obstacle.

*"We came to Langeland and didn't know a single person. But we soon had a huge network. And that's really what Langeland can do. If you just knock on the neighbour's door, people will step up and help,"* says Sofie. *"Everyone is so welcoming and gives a helping hand. And it really surprised me to move to a completely new place and receive such a warm welcome."*

*"And Langeland also offers something special in terms of its nature, it's totally unique. I always tell my boyfriend that the sunsets in Langeland are the most beautiful ones I've ever seen. I LOVE the nature here. And I never really thought I was a nature kind of person,"* she laughs.