THIS GARDEN IS

WILLFULLY WILD

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Welcome to your Danish summer house! While you're here, you might notice that some of the areas around the house look a little less "manicured" than what you might be used to. This isn't a sign of neglect. It is part of a wonderful Danish initiative called "Vild Med Vilje," which translates to Willfully Wild.

What is "Vild Med Vilje"?

"Vild Med Vilje" is a nationwide concept focused on boosting biodiversity and creating better conditions for wild plants, insects, birds, and animals in our shared spaces. Instead of constantly mowing lawns, trimming hedges, and removing "weeds," the idea is to let nature unfold and encourage a wilder and more diverse way to manage our surroundings.

This means:

Less Mowing: You might see taller grass, wildflowers, and varied vegetation instead of a uniform green lawn. This provides vital habitats and food sources for insects like bees and butterflies.

More Wild Spaces: Areas that might traditionally be kept "neat" are allowed to evolve more freely, and branches, molehills and leaves are left alone creating mini-ecosystems.

Increasing diversity: The initiative also encourages active measures such as planting local, native species and establishing water holes to further increase biodiversity.

Why "Willfully Wild"?

Denmark, like many other countries, has seen a dramatic decline in biodiversity. "Vild Med Vilje" is a proactive effort to slow down this trend. By creating more wild spaces, even small ones, we help to:

Protect bees and other pollinators: They are crucial for our ecosystems and food production.
Support a richer variety of wildlife: From small insects to birds and small mammals, more diverse habitats mean more diverse animal life.

Promote a different view on what is "natural": A wild garden looks different, but is just as beautiful as a traditional tidy garden. These wild areas often bloom with beautiful wildflowers, and the buzzing of bees and the sight of a variety of butterflies adds a unique charm to the landscape.

Reduce Our Environmental Footprint: Less mowing and removal of garden "waste" means less fuel consumption and fewer emissions.

So, as you enjoy your stay, take a moment to appreciate these wild pockets. They are a deliberate and important step towards a healthier, wilder and more vibrant natural Denmark.