



Denmark - Kingdom of the Isles

Denmark consists of the Jutland peninsula and 406 islands, 79 of them inhabited. Twenty-seven of these islands make up the Association of Small Danish Islands.

Ferries sail back and forth every day between these small islands and the mainland, maintaining contact between island communities and the outside world.

Ferries bring post and other supplies to the islanders, many of whom are also dependent on the ferry to convey them to jobs on the other side of the water.

Depopulation has long been a problem for many of the small islands. However, in recent years, several islands have reported population increases - so there is good reason for optimism for survival of island communities.

For many years, islanders had extra expenses, paying for passenger and cargo transport. However, a new state scheme introduced in 2000 now makes it free for islanders to use their ferries.

Free ferries, the maintenance of general stores, schools, public service functions, tourism and private business all play a crucial role in the future survival and development of island communities.

BUKKEN-BRUSE (Ro-Ro ferry)

Denmark # (2001) 3,75 kr

1961 - Ravensborg Byrå & Storstrøms Amtsråd, Fejø, Denmark; Bergens Mek. Verksteder, Bergen; Gt 222, nt 80; 38m x 10,2 x 3,51m; Deutz diesel, 500 bhp; 24 cars, 147 passengers.



Delivered in June 1961 to AS Ferjetrafikk, Bergen, Norway (Wilhelmsen AS, Bergen), **BUKKEN-BRUSE** was one of the larger inshore ferries in the 1960s with an capacity of 30 cars. She was employed on the Isdalsø-Steinestø, just north of Bergen, where AS Ferjetrafikk had the contract. From 1967, the ferry was on loan to BHR (Bergen-Hordaland Rutelag), and used in many of their ferry routes in Nordhordaland. In 1975, she was moved to the Garnes-Haus-route, but in May 1980, she was sold to the Danish company Ravensborg Byrå- & Storstrøms Amtsråd on the island of Fejø for two million kroner.

She still sails as the motor ferry **BUKKEN-BRUSE** across Ståldypet between Krageønes on the northern part of Jylland and Vester Havn on Fejø, a trip that takes 15 minutes each way. She makes 22 trips daily. Today, her capacity is 24 cars and 147 passengers, but during the winter, only 98 can be onboard.

The name stems from a Norwegian folk story: "*De Tre Bukke Bruse*" collected and recorded by Asbjørnsen and Moe in Norway in the 19th century.

Source: Paul Visnes from *Bergens Tidende*; *Norvegiana Nytt*; *Lloyd's* 1994-95; D. Rodlie; *Danish Post Journal* 6/2001.

Note: She was also depicted on a label attached to Denmark #1025a (1995), a booklet containing four stamps showing Danish islands. One pane depicts the ferries **FAABORG II** and **ENDELAVE**, the other **BUKKEN BRUSE** and **FURSUND**.

OURØ (Ro-Ro ferry)

Denmark # (2001) 4,00 kr

1958 - ? ; Holbæk Shipyard, Holbæk, Denmark; 26.20 m x 7.40 m; 12-13 cars, 148 passengers.

The name **OURØ** is an old spelling of Orø. The spelling was also used on the postmarks from August 1, 1872 until December 31, 1933.

(Danish Ferries, continued on page 30)