



About the Academy

Samsøe Energy Academy gathers and communicates the experiences from Samsøe as Denmark's renewable energy island. The transition took ten years (1998-2008) and was realized through widespread community ownership. 90 percent of the 21 wind turbines are owned by local citizens.

The Energy Academy is an association with 10 employees working on local, national and global energy projects. Samsøe's vision is to become independent of fossil fuels by 2030.

The Energy Academy also functions as a meeting place and a conference venue when the local citizens, companies, researchers, politicians etc. discuss renewable energy, energy reduction and new technologies.

Every year, two thousand children and young people visit the island with their class to learn about the Samsøe story and renewable energies. The academy has five thousand visitors from all over the world each year.

About the building

The building (643 m²) is designed by Arkitema to meet a number of broad ecological building principles and guidelines and built by local craftsmen.

It boasts an agreeable indoor climate with natural ventilation of the many work stations and large rooms. It uses rainwater to flush toilets. Its walls and windows are highly insulated to minimize energy consumption, and the building is heated by the local straw-based district heating plant. A small thermal solar system delivers hot water and is designed to facilitate sustainable exhibition.

All electric appliances are A+ class energy savers. Electricity is supplied by roof-integrated PV solar cells and by the public electricity grid, electricity which is for the most part delivered by the island's wind turbines.

Dear reader,

This publication is about Samsøe Energy Academy's symposium "From Best to Next Practice". The first symposium was held in 2011, and the next will be held in 2015. Read more about the Academy at www.energiakademiet.dk

Facts about Samsøe



Area: 114 km², of this:
20 % preserved
8100 ha cultivated, of this:
800 ha with potatoes
600 ha with berries and vegetables

Population: 3844
Inhabitants per km²: 34

Length: 28 km
At the broadest: 7 km
At the narrowest: 500 m

Total stretch of coast: 120 km

Highest point: Ballebjerg 64 m

Largest city: Tranebjerg

Denmark's renewable energy island
100 % CO₂ neutral

3 straw fired district heating plants
1 solar and woodchip fired district heating plant

11 land-based wind turbines of 1 MW
10 offshore wind turbines of 2,3 MW