

FAMILY VISIT TO BRYNE AND SANDNES 26. JUNE TIL 1. JULY



We started the trip by filling gasoline at [UNO-X](#) at Rasta. This is [JAFS](#) right next to the gas station.



Then there is a departure north on the Arko road towards the center of [Kongsvinger](#).



Here the road goes along [Glomma](#). We look across the river towards Kongsvinger north.



Here we see the two bridges that cross the river in Kongsvinger, the old bridge ([Kongsvinger bridge](#)) closest and the new bridge ([Gjemselund bridge](#)) further away.



Then we are on the [E16](#) out of Kongsvinger.



Here we drive across the [Farrisbrua](#) at [Larvik](#).



Here there is work on the [E18](#) at [Langangen](#).



[Telemarkspporten](#).



Then we are on the [Grenland Bridge](#) that crosses the [Freierfjord](#) between the municipalities of [Porsgrunn](#) and [Bamble](#).

It was opened in 1996.



At the end of the Grenland Bridge we drive through [Bambletunnelen](#).



On the other side of the tunnel there was a short stop at Shell at Rugtvedt.



Here we have come to [Sørlandsporten](#).
On the other side of the tunnel there is an exit to [Risør](#).



Then we arrive at the hotel where we have booked accommodation, [Scandic Sørlandet](#).



The entrance.

The hotel is located right by the [Kristiansand Zoo and Amusement Park](#) near [Kristiansand](#), and there were many families with kids staying at the hotel. They would probably visit the zoo.



Motif from [Southern Norway](#) on the wall of the room.



In the garden at the hotel, the [foxglows](#) flourished.



We had dinner at the hotel. They had buffet. But it wasn't that big selection and the food was quite simple. Norwegian home cooking.



The next day we drove through Kristiansand.



Here we have left [E39](#) and are heading towards [Flekkefjord](#) which is the westernmost city on the [southern coast](#).



This is just before we drive across the bridge that crosses the Elva.

The Elva is a tight sound connecting the [Lafjord](#) and the [Grise fjord](#) (the pig fjord)



After the bridge we drove towards the Hollenderbyen (the Dutch city). This name arose because many Hollenders settled here in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries when there was extensive trade between Holland and the south coast of Norway.



Hollenderbyen is located north of the [Grand Hotel](#) that we see in the middle of the picture. The hotel was opened in 1897. It also had the first street lamp in the city.



There are many white wooden houses in the city.



More pictures from the center.



Here we have come to [Åna-Sira](#) and will run across [Sira](#) (Sire-åna).

The river is the boundary between the regions of Sørlandet (South Norway) and Vestlandet ([Western Norway](#)).

We come to [Sokndal](#) municipality in [Rogaland county](#).



This is a dam for a mass landfill that is residue after the [Ilmenite](#) recovery made by [Titania](#) on Tellenes. From the Ilmenite is made titanium dioxide, also known as titanium white. Titania accounts for ten percent of the world's ilmenite production



This is at Livatnet.
We are now in the southernmost district of Rogaland called [Dalane](#).
There are scanty landscapes with a lot of stone.



More stone.



Then we come to [Jøssingfjord](#).

Jøssingfjord is best known for the [Helleren](#) and the [Altmark incident](#).

Based on the Altmark incident, the concept of “Jössing” after the outbreak of the war in 1940 became a positive term used throughout Norway about anti-nazi Norwegians.

Her har vi kjørt lenger innover i fjorden.

On February 16, 1940, a German, military support ship, the tanker "Altmark", was boarded by British naval forces in the Jøssingfjord and 300 British sailors were freed from German prison.



Even further in the fjord we come to a facility where Titania is shipping the Ilmenite concentrate.



Here we drive past the plant.

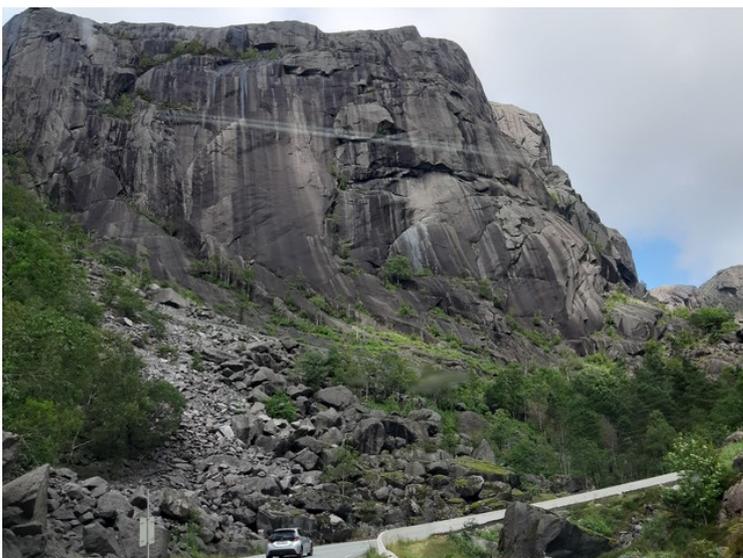


Here shows the sign to the Helleren.



[Helleren](#) is managed by the [Dalane Folk Museum](#). There were previously 3 houses here, but one was moved. The oldest, blue house, is from the 18th century. The latest was built in 1840.

It is no longer allowed to enter the houses because of many visitors and thus great wear.



Further into the valley within the Jøsenfjord.



This is at [Sogndalstrand](#).

Sogndalstrand is a protected urban development in [Sokndal](#) municipality. The village is located at the outlet of the river Sokno, which forms a good natural harbor on the otherwise quite harsh coast of Dalane.

Sogndalstrand is one of the best visited destinations in Rogaland and is the only village in Norway where both the wooden house buildings from the 1700s and 1800s and surrounding cultural landscape are protected by the Norwegian Directorate for Cultural Heritage.



This is at the outlet of the river Sokno.



This bridge between the east and west sides was built in 1881.



The bridge is closed for driving.



View further up the valley.



Decorative bike in Sogndalstrand.



Then we approach Egersund. This is in Årstad.

[Egersund](#) is often called "The Southern Village in Western Norway". Locally, it is often called "okka by" or "our city". It received city status in 1798. Egersund was an important port and an urban area already in the Viking Age. The city has one of the better natural ports in Norway, and is, among other things, Norway's largest fishing port measured in quantity landed fish. Egersund is known for faience and fishing. [Egersund Fayance Factory](#) was closed down in 1979, but Egersund is still large in fishing and herring oil.



Then we are in Böckmans street in Egersund.



Then we have come to Jæren.

[Jæren](#) is a district that extends from the [Boknafjord](#) in the north and to Dalane in the south. It is the most important agricultural area in [Western Norway](#) and one of the most densely populated. The name Jæren comes from the [Norse](#) Jaðarr, which means "border", "edge" or "yare". The name originally meant "the edge of the sea".



Large ares.



The cows are out grazing.



Local road.



Stones.



Stones in clearing.



Jæren is known for its stone fences.



Then we come to Bryne.



We were staying at [Hotel Jæren](#).
It got new owners in 2020 and it was then renovated. In 2023, 43 new hotel rooms were expanded, so there are currently 95 hotel rooms and there is room for 600 people.



The view from the room.



This picture stands over the bed.
It's a quote from [Per Fugelli](#).

[Bryne](#) was established as Thime Station, one of many station cities along the [Jæren Line](#), which was built in 1878. Bryne quickly grew to become the largest village in Sør-Jæren. In 1921, it was decided by a referendum that Thime Station should change its name to "Bryne". Bryne gained city status on January 1, 2001 and is thus among the youngest cities in Norway. The name Bryne comes from Norse Brún: edge, cliff, and wine: meadow, natural meadow.

We ate at the hotel in the evening.

I had: Red wine braised meat of calf with cashew nut vinaigrette, celery root puree and butter cooked celery. Served with red wine sauce and salt baked Jæren potato.

Anne Berit had: Oven baked cod with sweet potato puree, soy butter with chili, garlic and ginger, broccolini, pickled red onion and Jæren potatoes.

The next day, on Saturday, we visited Øystein.

Then we also had dinner at the hotel. Then we both had cod.



On Saturday night we visited the hotel by Maren, Mathilde and Janette.



On Sunday we met May-Alice & Øyvind at the restaurant [Sydvest](#) in Sandnes.



In the evening we had dinner at [Brix Brygghus](#).



Table chip.



We were located at the heart of the room.



The bar stools had all motifs from [Motörhead](#). It was a British hard rock band playing in the years 1975 - 2015. The reason was that it was the favorite band of him who runs Brygghuset



From where we sat we could look into the room where the storage tanks for the beer were located.



I've got beer and wait for the food.



So does Anne Berit.



Bar menus.





The bar counter.



We had both ordered Fish & Chips.
Approved food.



Payment.



Then we go again, but we told ourselves that we should eat here the next time we stayed at Bryne.



On Monday we are on our way back to Kongsvinger. Here we are at Gravatn, just before we get to [Sinnes](#) in [Sirdal](#).



Here we have come to [Seljord](#) and will spend the night at [Seljord Hotel](#). It belongs to a chain called [Unique Hotels](#).

Seljord is located at [Seljordsvannet](#) and has a significant tourist traffic in the summer due to the well known [sea serpent](#), [Selma](#), the dance band festival, the Country Festival, the Seljord Games and not least the agricultural fair Dyrsku'n, which has passed since 1866.



This is the room. There was poor lighting here, while in the bathroom there was lots of light.



After installing ourselves in the room, we sat outside in the garden with a lager.



This is the garden at the entrance.



The view from the room. We can see both the elementary school and the high school.

We had dinner at the hotel here too. Anne Berit had salmon while I had beef.



After breakfast on Tuesday we drove back home.