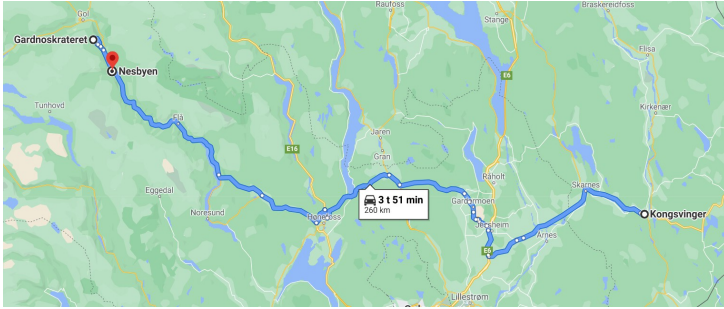


BRYNE ROUND TRIP 23. - 28. JUNE 2021

We found that we had to make a family visit. We had not been to Rogaland since September last year. Due to our poor backs, there were 2 and 3 stages on the road, as we used our own car.



This was the stage to Nesbyen on the first day, 23 June. We thought the stage was short enough, so after Skarnes we drove small roads until we passed Gardermoen. Normally we drive the E16 until we reach the E6.



This is at [Svanfoss river lock](#). A footbridge crosses the canal.



From the footbridge we can see [Vorma](#) beyond the roadbridge.



When we look the other way, to the south, we can see the top lock gate in the lock.



There was a poster there showing what the area looks like.



We had booked accommodation at [Smedsgården Hotell](#). It is located a little north of Nesbyen in [Hallingdal](#).



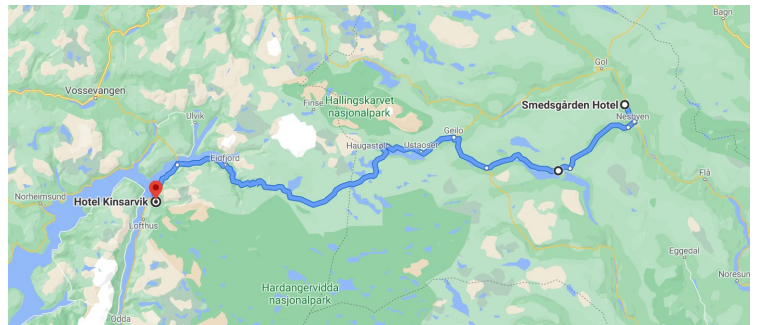
The room looked something like this.



In the dining room. We had to order dinner the day before. There was only one choice. It was fried salmon with vegetables.



This was the view south from the balcony. We can glimpse [Norefjell](#) at the end of the valley. There were still snow fans there.



The next day, June 24, the itinerary looked like this. The best way forward is E7, but we chose to drive back to Nesbyen and through [Rukkedalen](#) via [Tunhovd](#) to [Geilo](#). Here the trip continued on E7.



In [Nesbyen](#) there is a nice park. An artificial waterfall has been made here in [Rukkedøla](#).



Road bridge across Rukkedøla.



We saw several metal sculptures in Nesbyen. It is [Otto Skaret](#) who has made them from scrap iron. He has made 14 pieces. They are called the [Otto sculptures \(pdf\)](#). Otto Skaret was a well-known person in Nesbyen and is considered one of the last real city originals.



[Nes kirke](#). In its time, it replaced a stave church that stood approx. 500 meters further northwest and was demolished in 1862. The church is popularly called the Hallingdal cathedral because it is the largest church in Hallingdal.



A couple of bautas outside the church.



This is the chapel from 1954 which is modeled after or inspired by the former stave church.



On the way further we drove past [Hallingdal museum](#). Hallingdal Folk Museum was established in 1899 as one of the first open-air museums in Norway. There are 29 buildings and 11,000 objects that reflect the history from the Middle Ages to the 20th century.



The roundpole fence is mounted with withe twigs.

One of the houses.



This is just before we start the drive from the mountain down into the valley to [Geilo](#).

There are many cabins here.



We noticed this special building in Geilo. It turned out to be [Geilo Cultural Church](#). It is from 2010.



[Geilo church](#) has a more ordinary appearance.



Stairs and flowers above the church.



Here we drove on to Haugastøl.



[The railway station](#) in Haugastøl.

Haugastøl station is a railway station on the [Bergen line](#). The station is located 988 meters above sea level. [Rallarvegen](#) has its starting point at Haugastøl. It was originally a construction road built by the [navvies](#) who built the railway. The road is now a popular walking and cycling path and is widely used in the summer months, which gives the station relatively heavy traffic.



Railway carriages at Haugastøl station.



This is [Haugastøl Turistsenter](#). To the left are many bicycles ready for rent. They are most often used for cycling on Rallarvegen.



After Haugastøl, the road crosses [Hardangervidda](#). Here the [piers](#) are tight. It looks like they're up all year.



Here we are at the lake [Ørteren](#). The lake is regulated for [Ørteren kraftverk](#) (power plant).



Ørteren to the right and Lærgreidvatnet to the left.



The lake Krækkjaungen and further away [Storekrækkja](#).

In the picture to the right we get a glimpse of [Hardangerjøkulen](#). It is the 5th largest glacier on the Norwegian mainland.

During the war, the Germans tried to build an airstrip on the glacier, but had to give up. It became too difficult. An episode of the Star Wars movies was filmed on the glacier.



This is one of the [goahties](#) on Hardangervidda. It was a Sami, [Amund Johnsen](#), from Hamarøy who built the first goahti here. The place is now run by [Madsen Design](#).



Sami articles such as reindeer skins are sold here.



There are still large snow drifts along the road.



This is the closest we came to Hardangerjøkulen.



Skiftessjøen.

The road that crosses Hardangervidda is one of [Norway's 18 scenic routes](#) ([Wikipedia](#)).
[Scenic Route Hardangervidda](#).



We had a stop at [Vøringsfossen](#).
Here we are looking to [Fossli hotel](#).



[Øvre Eidfjord](#) in the end of [Eidfjordvatnet](#).



Vindoksla in Eidfjord.



This is [Quality Hotel Vøringsfoss](#).
It is situated in the center of [Eidfjord](#).



A tourist boat, MS Tedno, is located by the quay.



Eidfjord is the country's 3rd largest power municipality, so then it is appropriate to display a large [Pelton Wheel](#).

The power plants are:

[Erdal kraftverk](#), [Leiro kraftverk](#), [Lang-Sima kraftverk](#),
[Sy-Sima kraftverk](#), [Tveitafoss kraftverk](#)



In the square stands a fox mother with young. The sculpture is made by [Skule Waksvik](#).



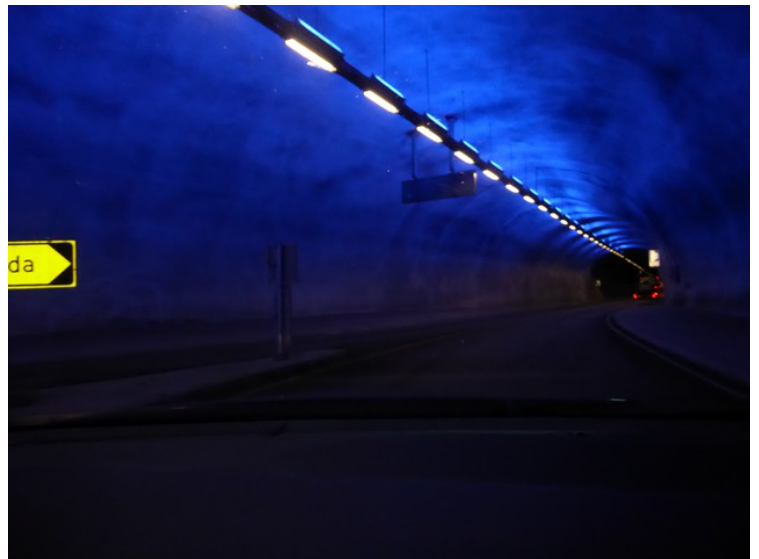
A view of the square.



On the way forward we look across [Eid Fjord](#) towards Slettafjell.



A bridge has been built over the Eidfjord, the [Hardanger Bridge](#). It was opened in 2013. Previously, there was a ferry between [Brimnes](#) and [Bruravik](#), but this ferry connection was closed when the bridge was opened.



Access to the Hardanger Bridge is via a tunnel. Inside the tunnel there is a roundabout where the road divides towards the bridge and towards Kinsarvik.



The road between the tunnel and Kinsarvik was narrow and winding. It was problematic for large trucks to pass each other. One place a camper had got stuck off the road and needed help.



We had booked at [Kinsarvik Fjordhotell](#).



The room looked like this.



This boat was in the restaurant.



Anne Berit had salmon.



I had steak.

The restaurant is called [Kinso Restaurant](#). It is operated separately from the hotel. The food we got here was the best we got on this whole trip.



Photos taken from the balcony of the hotel.



This restaurant is called [Gløyp Spiseri](#).



This is just before Odda. The area site on the other side of [Sørfjorden](#) is called Tokheim.



[Odda](#).

Odda is known as an industrial site, with companies such as [Odda Smelteverk](#), [Boliden Odda](#) and [Tinfos Titan & Iron](#). On 19 June 2009, the [Odda – Tyssedal industrial heritage](#) was, together with the industrial sites [Rjukan / Notodden](#), listed on Norway's tentative list as a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#).
 Along the entire Sørfjord, a lot of fruit is grown, especially apple, pear and cherries.



[Odda Church.](#)



[Hardanger Hotel.](#)



Outside the town hall / police station is this statue called Smeltaren (smelter worker). It fits well when you think of Odda Smelteverk. It is made by [Oddmund Raudberget](#) in 1989.



Here we are past Odda and drive along [Sandvinvatnet](#) and look towards [Strondsfossen](#).



This is the one of the two streams in [Låtefossen](#). The waterfall is one of Norway's most visited nature-based tourist attractions. In 1995, it was estimated that 650,000 stopped to look at the falls.



This is [Langfossen](#) at [Åkrafjorden](#). It is the 5th highest waterfall in Norway. It has been decided that the waterfall will be protected. The World Waterfall Database has named Langfossen the most beautiful waterfall in the world.

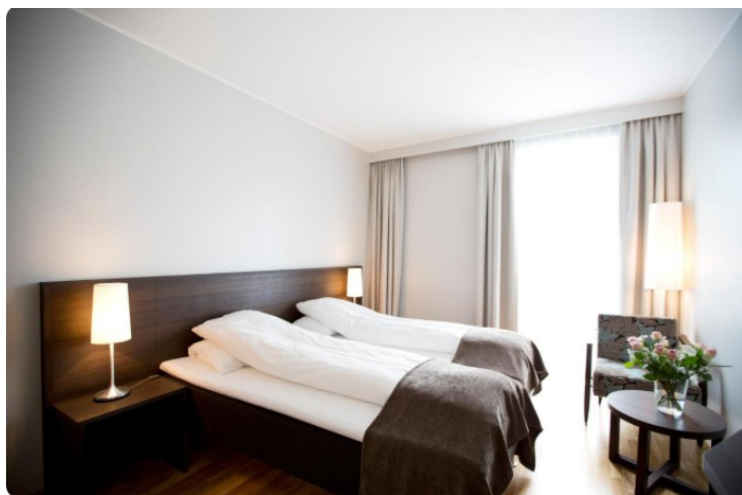


This is [Ølen](#) og [Ølensjøen](#).
There are many oil platforms here, staying for service and overhaul.



We took the ferry from [Arsvågen](#) on [Vestre Bokn](#) to [Mortavika](#) on [Rennesøy](#).
Before the tunnels there was a long stagnant queue and after the tunnels the traffic was so slow on [E39](#) that we drove side roads over [Tananger](#), [Sola](#) and Tjelta.

Just before we came to Bryne we noticed this big smiley.



På [Bryne](#) hadde vi bestilt 2 overnattinger på [Bryne Kro & Hotell](#). Det ligger i [Time kommune](#).

På lørdagen skulle vi besøke Øystein og deretter skulle vi på bursdagsbesøk til Mathilde.

Rommet så slik ut.



In the evening we ate in the restaurant of the hotel. It's called [Heldigvis](#).
I had steak this time too.



Anne Berit had salmon again.



View from our room.



Before we went to Øystein on June 26, we made a stop at [Stokkalandsvatnet](#). This is a statue of [Harald Herresvela](#) who was a protagonist of protecting bird life and he established a bird park here in the 1970s.



The bird life in the lake was protected in 1996 and there is a rich bird life here.
There is a hiking trail around the entire lake.



The bus station in [Sandnes](#) has been upgraded this year. What shows best is this circular roof.



This is a monument for marking the company [Jonas Øglænd](#).



Since Mathilde turned 12, she got to decide the menu. It was summer salad with chicken.



It was not Stian who was 12 years old.



Before we left on June 27, we visited Hemming. Here we are heading east on [Suleskarveien](#) between Suleskar in [Sirdalen](#) and [Brokke](#) in [Setesdalen](#). We see Heimre Flogvatn.



It made a picnic area by the lake.



This is the dam in [Rosskreppfjorden](#).



Here we look down towards Kvislevatnet.



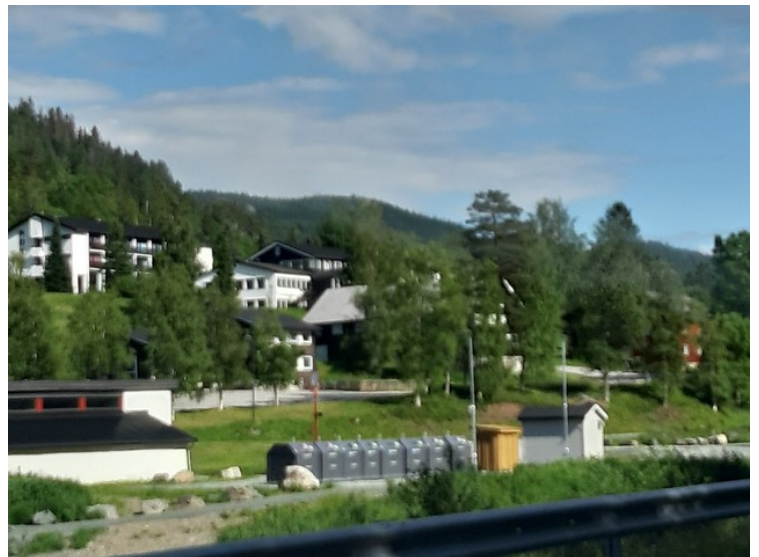
The descent towards Brokke.



Faråni flows here in Fardalen down towards Brokke.



Then we are in [Setesdalen](#) and drive along the lake Flåni.



Then we come to Morgedal Hotell, where we have booked accommodation.

Morgedal is known as the cradle of skiing where the father of modern skiing, [Sondre Ouversen Norheim](#), was born. (June 10, 1825 - March 9, 1897 in the United States). Sondre Norheim was a crofter and carpenter at Norheim in [Kviteseid](#). In 1884, Norheim moved with his family to North Dakota, USA, where he spent the rest of his life. [The Olympic flame](#) was lit at Sondre Norheim's birthplace, Øvrebø, for the [Winter Olympics in Oslo](#) in 1952 and for the [Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley](#) in 1960. [Princess Märtha Louise](#) lit the Olympic flame on Øvrebø for the [Olympics in Lillehammer](#) in 1994.



Morgedal Hotell.



Our room.



The view from the room.



From the restaurant, breakfast choices.
The night we arrived we ate as usual beef and salmon.
Great food.



In the hotel there were many pictures made by Thorstein Rittun. He was a Norwegian painter, graphic artist and ceramicist from Skien.



Old style sofa.



This must be the cradle of skiing.



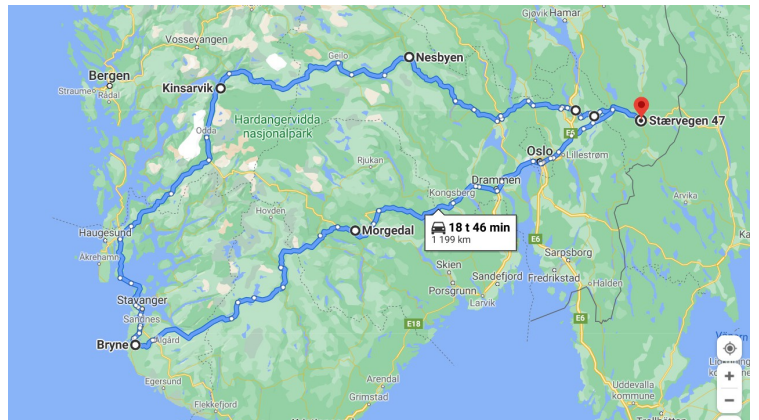
In the hallways there was a lot of old furniture.



There were many flowers on [pines](#) outside the hotel.



Carved birds in the reception.



On June 28, we drove home.
This was the driving route on this trip.