

FINNSKOGEN JULY 2026



On July 21 we drove to see Tierkoia.
This was the planned route.



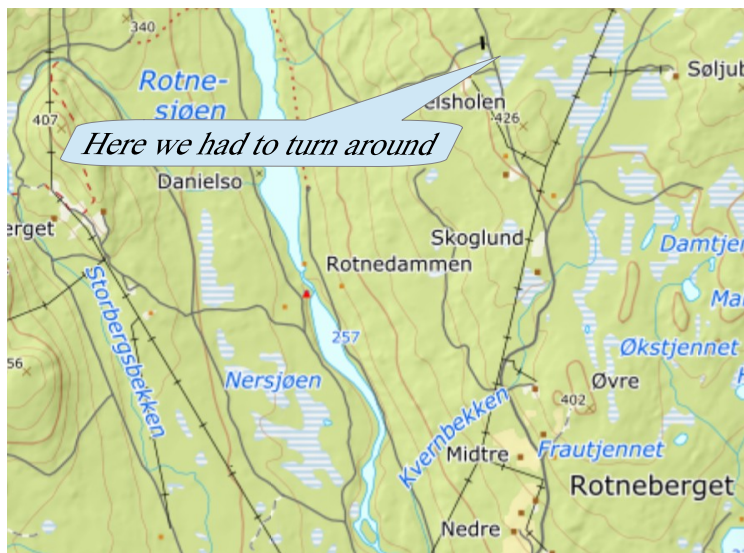
Here we have come to a crossroads north of Svullrya.



At the next crossroads there was a stop.
It says FOREST ROAD Professional driving only
So we had to turn around.

Paalala (also spelled Palala) is the original Finnish name for the farm Tysketorpet (West Tysketorpet) in Grue Finnskog. The name is often translated as 'Paalainen's farm', after the forester Pål Andersson Paalainen who cleared and settled on the site.

Today, the name is also used for a newer cottage located near the historic farm yard.





We had to turn back because of this sign - Blind Road.



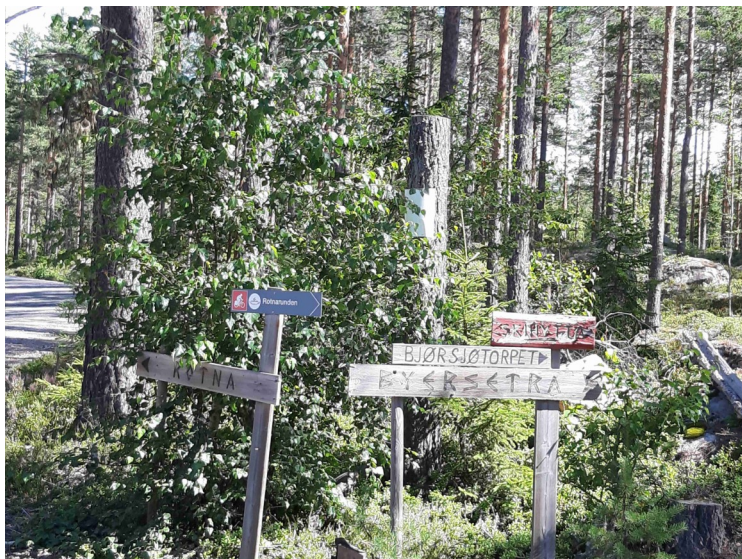
The road ahead looked like this, but we trusted that the sign was correct, so we drove back to Svullrya.



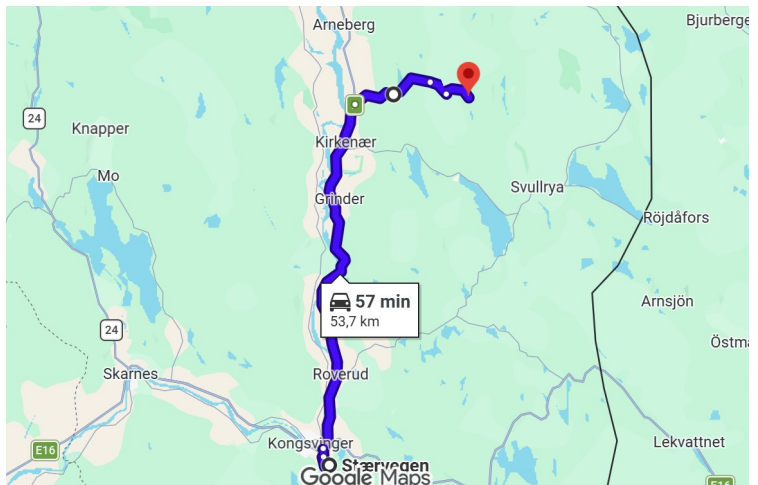
We then drove through Kirkenær to Namnå to visit Ingrid.



The grain ripens.



On July 26, we drove a trip to Bjørsjøtorpet.
We had Ingrid and Solveig with us.



We drove this route.
From Namnå there is a forest road (gravel road)

Bjørsjøtorpet has been a cottager's farm since the early 1700s under Grue Vicarage. It was vacated around 1950. However, the old house that has now been demolished was used more or less until around 1970. Remains of the old houses can still be seen. It is currently owned by Namnå Idrettslag. It is the sports club that has built the large cabin that stands here today.

The Spikeren refugee route from Namnå to Sweden crosses the square. Bjørsjøtorpet is also the natural starting point for the 10-torp round. Furthermore, there are trails both north towards Finnevegen in Hof, and south to Sollia and Skasenden.



Here you can see where the places are located.



Here we are at a crossroads that points to Byersætra.



Here we see Byersætra.



This is Ole Johnny Engen's place.



Nice cabin.

Byersætra (often spelled Byersetra) is a historic shieling pasture that originally belonged to the farm By eastern on Namnå in Grue municipality. The area was cleared and used as summer pasture for the cattle belonging to the By farm. This was a common form of operation in the Solør region to utilize the resources in the summer.

It is a popular hub for outdoor activities at Grue Finnskog and is part of the well-known Rotnarunden cycle and hiking trail.

Gråhesten utmarkslag has set up a shelter at Byersætra, financed with funds from the local bank, which provides a nice rest area for visitors.

Gråhesten Utmarkslag is an association for property management based at Namnå in Grue municipality. The team manages outback areas linked to hunting, outdoor recreation and trail networks in the area around Gråhesten.



Sign that says we are now coming to Grue Statsskog.



Then we are at Bjørsjøtorpet.



The main building.



The outhouse.





Shelter.



More shelters.



Grill with roof over.



A poster.



Here we see a glimpse of Nordre Bjørsjøen.ⁱ



Map section on a slightly larger scale.



I had to get in a picture outside the main cabin.



Then we will drive on.



It is well signposted.



There are good gravel roads in the forest.



A large white rock. A slightly larger stone of white quartz is also found in Mattila in Sweden.



We drove a little further along the road that goes towards Søndre Bjørsjøen, but we turned around again. This road goes in the direction of Sollia, but not all the way there.
We drove back to Namnå where we got coffee and ice cream at Ingrid's.



A nice flowering bush in Ingrid's garden.



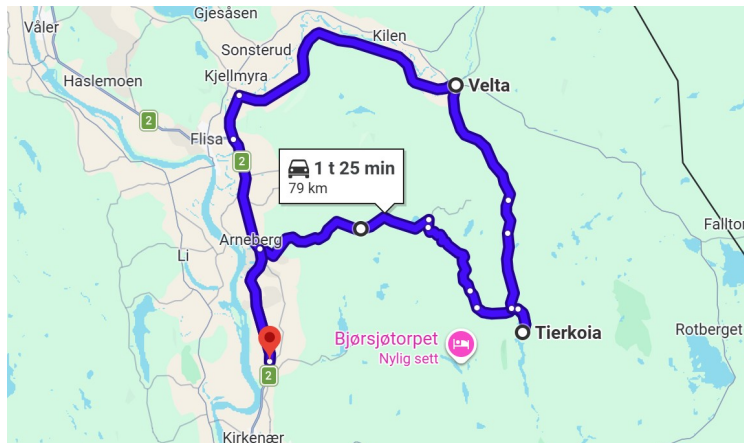
Ingrid and Solveig set the table.

The day after, July 27, we drove to Tierkoia. This time from the north. There was a roadblock here too, but it could be lifted so that we could drive all the way to the site.

We first picked up Solveig in Kongsvinger and then Ingrid in Namnå.

From Arneberg (Jammerdal) we drove past small towns such as Kontorpet, Hemsætra, Nysæter and Rauken.

On the return trip we drove via Velta.



This is how the round trip from Namnå was. From Arneberg to Tierkoia and from there to Velta there were gravel roads, but they were mostly good.



It says Tierkoia on the cross in the entrance.



Moose hunting was also carried out from here and this building was used to hang and fur and dismember the moose.



This is the cabin where there was room for ten forest workers.



The cabin seen from below.



This is the stable for the horses that were used for the timber transport.



I assume that the kitchen was in this house and that the cook lived here.



A well.



A view across Rotnesjøen.



The outhouse.

Tierkoia got its name because it was intended for ten forest workers. They worked with logging and rafting in the forests along the river Rotna. They had a cook who prepared the food.

Koia is today privately owned and the place is well maintained.

During the last world war, the hut was frequently used as a stop along the well-known refugee route 'Spiker'n'. It went from Namnå in Grue over Baksjøberget and to Sweden.



Pikes on the wall in the stable.



This cast roundabout stands in the yard.



Grinding stone.



On the way out through the roadblock.



On the bridge over the river Rotna.



Here we have come to Sinsenkryset.

Rotna starts at the lakes Helvetsekjelda and Sætersjøen in Hof Finnskog, goes through Svullrya and down into Rotnesjøen. Finally, it flows into the Mellanfryken at Rotneros south of Sunne in Sweden.

Out of Mellanfryken, the river is called Norsälven. It goes to Vänern.

Until 1965, the Rotna was an important river for log driving.

Something that is not so well known today is that a canal was built from Kverntjernet down towards Dulpetorpet. Here the water was to be led on in natural courses northwards towards the Velta and out into the Flisaelva. Dams were built at both the south and north ends of Kverntjernet. Dams were also built at Sætersjøen and Kroksjøen. This is to provide enough water when the floating is in progress. The first time the log driving went north was in 1820 and it was log driving here until 1875.



This is Dulpetorpet.



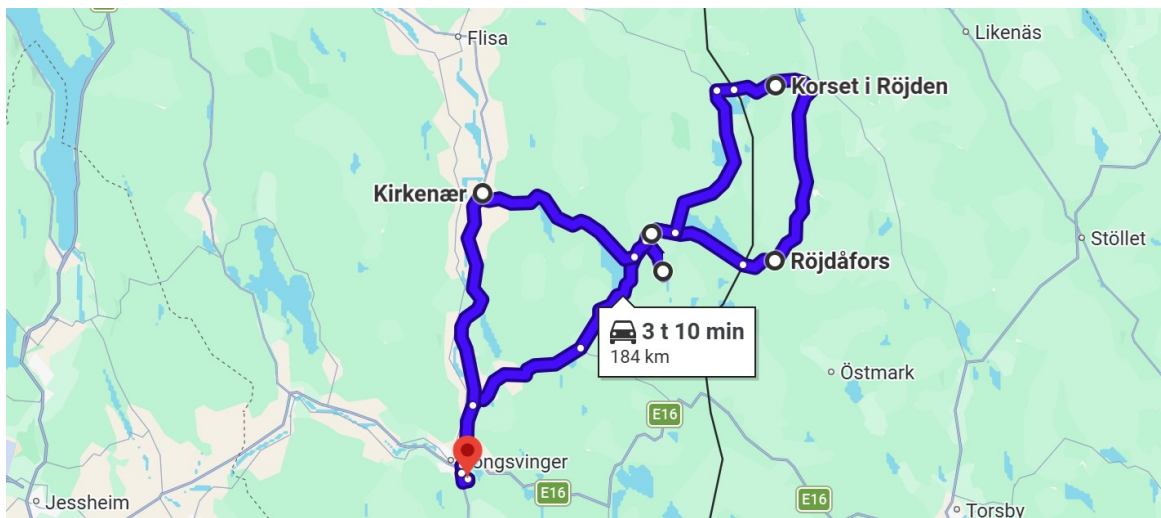
Hof Finnskog church. It is a church from 1953. It was formerly called Dulpetorpet chapel from 1877. The pulpit is from the old stave church in Hof. It is from before 1650. The altarpiece is from 1953.



The road north towards Velta.



Pine woods.



On 28 July we drove this round via Röjdåfors to Korset in Røjden. On the return we stopped by Helgedammen and then home via Kirkenær.



On the way north we took a picture of Glomma. The water level in the river is very low now and then large sandbars come into view. People come here to bathe.



Here we have arrived at the Cross in Røjden. There is a cross-shaped pit in the ground where nothing grows, while there is normal growth otherwise around the cross. It is approx. one decimeter deep and one meter in length and width. It was made before 1850.



It is fenced with a picket fence.
It was set up in 1962 by Södra Finnskoga
Hembygdsförening.



On the way home we wanted to drive to Helgedammen, but we couldn't get there because the road was closed with a barrier.

Several dams were built in Rotna to ensure an even water level during the log driving. One of these was Helgedammen. A cabin was built next to the pond where the workers could live. In 1966, log driving came to an end in Rotna and the cabin were left empty. It is maintained by the Norsk Skogfinsk Museum and operated by DNT Finnskogen og Omegn. The cabin is largely unchanged from how it was during the log driving.



Here we are on the bridge across Rotna



Here we see Helgedammen.

