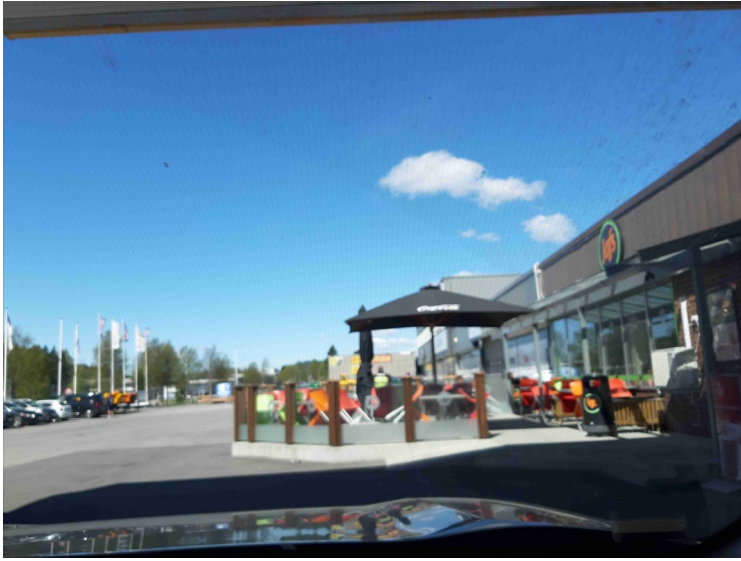


We were going to Johanne's confirmation. We chose to drive instead of flying. It takes longer, but we took it as a trip. We had an overnight stay both on the way there and back.



The first thing we did was fill up with gas at the YX station at Rasta.



Here we have arrived at Kløfta, and are about to enter the E6.



Entering the E6.



We spent the night at Home Hotel Grimstad. It is located in the middle of Grimstad, directly above the harbour.



The view from the room.



We had a Superior double room.  
I have taken the pictures from the hotel's website.



This is a common room, reception and bar. The dining room is at the back left.



It was time for dinner right after we had checked in.  
There was a buffet and dinner was included in the price. I chose beef cheek.



Breakfast was in the same room.  
Both dinner and breakfast were quite good.



This is up against the church, where we had to park the car because the hotel's parking garage was full.



A flowering tree up on the hill.



It's probably an old cherry tree.



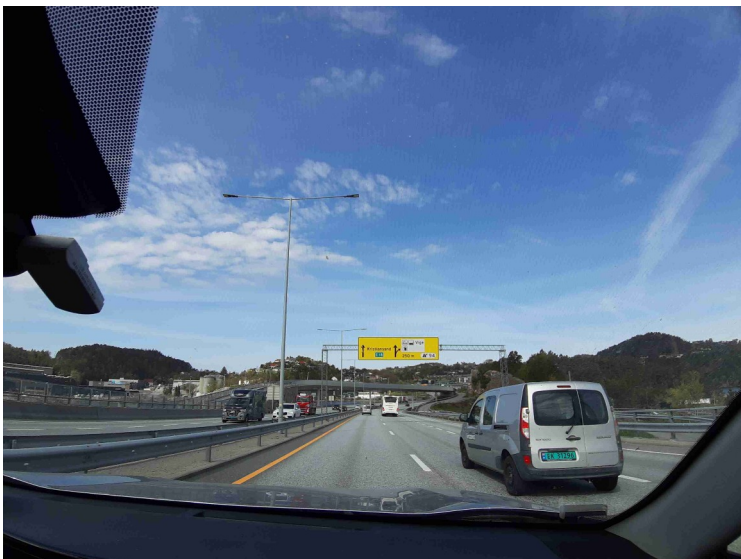
Some pictures as we drove on.



Down by the harbor.

Tvedestrand is a town with almost 3,000 inhabitants. It is the only settlement in the municipality and is located in the Tvedestrandfjorden. The town was a small seaside town when in 1738 it became a shipping port for Næs Jernværk. It became a trading port in 1836 and a city municipality the following year. Tvedestrand lost its city status when it merged in 1960. The municipality adopted city status for Tvedestrand again in 1997.

The town is one of the most popular summer destinations in Southern Norway.



Just before we drive through Kristiansand.



Then we are in Flekkefjord.



Through the city center.



The market place.

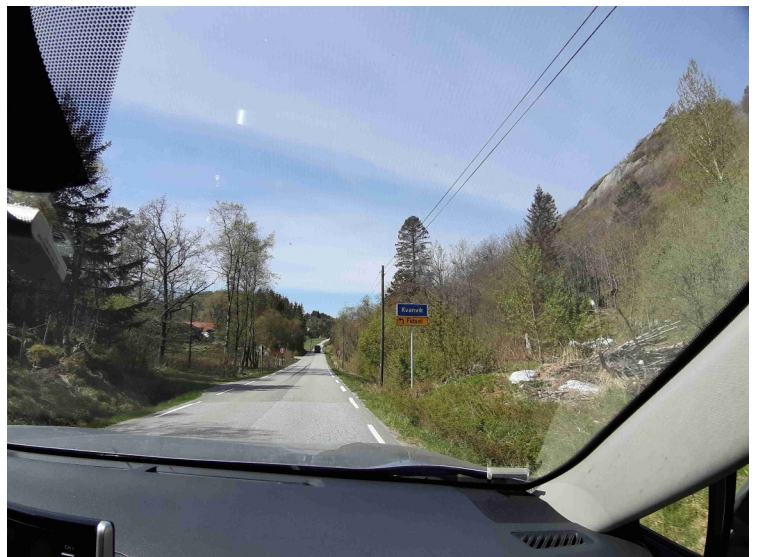


Flekkefjord is the westernmost of the urban municipalities along the Sørlandet coast. The town center is still characterized by wooden buildings from earlier times. Most have eventually been painted white, although they were previously kept in other colours. There are just over 6,000 inhabitants in the town. In the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, there was extensive trade between Holland and the south coast of Norway. Fish and oak timber in particular were exported from Norway to Holland; the timber was used to build Dutch warships and merchant ships, but also as building material.

The district Hollenderbyen was named after the many Dutchmen who settled in Flekkefjord during this time.



Here we are on Kvanvikveien, Fylkesvei 44, driving along Langevatnet.



Here we are at Kvanvik.



A lake called Skolla.



Here we come to Lake Botnevatnet.



Botnevatnet.



Botnevatnet.



A hairpin turn before we reach Åna-Sira.



Here a side road goes down to Berrefjord.

Åna-Sira is a dense settlement on the border between the counties of Rogaland and Agder. Two-thirds of the village is in Sokndal municipality in Rogaland, the rest in Flekkefjord municipality in Agder. The border runs in the river Sira or Sireåna, and it also marks the border between Western Norway and Southern Norway. It comes from Lundevatnet and flows into the North Sea through Ågapet. The place has approximately 200 inhabitants.



Down the hill towards Åna-Sira.



Here we see the west side of Åna-Sira. Siraåna in the foreground.



Winding road.



Here we drive on the bridge over the Sira.



The church in Åna-Sira.



This is Logsvatnet. We see landfill of masses after the ilmenite production of Titania.

Titania A/S is a quarry that is essentially based on an open pit at Tellnes in Sokndal by Jøssingfjord in Rogaland. This is the world's largest ilmenite deposit with reserves of 400 million tonnes. Titania accounts for ten percent of the world's ilmenite production. The pigment titanium dioxide, also known as titanium white, is produced from ilmenite. Magnetite is also mined, which is used, among other things, for the production of iron and steel.



On the way to Jøssingfjord.



Just before Jøssingfjord.



Down the hill.

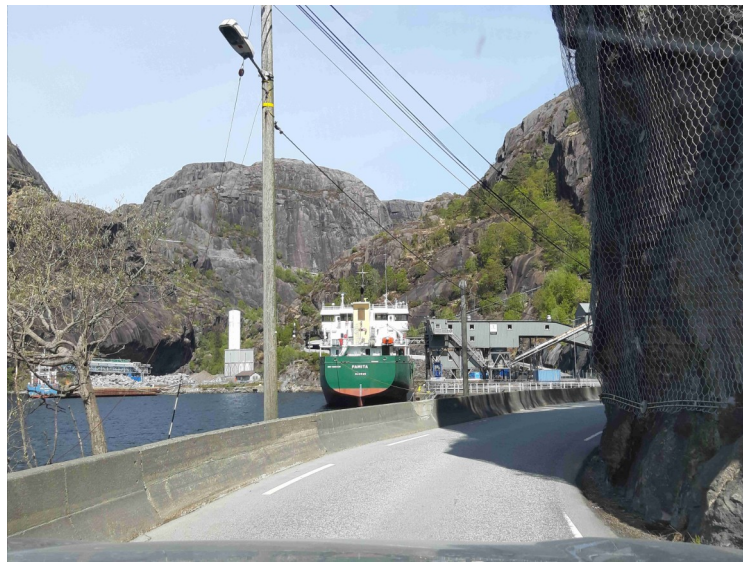


In the past, the Jøssingfjorden was almost inaccessible by land, and the sea was the most important route. The winding road with its tunnels down to Helleren was completed in 1921. Before this, the country route was via small paths down the steep hillside. Jøssingfjorden is now a very important port for the export of ilmenite ore from the mine in Tellnes.

The Jøssingfjord is particularly famous for the Altmark Affair which took place here on 16 February 1940. The Altmark Affair refers to the event that took place here, where the German military support ship was boarded by British naval vessels, and British sailors were released.



Here we have come down to the fjord.



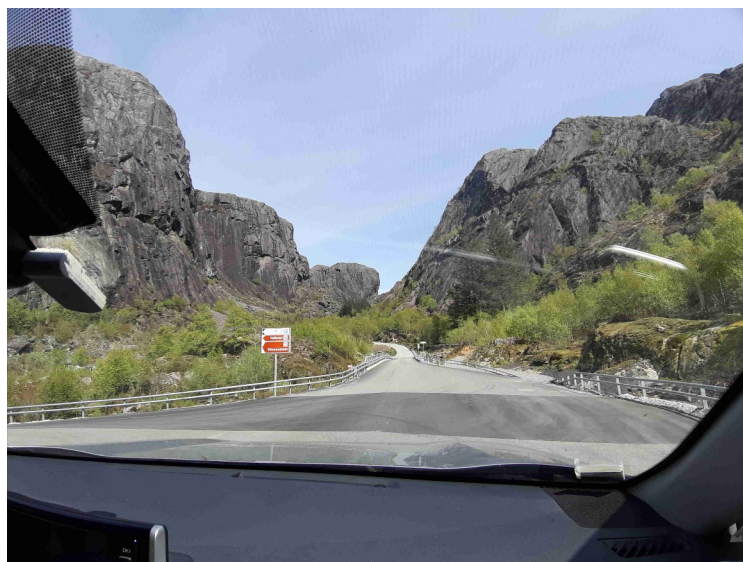
Shipment of ilmenite.



The way forward.



Here we see the road further up the mountainside.



Here we are by the road that goes down to Helleren.

Helleren was a homestead under the farm Haneberg in Sokndal.

There have been several houses under this slab, but today only two wooden houses remain. The buildings date from the 19th century, but parts of the buildings may be considerably older. There has probably been a permanent settlement under Helleren from the 16th century.

In the 19th century, up to three families lived here, but the place was vacated in the early 20th century. Then The Jøssingfjord Manufacturing Company, a subsidiary of Titania, took over the right to use the area.

In 2002, ownership and responsibility for the houses was transferred to Dalane Folkemuseum.



Helleren.



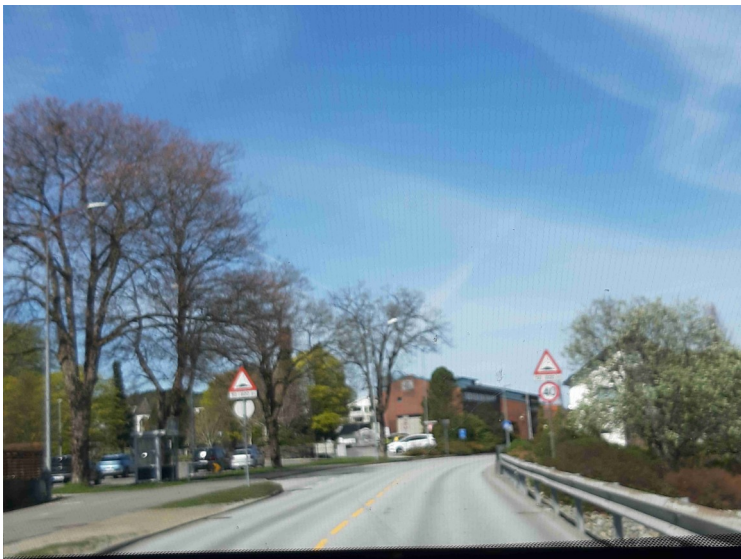
Massive mountains. Anorthosite I think.



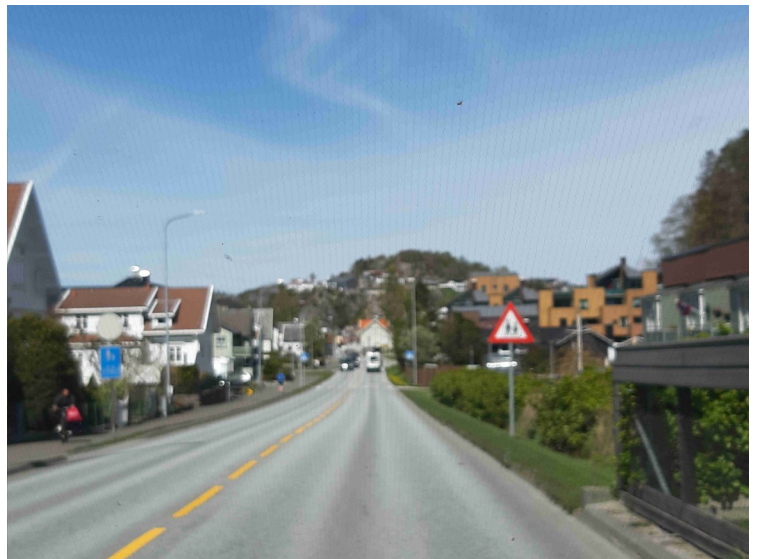
Then we get to the tunnel.



In the tunnel.



Then we come to Årstaddalen in Egersund.



Årstad.

Egersund is often called the southern village in the western part of the country. Locally it is called 'okka by'. Egersund was an important port with dense settlements already in the Viking Age. The place was early on an important place of worship for pagan worship and got a church in the early Middle Ages. The first settlement along Vågen took place at the beginning of the 17th century. In the middle of the 18th century, an urban settlement grew up here. The town was exposed to several fires in the 19th century. In 1878, the Jærbanen between Stavanger and Egersund was opened. Egersund is among the country's largest fishing ports. Egersund Fayancefabrik, which was a leading company in its industry, was in operation 1847–1979. Now the factory has its own museum.



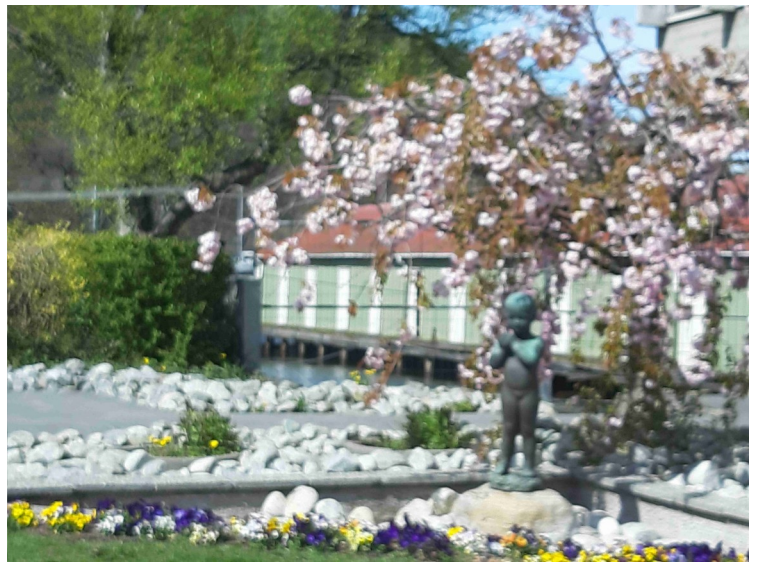
On the outskirts of Egersund.



This is the Alti Eikunda shopping center seen from a distance.



Here we drive past Egersund town hall.



Here stands the statue of a young girl. It is made in bronze by the sculptor Ørnulf Bast and was given to the municipality by Kværner Brug in 1974.



Here we see more of the shopping center at Lundeåna.

The center is located in the old Fajansefabrikken in Egersund, which, after it was closed down, was first converted into a warehouse for Coop Eikunda, who, after a few years of operation, built the center into the facility it appears as today.

The Egersund Fayance Museum has moved into premises in the centre, and the large collection of faience from the Egersund Fayancefabrik is then back in the premises where they were once made.



Then we are out of the center of Egersund and driving along Tengsvågen.



Ogna.



The church at Ogna.



Årsland on Jæren.



Farm road at Reime.



Reime.

The next stop was at Bryne.

Bryne was established as Thime Station, one of many station towns along the Jærbanen, which was built in 1878. A prayer house (Saron, 1878), general store, industry and a dairy were established. An agricultural-related industry grew up with the production of ploughs, mowers and forage harvesters. Later, the production of excavators also appeared. Eventually, Bryne grew to become an educational center with a dairy school from 1906 and Rogaland Landsgymnasium from 1924. In 1921 it was decided by referendum that Thime Station should change its name to 'Bryne'. Bryne quickly grew to become the largest settlement in Sør-Jæren.

Bryne received city status on 1 January 2001 and is thus among the youngest cities in Norway.



We were going to stay at Hotell Jæren.  
We think it is the best hotel in Bryne..



We got a room in the new building.



In the evening we had dinner at the hotel with Stian and Øystein.