

SØRLANDET 22. JUNE – 3. AUGUST 2011

In the end of June we were about to visit Kjell's family in [Sandnes](#). We found out from the weather forecast that there was going to be good weather along the coast of [southern Norway](#), so we planned to have short stages along the trip. Then we could see all the small towns that we never had been in before. We started Wednesday the 22nd of June.



The first stop is the house of Olav Duun, just before [Holmestrand](#). [Olav Duun](#) was born 21. November 1876 at [Jøa](#) in [Fosnes](#) and died 13. September 1939 in Holmestrand. He wrote in [nynorsk](#). He is probably most known for the series of novels, [Juvikfolket](#). He lived in the house from 1908 until 1939. It is now a museum.



The Coat of Arms for
Holmestrand

The following is fetched from Wikipedia:

[Holmestrand](#) was a natural harbor by the [Oslofjord](#) where the Dutch traded timber already from around 1550. In 1663 the export harbor became a customs post under [Tønsberg](#) and in 1713 it got staple rights. In 1752 Holmestrand got township privileges and became a market town.

In the spring 1801 there was erected a battery with canons at the headland Gaasetange to protect the town. The battery was strengthened in 1808 and 1814, but decayed after 1815.

In 1881 [Holmestrand railway station](#) was opened with train connection to Drammen and Oslo over the Jarlsberg line, later called the [Vestfold line](#). From 1902 to 1938 the station was a part of the [Holmestrand-Hvittingfoss line](#) that conveyed wood pulp from [Hvittingfoss](#) to shipment in Holmestrand.

There was built a factory for refining of aluminum right south of the town already in 1919. The factory became a part of [Årdal og Sunndal Verk](#) (ÅSV) in 1967, and was later bought by [Norsk Hydro](#) i 1986. The factory made aluminum products, among goods under the known trademark HØYANG, with aluminum from [Høyanger](#). The raw material is today recycled aluminum.



A couple of pictures from the boat harbor.



A memorial over people who were killed in WWII.

Holmestrand is also known for the artist sisters [Harriet Backer](#) and [Agathe Backer Grøndahl](#). Harriet Backer was a famous painter while Agate Backer Grøndahl was a pianist and composer.



The statue Nysgjerrig (curious) was unveiled the 7th of June 2005. This is Holmestrand's millennium place.

The area around is tiled.
This plaque is laid down in front of the statue.



More pictures from the harbor area.



World record 282,16 kg. Lifted with one finger. Vestfold's strong man: Tom the finger.



Kjell is trying to lift the world record weight. He has no chance.



A plate that is telling a little bit of Holmestrand's history.



At the end of the day we went to [Løvøya Camping](#) to stay there overnight.



We got a spot right beside the fiord.



Nice place.



There was good warmth in the evening sun.



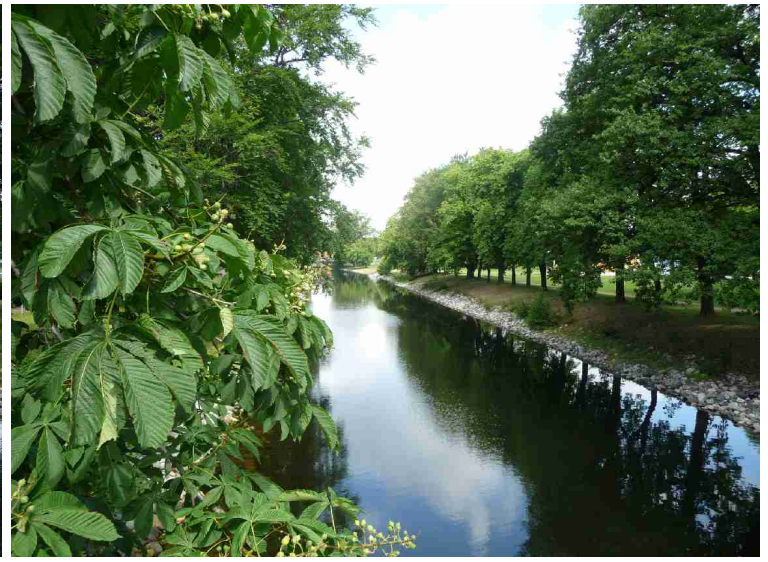
Here is the dinner, ready to fry on the pan.



Morning mood



Overview of Løvøya Camping



The next day we are driving towards [Horten](#). Here we are at the Horten canal. The canal was excavated during the years 1854-1867, and was made to haul the naval vessels out to the fjord when the wind conditions made it difficult to get out through Vealøsrenna.



The pedestrian area.

This navy sailor is standing in the end of the pedestrian street.



More pictures from the pedestrian area in Horten.



Horten's coat of arms.

In the municipality there are traces from settings back to the stone age. [Borrehaugene](#) bear witness to a local power center in the viking age.

Horten became a municipality of its own in 1858 and a town in 1907.

By a royal decree of 21. November 1818 it was decided that the navy's main base should be established in Horten. "Marinens Hovedverft" at [Karljohansvern](#) was later named Horten Verft, which in many years was the backbone in the municipality with well over 2 000 employees. The company was shut down in 1987 after an bankruptcy. Afterward the big dockyard area has been developed as a business park with a collection of smaller companies.



Here we have driven further on to "[Borrehaugene](#)" or "Borreparcken". This is Midgard historic center.



Rune stone.



Vikings in a row.

"[Borrehaugene](#)", also called "Borreparcken" and unofficially called the «National Park», is a park in Horten principality in Vestfold with a collection of grave-mounds and other heaps from about year 600 until 900. The area lies at the [Oslofjord](#) at the church green below Borre Churc. There is now established a historic center at "Borrehaugene", "Midgard historisk senter".

The park is about 182 000 m² and the collection of grave-mounds inside its border is unique in Scandinavia. Seven big grave-mounds and one cairn can be seen today. At least two of the mounds have been destroyed in modern times. There are also 25 smaller heaps inside the borders. Some of the smaller cairns were examined in 1925 and they proved to contain simple graves for cremation.

Some of the grave-mounds are up to 45 m of diameter and up to 6 m high. In 2007 there was found two large King's royal palaces from the 700- or 800 century near the grave-mounds.



Here we can see some of the grave-mounds.



This is a bit further on, in the boat harbor in [Åsgårdstrand](#).

Åsgårdstrand became a center of trade from 1650 under Tønsberg, from 1660 under Holmestrand. In 1752 Åsgårdstrand got the privileges to pursue trade with domestic goods. From the start of the 1800s, Åsgårdstrand was a thriving export port of timber to among others The Netherlands. The trade stagnated at the end of the sail ships era.

Due to the unique light the place was increasingly known as a center for artists and painters and since the 1880s a vast number of internationally famous painters has either visited or lived in the town. Painters like [Edvard Munch](#), [Christian Krogh](#) and [Hans Heyerdahl](#).

Åsgårdstrand got a township status 1. januar 2010.



Miscellaneous art on the harbor mole.



Nice flowers on the waterside.



On the way up to [Edvard Munch's](#) house.



The studio.



The house seen from below.



Kjell at the stairway.



This plate is put on the corner of the house.



The house seen from the above.

[Edvard Munch](#) came for the first time to Åsgårdstrand the summer 1885, when the family rented the place Grønlien in [Borre](#). In 1887 the family went on holiday to [Veierland](#), the next summer to Tønsberg and the summer 1889 they rented a summer house in Åsgårdstrand. The years afterward Munch traveled alone each summer back to the holiday place at the seaside.

In August 1898 he bought the small fishing hut for 900 kroner. During the years until 1906 he stayed in the house for long periods, and after that time, more sporadic.



In [Tønsberg](#) by Slottsfjellmuseet. Slottsfjellmuseet was established in 1939 as Vestfold Fylkesmuseum.

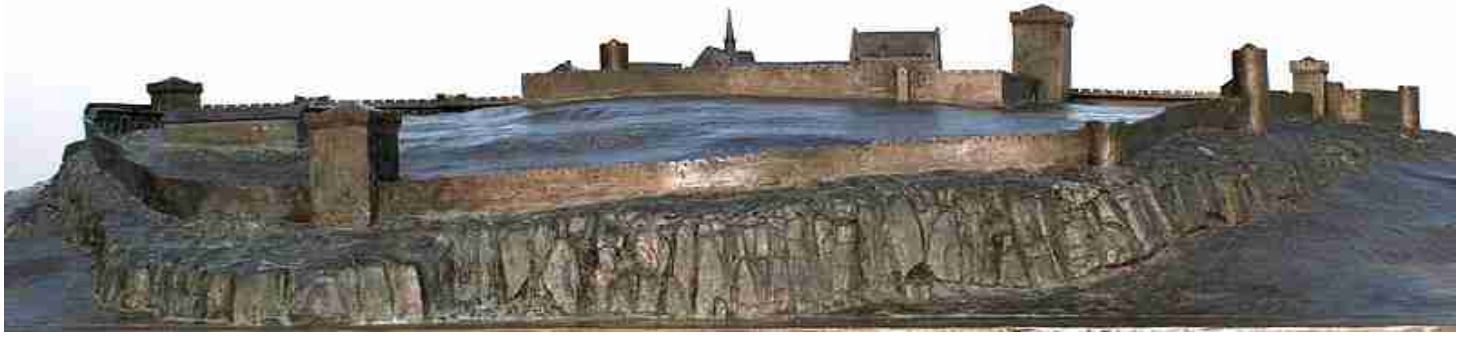


The bow of a viking ship.

Slottsfjellet (Castle Mountain) is a small mountain in [Tønsberg](#) in [Vestfold](#) with a height of 63 moh. There one can find the ruins of a church and [Tønsberg Fortress](#) from the Middle Ages, together with Slottsfjellstårnet (Castle Mountain Tower), the city's landmark.

Slottsfjellet was earlier a King's royal palace. The mountain was in the the Middle Ages for a long time called Mikkelsberg (Micheal's Mountain) after St Michael church on the mountain.

The fortress on the top of the mountain has probably dominated the city and the agricultural areas around long before 1201 when the [baglers](#) sought refuge here during the siege of [King Sverre](#) and the [Birkebeiners](#).



A bronze model of how the fortress on Slottsfjellet, Tunsberghus, could have looked like around 1200.



On our way up to Slottsfjellet we pass an old storehouse, a [stabbur](#).



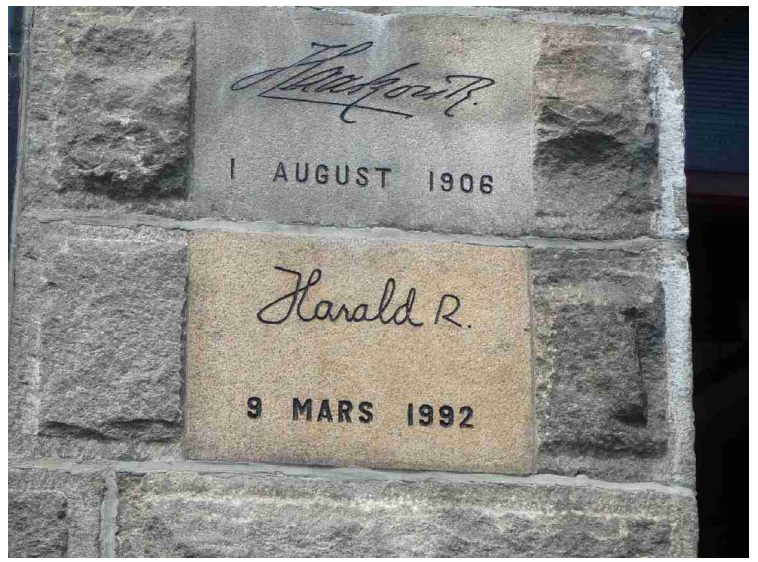
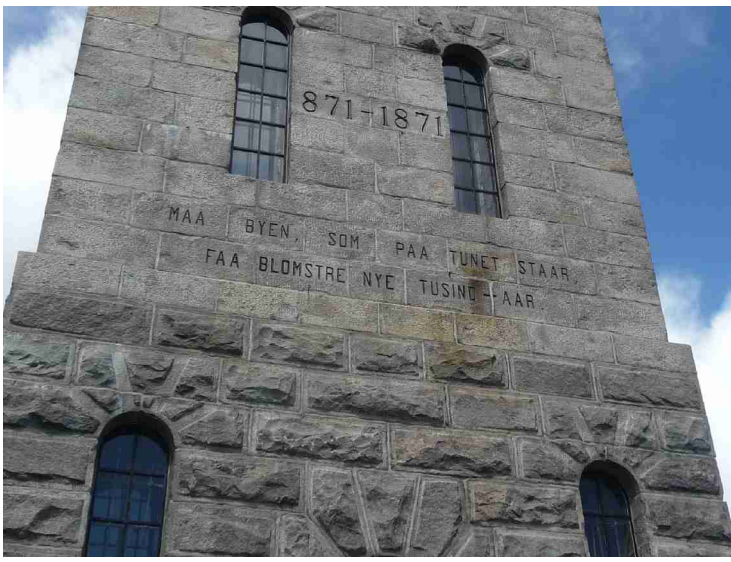
Approaching the top.

Elegant tower.

Tunsberghus went through a large development during the reign of [Håkon Håkonsson](#) and [Magnus Lagabøte](#) in the 1200s. The fortress got an outer and an inner ring wall, halls, accommodation for the king and also a church.

It was at Tunsberghus that the last Norwegian king before the union with Denmark, [Håkon V](#), died in 1319. The fortress was a residence seat for Tønsberg county until 1503, when it was burnt down after having been captured by Swedish soldiers and rebellious farmers from the Vestfold area. It was never tried to rebuild it. There is no certain information of how it looked like in detail.

Stone from the fortress walls was later used for foundation of private houses in the city, among others in the old part of the town Fjerdingen, and today there are only low ruins left of the constructions on Slottsfjellet.



The tower at Slottsfjellet was built in 1888 on private initiative as a memorial in connection with Tønsberg's millennium. It is a watchtower in stone with [Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson](#)'s inscription: «871-1871 Maa Byen som paa Tunet staar, faa blomstre nye Tusind-aar» (May the Town Which Stands on This Site Prosper for Another Thousand Years) and signatures from the kings «Haakon R 1. August 1906», «Olav R 1. July 1958» og «Harald R. 9. March 1992». The stone tower replaced a wooden tower, which had been there earlier but had burnt down.



A view over the city from Slottsfjellet.



The mountain farm cafe at Slottsfjellet.



This statue is standing in front of the Slottsfjell museum.



[Svend Foyn](#)'s working class accommodation. The flats were built in 1850-60.



Street pictures.



Byvåpnet

According to [Snorri](#) the city was founded before [the Battle of Hafslsfjord](#). The Norse form of the name was Tønsberg. [Tønsberg](#) is Norway's oldest city if this is correct, founded before 871. The city celebrated its 1000 year anniversary in 1871. It is suggested that the year 1100 could be a more correct year of the foundation of Tønsberg. Tønsberg has to been founded before 1130, because at this time the city is mentioned in a written source.

Tønsberg based its industry and commerce on whaling and shipping and the engineering industry connected to the naval activities.

Tønsberg is today the most important trading city in the county with a lot of public service funktions.



A picture taken from the bridge that goes from the city over to [Nøtterøy](#). The strait is called Kanalen and Ollebukta.



The guest harbor is to the right.



Far off we can see the bridge from Nøtterøy to [Tjøme](#), which was built in 1981. The first bridge was opened 8. November 1932 and was at that time the longest suspending bridge in North Europe. It was removed in 1983.



View from the bridge that is called [Vrengen bridge](#).



Another view from the bridge.



Here we are soon at Tjøme.



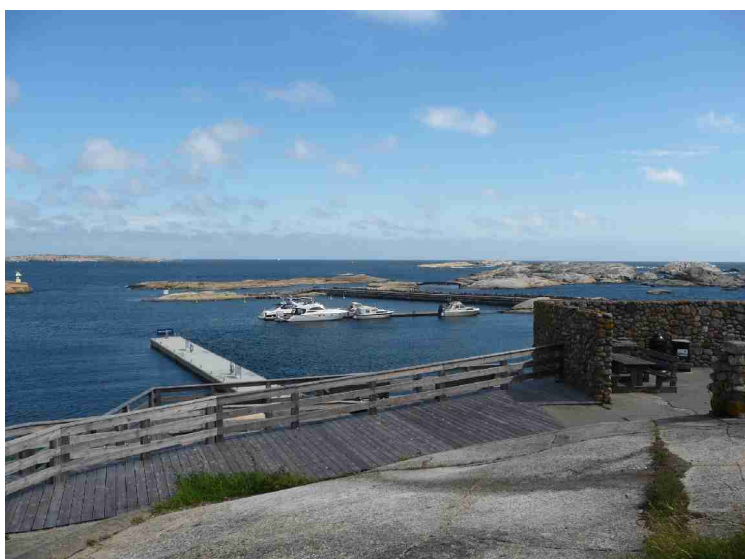
Southernmost on Tjøme lies [Verdens Ende](#) (The End of the World). Here we have parked and is walking down the road.



Almost down by the harbor.



Boat-house at the harbor.



A view of the islets towards [Skagerak](#).

“Verdens ende” is a name that came into being at the beginning of the 1900s, and it was the summer guests that first started to use it.

“Verdens ende” is a protected area of about 250 dekar (about 10 acres).



View north to the Oslo fjord.



The characteristic tilting light with basket for a coal fire was built as a tourist attraction in 1932.



Tjøme county's millennium place lies here at "Verdens ende".



The restaurant was also built in 1932.



The entrance to the harbor.



Nice flowers by the sea.



The sculpture «The sailor's wife» by the sculptor Nina Nesje was erected in 2004 at “Verdens Ende”.



After this we installed ourselves at Havna Camping, a bit north of “Verdens Ende”.



Pictures from the camping site.



We thought that Tjøme church was so nice that we wanted some pictures of it. It was finished in 1866 after that the old medieval church, which was standing at the same spot and was sanctified by the saint king and sea saint Olav the Holy, was demolished in 1860.

The present Tjøme church is Neo-Gothic with building material of local stone from the municipality, larvikitt, with stepped gables, struts and other details in brick. The church was inaugurated in 1867 by bishop Astrup.



Now we have reached [Sandefjord](#).

We had planned to go for a little sightseeing in the city, but it was raining so heavily that we more or less sat inside the car. It was only Anne Berit that ventured out and took pictures of this monument.

It is named “Hvalfangstmonumentet” (The Whaling Monument) by the sculptor Knut Steen and was inaugurated in 1961.

The last picture is taken from Wikipedia to show the monument in sunshine.



Sandefjord is known for shipping and chemical industry. History from shipbuilding and whaling was reflected in the local commerce by among others Jahre oil and fat industry, Framnæs Mekaniske Værksted and Jotun Paint production. Jotun is today the largest company in Sandefjord.

The [Gokstad ship](#) was found near the city in 1880

In 1845 there lived 749 people at the staple port of Sandefjord. Now about 44000 lives there.

In 1905 the pelagic whaling started. Chr. Christensen sent then the first whaling expedition from Sandefjord to the Southern Ocean. The city saw an intense economical upswing. The whaling period lasted to the end of the 1950s.



Byvåpenet