

SØRLANDET 22. JUNE – 3. JULY 2011

In the end of June we were going to visit Kjell's family in Sandnes. We found out that the weather prognosis were good along the coast of Southern Norway, so we decided to take it easy with short daily legs. Then we could visit all the small costal towns where we had not been yet. We set out at Wednesday 22. June. Now we have reached Saturday 25. June. We have just been in Kragerø and have now arrived in [Risør](#).



We parked the car in the outskirts of the town and walked towards the harbor.



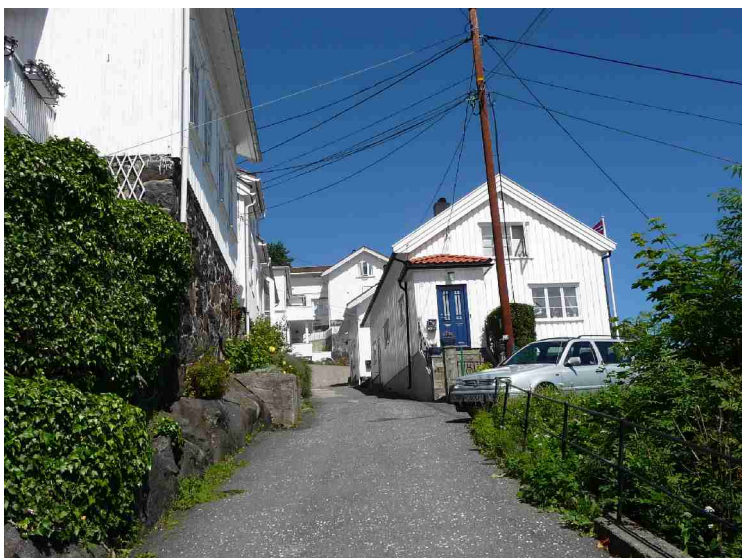
The harbor.



Nice harbor area.



Now we are on our way up to Risørflekken.



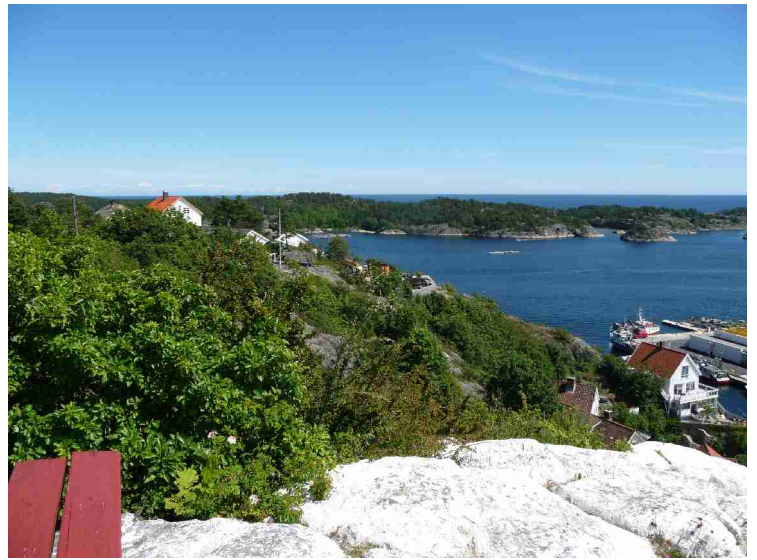
Steep uphill.



From the top we have a nice view towards [Skagerak](#).



Anne Berit has a nice view from Risørflekken.



A view towards the islands outside.

Risørflekken (*spot*) or Bleket (*something white*) is a whitewashed rock 45 m above the harbor and it is visible from 12 nautical miles (22 km) out to the sea. Risørflekken is still used as a sea mark and it is whitewashed frequently.

The name Risør comes from Risøya, an island outside the town. It is overgrown by scrub (*ris*).

[Risør](#) is one of the oldest towns in Southern Norway and the Dutch timber trade from 1400s and 1500s made it a privileged port under Skien in 1630. In 1723 the town got market town rights.

The town was completely destroyed by the fire in 1861, and when the new buildings were finished they wanted to give the impression of wealth. White was by far the most expensive colour and therefore white was chosen. The town is often called “The white town at Skagerak” and it has the genuine character of Southern Norway with one of the best preserved wooden house areas in Europe. The town has grand patrician estates with facades towards the harbor area.



Coat of arms of Risør.



Patrician estates with facades towards the harbor.



Here we have bought ice cream from the ice cream car.



Next town on the program was [Tvedestrand](#). Here we are at Fjæretjenn at the drive into the town.



The parking lot where we parked the car. The church in the background.



A little park with small monument.



The small monument is called «Heiagjengen» (*cheering gang*), and is a present for the town's 100th anniversary.



Down in the main street we came past a shop called Fiskespesialen (*fish special*).



They had moreover a sign telling about newly made fish cakes. We were tempted and bought a kilo newly fried fish cakes.



Tvedestrand is lying on grounds that was belonging to the farms Berge, Gliddi and Myklebostad, but it is the farm Tveite, which as given name to the town. The name means quite simply “The beach of the farm Tveite”.

As a village the center of Tvedestrand is of more recent date than many other villages in the municipality. As late as in the 1600s the number of houses inmost in the fjord could be counted on the fingers.

Tvedestrand became a staple port in 1836 after having obtained limited rights in 1821.



Still in the main street.
We could see that there were a lot of houses that desperately needed a touch up.



Down by the harbor.



There are not many guests in the rain.



Cozy little town.





Nice houses.



On our way back to the car. Here we have a look towards the pedestrian street.



Now we have passed [Grimstad](#), and have moved in at [Morvigsanden](#) Camping. The first thing to do is to fill water.



The camping site is lying sheltered inmost in Morvigkilen.



Here we have parked and connected to the electricity.



The oyster catcher is looking for food.

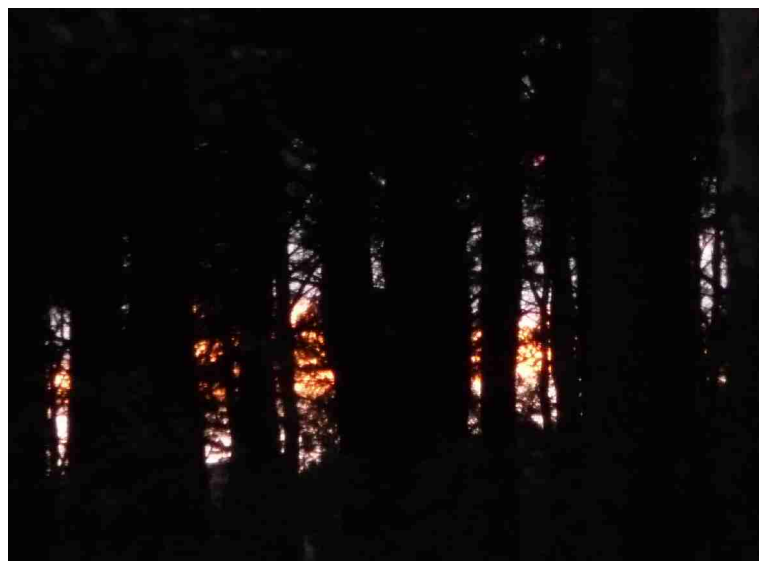
The next day we were going to visit Kjell's daughter who were on vacation in [Grimstad](#). They had rented a house there for the week.



Evening mood.



There were a lot of lupines in bloom at the site.



Here we have reached Sandnes and Vølstdaskogen Camping. We stay there each time we are visiting Sandnes with the camping car. Sunset behind the trees.

We stayed in Sandnes for a few days and visited Kjell's family.



This is Sunday 3. July, and we are on our way back to Gran.
Here we have arrived in [Egersund](#).



A lot of boats in the marina.



This was once Egersund Fayance. Now it's a museum and shopping center.



Parking lot inn the outskirts of the town. It is by the way here the cycle tour [Nordsjørittet](#) starts every year. Kjell has participated 3 times.



The coat of arms for the municipality of Eigersund

[Egersund](#) is a coastal town at South West Norway, in Rogaland county, often called the Southern Norway town at the Western Norway, and also «okka by» (*our town*) by the locals. In 1998 Egersund's second centenary as a town (1798-1998) was celebrated.

Eigersund comes from Eikundasund. Eikund means the island, which is rich in oak forest. It is among the oldest toponyms in Norway. The ships channel (*sund*) between Eigerøy and Eigersund has given name to both the town Eigersund and the municipality of Eigersund.

Eigersund was an important harbor with a built-up area already in the viking age. The town has one of the best natural harbors in Norway, and is among the largest fishing harbors measured in quantity of landed fish.

In 1847 Egersunds Fayancefabriks Co. A/S was founded by Johan Feyer. The factory was a corner stone company in the municipality until it was shut down in 1979.

In 1905 Egersund got as the first town in Rogaland electrical lighting. The electricity came from a power plant at Øgreifossen.

Eigersund was in 2007 elected as Norway's most beautiful small town.



The restaurant at the marina had a lot of customers. There was also a song festival this weekend. The festival tent to the left.



Egersund church



A flower shop in the center of the town.



The is ballad-singing at Hauen Kro.



Pictures from the center of the town.



Looking upwards Lundeåna.



We have left Egersund, and are approaching [Sogndalstrand](#).



We have to park outside at the parking lot. Here we are walking down the only main street.



A view upwards the street.



This picture is taken from the bridge over the river Sokno and down the river towards the fjord.



Down at the harbor.

[Sogndalstrand](#) is a built-up area in [Sokndal](#) municipality in [Rogaland](#). Sogndalstrand is characterized as a «coastal built-up area of national value» and is preserved to protect the place against development pressure. It is one of the seven preserved cultural environments in Norway and the only “town” in Norway that is preserved. The cultural environment, which is preserved, includes the wooden houses from the 1700s and 1800s with surrounding cultural landscape. Provisional preservation was done 1994, while the final preservation was approved in the Council of State the 24th June 2005.

Sogndalstrand was a trade town for a much bigger surrounding country. At the end of the 1800, Sogndalstrand had 20 shops, 4 bakeries, taproom, doctor, telegraph station, school, bank, post office, pilot, prison, town hall and more.

Today Sogndalstrand is one of Rogaland's best visited sightseeing objects and had during the summer of 2010 over 66.000 visitors in the period May – August.



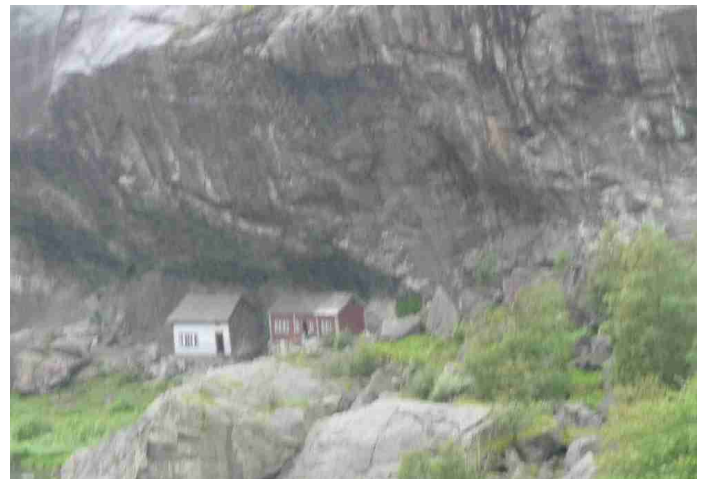
Here we are up on a view point and are looking out over Nordsjøen. It has started to rain, so it is quite hazy.



Looking down to the center.



This is in [Jøssingfjord](#).



Under Hellenen (*slab of rock*) in Jøssingfjord are remains of a settling that goes far backwards in time. The houses of today are from the early 1800s, but parts of them can be older. They can look modest for us today, but seen in relation to that age, they are not particularly small or miserable; a lot of peasants lived in such houses.

Jøssingfjorden is a fjord in Sokndal municipality in Rogaland county. Jøssingfjorden is especially known for the Altmark incident in Jøssingfjorden the 16th of february 1940. Inmost in the fjord lies Nedre Hellenen power plant.

During WWII the term “jössing” put to use for anti Nazi Norwegians; The background was the Altmark incident.



Now we have arrived in [Åna-Sira](#). Looking downwards the river.



Looking upwards the river, which is called Sira. It is on the border between Rogaland and Vest Agder and on the border between Western Norway (Vestlandet) and Southern Norway (Sørlandet).



Åna-Sira.



Here are arriving at [Flekkefjord](#).



Flekkefjord.



In the center of Flekkefjord looking outwards Grisefjorden.



Coat of arms

There is almost four nautical miles from the inner fjord to open sea. The inner fjord basin is big enough to take numerous ships and boats for anchor and it is free of strong winds or currents. In the sail ships era there were a lot of ships laid up here during the winter.

When the Dutch started to fill their harbor areas with stone, they came to Norway to get it. Flekkefjord had plenty of it. A part of the town has got its name after this: Hollenderbyen (*Dutch town*). A lot of young lads from the district signed on as crew on these ships.

The town got its market town rights in 1842 after a longish competition with among others Kristiansand. With the market town rights followed various exclusive rights, which gave good income.

The town was at a time the end station for [Jæren railway line](#) between Stavanger and Flekkefjord. This was very popular line because it was not very pleasant to go by sea past Jærens rev (*shelf*). The travellers who was going further east had to take the post boat, which went along the coast to Oslo, and in any case to Kristiansand. When [Sørlandsbanen](#) was finished, the line Sira - Flekkefjord became a side track that gradually lost its importance. The old fine railway station was demolished, which is what many regret today. The railway traffic is now closed down, but most of the track still exist and is used for trips with rail tricycles.

The town is celebrating Midsummer Eve in its own way by letting the main bonfire be at anchor in the middle of the fjord. It is called Spira, and was earlier in an old boat, which sank during the night. The practice has roots back to the 1800s.



Here we are looking inwards Grisefjorden that is continuing inwards i the country.



Street picture.



Nice house.



A square.



It was raining so much while being here that we didn't want to stay at a camping site that night. We therefore had a meal at this grill restaurant, and then we went directly back to Gran.