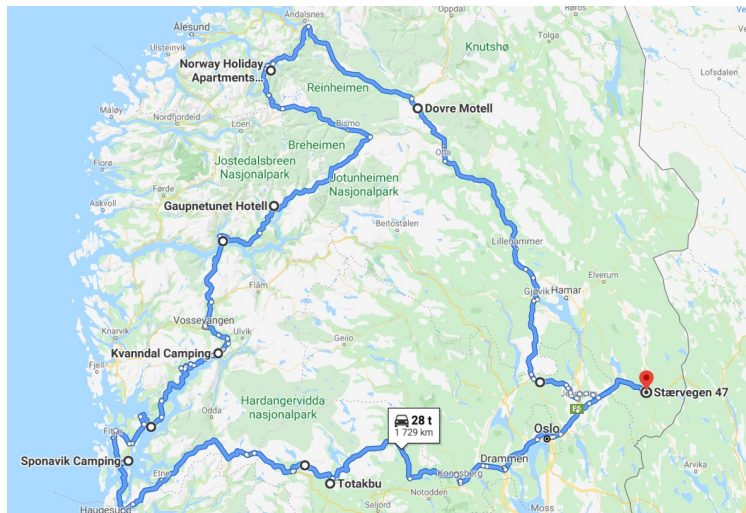


## VESTLANDET 5. - 11. AUGUST 2020



We had now arrived at Norddal in [Sunnmøre](#), and were to continue driving on 7 August.



The first stop was at the top of [Ørnevegen](#), at the upper hairpin bend called [Ørnesvingen](#).



Looking down at [Geirangerfjorden](#) with [Geiranger](#) at the bottom of the fjord.



A cruise ship in the fjord.



View over the fjord.



At the far end of the bend, a viewing platform with a built-in waterfall has been built.

Links: [Visitnorway](#) [Fjordnorway](#)



Here comes the water that will make the waterfall on the viewing platform.



Here we are by the fjord and looking out at the tourist ship.



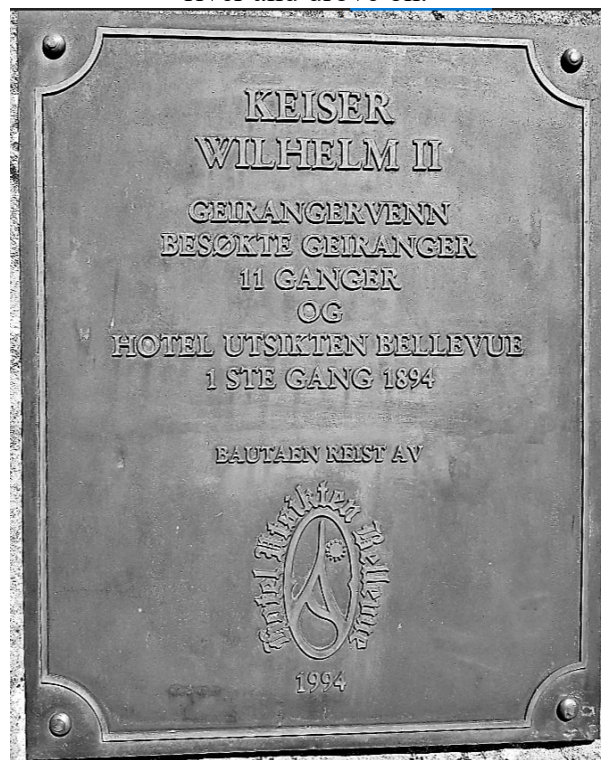
In the center of Geiranger there is an abundance of restaurants and souvenir shops. This is one example, We did not stop here, but just drove on.



We stopped somewhere above Geiranger center where there were signs about [waterfall hiking](#) along the Maråkerelva river that flows through Geiranger. We were not interested in walking, so we just took a picture of the river and drove on.



This bauta stood by [Hotel Utsikten Bellevue](#).



This plaque was on the bauta.



From here there is a good view down to Geiranger and the Geirangerfjord.



We stopped at [Knuten](#). It was constructed when [Geirangervegen](#) was built, to overcome height differences in difficult terrain.



Here I am on my way to study it more closely.



This plaque is there.



Seen from the other side.



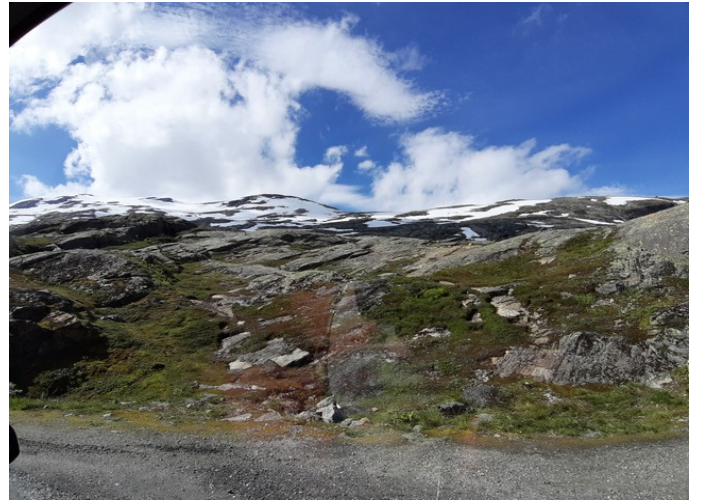
Knuten seen from above.

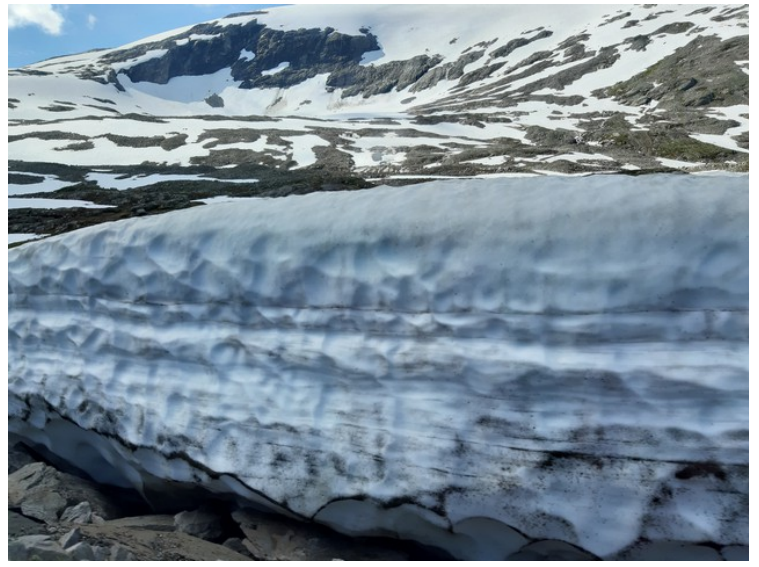


Here we look down towards Kvanndalssetra.



Looking back towards Geiranger.





Then we are at the highest point on this stretch of road between Geiranger and Skjåk. It is called Geirangervegen. And the highest point here is 1038 meters above sea level. The road was opened in 1889.



Here we have come to [Djupvatn](#). It is located 1016 meters above sea level.

By Djupvatn is [Djupvasshytta](#). Djupvasshytta was a barrack from the construction period for the road and it was bought and run as a tourist cabin by the Ugelvik family.

[Visitnorway](#) [Fjordnorway](#)



The road continues along Djupvatn. Djupvasshytta to the right.



Here we look down on Langvasstjøna.



Langvatnet.



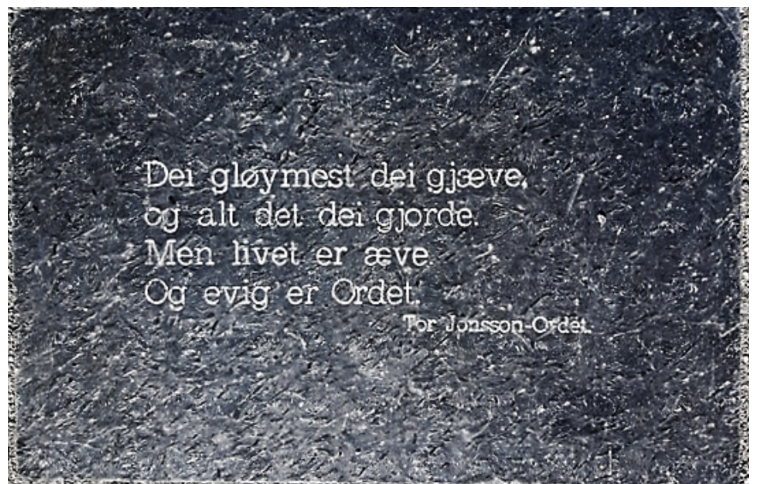
This is [Grotli høyfjellshotell](#). Here at [Grotli](#) there is a road over to [Stryn](#), [Strynefjellsveien](#). A state lodge was established here in 1869 due to the plans to make a road to both Geiranger and Stryn. The hotel was established in 1905.



Pollvatnet.



Then we are in [Lom](#).



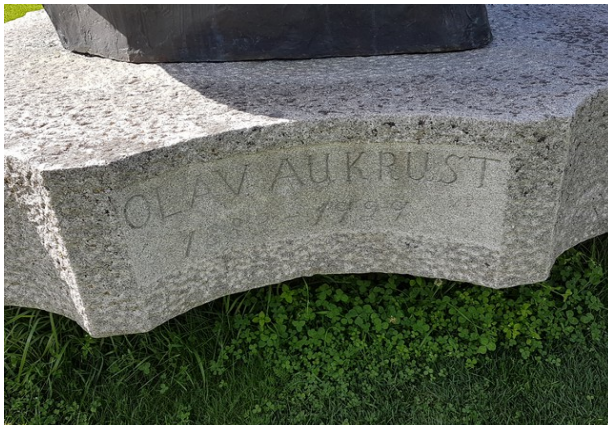
As we walked towards the stave church, we noticed this plaque cast in the ground. It was a poem by [Tor Jonsson](#), who was here from Lom.



A statue of [Olav Aukrust](#) who lived in Lom. He was a poet, teacher and director of a folk high school.



The millennium tree.



[Lom stavkirke](#) is one of the largest stave churches in Norway. It was built at the end of the 12th century. During the 17th century, major changes were made to the church and it has retained this appearance ever since.



[Sognefjellsveien](#) starts in Lom and goes to Gaupne in Sogn. It's a [nasjonal turistvei](#). Here we are driving up [Bøverdalen](#).



[Bøverdalen kirke](#). It is an octagonal church from 1864.



We made a stop here. The entrance portal.



This is an old family farm that has gradually been converted into a hotel, [Elveseter Hotell](#). The farm has received visits since the 1870s, including kings and queens, heads of state and internationally renowned adventurers.







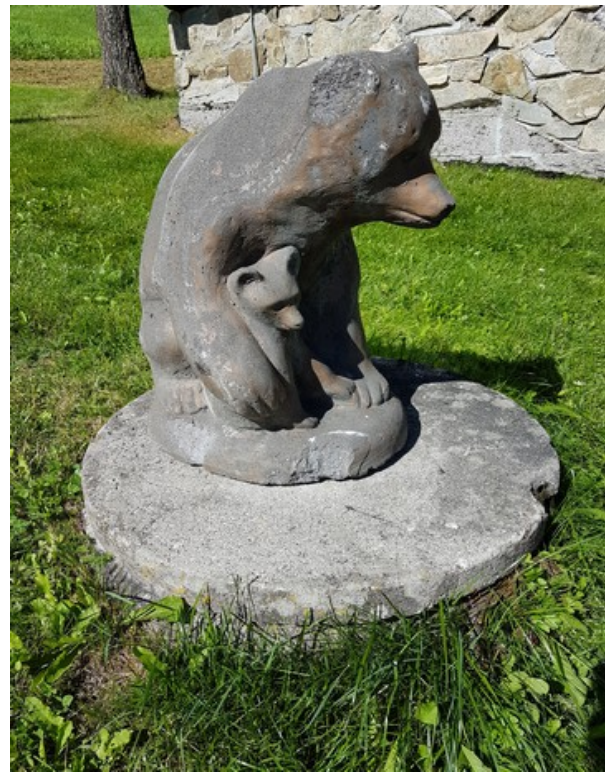
Garden feel of the area around the hotel.



Further up, a park has been created where there are several animal figures, [grouse](#).



One of the grouses.



At the entrance portal stood a couple of bear statues.

At the entrance there is a pillar called [Sagasøylen](#). It is 34 meters high and is thus one of the tallest pillars in the world. It was commissioned in 1926 and was originally intended to be Norway's national monument, and was to be placed outside the Storting. After the war, the pillar was still not finished, and the completion of the artwork was shelved because the artist, [Wilhelm Rasmussen](#), had expressed sympathy with the German occupation forces. One did not want a national monument made by a man who had served a sentence for treason.

In the 1980s, the previous generation owner of Elveseter Hotell, Åmund Elveseter, came across the elements stored in a shed at Skøyen in Oslo. The art collector Elveseter, who during the war was also a member of the Norwegian resistance movement, believed that Norway's national monument deserved a better fate.

He took matters into his own hands, ensured that the pillar was restored and completed, and had it erected on Elveseter in 1992. It has since become a well-visited tourist attraction.

The figures on the statue are from Norwegian history from the battle of Hafrsfjord until the country got its constitution at Eidsvoll. At the foot of the pillar we find the Norwegian monarchs. At the top is a equestrian statue of Harald Hårfagre, the king who united Norway into one kingdom at Hafrsfjord.



Family bauta for the Elveseter family with name and year.



Sagasøylen.



The next stop is at [Bøvertun](#). Bøvertun has long traditions as an accommodation in Jotunheimen and is the oldest bus station over Sognefjellet. The place has been completely renovated in recent years. Anne Berit was at camp school there many years ago. The camp school was later moved from here to [Raudbergstulen](#) and is now called [Jotunheimen Leirskole](#).





The road further up Breidsæterdalen.



This is Fantesteinvannet. It is located 1410 meters above sea level. We see in direction of [Smørstabbtindan](#) and [Smørstabbreen](#).



Smørstabbreen.  
It is the largest glacier in [Jotunheimen](#).



Just before we get to Sognefjellshytta there is a glacial erratic right by the road. It's called Fantesteinen. This is also the highest point on the road, 1434 masl. The name of the stone dates from the time when highway robbers made Sognefjellet unsafe. Under the stone is a slab that has probably given shelter to many through the ages.



[Sognefjellshytta](#) lies by Fantesteinsvatnet. It was finished in 1947.  
[Wikipedia](#) [Visitnorway](#) [Sognefjord](#)



A couple of smaller cabins right by Sognefjellshytta.



In 2018 there was made a [bridge across Fantesteinvatnet](#). In the left picture we can see the walkway around the cabin and in the picture to the right the bridge that goes from the cabin over to the other side of the lake. The bridge has a total length of 52 m, with a span of 47 m. The bridge must withstand an enormous tensile force. At the maximum amount of snow and the lowest temperature, the tensile force on each foundation is equal to 11,000 kN, which corresponds to 1100 tonnes!



Here is the bridge.



We can also see [Fannaråki](#) and [Steindalsnosi](#) with [Fannaråkbreen](#) from Sognefjellshytta.



Then we move on.



Fannaráki and Steindalsnosi.



This is [Fannarákmonumentet](#) In memory of those who walked over the mountain and were impressed by the sight.  
A memorial has also been erected to the 6 men who froze to death at the end of April 1813 on their way to Sogn to collect food grain.



At the back of the monument there is a list of some poets who have traveled over the mountain.



We think this is an Ibsen monument.



Then it goes on.



Soon downwards.



The new main building

The Swiss villa was built in 1912.

On our way down Bergsdalen we passed [Turtagrø](#).

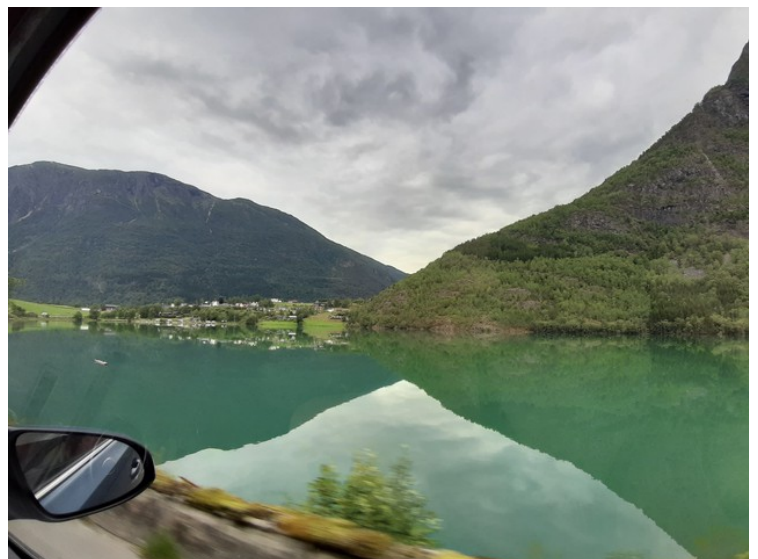
In the 1870s and 1880s, Ole Berge was a mountain farmer and reindeer hunter in Turtagrø. He gave road users who crossed Sognefjellet food and shelter on the shieling.

Turtagrø Hotel was built in 1888 and from the beginning became the most important meeting place and meeting place for mountain climbers and mountain hikers in Norway.

The main building burned down in 2001, but it was quickly rebuilt.



Here we are down and driving along Eidsvatnet. From the lake, the short Eidselvi flows into [Lustrafjorden](#).



Here we drive past [Skjolden](#) which is located in the innermost part of the Lustrafjord. Mørkridsdalen and Fortunsdalen go up from the end of the fjord.



Some of the buildings in Skjolden.



We had booked a cabin at [Gaupnetunet](#).  
This is the main building where the hotel rooms are.



This is the reception where we checked in, got the key and got an explanation of where the cabin is located. It is a good distance from the main building.



We do not have pictures of the cabin in which we stayed, but the style is about like this.



The living room



The kitchen.