Useful websites

www.naturoppsyn.no
SNO's own website provides information about all local offices and about nature supervision in Norway.

www.dirnat.no
The Directorate for Nature Management (Direktoraret for naturforvaltning) official website, which SNO is a division of. Includes links to national parks and national park centres. A data base provides map and text information about all Norwegian conservation areas.
E-mail: postmottak@dirnat.no

www.miljo.no
Ministry of Environment home page for guidance on environmental legislation.

www.miljostatus.no
Information update on environmental conditions and development from the environmental directorates and Ministry of Environment.

www.inatur.no
Suggestions for outdoor recreation activities.

www.friluftslivet.no
Outdoor recreation association responsible for Outdoor Recreation Year 2005 activities.


CEK

Design Gazette AS

Nature for all

Norwegian Nature Inspectorate (SNO)
Administration office:
Tungasletta 2
N–7485 Trondheim
Norway

Tel: +47 73580500
Fax: +47 73580501

E-mail: postmottak@dirnat.no
Internett: www.naturoppsyn.no

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Photo credits: :
Carl Erik Kilander (CEK)
Thor Østbye (TØ)
Jon Erling Skåtan (JES)
Anne Rudsengen (AR)
Thorbjørn Berglund (TB)
Knut Nylend (KN)
Jim Torvås Kristensen (JTK)
Georg Bangjord (GB)
Claus Grimstad (CG)
Jan Thomassen (JT)
Berit Broen (BB)
Kari Fagerstrand (KF)
Hanne Etnestad (HE)

Outdoor Recreation Year 2005


JES


TØ

Access to a world of outdoor recreation


AR

In Norway the public has a right of access to the countryside, coastline and waterways. Just treat nature with respect and you are free to enjoy its beauty, splendour and opportunity.

Public right of access to the countryside, coastline and waterways is the cornerstone of Norwegian outdoor recreation. It allows you to experience nature, without coming into conflict with the rights of landowners.

Adventure and relaxation
The Outdoor Recreation Act guarantees you access to undeveloped land, as long as you behave considerately when using it. In addition, the government and local authorities have more than 1900 recreational areas open to the public. Most of these are located along the coast and inland waterways. The Coastal Protection Service (Skjærgårdstjenesten) maintains many of the most attractive and accessible areas from the Oslo Fjord to Bergen.

Nature at its best
If you are interested in plants and wildlife, Norway's many nature conservation areas are well worth a visit. They offer a cross-section of Norwegian nature and are home to many species of plants and animals. The undisturbed nature makes these areas perfect for outdoor recreation and you will often have the countryside completely to yourself.


TB

Follow the countryside code
Nature is rich, varied - and vulnerable. Therefore the Outdoor Recreation Act requires you to follow the 'countryside code': treat the environment with respect; show consideration to landowners and other users.

The Norwegian Nature Inspectorate (SNO) plays a key role in safeguarding Norwegian nature. Its rangers are stationed throughout the country to provide advice and information to anyone wanting to experience the treasures of nature. Let them help you discover some new treasures.

Ranger's tip



Ranger Carl Erik Kilander

"Leave a campsite a little tidier than you found it. Then you'll get a pleasant surprise when you return. "





Øvre Pasvik

Map legend

- Local SNO office
- Statskog Ranger Service office
- National Park
- Landscape protected area
- Nature reserve



Øvre Dividal



Froan



Jostedalsbreen



Saltfjellet – Svartisen



Børgefjell



Jotunheimen



Hardangervidda



Listastrendene

Norwegian State Forestry Commission/ Ranger Service
The Ranger Service (Fjelltjenesten) carries out nature supervision tasks in northern Norway on behalf of the Forestry Commission (Statskog). This includes all state-owned, and some privately-owned, nature conservation areas in the counties of Nordland, Troms and Finnmark.

Common Land Councils
The Common Land Councils assist SNO in carrying out nature supervision tasks in southern Norwegian national parks.

The Coastal Protection Service (Skjærgårdstjenesten)
The Coastal Protection Service carries out maintenance and management tasks in southern Norwegian coastal recreation areas stretching from the Swedish border to Bergen (marked in light blue on the map). The Service also carries out nature supervision tasks on behalf of the SNO.

Conserving natural heritage

The landscapes, smells, sounds, plants and animal life in conservation areas are part of our natural heritage. It is our responsibility to safeguard it for future generations.


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Some 2,100 nature conservation areas, comprising 12% of mainland Norway, are protected under the Nature Conservation Act. They offer a representative picture of the Norwegian landscape and bio-diversity.

Why are the areas protected?
Pristine nature has its own intrinsic value. In addition, conservation areas are important for science and education, allowing us to compare human impact in other areas of Norwegian nature.

Conservation areas are living laboratories for environmental science and preserve valuable genetic material. Many of today's medicines are based on materials found in wild plants. Without the protection afforded by conservation areas, important species can be lost.

The promotion of outdoor recreation has also played an important role in the establishment of many conservation areas, particularly national parks.

National parks
Consisting mainly of high mountain areas and mountain forests, Norwegian national parks comprise more than half the country's conservation area. They are large, undisturbed, distinctive or beautiful areas, and mainly government owned. Many of them are linked to provide large habitats for particular wildlife species. In national parks the landscape, plants, wildlife and cultural heritage are protected against development, construction, pollution and other human impacts.


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Landscape protected areas
Landscape protected areas protect distinctive or beautiful natural or cultural landscapes. Actions which fundamentally change the nature or character of the landscape are prohibited in these areas.

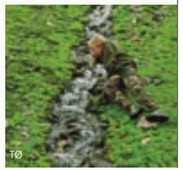
Nature reserves
Nature reserves aim to protect wilderness areas with particular value for science and education, or distinctive characters. The majority of Norwegian nature reserves are situated in low-lying coastal areas, where the biodiversity is especially rich.

Ranger's tip



Ranger Anne Rudsengen

"Look out for and take care of the Philonotis Fontana moss! It grows beside springs and alongside streams. If you find it you are likely to find pure drinking water".


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The Norwegian Nature Inspectorate (Statens naturoppsyn – SNO)

SNO is the governmental field service responsible for supervising Norwegian nature. One of our most important tasks is to offer advice and information to anyone wanting to experience nature.


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The Nature Inspection Act of 1996 provided the basis for the establishment of SNO. The objectives of SNO are to safeguard national environmental heritage and to prevent environmental crime. This is achieved by providing advice and information and monitoring and supervision in the field. SNO's many tasks include monitoring and supervision of wild salmon and wild reindeer, maintenance of conservation areas and assisting with tracking and registration of predators.

Countrywide nature supervision
SNO is responsible for the overall supervision of Norwegian nature. Forty full-time nature inspectors/rangers cooperate with the police to prevent violation of the nature and environmental acts. SNO also cooperates with other services and organisations involved with nature supervision. Most of its work takes place in the national parks, conservation areas and coastal recreational areas.


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Nature supervision organisations in Norway:
- SNO
- Statskog/Fjelltjenesten
- Norwegian State Forestry Commission
- Common Land Councils
- Coastal Protection Service
- Outdoor recreation councils
- National Police Directorate
- Norwegian Coastguard
- Private supervisory measures

SNO's is authorised to supervise the compliance of these acts for nature supervision is sanctioned through these acts:
- Nature Conservation Act
- Act relating to Salmonids and Fresh-water Fish
- The Wildlife Act
- Act relating to Motorised Traffic on Marginal Land and Watercourses
- Outdoor Recreation Act
- Cultural Heritage Act
- Pollution Control Act

Ranger's tip



Ranger John Erling Skåtan

"Take binoculars with you! You see more and avoid disturbing the birds and wildlife."


JT