NORWAY'S
NATIONAL PARKS



Norway's national parks – nature as it was meant to be

Norway's national parks are regulated by the laws of nature. Nature decides both how and when to do things. National parks are established in order to protect large natural areas – from the coast to the mountains. This is done for the benefit of nature itself, for our sake and for generations to come.

The national parks offer a wide range of opportunities and experiences. The natural surroundings are beautiful and varied. There is hunting, fishing, plants, birds, animals and cultural monuments.

Accept our invitation – become acquainted with nature and our national parks.

Directorate for
Nature Management

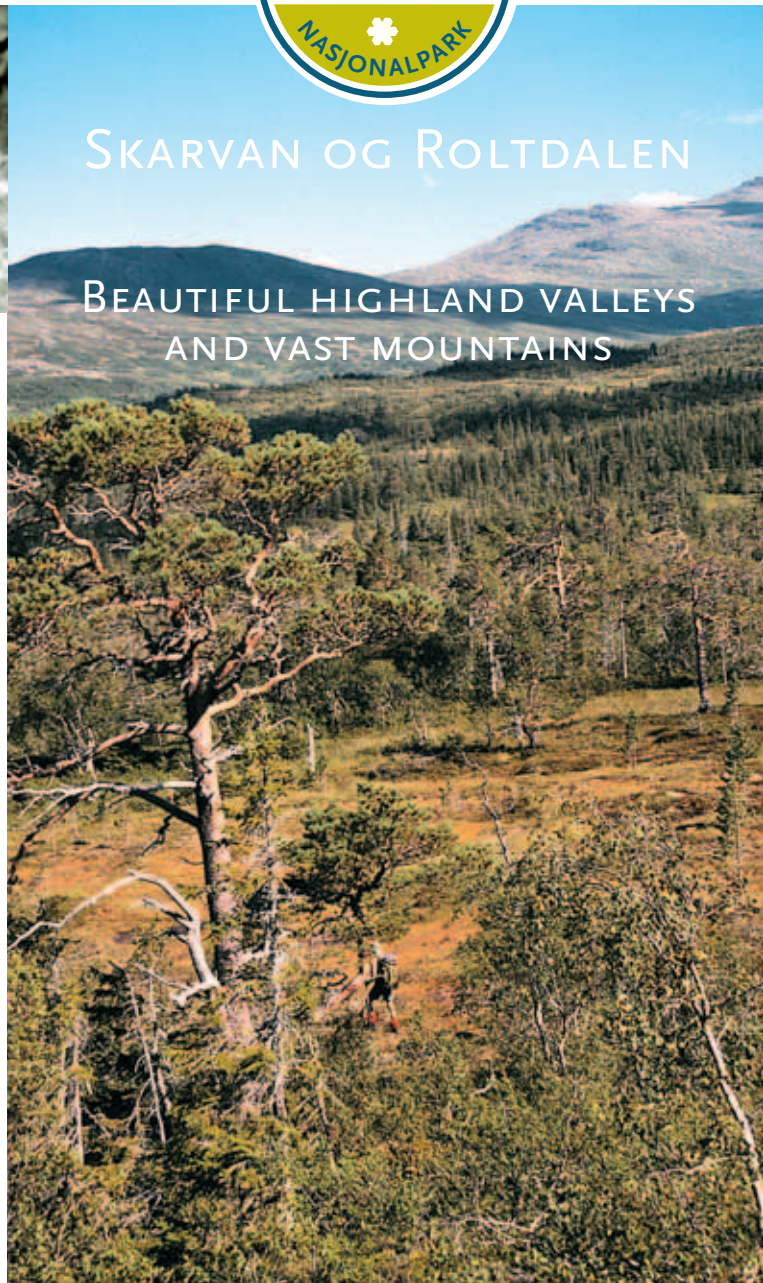
www.dirnat.no



SKARVAN OG ROLTDALEN NASJONALPARK

Skarvan og Roltdalen

Beautiful highland valleys and vast mountains



BENNETT AS, Photo: Arild Juul, Erik Stabell, Jan Jensen/Femund Naturfoto



Welcome to one of Trøndelag's largest unspoiled areas of mountain and forest

Skarvan og Roltdalen National Park is situated between Neadalføret and Stjørdalsføret and it contains within its boundaries mountain plateaus, wooded valleys and extensive marshy areas. It is an area that has remained untouched by major technological development, such as power transmission lines or roads. Roltdalen is the largest wooded valley in the Sør-Trøndelag region without any roads. The conifer forest here is subject to national interest.

The area now defined as national park has been in use for at least 2,000 years. The park therefore contains a broad range of cultural relics such as house footings, ironworks, Sami settlements, pitfalls, traces of copper mines and millstone quarries, tar kilns, hill farm buildings, remote hayfields and old transport routes.





EXPERIENCE NATURE

Plenty of hiking routes

With its forests, mountains, lakes and marked trails, the national park is a spectacular hiking area, on foot or by ski. Organised horse-riding tours are also available.

The Trondheim Tourist Association started marking out trails in this area in the 1920s. The national park now contains a network of marked trails that connects Roltdalen with the Nord-Trøndelag Tourist Association's network of trails, and also to the network in Sylan.

Cabins

There are two tourist cabins in the national park, but only Schultzhytta is staffed. It is located in the centre of the national park at the hamlet of Stormoen, where there are views out over the valley, with the Fongen massif in the background.

Fishing lakes and small game

For those who enjoy hunting, the national park really is worth visiting. It is well stocked with small game such as hare, ptarmigan and woodland birds, and you can also hunt moose. And for anglers, the park's many lakes are stocked with trout and char.





THE LANDSCAPE

The landscape in Skarvan og Roltdalen National Park is varied. The extensive Roltdalen runs southwest through the park. It is covered mainly by spruce forest and large areas of bog, while the north is dominated by the vast Skarvan massif, rising to 1,171 metres above sea level. In the southeast of the national park, there is a range of mountains that stretches from Fongen to Ruten, the first of these being the highest peak, at 1,441 metres above sea level.

The bedrock consists mainly of mica-rich slates that were carried here 400-500 million years ago, though other minerals, such as staurolite, garnet and kyanite, are also found here. There is a vein of millstone about 1 km wide that runs from Brennrya in the north, through Kvernfjellvatna and Høgfjellet and Rotla to Svartåsen in the south.



PLANT LIFE

Here the forest has most value as it is

The national park's most valuable botanical asset is the spruce forest in Roltdalen. In some places it is like a primordial forest. Many of its trees are both immense and old – it is not uncommon to find trees that are more than 200 years old. These ancient forests also provide a habitat for various species of mosses, lichens and fungi.

The national park also contains a lot of bog vegetation, and a cool climate and a high rate of precipitation have resulted in some stagnant areas.



ANIMAL LIFE

All the usual animals, and some rare ones too

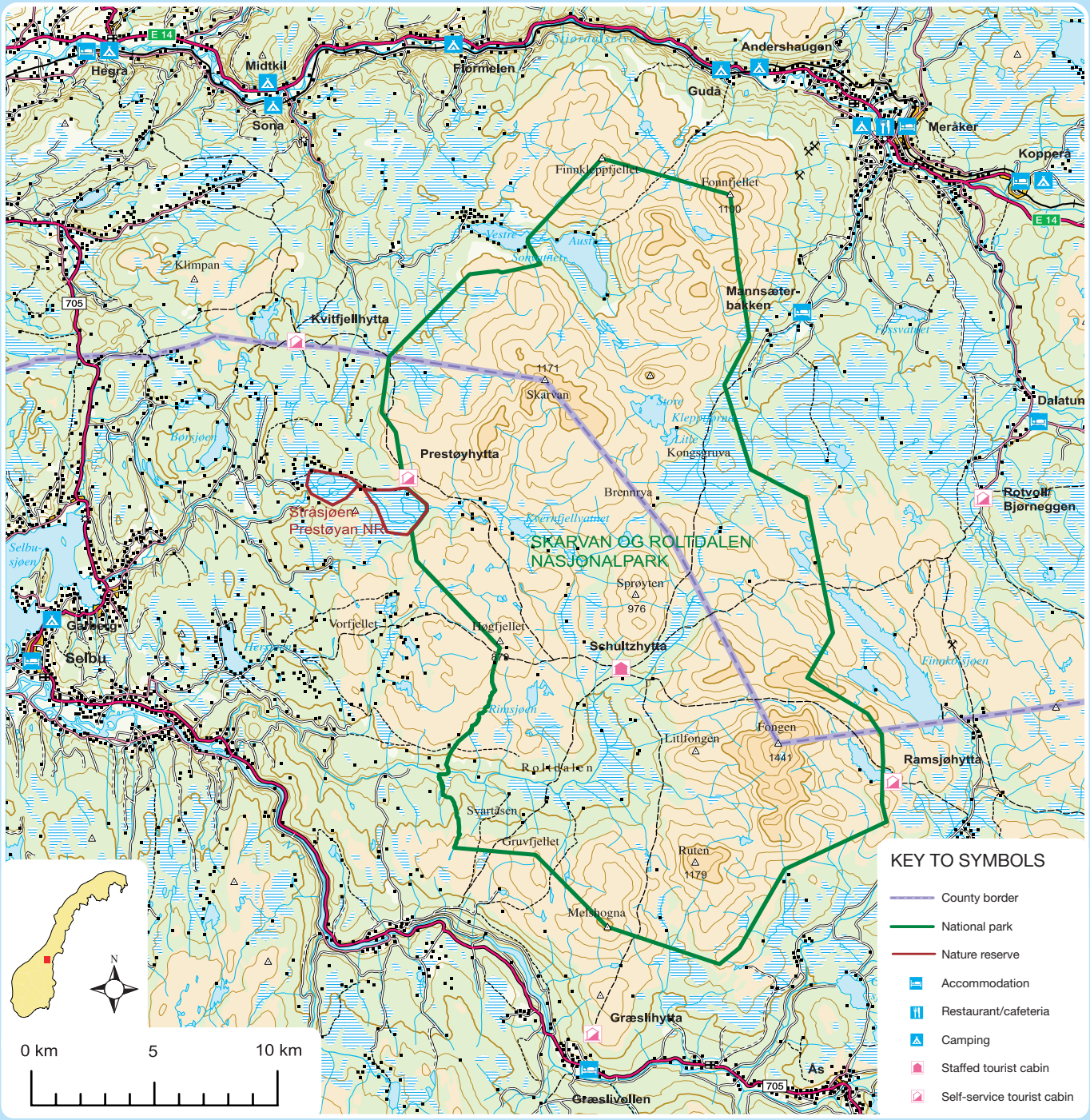
The national park contains a full range of the most common species of birds and other animals. In particular there are large populations of hare, ptarmigan and forest birds. It is also possible to find a number of rare species, such as arctic loons, greater scaup, chicken hawks, golden eagles, gerfalcons and lesser-spotted woodpeckers. Bird species found especially in old-growth forests include the crested tit, coal tit, common treecreeper, three-toed woodpecker, Siberian jay and wood grouse.

The national park is an important habitat for several species of wetland birds, such as golden plovers, broad-billed sandpiper, ruff and red-necked phalarope. In total the national park is home to 20 species of birds that are on the national red list of threatened and vulnerable species.









Design and digital cartography: Gåsvatn kart-tjenester, www.kart-tjenester.no Digital map data: Norwegian Mapping Authority N250. Licence no. MAD 12002 - R 13540



HISTORY

Mining and millstone quarrying

The area contains a great many iron melting sites, at Stormoen, Søndre Liavollen and elsewhere, where bog iron and wood were used to make iron. These sites date back about 2,000 years.

Gruvfjellet, which is in the southwest of the national park, stands as a monument to the activity at Selbu Kobberverk in Roltdalen. With just one interruption, the mine was in operation from 1713 to 1761. There is also an old mine at Litle Klepptjønna in the municipality of Meråker. During a period that spanned the 18th and 19th centuries there was also a permanent settlement at Stormoen that was associated with mining.

In addition to mining, the millstone quarrying at Høgfjellet was also very important for Selbu. Kvernfjellet is the largest area of millstone in Norway, and the deep scars of old abandoned millstone quarries can be found all over the mountain. Millstone was extracted here from medieval times right up to the First World War, and stone from here can be found throughout Norway and abroad.









HISTORY (contd.)

An important hill farming area

The clearings of hill farm enclosures are scattered throughout Roltdalen, where they are a reminder of extensive forest pasture farming and hill farming in the mountains. These hill farms date back as far as the 17th century. Even today there are still 99 hill farm enclosures in the Roltdalen district.

Around 1940 there were between 200 and 600 cattle, about 400 goats and 400 - 500 sheep in Roltdalen. Traditional hill farming stopped around 1960, though a lot of hill farm enclosures are still used today as pasture for sheep and young stock.

In addition to hill farming and grazing, there were also hayfields in the area. Ancient stumps and traces from timber-floating on Rotla indicate that forestry was also practiced here in earlier times. There has been timber-floating on Rotla from the 17th century up to the 1950s.

A tradition of Sami reindeer farming

Skarvan and Roltdalen are important Sami areas, and the national park contains some extremely interesting Sami cultural relics. Here you can see traces of earlier settlement and of holding and collecting sites for reindeer, traces that bear witness to thousands of years of Sami farming.



The Tydal Sami were divided into three groups from time immemorial, and one of these groups had its home in Skarvan. Now they are all united in the Essand reindeer-grazing district. About 7,600 reindeer graze in the area from the latter half of April up to the late autumn, when the reindeer are moved to winter grazing in Femundsmarka.



You are a guest of nature in a national park

- You may go wherever you like, on foot or ski, but the basic rule is that anything with an engine is prohibited.
- You can stop wherever you like and pitch a tent. Always tidy up after yourself and don't leave litter.
- You can light a fire, but remember the general ban on lighting fires in forests from 15 April to 15 September. Be considerate when collecting firewood.
- You can pick berries, mushrooms and common plants for your own use. Be considerate of cultural relics, vegetation and fauna. Be extra careful during the breeding and nesting season.
- Make use of the hunting and fishing opportunities. Remember a hunting/fishing licence. Never use live fish as bait, or transfer live fish from one watercourse to another.
- You can take your dog with you, but remember to keep it on a lead from 1 April – 20 August.



Skarvan og Roltdalen National Park in brief

Where?
Selbu og Tydal municipalities in Sør-Trøndelag county, Meråker and Stjørdal municipalities in Nord-Trøndelag county.

Foremost characteristics:
Huge mountains and large, roadless forest and mountain valleys containing many cultural relics.

Outdoor recreation:
Mountain walking – you will find plenty of marked trails. The area offers easy walking, even off the trails. Fishing and hunting for small game, hare, ptarmigan and moose (don't forget your hunting and fishing licence).

How to get to Skarvan og Roltdalen National Park:
Take the train or fly to Stjørdal. From there, take the bus or a taxi to Meråker or Selbu/Tydal.
By car: from the north: E14 Stjørdal – Kopperå. Several turn-offs south into the national park. From Meråker, take the turning for Mannsæterbakken. From Kopperå, take the turning for Rotvoll/Bjørneggen.
From the west: Route 705 Stjørdal – Selbu. Several turn-offs east into the national park – just follow the signs for Schultzhytta.
From south/east: Route 705 Selbu – Tydal. Several paths north into the national park. There is a trail to Finnkoisjøen from Ås in Tydal.

Information on accommodation and other services:
Meråker Utvikling, tel. +47 74 81 27 00, www.merut.no
Selbu municipality, tel. +47 73 81 77 10, www.selbu.kommune.no
Stjørdal Næringsforum, tel. +47 74 83 45 80, www.stjordalinfo.com
Tydal Tourist Office, tel. +47 73 81 59 00, www.tydal.kommune.no

Tips:
Guided tours to the millstone area. A lot of the ground is wet underfoot, so don't forget to bring waterproof footware!
Cabin rental from AS Meraker Brug, Selbu fjellstyre has open huts in Velskardet and Vindlia.

Maps:
4 maps in the N50 series (1: 50 000): 1721 I - IV.

Size:
441 km^2

Established:
2004

Adjacent protected areas:
Stråsjøen - Prestøyan Nature Reserve. About 1,350 acres of wetland of considerable ornithological value

More information:
County Governor of Sør-Trøndelag, tel. +47 73 19 90 00
www.fylkesmannen.no/st
County Governor of Nord-Trøndelag, tel. +47 74 16 80 00
www.fylkesmannen.no/nt
www.dirnat.no/nationalparks