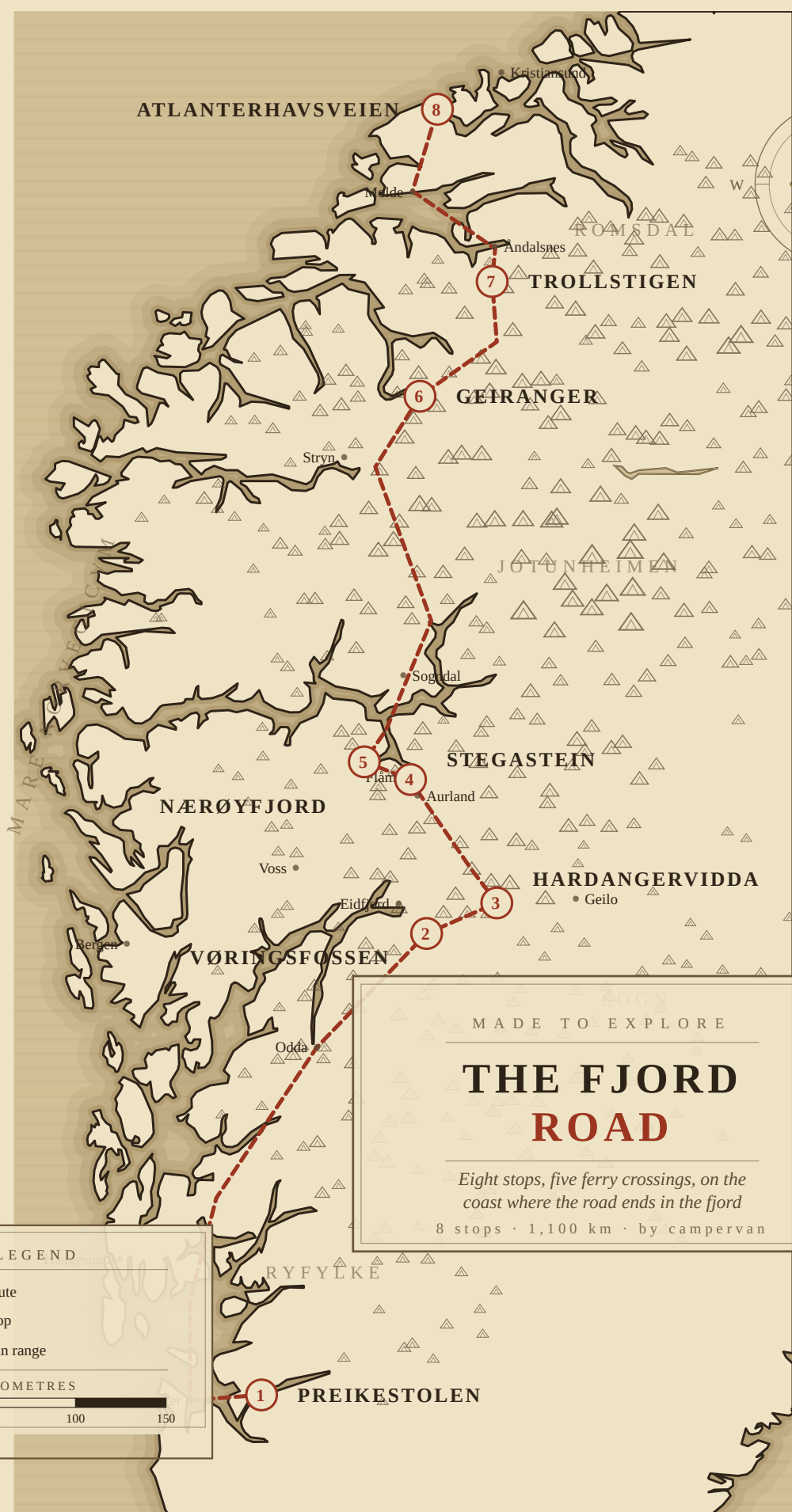


MADE TO EXPLORE

THE FJORD ROAD

Eight stops, five ferry crossings, on the coast where the road ends in the fjord
8 stops · 1,100 km · by campervan

LEGEND

- main route
- stage stop
- △ mountain range

SCALE — KILOMETRES

0 50 100 150

1

PREIKESTOLEN

Lysefjord — the plateau at 604 metres

THE WATER The Lysefjord runs forty kilometres between thousand-metre walls, and halfway along it a slab of granite juts out of the cliff and stops dead, 604 metres above the water. It broke off straight, as if sawn, along a crack left by the ice ten thousand years ago. From the top the fjord is a green stripe between two walls, and the ships look like toys.

THE CAMPER Campsite and camper place at Jørpeland and at the Preikestolen lodge, at the foot of the path. The trailhead car park charges by the day. You sleep down below and climb in the morning.

FREE The path is free: eight kilometres there and back, four hours, 350 metres of climb, over rock and up steps built by Nepalese sherpas. You pay only for parking. It is the one stop on the route where the day is a hike, not a view from the road.

WHERE TO SLEEP Campsite · Preikestolen Camping, Jørpeland · GPS 58.99832, 6.09570

Preikestolen → north on the Rv13 → Hjelmeland–Nesvik ferry → Sand → Røldal → Odda → Kinsarvik → Eidfjord, about 310 km · ~7 h by camper. The first crossing.

2

VØRINGSFOSSEN

Eidfjord — a hundred and eighty-two metres of fall

THE WATER Here the Hardangervidda plateau ends abruptly and the Bjoreio river drops a hundred and eighty-two metres into a narrow canyon, a hundred and forty-five of them in a single leap. It is Norway's best-known waterfall, and since 2020 a steel footbridge crosses right over the lip of the canyon, with a staircase of ninety-nine steps down the wall.

THE CAMPER Campsite at Eidfjord, on the shore of the Hardangerfjord. Paid parking at the falls. The road above, the Rv7, climbs onto the plateau in wide bends, no trouble for a camper.

FREE The footbridge and the viewpoints are free. The classic view from below is from the Fossli hotel. And in Eidfjord the fjord shore is walked on foot.

WHERE TO SLEEP Campsite · Sæbø Camping, Eidfjord · GPS 60.42579, 7.12168

Vøringsfossen → Hardangervidda, 20 km up the Rv7 · ~30 min by camper. You climb onto the plateau, at 1,200 metres.

3

HARDANGERVIDDA

The largest mountain plateau in Europe

THE WATER Eight thousand square kilometres of rock, moss and water above a thousand metres, without a single tree. Here the water does not run in any particular direction — it sits in thousands of small lakes and drains every way at once. It holds Europe's largest herd of wild reindeer and it stood in for the ice planet Hoth in Star Wars. The Rv7 cuts straight across it and closes in winter in high wind.

THE CAMPER Camper places at Dyranut and Halne, up on the plateau. The nights are cold even in summer, and the wind blows with nothing to stop it. There is no shade and no shelter.

FREE The whole plateau. The paths leave straight from the car parks on the road and cost nothing. The Rallarvegen, the old railway builders' road, crosses here and is ridden by bike.

Hardangervidda → Aurland on the Rv7 and E16, about 130 km · ~3 h by camper. You drop into Sogn, through the Lærdal tunnel or over the mountain.

4

STEGASTEIN

Aurlandsfjord — the wooden balcony in the air

THE WATER Six hundred and fifty metres above the Aurlandsfjord, a platform of pine juts thirty metres out of the mountain and ends in a curved glass wall that bends down and away. There is no railing at the end, only glass, so nothing interrupts the view. Below you the fjord is two hundred metres deep and a colour that does not change from one year to the next.

THE CAMPER The road up, the Aurlandsfjellet, is narrow and full of hairpins — big campers struggle on the last kilometres and the car park at the top is small. Campsites at Aurland and Flåm, down by the water.

FREE The viewpoint is free, always open, no ticket. The mountain road above it, the Snøvegen, is one of the finest in Norway and also free — but it is open only from June to October.

WHERE TO SLEEP Campsite · Flåm Camping og Hostel, Flåm · GPS 60.86296, 7.10728

Aurland → Flåm → ferry to Gudvangen, through the Nærøfjord. The third crossing, and the only one that is itself a stop.

5

NÆRØYFJORD

The narrowest fjord in the world

THE WATER It is seventeen kilometres long and, at its tightest, only two hundred and fifty metres wide, with walls of thirteen hundred metres on either side. The light reaches the bottom for only a few hours a day. It has been a UNESCO site since 2005 and it is the only place on the route where the ferry is not a means of getting somewhere but the reason you came.

THE CAMPER The Flåm–Gudvangen ferry takes campers and runs for two hours. Book in summer. Campsite at Gudvangen, at the head of the fjord, beneath the walls.

FREE The fjord seen from the ferry costs the price of the crossing, which is road anyway. From land, the Stalheimskleiva viewpoint with its thirteen hairpins is free — though the old road is now downhill only and closed to campers.

WHERE TO SLEEP Campsite · Gudvangen Camping, Gudvangen · GPS 60.87399, 6.83006

Gudvangen → Voss → Sogndal → Stryn → Geiranger, about 280 km · ~6 h by camper. The longest stage, with another ferry on the way.

6

GEIRANGER

The fjord where the waterfalls fall straight into the water

THE WATER The Geirangerfjord is fifteen kilometres of vertical wall down which the water falls directly into the fjord without touching ground: the Seven Sisters, the Suitor and the Bridal Veil, facing each other. Abandoned farms still cling to the walls hundreds of metres up, reached once only by rope ladder. It is a UNESCO site together with the Nærøfjord.

THE CAMPER Campsite at Geiranger, on the water, and the Ørnevegen — the Eagle Road — with its eleven hairpins climbing out of the village. It is one of the busiest places in Norway in summer, when the cruise ships come in.

FREE Ørnesvingen, the viewpoint above, is free and gives the classic view. So is Flydalsjuvet. The waterfalls are seen from the road and from the ferry to Hellesylt — which is road too, so another crossing to make.

WHERE TO SLEEP Campsite · Geiranger Camping, Geiranger · GPS 62.09913, 7.20298

Geiranger → Eidsdal → ferry → Valldal → Trollstigen, about 60 km · ~1½ h by camper. The fourth crossing.

7

TROLLSTIGEN

The Trolls' Ladder — eleven hairpins on a wall

THE WATER	The road climbs 405 metres up an almost vertical wall in eleven hairpins stacked one above another, with the Stigfossen waterfall dropping 320 metres straight across it. It was built between 1916 and 1936, by pick and shovel, and opened by King Haakon VII. At the top, a steel platform juts out over the whole staircase.
THE CAMPER	The road has a width limit — vehicles over 12.4 metres are banned, and a 7-metre camper gets up but with care and in second gear. Campsite at Åndalsnes. Usually open from May to October.
FREE	The road and the viewpoint at the top are free; only the parking charges. And at Åndalsnes, the Rampestreken platform at 537 metres above the town is reached on foot in two hours.
WHERE TO SLEEP	Campsite · Åndalsnes Camping & Motell, Åndalsnes · GPS 62.55151, 7.70248

| Trollstigen → Åndalsnes → Molde → ferry → Atlanterhavsveien, about 110 km · ~2½ h by camper. The last crossing.

8

ATLANTERHAVSVEIEN

Eight kilometres of road across the open ocean

THE WATER	The road hops from island to island on eight bridges, one of which, the Storseisundet, is curved so that from a certain angle it looks as if it ends in mid-air. This is no longer fjord — it is the open Atlantic, and in autumn the waves come over the asphalt. It has been voted Norway's finest road and it is the right ending: after eight stops between walls, you come out into the open.
THE CAMPER	Campsite and camper place at Kårvåg and Bud, at either end. The car parks at the bridges are free. In winter the road closes temporarily in storms.
FREE	All of it, with every car park and every fishing path on the islands. Nothing is paid — the construction toll was lifted in 1999, ten years earlier than planned.

| End of the route. Trondheim is 200 km south, Oslo 700, and the ferry to Denmark leaves from Kristiansand.

THE ROUTE IN BRIEF

Distance	~1,100 km
Driving time	~24 h in all, without stops or waiting for ferries
Recommended time	14–18 days
Stage stops	8
Countries	NO
Ferry crossings	5
Direction	south → north
Best months	Jun–Jul

GOOD TO KNOW BEFORE YOU LEAVE

Water cuts the road five times: the route is done with ferries, where the fare depends on the camper's length.

Toll roads and ferries are paid automatically through AutoPASS, by registration number; the invoice comes home or goes to an account registered in advance.

The Rv7 across Hardangervidda is closed in winter in strong wind.

WHEN TO GO

Ideal: June and early July. The mountain roads are open, the waterfalls are full with snowmelt, and the day does not end — north of Trondheim the sun barely drops below the horizon.

Workable: August and early September. Less water in the falls, but fewer people and lower prices.

Avoid: October to May for the whole route. The Trollstigen and Aurlandsfjellet close, and the Hardangervidda shuts in high wind.

The cruise ships: Geiranger is empty in the morning and full from ten to four, while the ships are in. Arrive early or stay the night.

THE FERRIES AND AUTOPASS

The route has five ferry crossings, and they are not obstacles: the ferries are numbered as segments of national road and run every twenty to forty minutes on the main routes.

Payment is by AutoPASS, automatically, by number-plate recognition — you do not stop at a booth and you need no cash. The bill comes home, or it is linked to an account registered beforehand.

Fares are calculated by vehicle length, not by weight. The threshold that matters is six metres: below it you pay one class, above it another. Measure the camper first, bike rack included.

Road tolls work the same way, also through AutoPASS. Under 3.5 t you pay the car rate on the road — but that does not apply on the ferries, where only length counts.

The Flåm–Gudvangen ferry through the Nærøyfjord is a different thing: it is a two-hour cruise, booked in summer, and costs considerably more than an ordinary crossing.

WHERE YOU SLEEP

Norway has the right of access — allemannsretten — but it applies on foot, with a tent, not with a vehicle. The camper stays where there is road, car park or a prepared place.

A night in a public car park outside a village, where it is not expressly banned, is usually tolerated. In the tourist places — Geiranger, Preikestolen, Trollstigen — it is enforced and fined.

The campsites are good, frequent and cheaper than the rest of Norway. Many have cabins and a shared kitchen. Booking only in July, at Geiranger and Flåm.

Norway is expensive: diesel, food and camping cost nearly double what they do in Germany. Shop at the cheap chains, and alcohol only at the state shops.

THE TWO ROADS THAT CLOSE

Trollstigen It closed completely in 2024 after rockfalls and reopened with restrictions and monitoring. Its status changes from year to year and is checked on the morning you set out. If it is shut, the stage is bypassed via Eikesdalen or skipped, and the route still holds together.

Aurlandsfjellet The mountain road to Stegastein and on to Lærdal, the Snøvegen, is open only from June to October. In winter you go through the Lærdal tunnel, the longest road tunnel in the world, 24.5 km.

How to check The Norwegian roads administration publishes the status of every mountain road in real time, with opening hours and convoy times. Check it in the morning, not the evening before.

What it means for the route If one of the two is shut you lose a stage, not the route. If both are shut you are out of season and better off postponing.

How many ferry crossings does the fjord route have?

Five. The ferries are numbered as segments of national road and run every twenty to forty minutes on the main routes — they are not interruptions, they are road.

How do you pay for a ferry in Norway?

Through AutoPASS, automatically, by number-plate recognition. You do not stop at a booth and you need no cash; the bill comes home or is linked to an account registered beforehand.

How is a camper classed on ferry fares?

The fare is calculated by vehicle length, not by weight. The threshold that matters is six metres: below it you pay one class, above it another. Measure the camper with the bike rack on.

Can you wild camp in Norway in a camper?

The right of access — allemannsretten — applies on foot, with a tent, not with a vehicle. The camper stays where there is road, car park or a prepared place. At Geiranger, Preikestolen and Trollstigen it is enforced and fined.

THE RULE OF THE ROAD

*“Here the road does not go round the water. It ends in it and continues on it.
Five ferries are not five interruptions — they are five pieces of road that float.
What you pay for is the length of your camper. What you get is an hour on deck, between
thousand-metre walls.”*

Documentary check: September 2026. Places, hours and conditions change — check them before you leave.