



FEMUNDSMARKA

WITH A CANOE AND A
FISHING ROD TO NORWAY'S
MORNING LAND



Autumnal colouring in Femundsmarka (BL)

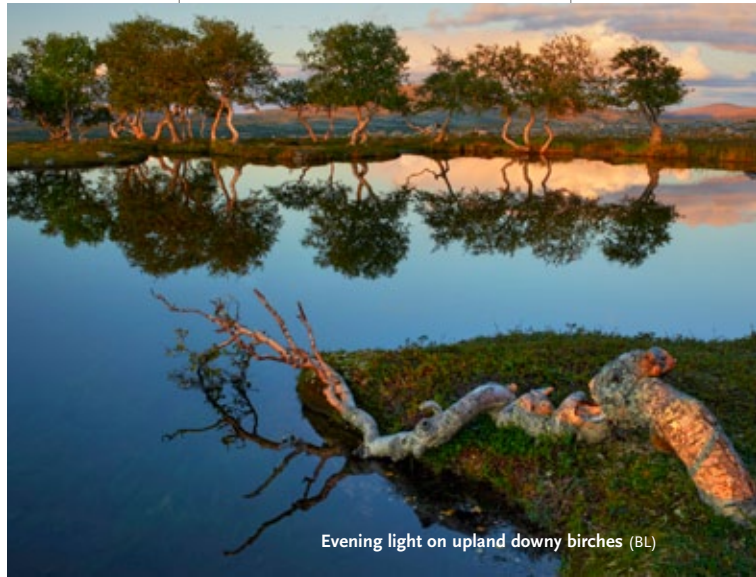
THE GIFT FROM THE ICE

With twisted pines and secluded lakes scattered amongst a sea of boulders, the Femundsmarka National Park beckons you to experience it. Ten thousand years ago, the glaciers retreated leaving behind a desolate, primeval-like, ice-age landscape – a landscape that has scarcely changed since. Here you can paddle a canoe for days along the many rivers and lakes. You can take a fishing rod with you to catch the large trout that can be found here, and if you keep your eyes open to the beautiful landscape, you will be rewarded with a memorable trip.

The area has been used by the Sámi people for centuries, but retains its unspoilt character. Together with adjoining protected areas in Sweden, the Femundsmarka National Park forms part of one of the largest continuous, undisturbed wilderness areas in southern Scandinavia. It is also an area that provides a habitat for a number of rare and vulnerable animal and bird species.



Canoeing (BL)



Evening light on upland downy birches (BL)



ENJOY THE SCENERY

About half the visitors to the Femundsmarka National Park go canoeing or fishing. The area is also spectacular for hiking - whether you want to go hunting or berry-picking, or just enjoy the scenery.

Glittering waterways and lively fish

Whether fishing is a passion or a hobby, you will find plenty of challenges in Femundsmarka. In the countless lakes, rivers and streams, it is not just the trout that bites, but also perch, char, grayling, whitefish, burbot and pike. Revsjøen and Styggsjøene contain mainly grayling, perch and pike, while in the Grøtåa, Mugga and Røa, and in Rogen, the main catch is trout. Set out by foot or canoe to find your own fishing spots. In winter, you can also try fishing through the ice for char. The best ice fishing is in Revlingsjøene, the lakes on Røvolgfjellet, Rønsjøen and some of the smaller lakes in Engerdal.

Take a trip!

For hunting, berry-picking, skiing or hiking, Femundsmarka offers plenty of options. During the summer months you can follow a network of marked footpaths that also connect to paths in Sweden. There are opportunities for hunting both in the national park and in adjoining areas. If you prefer to gather cloudberries, August is the best time. Femundsmarka is nationally renowned as a good cloudberry area.

If you want to paddle a canoe, the central areas of the park contain an interconnecting system of lakes. The upper stretches of the Røa and Reva, and the lakes, Revsjøen and Styggsjøene, as well as adjoining areas across the Swedish border offer plenty of opportunities for marvellous trips. Canoes can be hired on the Norwegian and Swedish sides of the border.



A bog and a tarn (BL)



LANDSCAPE AND GEOLOGY

Mountains and rounded forms

The landscape in the national park is characterised by gentle, rounded landforms and long, flowing lines. In the higher parts that start at Femunden (662 metres above sea level) and continue up to 800-900 metres, you can experience a moderately hilly, ridge landscape. A number of peaks rise above 1000 metres, the highest of which is in the far north (Storvigelen, at 1561 metres). In the south, there is Store Svuku (1415 metres), Grøthogna (1401 metres) and Elgåhogna (1460 metres).

Sculpted by ice

Large parts of Femundsmarka are a barren, primeval landscape sculpted by the ice that retreated ten thousand years ago. The area abounds in accumulations of rocks, stones and earth (moraines) and large boulders that were carried along and deposited by the ice. A distinctive feature is the narrow ridges, called Rogen moraines, which curve out into the lakes to form a multitude of promontories and islands. Their name derives from the lake on the Swedish side.



Osprey (TS)



BIRD LIFE

The realm of the osprey

Many ospreys nest in the national park. Their relatively high numbers are explained by the ready availability of food in the shallow lakes that are so rich in fish, and the good nesting sites provided by old, flat-crowned pines.













Many pine tree trunks have nest holes made by three-toed woodpeckers, and in autumn Siberian jays hide berries and mushrooms in cracks in the bark. Golden eagles, gyrfalcons, goshawks and eagle owls also nest in this area.

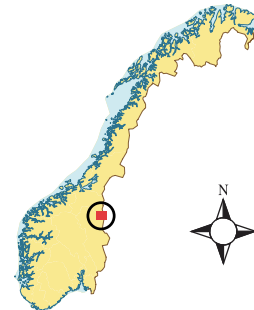
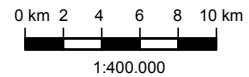
Lakes and wetlands – allowing life to thrive

The many lakes and wetland areas provide valuable nesting and feeding grounds, especially for ducks and waders. In the marshy areas around Lille Grøvelsjø, you can see ruffs and red-necked phalaropes. The black-throated diver, a characteristic species for Femundsmarka, nests in the area.



KEY

-  National border
-  County boundary
-  National park
-  Protected Landscape Area
-  Nature Reserve
-  Car park
-  Accommodation
-  Café/restaurant
-  Camp site
-  Staffed lodge
-  Self-service cabin
-  Non-service cabin





Beaver (LL)



ANIMAL LIFE

The barren landscape does not provide a suitable environment for a rich animal life. Nevertheless, a number of species live alongside the watercourses, some of which are rare, vulnerable or threatened in this part of the country. Wolverines are well established, while brown bears and lynx roam into the park. A herd of musk ox that has migrated from Dovrefjell also lives here.

Femundsmarka is one of the few places in inland southern Norway where there is a permanent otter population. In some of the larger watercourses, there are also clear signs of the presence of beavers, with felled trees and sturdy dams. The national park is also an important winter grazing area for elk, which come in large numbers in winter from the area around Aursunden further to the south. In some places, the pine woodland shows signs of heavy grazing.

The Sámi herd their reindeer in this area, using winter grazing in the north and year-round grazing in the south. Elgå is the southernmost Sámi reindeer herding area in Norway. The reindeer should not be disturbed when grazing and they are especially vulnerable during their calving season.



HISTORY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE RELICS

The first signs of human activity in Femundsmarka date from the Neolithic (Late Stone Age) period. These include habitation sites and the remains of fairly large trapping systems of pitfalls.

Central Sámi area

It is uncertain how long there has been Sámi activity in the area. The Sámi people have herded their semi-domesticated reindeer for centuries and before that they lived by hunting, trapping, gathering and fishing. They have traditions and beliefs associated with places in the national park, often without having left any physical traces on the land. Some of the visible traces in Femundsmarka include old settlements with the foundations of turf huts, various storing places, and corrals where reindeer were gathered together.

A number of settlements were established in the area during the late-18th century. As time went by, transhumance summer dairy farms at Haugen and Svukuriset, just outside the national park, developed into farms, where people still live. The hamlet of Sylen, on the Swedish border, is also occupied. It lacks a road and is entirely surrounded by the national park.

The Røros Copper Works have left their mark

Many of the traces from recent centuries left in the area in and around the national park relate to the Røros Copper Works. The copper smelter on the western shore of Femunden was in operation from 1743 to 1822. Right up to the Swedish border, there are clear signs of tree felling and charcoal kilns to supply the furnaces with charcoal. Along the watercourses, there is evidence of log floating in the form of dams, log flumes, timber booms and log raft booms.



Wolf lichen (LL)



Cloudberry (KSK)



PLANT LIFE

Twisted and weather-worn, old pines are a distinctive feature of the national park, giving Femundsmarka a mystic, fairy-tale look. The pines grow like this because of the lack of nutrients to be had from the poor bedrock, as well as the dry inland climate with its long, harsh winters. The pines are widely scattered, giving an open feeling to most of the park.

In areas of dry ground, the floor of the lichen – Scots pine woodland is dominated by sand and gravel, and here the most common species found on the woodland floor are reindeer lichen and another lichen, *Cladonia stellaris*. The lichen – Scots pine woodland is light and open, and pine is usually the only type of tree present. Heather – bog bilberry – Scots pine woodland takes over on wetter ground. Here, bilberries, cowberries, heather and some herbs, grasses and mosses grow on the woodland floor.

There are three kinds of mire in Femundsmarka – peat bog, brushwood bog and sedge fen. They are generally poor in nutrients. The peat bogs are made up largely of *Sphagnum* moss and cottongrass. They are often found close to small tarns and ponds, and are surrounded by brushwood bogs. These are drier and dominated by heathers, dwarf birches and willows. The sedge fens occur on slopes and are characterised by sedges.

Vulnerable plant species

In Femundsmarka, there are a number of vulnerable species that require large areas of pristine woodland. One important species is the rare wolf lichen, which grows on the trunks and branches of old, dead pine trees. One of the most important occurrences in the country can be found in the inner part of Femundsmarka.



Twisted pine tree (LL)



Common blue (LL)

In a national park, you are one of Nature's guests

- You may go wherever you like, on foot or on skis, but anything with an engine is basically prohibited.
- You can stop wherever you like and pitch a tent. Always tidy up afterwards and take your rubbish with you.
- You can light a fire, but remember the general ban on lighting fires in woodland from 15 April to 15 September. Show consideration when gathering firewood.
- You can pick berries, mushrooms and common plants for your own use. Show consideration for cultural heritage sites, vegetation and animal life. Take extra care in the breeding season.
- Hunting and fishing are permitted. Remember to buy hunting and fishing licences. Never use live fish as bait, or transfer live fish from one river or lake to another.
- You can take your dog with you, but remember to keep it on a lead from 1 April – 1 September.



Femundsmarka National Park in brief

Where:

The boroughs of Røros in Sør-Trøndelag county and Engerdal in Hedmark county.

How to reach the Femundsmarka National Park:

By bus or car from Røros to the Synnervika/Langen Tourist Centre. By bus or car from Elverum, Rena or Koppang - Road 221 to Elgå. Summer boat route across Femunden (MS "Femund II") from Synnervika, Femundshytta, Jonasvollen, Elgå, Buvika or Femundsenden, getting off at Røosen, Haugen or Revlingen.

Information on accommodation and available services:

Femund-Engerdal Tourist Information Office, phone: +47 62 45 99 00, www.femundengerdal.no

Destination Røros, phone: +47 72 41 00 50, www.roros.no

Huts: Plenty of staffed and unstaffed cabins, rental cabins and open huts in and around the national park.

Tips: There is a huge network of marked footpaths that connects to a network of footpaths in Sweden. Ideal for hiking, canoeing and fishing.

Map: "Norge" 1:50 000, sheets 1719 I and II, 1819 III and IV.

Ramblers maps: Femund nord (1:100 000) and Femund sør (1:100 000)

Established: 1971, extended in 2003

Size: 573 km²

Adjacent protected areas:

Langtjønnna Protected Landscape Area, Femundslia Protected Landscape Area and Grøvelsjøen Nature Reserve.

In Sweden: Långfjället and Rogen nature reserves

National Park Visitor Centres:

Femundsmarka National Park Visitor Centre at Elgå, phone: +47 62 45 87 87, www.femunden.no

Femundsmarka National Park Visitor Centre at Røros, phone: +47 72 41 08 80, www.doktortjonna.no

Management:

County Governor of Hedmark, phone: +47 62 55 10 00

County Governor of Sør-Trøndelag, phone: +47 73 19 90 00, www.fylkesmannen.no

Supervision:

Norwegian Nature Inspectorate, Femundsmarka, phone: +47 62 45 88 96

Statskog - Femund, phone: +47 61 45 66 02

Statskog - Røros, phone: +47 72 41 21 61

Engerdal Fjellstyre (Mountain Board), phone: +47 62 45 91 77

More information:

www.norgesnasjonalparker.no

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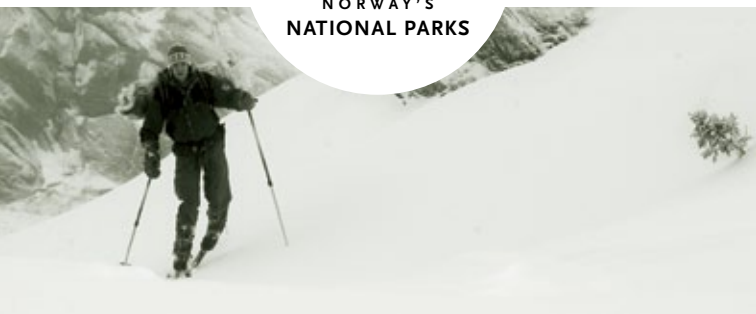
Front cover: Autumnal colouring in Femundsmarka (BL)



Print: GRØSET™



NORWAY'S
NATIONAL PARKS



Norwegian national parks – our common natural heritage

National parks are designated to protect large areas of unspoilt countryside – from the sea to the mountaintops – for the sake of Nature herself, we ourselves and future generations.

The parks contain a wealth of splendid scenery and varied animal and plant life, waterfalls, glaciers, towering peaks, never-ending plateaus, deep forests, and beautiful fjords and coasts. Cultural heritage sites also show how the areas were used in bygone days.

The parks offer a vast range of thrilling and exciting natural history. Make use of the fantastic Norwegian countryside – on Nature's own terms.

Welcome to Norwegian national parks!



**NORWEGIAN DIRECTORATE
FOR NATURE MANAGEMENT**

www.dirnat.no/english