

Kivledalen



Photo Sigurd Telnes

KIVLEDALEN VALLEY, which is a popular recreation area, is the gateway to the Hanakamjuvet gorge. Kivledalen is famous for the legend about the Kivle girls. When Norway was still a Catholic country, there was apparently a church in the valley. The story goes that three young girls were herding goats on the steep grassy slopes above the church, playing beautiful music on their ram's horns and pipes. They forgot that it was time for mass, and their music filled the valley, reaching the ears of the people in the church and luring them out of the church half-way through the mass. The priest became so angry that he stepped out onto the porch of the church in his ceremonial vestments, and raised his arms up towards the young girls on the hill, turning them into stone. The legend of the girls and the songs they played still lives in the storytelling and folk music of Telemark.

WHAT YOU MIGHT SEE ON YOUR WALK

QUARTZITE is the dominant rock type in the area. Its rust-red colour derives from the iron oxide it contains. In the old days they used to use pigment from the rock to give colour to paint.



Photo: Hamish Moore

The road to the Gullnes mines



Photo Hamish Moore

THE ROAD THROUGH THE HANAKAMJUVE GORGE

follows the route of an old thoroughfare. In 1990 two friends out hunting discovered a Maltese cross in the area. Subsequently, further crosses have been found, which may have marked the way for pilgrims. When mining started in Seljord and the surrounding area in the 16th century, a narrow cart track was built to the north of Hanakamjuvet for transporting copper ore from the Gullnes mines. Today the mines are partially submerged, after the river was dammed. The water from the area is used to produce green hydroelectric power.

Layout: Nina Akerstveit / Trykk: Erik Tanche Nilssen as



www.vandretelemark.no www.seljordportalen.no

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THE WILD ELDER FLOWERED ORCHID

is the county plant of Telemark.

Photo: Audny Barstad



THE HANAKAMFOSSEN WATERFALL

Photo: Hamish Moore

MEDIUM WALK →



Seljord – Telemark

WALK Hanakamjuvet

THEME Cultural history



Photo Hamish Moore

MOUNT SKORVEFJELL has inspired a number of works of art. The artist Erlend Grøstad painted this picture of Skorvefjell in 1996 from Flatdal. The original can be found at Nutheim Gjestgiveri.



Description of the walk

EASY CIRCUIT that makes a good walk to do with children. Hanakamjuvet occupies a stunning location in the Kivledalen valley above Seljord village centre, and is popular for recreation activities in both summer and winter. When the weather is good, you can see past Seljord to Lake Seljordsvatnet, reputedly home to a legendary sea-monster. There is a decent road up to the area and a car park once you get there. We recommend driving up Gullnesvegen towards Kivledalen.

FROM THE CAR PARK you backtrack along the road for a while, before turning up to the right, following signs to Hanakamjuvet. Along the way you will pass waterfalls, sites of historic interest, a gorge and good viewpoints. For a nice circuit, turn right when you meet the road, and follow it back to the car park. The countryside alongside the road is very attractive in many places. Alternatively, follow the path through the forest on the north side of Hanakamjuvet back to the car park.

Driving direction



Start at the tourist information centre in Seljord. Drive 500 metres west.



Turn right up Gullnesvegen. You will drive through a residential estate with many side-roads off to the right and left, but keep on the main road.



After 5 km you will reach a toll barrier. Remember to take cash with you.



800 metres after the toll barrier you can park on the right-hand side of the road. (GPS: N59°30.466' E008° 34.210')

You are responsible for your own safety during your walk. Treat the countryside and grazing animals with respect. Take only photos, leave only footprints. Please take your rubbish home with you. Have a great walk!



Map:
Seljord 1 : 40 000

Kart: AT plan.
Kjelde: Statens kartverk,
Geovekst og kommuner



Season:
May – November



Scale 1 : 50 000 Vertical scale 20m ■■■■■■ = marked summer path ■■■■■■ = skogsti

