

Øyskogen and the Fyresdal-village museum



Photo: Hamish Moore

DID YOU KNOW THAT FYRESDAL is home to one of the largest burial grounds in Telemark? The 18 burial mounds are located in the Øyskogen village park and date back to the Early Iron Age (600–1000 AD). Can you see the traces of them? The park also provides the backdrop for a collection of buildings that were common on farms in Fyresdal in the 1800s. A farm would normally comprise a farmhouse, food store, store house, hay barn, stables and an animal shed, all made out of timber using a traditional cog joint technique. The forge and wash house were located away from the main buildings because of the fire risk. The houses in Øyskogen date from various periods between the 1500s and 1800s. Bjørnstadstova is from the 17th century and housed the local magistrate and bailiff. By the main road is the exhibition building, housing a number of artefacts used by villagers for various purposes. There are guided tours during the summer. Please contact the tourist information office for more details.

WHAT YOU MIGHT SEE ON YOUR WALK

"MB TEISNER" was a boat to haul floating timber on lake floating vessel on Lake Fyresvatn from 1913 to 1971, when the timber floating business came to an end.

Photo: Tore Fossum



Folkestadbyen



Illustration: Rita Metveit

A SMALL "TOWN" began to form in the centre of Fyresdal in the 1870s. At the turn of the 20th century 129 people lived in 25 houses in what was known as Folkestadbyen. Residents of the "town" made their living from providing services to others. It

was home to forestry workers, tailors, blacksmiths, a baker, a midwife, crews working on the ferry on Lake Fyresvatn, tradesmen etc. People began moving here from the farms and hamlets surrounding the village. Many of them brought their houses with them, erected outbuildings and created small gardens. Several of the houses were modernised in the Swiss chalet style. They sat so closely together along the roads of the village that the roads were referred to as streets. This garden city structure still forms the centre of Fyresdal. This makes Folkestadbyen unique compared with other villages.



www.vandretelemark.no www.fyresdal.no

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Layout: Nina Akerstveit / Trykke: Erik Tanché Nilssen as

SKIPPERGATA is the name of one of the streets in the landlocked municipality of Fyresdal. The street was named after the skipper of the ferry "Fyresdølen", who lived here.

Photo: Hamish Moore



MUNKHOLA was carved out of the mountain by waves and frost erosion from Lake Fyresvatn at the end of the Ice Age.

Photo: Hamish Moore



Fyresdal – Telemark

WALK Moland Cultural Heritage Trail

THEME Cultural heritage/village tour



Photo: Terje Rakke Nordic Life AS

THE ANNUAL PLAY OLSOKSPELET in Fyresdal recounts the story of St Olav, who travelled up and down the country to convert people to Christianity. The play takes place every year on the weekend around St Olav's birthday on 29 July. Photo: Edvard Nesland



Tour description

THE CULTURAL HERITAGE TRAIL starts in the centre of Fyresdal by the museum in Øyskogen. You can choose whether to do the entire trail (Folkestadbyen + the circuit via Saukro and Bryggjeparken) or just one of the loops. The whole trip takes just under one hour at a leisurely pace. No special footwear or level of fitness is required – the tour is suitable for both families with children and elderly people. Most of the trail is suitable for wheelchair users.

Driving direction

Park and start in the centre of Fyresdal next to the museum in Øyskogen. (GPS: N59°10.983' E008° 05.557')

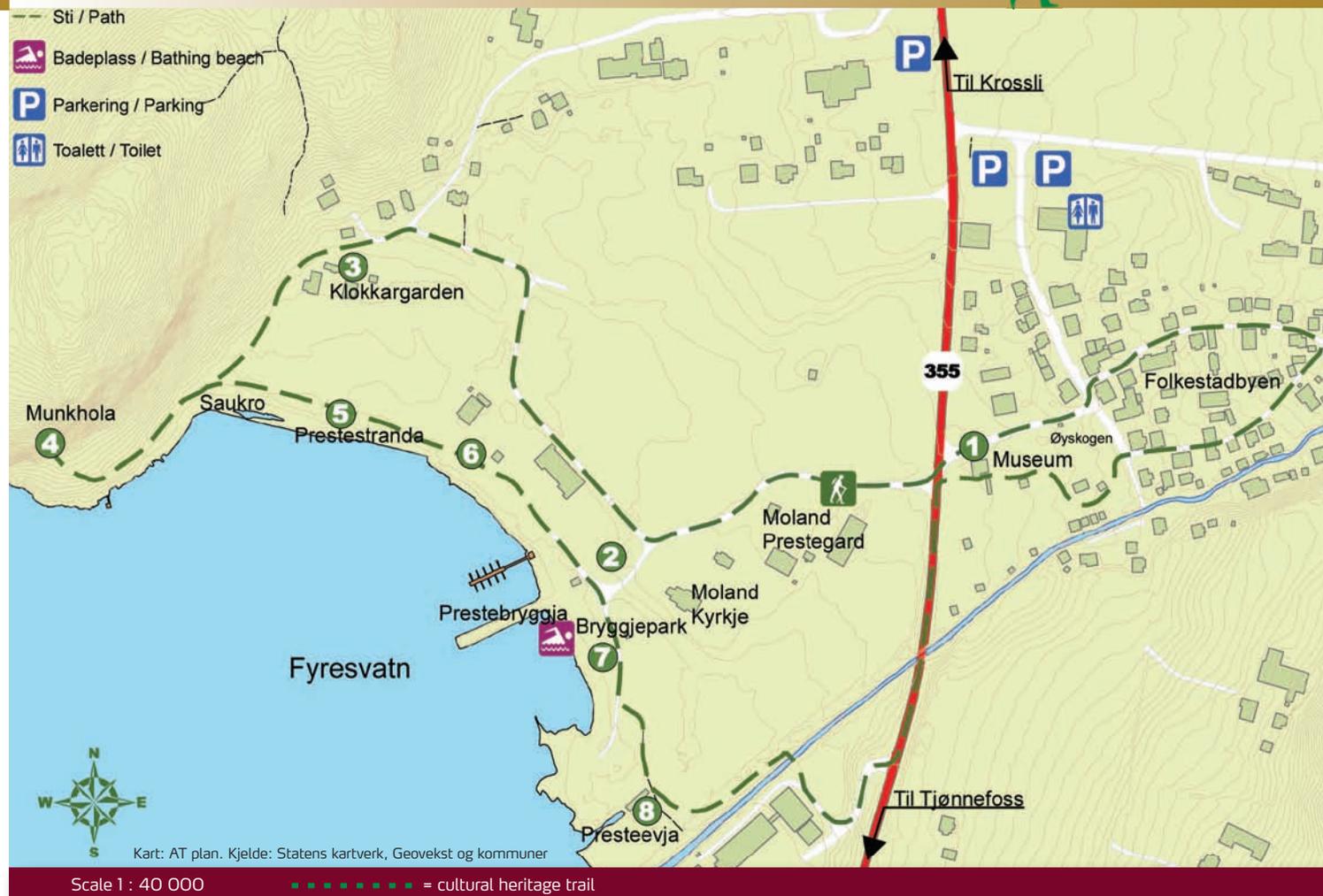
Photo Terje Rakke Nordic Life AS



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!

Tour facts:
280 metres above sea level

Available:
May – November



1. Folkestadbyen with Skippergata and Lensmannsgata and its unique town-style dwellings.
2. On the way to the harbour you can see the vicarage on the left. By the entrance to Moland Church (built in 1843) is a protected burial mound dating back to the Iron Age.
3. Klokkargarden, the sexton's house (built in 1777), was the first permanent school building in Fyresdal.
4. Munkhola – a cave created during the Ice Age by ice and frost erosion at a time when water levels in Lake Fyresvatn were far higher than they are today. Local legend has it that monks used it as a hideout in the 16th century.

5. Remains of a slagheap discovered at Prestestranda are evidence of two iron mines dating from the Early Iron Age/Middle Ages.
6. At the corner of the car park next to the café you can see remains of three burial mounds and a burial pile, all of which are now protected.
7. Prestebryggja and Bryggjeparken – now turned into a bathing place and picnic area.
8. The old timber floating vessel "MB Teisner" was decommissioned in 1971 but was taken ashore and preserved. She was built at the Akers Mek. Verksted shipyard, then transported piece by piece to Fyresdal, where she was assembled. From the boat you can take the footpath along Sitjeåa to Route 355, returning via Øyskogen and Folkestadbyen.