

The whetstone quarry



Photo: Yngve Ask

THIS TRAIL TAKES YOU UP TO THE Brunåslid quarry. This was the largest of many quarries in the Eidsborg-Lårdal area. The quarry was likely opened in the early 1700's and operated until about 1950. One can see the large heaps of waste stone (Norw. "Ustlehaugene") that remained from the whetstone production. At the upper heap one can see the foundation of one of the workmen's sheds. The whetstone (sharpening stone) has a long history, and one assumes that they were in production in the mountains here from at least around 700 AD. Sharpening stones were also characteristic trade goods that even the vikings brought with them on their voyages. Whetstone from Eidsborg has been found all over Europe.

WHAT YOU MIGHT SEE ON YOUR HIKE

IN THE ACTIVITY PARK there is a 105 meter long model of The Telemark Canal with water, locks and boats.

Photo: Skodde Studio



NATURE AND CULTURE Thor, god of thunder once got in a fight . . .



Illustration by Ludwig Pietsch (1824-1911). From Wikipedia Commons.

SNORRE STURLASON (in his narrative of Norse mythology) tells the story of how the giant Rungne and Thor, god of thunder once got in a fight. Thor then threw his hammer at Rungne, while the latter threw a sharpening stone at Thor. The stone hit the hammer in the air and splintered. Some of the shards fell down in Midgard (middle Earth, home of humans), and from them sprang all the whetstone mountains.

One of the shards hit Thor in the head, and he was unable to remove it. Therefore it is bad luck to throw a whetstone across the floor, since this makes the stone in Thor's head move.



www.hikingtelemark.com
www.visitdalen.com

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ROUNDRIP 4 KM / 2 HOURS / FAMILY TOUR
MEDIUM HIKE ➔



Eidsborg – Telemark

HIKE The whetstone quarry

THEME History/geology



Photo: Yngve Ask

EIDSBORG STAVE CHURCH from the 13th century.

Photo: @healthy_frenchgirl



STÅLEKLEIVLOFTET is one of the oldest wooden buildings in the world

Photo: Anne Gundersen/VTM



THE MUSEUM FARMER sharpens his scythe with whetstone from Eidsborg.

Photo: Yngve Ask



Description of the hike

A MODERATELY DEMANDING HIKE in hilly country which partly follows old roads. The distance is no more than 4 kilometres, but one should plan on spending 2 hours due to the terrain. After the first rise there is a viewpoint with benches. There are also benches at the top by the quarry. Throughout the tour there are information signs. From the quarry you may take the main road back down to the museum.

THE HIKE BEGINS AT WEST-TELEMARK MUSEUM, Eidsborg. Signs clearly indicate the way to the museum from Høydalsmo and Dalen. Parking is at the museum and Eidsborg stave church. The trail starts at the Juvestoga house in the museum area. There are signs with information along the trail.

Driving direction



On route Fv45/Fv450 and the signs for West-Telemark Museum, Eidsborg, and Eidsborg stave church. From Dalen you also follow route Fv45/Fv450 towards Høydalsmo. Look for signs leading to West-Telemark Museum and Eidsborg stave church.

P Parking at West-Telemark Museum.



Photo: Anne Gundersen/WTM



Welcome to West-Telemark Museum: www.vtm.no

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 of the area:
Tokke trail map 1 : 50 000

Special requirements:
Solid footwear



Available:
May – October



At hikingtelemark.com you will find an overview of accommodation for hikers.

Tokke : 1 : 50 000 Vertical scale : 5m = marked summer path



Photo: J. Kasin