

## A Little in English Summer Sports in Norway

The country gives unique opportunities for a wide range of outdoor summer sports. The most popular in Norway, as in most other European countries, is soccer, followed by handball. The latter is now mostly played indoors.

A characteristic aspect of sports in Norway is the mass participation. Most children participate in some sports activities, and it is this very broad base that makes it possible for the country to achieve top honors in international competitions despite its small population.

From *Culture Shock! Norway* by Elizabeth Su-Dale



## Litt på norsk Sommersport i Norge

Landet har enestående muligheter for et vidt spektrum av sommeridretter. Den mest populære sporten i Norge, såvel som i andre europeiske land, er fotball, fulgt av håndball som nå for the meste spilles innendørs.

Et typisk trekk ved idretten i Norge er massedeltakelse. De fleste barn deltar i idrettsaktiviteter, og det er dette brede grunnlag som gjør det mulig for landet å oppnå toppresultater i internasjonale konkurranser til tross for landets lave innbyggertall.

Fra *Culture Shock! Norway* av Elizabeth Su-Dale



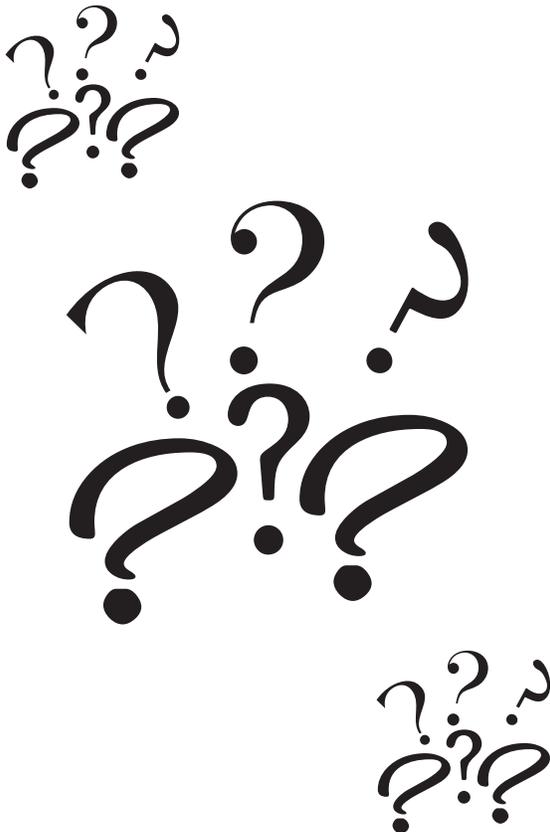
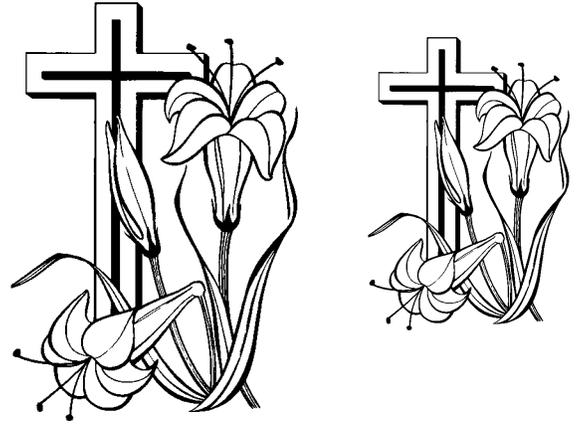
## Røldal Church and Crucifix

Just a few decades after Røldal Stave Church was built, around the year 1250, a crucifix was made for the church. It was probably this crucifix which made the church into a place of pilgrimage during the catholic Middle Ages.

A special mass was celebrated around midsummer, and people from all over Europe made their pilgrimage to Røldal to be healed by the sweat of the crucifix. The masses were often offered secretly, as the Lutheran clergy did not always look with favor on these activities. In 1836, however, the last mass was conducted, as the clergy considered the activities a form of idolatry.

The pastor of Ryfylke described the experience as follows: "The crucifix was carried up to the altar, and the pilgrims followed, one by one, drying the sweat off the forehead and face of the crucifix with a linen cloth." The pastor explained the sweat as dew which happened as the warm air in the full-packed church met the cold air of the night.

—S/N Newsletter Service



### Trivia Questions

1. Norway has the highest percentage of blue-eyed people in the world. True or false?
2. Under what treaty did Denmark cede Norway to Sweden in 1814?
3. What is the name of the artist who painted "The Scream"?
4. Who led the Kon-Tiki expedition from Peru to Polynesia in 1947?
5. What type of skiing has the same name as a Norwegian county?

Answers: 1. True 2. Treaty of Kiel 3. Edvard Munch  
4. Thor Heyerdahl 5. Telemark (skiing)

# August 2001

## A Little in English Emigration History

In the years between 1860 and 1875, approximately 75,000 Norwegians immigrated to America. Most of them settled in the Midwest, which was considered as the Norwegian United States. Other European countries, as well, experienced a similar development.

The build up of Minneapolis is a good example of the rapid growth of the American society. As late as in 1867 there was only a small village on the east side of Mississippi, which runs through the city today. The total population was approximately 500 inhabitants. A few years later, in 1897, Minneapolis had grown to 10,000 inhabitants. Today there are approximately 500,000 people in Minneapolis.

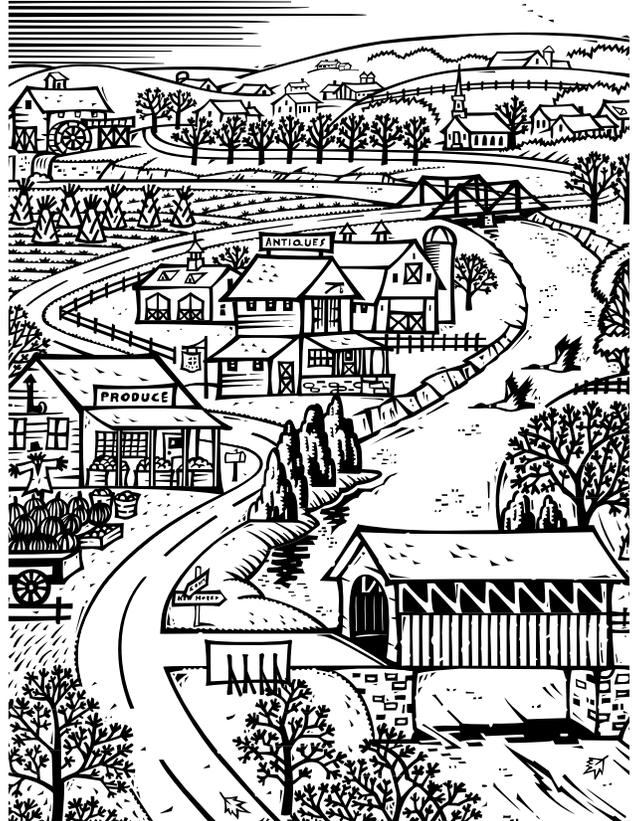
—From *Sons of Norway's Roots*, by Oddstein Rygg

# 1897



# August 2001

# 1867



## Litt på norsk Emigrasjonshistorie

I årene mellom 1860 og 1875 utvandret ca. 75.000 nordmenn til Amerika. De fleste bosatte seg i Midt-vesten som ble betraktet som det norske USA. Også andre europeiske land opplevde en lignende utvandring.

Utbyggingen av Minneapolis er et godt eksempel på det amerikanske samfunnets raske vekst. Så sent som i 1867 var det kun lokalisert en liten landsby på østre side av Mississippi som renner gjennom byen i dag. Totalt hadde stedet ca. 500 innbyggere. Noen år senere, i 1897, hadde byen vokset til 10.000 innbyggere. I dag bor det ca. 500,000 mennesker i Minneapolis.

—Fra *Sons of Norways Røtter* av Oddstein Rygg



Did your ancestors arrive in the United States between 1892 and 1924? Then they most likely came via Ellis Island, a center that welcomed some 17 million immigrants. As many as 5,000 people were processed in a single day. Ellis Island was a place of happiness and tragedy. Many of those who made it into the country made their fortune here, while others were denied entry—often due to illness—and had to return to their country of origin.

If you go to the Internet address [www.ellislandrecords.org](http://www.ellislandrecords.org), you will find fascinating information about the people who came to America. For example, if you type in the name of someone who entered through Ellis Island, you will be given the age of the person on arrival, the arrival date, and the country of origin. The site also offers family histories and shows the forces that brought people from all over the world to America's shores.

—S/N Newsletter Service

**Trivia Questions:**

1. What is the Norwegian traditional (national, regional) costume called?
2. What is the name of the liquor whose Latin name means "the water of life"?
3. What is celebrated on May 17th?
4. Norway is a Republic - true or false?
5. Who wrote *Growth of the Soil* and later received the Nobel Prize for Literature for it?

Answers: 1. Bunad 2. Aquavit 3. The Norwegian Constitution  
4. False 5. Knut Hamsun

