

March 2002

A Little in English

Fiancé Eats Engagement Ring

Norwegian Janne Grim wanted to surprise her boyfriend, Svein Frøyland, with an engagement ring in his Christmas porridge at a party with friends and family present. But poor Svein failed to notice the ring until it was on its way to his stomach. "Now I'm 24 carats heavier," says Svein. The happy couple, now famous throughout Scandinavia, had to wait for the ring to return by natural means.

From Dagbladet



Big Christmas Demand for Lutefisk in Norway

Lutefisk, that love-it-or-leave-it dish, is making a comeback in its homeland. For many years, lutefisk was a popular dish both over the Christmas holiday and throughout the year in Norway. In recent years, however, it has been avoided year-round. This Christmas, in restaurants and at parties across Norway, lutefisk was back. Trondheim restaurant Havfruen began simply asking guests who was not ordering the jelly-like fish, and few decided otherwise.

From Norway Times

Mars 2002

Litt på norsk

Kjæresten spiste forlovelsesringen

Janne Grim ville overraske sin kjæreste, Svein Frøyland, med forlovelsesring gjemt i julegrøten på julefest med familie og venner tilstede. Men stakkars Svein la ikke merke til ringen før den var på vei til magesekken. "Nå er jeg 24 karat tyngre," sier Svein. Det lykkelige paret er nå kjent over hele Skandinavia. Ringen måtte ventes via naturlige kanaler.

Fra Dagbladet

9-11-01 Relief Fund Raises \$91,000 for Salvation Army



SALVATION ARMY LIEUTENANT Colonel David Grindle (center) accepts a check for \$91,000 donated by members and lodges to the 9-11-01 Relief Fund. Presenting the check are Jim Olson, International Board Secretary; John Lund, CEO; Larry Hauge, Salvation Army Board; Linda Halet, Foundation Manager; and Joanne Simons, Fraternal Director.

Today's Norway

Påskeferie: A Norwegian Easter Vacation

Norwegian Easter vacation used to mean staying homebound and going to the state church on Good Friday and Easter Sunday, and sometimes the kids decorated Easter eggs.

Of course, today's Norway has changed somewhat. Older traditions came out of the poverty found in Norway, while Norway today is one of the wealthiest nations on earth. The town streets roll up as Norwegians head for mountain cabins and resorts to enjoy nature and the last remnants of decent snow. And just as Americans often head south to the Caribbean for a little sunshine, Norwegians have begun heading to the Mediterranean.

So if you're looking for Norwegians this time of year, forget downtown Oslo. Instead, check out ski resorts or Italian beaches.

For more information on visiting Norway, check out the website of the Norwegian Tourist Board, www.visitnorway.com

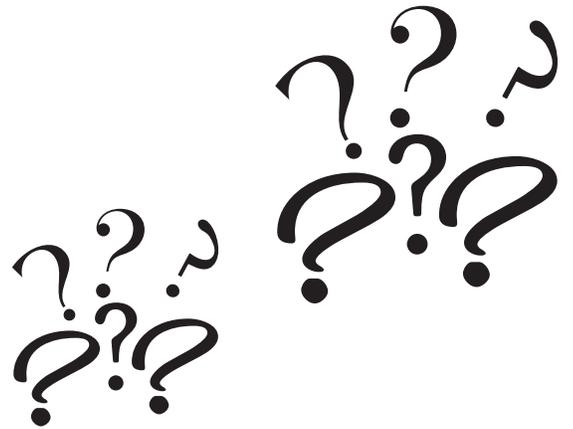
Norwegian Springtime Word Find

B	B	S	D	U	K	R	A	B	S	E
O	L	Ø	V	E	T	A	N	N	V	G
R	Å	Å	R	A	G	J	L	R	A	J
D	B	R	K	V	L	R	Ø	D	L	Ø
B	Æ	Ø	B	L	Å	K	L	K	E	Å
Æ	R	V	A	J	O	R	D	B	Æ	R
P	R	E	S	T	E	K	R	A	G	E
Ø	Å	T	Æ	G	J	Ø	K	R	Å	P
R	Ø	D	S	T	R	U	P	E	Ø	R

Words to find:

- | | | |
|-------------|---|---------------|
| Blåklokke | - | Bluebell |
| Prestekrage | - | Daisy |
| Blåbær | - | Lingonberries |
| Jordbær | - | Strawberries |
| Løvetann | - | Dandelion |
| Svale | - | Swallow |
| Gjøk | - | Cuckoo |
| Rødstrupe | - | Robin |

Happy Easter!



Sons of Norway Tours Celebrate Syttende Mai in Oslo

Experience unrivaled scenery, history, and hospitality in Oslo, Stockholm, and Copenhagen from May 13 to 22, 2002. Better yet, experience May 17th in Oslo and exclusive events just for Sons of Norway members!

This 10-day holiday is fully escorted. Highlights include guided city tours, cruise from Oslo to Copenhagen, Flåm Mountain Railroad, Sognefjord cruise, 12 meals, and much more! Many optional excursions.

Call 800-842-9023 (Global Holidays) and ask for Sons of Norway tour. From \$2,249 from nine departure cities.

www.sofn.com

Norsk Treats Available Online

Hungry for lefse, Norwegian pancakes or Bergen fish soup? Hunger no more, because many favorite norsk foods are available on the Sons of Norway website.

In addition, you can order popular items such as lefse griddles and krumkake irons. Members receive a five percent discount on orders over \$50. Go to www.sofn.com and click "Shopping."

April 2002

A Little in English Norwegians Better Educated

Three times as many Norwegians today have a university or college degree compared to 1970, having doubled from 1980 to 2000, according to Statistics Norway. The number with only an eighth grade education was halved since 1970.

From *Nytt fra Norge*



U.S. slips in popularity UND, Pacific Lutheran Popular for Norwegian Students

The University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, N.D., has been the most popular choice for Norwegian students studying in the United States for the last three years. The University currently hosts 88 Norwegian undergraduates, while second-place Pacific Lutheran College in Tacoma, WA hosts 70 students.

At one time, the United States was at the top of the list for Norwegian students wanting to study abroad. But in recent years, the United States has been passed by the United Kingdom, Australia and then Denmark, in that order. United States now the fourth choice for Norwegian students for the first time ever. While the number of students who study abroad has more than doubled, the number that choose the United States has shrunk from 2,300 to 1,700 in the past 10 years.

From *Norway Times*

April 2002

Litt på norsk Økt utdanningsnivå

Tre ganger så mange nordmenn har nå universitets- og høyskoleutdanning enn i 1970. Antallet fordoblet seg fra 1980 til 2000, ifølge Statistisk sentralbyrå. Antall med kun grunnskoleutdanning er mer enn halvert siden 1970.

Fra *Nytt fra Norge*

Today's Norway På besøk: Tips For Visiting Relatives in Norway

Despite modern influences and busy lives, visiting neighbors, friends and relatives for a cup of coffee and a smørbrød (open-faced sandwich) or two is very common. If you travel to Norway and visit relatives or friends, you will most likely be doing the same. Coffee or tea is typically offered, as well as smørbrød and a cookie or two. Even if you are not hungry, the host may be hurt if you do not take at least a little cup of coffee or a smørbrød.

In Norway today, most people speak English fairly well. However, it is still a good idea to slip in a 'tusen takk' or another Norwegian phrase. Regardless of your pronunciation, this is sure to warm the hearts of nearly any Norwegian. And if you want to bring a gift from home to give to your relatives or friends, little trinkets, souvenirs or picture books from your hometown or home state are always greatly appreciated. If you are planning a trip to Norway some time soon, check out www.visitnorway.com for ideas and information.



Euro Update

Why is Norway not part of the European Union?

In Europe, the biggest event lately has been the introduction of the new common currency for 12 European countries. In March, the national currencies of France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Finland, Ireland, Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Portugal, Greece and Austria became useless. You can no longer buy a wiener schnitzel in Berlin with deutschmark; you must use the Euro.

So why isn't Norway a part of this? There are many reasons why Norway rejected the European Union & the Euro. Among them are the famed independent spirit of Norwegians, their oil wealth, and possible lingering feelings from Swedish rule (1814-1905) and Nazi occupation (April 9, 1940 to May 8, 1945). The Euro and its parent organization, the European Union, continue to be a hot topic today in Norway, but for now, Norway is staying out.

From *Nettavisen*

Member Benefits

Sporting, Church Maps added

Nature enthusiasts and genealogists may enjoy some new additions to Sons of Norway Map Services.

For nature enthusiasts, we now carry biking, hiking, hunting and fishing maps. CD ROMs useful for trip planning are also available. For genealogists and others, we also carry a map from the Church of Norway for anyone needing to find the location of a church, parish or diocese.

For all Sons of Norway Map Service products, members pay a special lower price, while nonmembers must pay full price. Contact Sons of Norway Map Services at 1-800-945-8851 or culture@sofn.com.



SONS OF NORWAY

Famous Norwegian Artist Vigeland Birthday April 11

Among Norway's most famous artists, sculptor Gustav Vigeland was born on April 11, 1869, in Mandal, Norway. He created many sculptures of famous Norwegians and ordinary people. But his crowning achievement was the vast multitude of sculptures and the architectural design of Frogner Park, Oslo's answer to Central Park in New York.

The sculpture garden showcases humanity in all life's stages, from young to old. Some of the statues like "the little angry boy" can be found on numerous tourist brochures from Norway. The project took Gustav Vigeland nearly 40 years to complete.

For more information, or to create a lodge program, Sons of Norway offers both a Mini-Presentation program titled 'Gustav Vigeland' and a video titled 'Vigeland Park'. Members may borrow both free of charge. Just contact us by phone 1-800 945-8851 or by e-mail culture@sofn.com for information.

From *Museumsnett*

Happy Birthday!
Happy Birthday!

Sons of Norway Tours

Høstfest changes dates for 2002

Get your reservation in for the greatest Scandinavian festival anywhere. Hostfest management recently announced that the event is rescheduled a week earlier than published.

Mark your calendar for October 8-12, and reserve your spot for 2002. Last year's tour sold out. Don't miss this star-studded Scandinavian extravaganza!

Call 800-821-8687 (Utopia Tours) and ask for Sons of Norway tour. Watch for details of this great tour.