

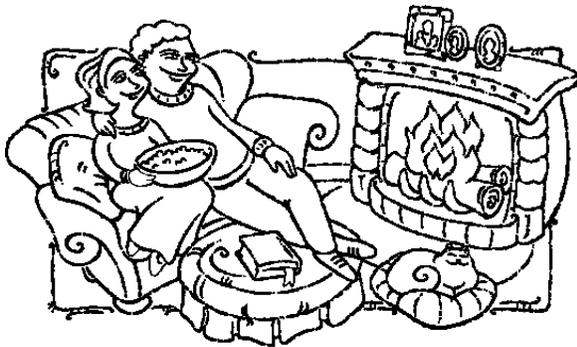
A Little in English

Norwegians Work Less Than Rest of Nordic Region

A recent report shows that Norwegians work less than their Nordic neighbors. The Swedes work 150 hours more annually. Also, Americans work 300 hours more than the average Norwegian.

“The reason that Norway is lower down the list than a lot of other countries is that so many people work part time here. The Norwegian willingness to work overtime is also lower,” says researcher Hege Torp.

-Norway Times



Tried to Give Away Father Online

A woman in Trondheim, Norway recently got so impatient with her father that she placed an advertisement in an Internet classifieds service for “a nice woman in the area” that would take in her father. After a relationship he was in turned sour, the man asked to live with his daughter and her husband and children for a while. That while soon turned into months, causing the woman to place the unusual ad.

-Nettavisen

Litt på norsk

Nordmenn jobber mindre enn resten av Norden

En ny rapport viser at nordmenn jobber mindre enn sine nordiske naboer. Svenskene arbeider 150 timer mer per år. I tillegg jobber amerikanerne 300 timer mer enn den vanlige nordmann.

“Årsaken til at Norge ligger lavere enn mange andre land, er nok at så mange jobber deltid her. Dessuten er nok terskelen for å jobbe overtid lavere her enn i mange andre land, sier forskeren Hege Torp.”

-Norway Times

Syttende Mai Word Find

G B I B B I P N E A
B R A Ø N I Æ T Å O
S Å U R B A I R D S
B M Q N N S G N L L
R U P R N E S A V Ø
U R N T H L T R O Y
S O T A R G O O L F
S Æ B G D T L V G E

Words to find:

Grunnlov – Norway’s Constitution

Barnetog – The Children’s Parade.

Russ – Secondary school graduates

Sløyfe – Triple ribbon of red, white and blue worn in various forms on May 17.

Bunad – Treasured folk costumes worn on Syttende Mai

Today's Norway

Preventing trouble while abroad

Norway, like the United States, is a modern country with modern services and conveniences. However, some problems may arise while traveling that can be prevented or made easier before leaving.

First, it is always a good idea to purchase travel insurance before leaving, especially if the trip represents a significant financial investment for you. Travel insurance will cover what ordinarily would not be, such as theft, liability, loss, medical care and sudden alterations by travel companies. Often, standard insurance providers will offer better deals for this than insurers specializing in travel.

Second, it is a good idea to pack a folder in your luggage with photocopies of your passport, birth certificate (certified) and the front and back of your credit cards, as well as leaving copies of these with a trusted friend or relative at home. That way, if your passport or wallet is lost or stolen, you can respond immediately. Always be aware of where to find your embassy as well. The phone number to the American Embassy in Oslo is 22 44 85 50, and the Canadian Embassy is at 22 99 53 00.

God tur! Have a good trip!



Syttende Mai in Norway

For Norwegians, May 17th, Syttende Mai, is one of the biggest days of the year. To get a feel for how most Norwegians like to celebrate their national day, let's follow an imaginary family, Arne and Ingvild Hansen and their children, 18-year-old Maria and 8-year-old Daniel.

The Hansens start out their day with a big breakfast of herring, smoked salmon and other open-faced sandwich toppings. Then it's time to head to the big parade. Daniel joins with his schoolmates to march in the *barnetog*, or children's parade. For Maria, who will soon be finished with secondary school, Syttende Mai marks the end of weeks of a uniquely Norwegian celebration known as *russetiden*. With her fellow *rus*, or graduates, she too marches in the parade.

Arne and Ingvild meanwhile stand with the rest of their town dressed in their very finest, a *bunad* for Ingvild and a suit and tie for Arne, waving their Norwegian flags and singing the national anthem "Ja, vi elsker."

After the parade, Maria joins with her *rus* friends for a while as mom and dad take Daniel to join in the children's games organized by schools and the town. Daniel is treated to the favorite of Norwegian children, *pølse*, *brus*, and *is*, or hot dogs, soda pop and ice cream.

To end their big day, the Hansens come back together at home for a Syttende Mai meal of *rømmegrøt*, *grillemat*, and *kransekake*, or cream porridge, grilled food and almond ring cake, as well as a little eggedosis, eggnog minus the milk.

Happy Syttende Mai!

June 2003

A Little in English Norwegians Drink the Least in Europe

There was good news from a recent report by the Norwegian government. Norwegians drink less alcohol than any other people in Europe. Measured by the number of liters of pure alcohol per capita, Ireland tops the list with 12.3 liters. Icelanders and Swedes are further down with Norway, while Romania, Portugal and Germany follow Ireland at the top.

-Norway Times



Kissing Zone to be Built

Farewell kisses outside of an entrance to St. Olav's Hospital in Trondheim, which lies along a busy road, have been causing traffic chaos. The problem arises during morning rush hour, as hospital employees are dropped off by their spouses for work. In response, authorities will build a "kissing zone" near the entrance for cars to pull off into as passengers say their goodbyes for the day.

-Nettavisen

Juni 2003

Litt på norsk Nordmenn drikker minst i Europa

Det kom gode nyheter fra en fersk rapport fra den norske stat. Nordmenn drikker mindre alkohol enn noen andre folk i Europa. Målt i antall liter ren alkohol per innbygger toppe Irland listen med 12,3 liter. Islendingene og svenskene var lenger nede sammen med Norge, mens Romania, Portugal og Tyskland følger Irland på topp.

-Norway Times

Today's Norway Shopping in Norway

When shopping in Norway as a tourist, there are a couple things travelers ought to keep in mind. If you enter a shop in Norway that display the sign "Tax Free for Tourists" and purchase goods exceeding 308 kroner, you will be eligible for a rebate of 10 to 17% upon leaving the country. Simply ask the cashier for a "Tax-Free Shopping Cheque." At your departure point, present your shopping checks along with your purchases and receive your rebate.

A second thing to keep in mind while making purchases is the customs regulations of the country you will be returning to. For the United States, the general exemption to customs duty on most goods you purchase is \$600, and for Canada, the general exemption on most goods is \$750. For more complete rules, check out www.customs.gov and select "Know Before You Go!" on the right-hand side, or for Canada, go to www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca/customs and select "Exemptions" on the right-hand side.



Recipe for Norwegian Pancakes

4 eggs
3/4 cup sugar
1/4 cup melted butter
1 cup milk
1 cup flour
1/4 tsp. salt
1 tsp. vanilla extract

Beat together eggs, sugar and melted butter until smooth. Mix in milk and flour, salt and vanilla and beat well again until smooth and fluffy. Grease a skillet or saucepan and set to low to medium heat. Take approx. 1/2 cup portions of batter and pour into skillet once hot. Spread batter evenly around skillet. Pancakes are supposed to be thin. Once bottom turns light brown, flip pancake over and fry a little longer, then remove. Sprinkle with sugar or jam, roll up and enjoy!

-Kirsten Grødahl



Norwegian Wins Iditarod

A Norwegian firefighter won the 2003 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in Nome, Alaska. Robert Sørli led a team of eight dogs, enduring extreme wind and cold to win the grueling, 1,100-mile trek.

He completed the race in just more than 9 1/2 days, becoming the first ever Non-American to win the event.

-Associated Press



Sons of Norway Map Services Farm Map Series Discontinued

The M711 series of maps from Norway that show family farm locations will no longer be offered through Sons of Norway. For any members still interested in such maps, they can still be obtained at www.statkart.no, the website of the Norwegian Mapping Authority.

Sons of Norway continues to provide a selection of maps, and members receive a discount. Check out www.sonsofnorway.com for information on these maps.