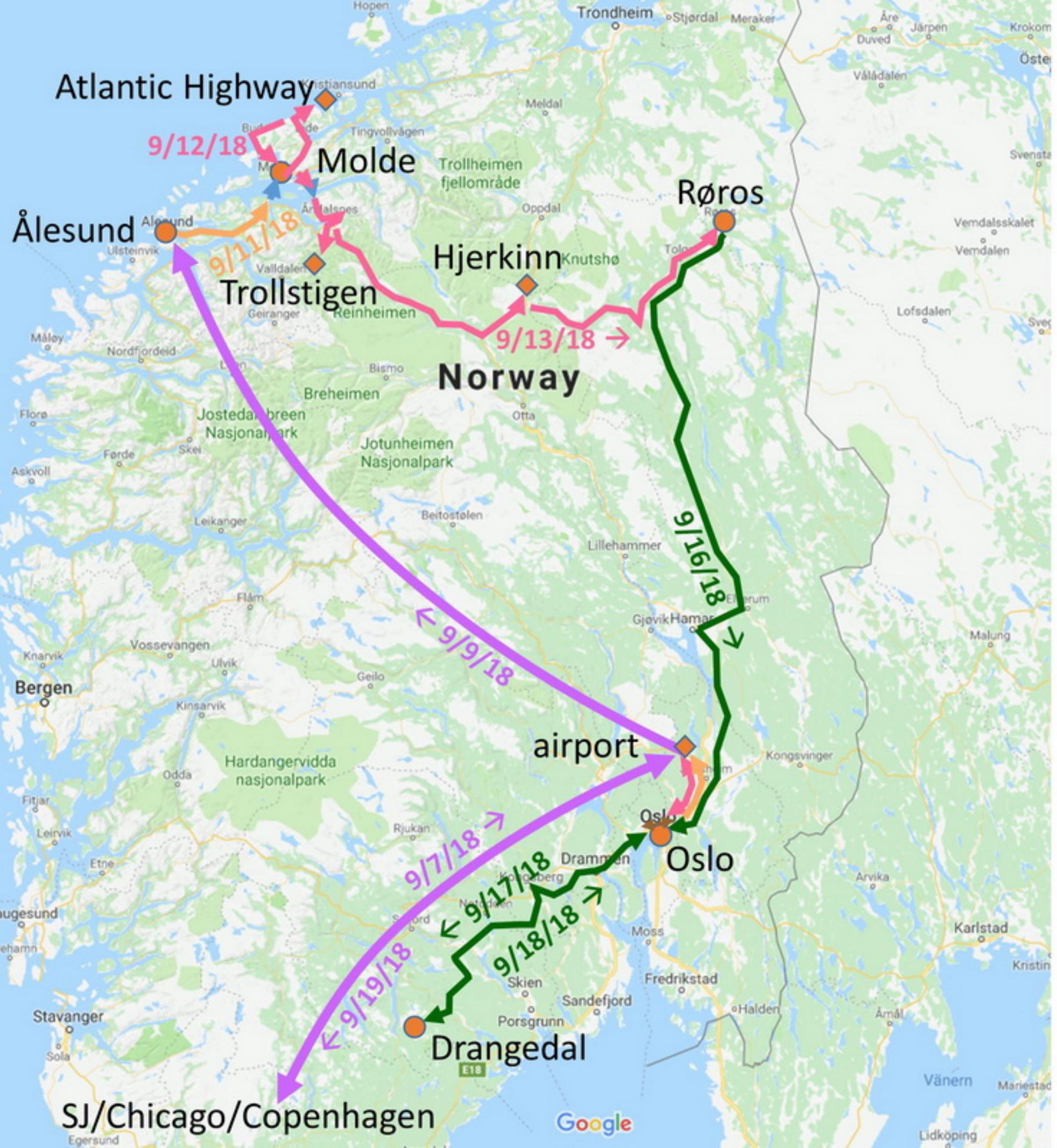


Norway Trip

September, 2018

- plane →
- car →
- bus →
- train →
- ferry →
- subway →



Fly from San Jose via Chicago & Copenhagen to Oslo.





When landing at Oslo, buy wine for gifts at the Duty-Free shop.



Oslo is a large, modern city, ...



... located on the Oslofjord.



We visit Liv's brother, Odd Gunnar.



... and his wife Marit and daughter Silje.



We take a small plane to fly to Ålesund.



(You can track our progress on the cloud.)



The west coast of Norway is a patchwork of islands and fjords.



Ålesund



Visit Liv's cousins Brit (right) and Sissel,
and Sissel's husband, Peder Ludwig.



Let's climb the ~420 steps to the viewpoint.



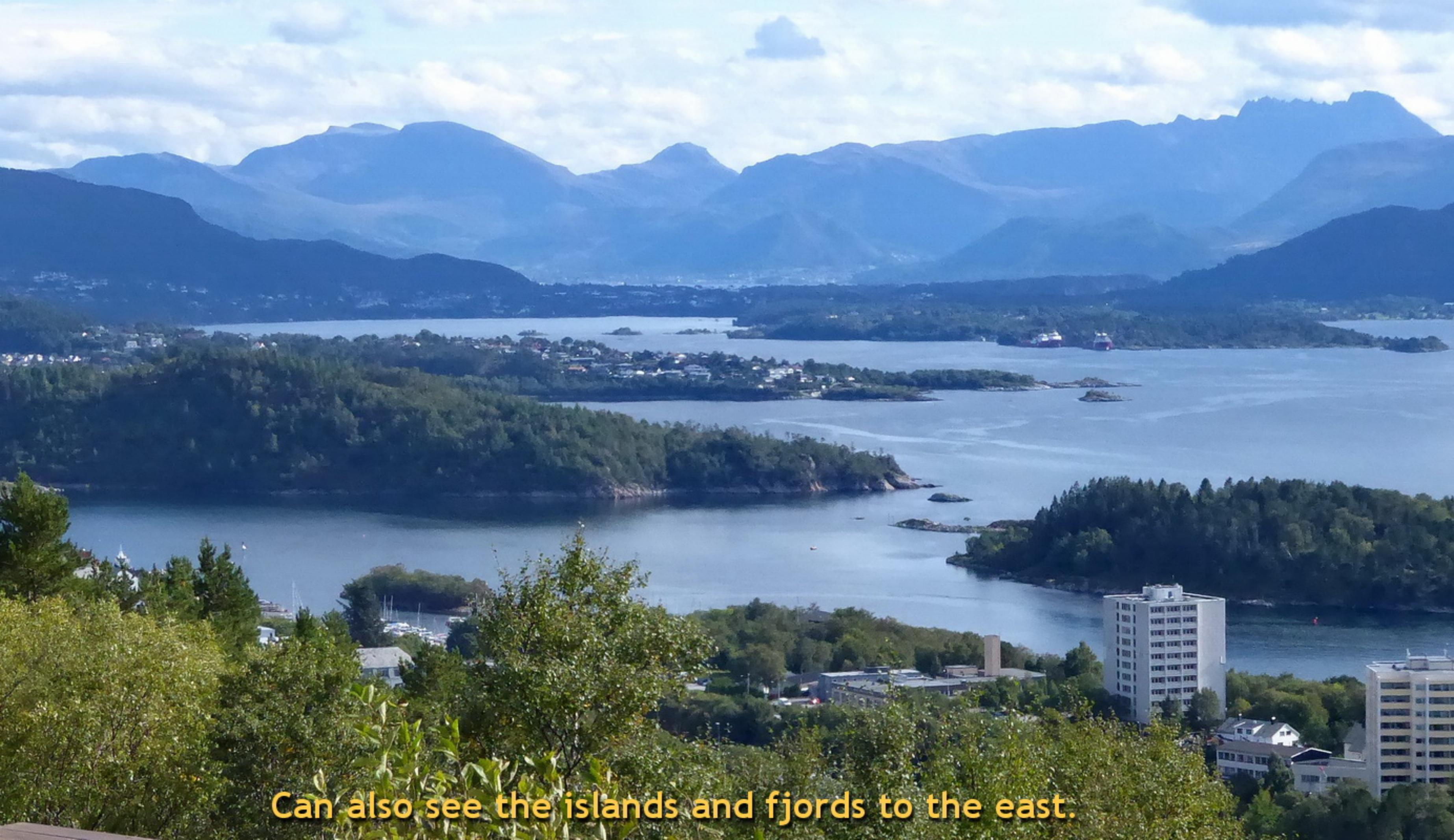
We made it!



Great view of town from up there!



Ålesund harbor. (Everything was rebuilt after the fire of 1904.)



Can also see the islands and fjords to the east.



There's a park atop the viewpoint hill,



... with remains of Nazi buildings and bunkers from WW II.



Walk back into town,



... where Liv meets more relatives (!)

Ålesund kirke

Fiskerimuseum

Storhaugen

Hellebroa

Vekteren

Sightseeingboats

sunds museum



[This seems to portend something ominous...]



**Awk! -- my birthday! Norway now considers me a "senior"!
(At least now my bus and train tickets will be half-price...)**



Take advantage of the reduced fares and head off to the next stop: Molde.



(The Senior Discount applies to ferries as well...)



We go past typical Norwegian farms.



Molde.



Visit Liv's classmate, Reidun, and her husband Helge.



Helge needs a big tractor to plow the road & work the farm.



Helge is proud of his historic hydroelectric power plant.



Upgraded over the years, but in operation since 1936.



The plant provides enough power for his local hamlet.



Getting the 1,000' overview of Molde.

Farstad 663



Go for a road-trip to see "The Atlantic Highway",



... famous for it's "bridge to nowhere".



(It's not quite as scary when viewed from the side, ...)



**... but you still have to walk out in the blustery
North Atlantic weather to properly view it.)**



People actually live on islands out in that hostile climate, ...



**... but even the cows know to
seek shelter from the driving rain.**



Stop for some famous
"Ørjan's Fish & Chips",
served by Mr. Ørjan himself!



And what are ewe lookin' at?!



Drive to Røros, past a country church, ...



... and fjord-side hamlets.







Take a quick side-trip to Trollstigen ("Troll's ladder").



Drive to the top of the cliff,



... where there's a Visitor Center with an overlook ...



... of the valley below.



Return to fjord-level to resume the trip, ...



... going inland, upward, and northward, past valley pastures, ...



... up to near the timber-line, where birch trees
are little taller than the sheep.



Visit Helge's sister, Åse, of Hjerkinn Norway & Houston Texas.



Finally, our destination: Røros, ...



... a historic copper mining town, ...



... and site of this year's "Norwegian Technical University
women chemists' Class of '71" reunion.



That's something worth celebrating!



(And, since we're in a mining town,
let's put on hardhats and go tour the mine!)



Once the reunion is over, get on the train, ...



... and head down south to where the birch can grow to be real trees.



Pop into Oslo for a quick bite of Indian food, ...



... then take the subway ...



... and train ...



... thru Telemark
(where Larry's great grandmother lived in the 1850's), ...



... to the small town of Drangedal ...



... to visit Liv's childhood friend, IngerLise.



She lives in rural Norway ...



... with her husband, Gunnar, who has his very own sawmill.



(It's much easier than cutting wood the old-fashioned way, by hand!)



(Maybe that's why the old houses had such low ceilings!)



IngerLise drives us back to the train station, ...



... where we return once again to the big city of Oslo, ...



... and then head off into the sunset, and back to San Jose!