

# Volume 4—2019 Updates

Norwegian Cruising Guide 8th Edition.

Bodø to the Russian border, including Lofoten.

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## Slåtøya/Bukkøya

68°25.10' N,

15°51.2' E

Last Updated:

2018

This is a very pretty spot; very different from the fjords with their towering peaks.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor in 6 m depth NW of Slåtøya, in sand with good holding. There is just enough room to swing at anchor S of the private mooring.

There are a number of scenic sandy anchorages in among the skerries; select for wind direction.

## Offersøya (S Hinnøya)

68°18.5' N,

15°38.6' E

Last Updated:

2018

Google

The harbour is managed by a tourist development catering to sports fishing with dockage only suitable for small boats.

**Approaches:** The approach from the charted E/W passageway is due N between the islets, leaving a single perch to port.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a pontoon or enquire about berthing at the dock. It may be roly in SW winds.

The charted anchorage in the bay E of the docks and pontoon is no longer accessible due to private moorings.

## Hegstadosen (S of Hinnøya)

68°19.6' N,

15°33.5' E

Last Updated:

2018

This is a scenic sheltered wild anchorage. Our contributors saw a moose swimming among the skerries, looking ridiculous (don't they always?) with its antlers waving above the water!

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor in 3 to 4 m depth, E of the private mooring, with good holding in mud and good swinging room. This could be a good place to ride out even a Wly blow by anchoring as far inside Svinøya as possible.

## Vestpollen (NW)

68°30.9' N,

15°32.7' E

Last Updated:

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Lying at the NW head of the fjord, this is an exceptionally beautiful and wild

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anchorage.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** You can anchor on the charted 3 m rocky and sandy shoal with good swinging room just E of Tyvhellarneset or on the rather narrow sandy shelf at the end of the fjord, inside the 15 m high cable and bridge. *Den Norske Los* reports that you can anchor in Vikpollen, the large bay 4 nm NE of **Kvannkjosen**.

## Svellingen

68°17.3' N,  
15°20.2' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There are several possible anchorages in the Svellingen area, some charted and some not:

- In the most attractive anchorage, almost a lagoon, you may be able to go alongside the pontoon courtesy of Lødingen Båtforening. It may also be possible to anchor with lines ashore. Entry can be made in good depth by heading SW from Lysøya Light, then turning NNW with Lille Svellingen to port.
- Another fine anchorage for shallow draft vessels lies .7 nm due N of the one just described, S of Lappholmen, entered heading ENE, at 68°18.04' N, 15°20' E.
- Another anchorage, at the W side of Store Svellingen, is well sheltered even in strong SW winds but, although it offers beautiful distant views, the anchorage itself is less attractive. Proceed N along the W side of Store Svellingen, leaving Kvaløya and the tiny islets just N to starboard, then turn E between Skitten-Svellingen and Ramnøya and then N into the diminishing channel. There is a small quay to port with 3.5 m depth, and lines can be taken to bolts on both shores.
- The two charted anchorages, one SE of the NE-most point on Store Svellingen and the other .2 nm NW, are somewhat exposed to wash from passing boats. In the first of these anchorages there is a KNBF mooring buoy (max. 10 tonnes).

## Risvær

68°16.3' N,  
15°07.5' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
[Google](#)  
DNL, Vol. 5,

This was once a major fishing port but now has no year-round residents. In summer there is a lively community along the narrow sound between Borterøya and Heimøya. The least depth (1.9 m) is not far inside the N entrance.

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**Anchorage, Moorings:** Risvær Brygger has a 30 m long pontoon for visitors.

**For The Boat:** Electricity and water are available on the pontoon.

**For The Crew:** Toilets and showers are available.

**Things To Do:** There is a *café* during the season.

## Steinsøya

68°15.7' N,  
15°04' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

There are magnificent distant mountain views all around the horizon and gorgeous beaches. A very strong current sluices through the anchorage at spring tides.

**Approaches:** Approach from the NE, passing W of the perch, in a charted depth of 1.9 m.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a charming and well-sheltered sandy-bottomed anchorage at the 4 m sounding E of Store Steinsøya. It is also possible to anchor just N of the island in 2 to 4 m depth with good holding in sand.

## Skipøyosen (E Brottøya)

68°29.1' N,  
15°12' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

If blowing from the E, the wind tends to funnel out of Ingelsfjorden, making this anchorage less than comfortable.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** This is a scenic and convenient anchorage to wait for the S-flowing tide through Raftsundet. It is quite well sheltered, with good swinging room in 8 m depth, sand bottom.

1 nm SW lies a larger but less idyllic anchorage, S of Hanøya.

**Things To Do:** Brottøya is very fine for walking and there is a nice beach.

## Gullvika (SE Store Molla)

68°14.9' N,  
14°53.8' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

This was an exceptionally attractive and scenic anchorage, one of our favourites back in 2000. Since then, the addition of a number of mooring buoys and a dock make it slightly less scenic than it once was.

Gullvika became nationally famous when the TV series “Tid til å leve” (“Time for living”) was filmed here during the winter 2016/17. The show followed a

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family who wintered in the small cabin at the bottom of the bay, mostly living off the sea and land, with no electricity, no road connection to the mainland, and a poor mobile signal.

**Approaches:** There is a 3 m bar at the entrance to the E bay. The W cove has a very shallow bar charted as 0.7 m deep; fixed keel boats will require at least half-tide to enter.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is good swinging room in the E cove in 5 to 10 m depth, mud bottom, with numerous mooring bolts around the edges of the cove. There is a sturdy pontoon courtesy of the Svolvær boat club (Vågan båt- og sjøfiskeforening) N in the bay, and a couple of private moorings off this. The pontoon is free for all for up to 2 days. This cove is not sheltered in S winds. The W cove does provide shelter from S winds, but there is a shoal between the coves that needs half-tide or better for passage.

There are several other anchorages nearby: Mollgavlen, 4 nm NNE, is a sheltered and pleasant anchorage, with the entrance probably needing half-tide; **Ulvågen**, a couple of nm NNE; Krabvågen, 1.5 nm SSW, is a charming tiny cove with a sandy bottom in 3 m depth and with a small beach, somewhat exposed to the S.

**Things To Do:** There are blueberries on the NW side of the W cove. There are walks along the old road, now a trail, to lakes to the N, and to the settlement of **Brettesnes** to the S.

## Skrova

68°09.8' N,

14°39.6' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 5, aerial  
photo & sketch

Skrova is a large old well-sheltered whaling harbour 5 nm SE of Svolvær. Note that the cable to Skrova Light has been raised to 22 m clearance and the red spar buoy in the entrance is now a port-hand beacon.

**Approaches:** Enter from the SW.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a floating pontoon with room for visiting boats NE in the harbour, next to the ferry dock. If full, it may also be possible to berth with permission by the big white building N in the harbour marked Aasjordbruket, a gallery/pub/concert arena. Otherwise enquire about berthing at one of the private docks in the harbour.

**For The Crew:** The grocery store has a limited selection. There is daily ferry

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service to Svolvær.

**Things To Do:** There is a photo gallery inside a tunnel showing the whale fishing industry and various aspects of local life. Hard hats are issued at the entrance.

There are a number of nice walks beginning from the E side of the small bridge where there is a map of possible routes, including to a white sand beach on the other side of the island and up the mountain for fantastic views. After your walk you can visit the pub for pizza.

## Svolvær (SE Austvågøya)

68°14' N,

14°34.1' E

Last Updated:  
2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 5,  
aerial photo &  
sketch map

Svolvær is the 'big city' of Lofoten.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There are several options:

- There are guest pontoons in the main harbour. Depths alongside the pontoons are variable and it is very shallow (< 1.5 m) at the N end of the inner pontoon. Pay using the gomarina app.
- If the town centre pontoons are full, it is possible to tie up to the large quays right next to the pontoons.
- The Marinepollen boatclub pontoons in the NW part of the harbour are quieter and more scenic but less central. With a tall mast, the 14.8 m high bridge on the way to Marinepollen must be bypassed. Boats < 35' can moor at a vacant fingerberth; boats between 35' and 42' can moor at the two outermost pontoons; boats > 45' or catamarans cannot be accommodated. There are locked gates but keys are available in a box on the pontoon. Pay cash in the honesty box on the pontoons or by bank transfer. It is possible to anchor E of the Marinepollen boatclub pontoons in the bay under the twin-peaked rock spire, Svolværgeita, in 10 to 11 m depth, firm alluvial mud, with good holding, at the charted anchor sign, inside the bridge.

The harbourmaster can be reached at Tel.: +(47) 76 06 79 90/VHF channels 12 or 16.

**For The Boat:** Water and electricity are available at the pontoons in the town centre and at the Marinepollen boatclub pontoons. Diesel is available in

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Marinepollen, N in the harbour, N of the bridge. They take cash or credit card and are open 0730 to 2400. Fuel is also available at Osan, not far to the W.

K. Paulsen & Sonner (Tel.: +(47) 76 07 04 00), a 30-minute walk, might fill foreign gas cylinders.

**For The Crew:** A service building with toilets, showers and laundry is located on the old ferry pier E in the harbour. The entry card is available for purchase from the Visitors' Centre. There is a phone number posted if you want the code for the toilets/laundry/showers at Marinepollen boatclub. There are a wide range of shops.

There are good bus, air and ferry connections for crew changes.

**Things To Do:** There is a very scenic but steep and strenuous path that climbs to the base of Svolværgeita (Svolvær goat); not recommended if it has been raining. At 569 m high, Svolværgeita is a rock spire with twin summits overlooking the city. Among rock climbers, it is *the* thing to jump between these two summits, over hundreds of feet of open air. Needless to say, we did not try this! A less strenuous hike is up the Tjeldbergtind (alt 367 m) for nice views of Svolvær and the coast.

There are museums, art galleries and a fine old church.

You can rent a car here.

## Nyvågar or Storrågen (SE Austvågøya)

68°12.45' N,  
14°26.2' E  
Last Updated: 2018  
[Google](#)

The chart and *Den Norske Los* refer to this harbour as Storrågen while the local name is Nyvågar.

This is a quality tourist development, with many modern *rorbuer* (fishing huts, rented to tourists).

**Approaches:** Nyvågar is tucked in a small channel on SE Austvågøya, with the entrance between Sagøya and Reksteinen. Identify the perch with green markings, 0.5 nm NE of Sagø Light. Pass N of this perch. Go past the yellow hotel building and red service house; the pontoons will appear as you enter the bay. Severe swells enter in strong SW winds and in winter storms the tide has been known to cover the restaurant floor!

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The quay at the restaurant deck is shallow as well as very public. There are extensive pontoons by the tourist lodgings at Nyvågar Rorbuer: 8 and 10 m long fingerberths with depths ranging from 1 to 3 m.

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The management can provide an aerial photograph with the depths shown at all the berths.

**For The Boat:** There is electricity on the Nyvågar Rorbuer pontoons.

**For The Crew:** There are toilets, showers, and a sauna at Nyvågar Rorbuer.

**Things To Do:** There is a restaurant and pub, an aquarium and the Lofoten museum. In the Galleri Espolin, life from earlier days in Lofoten is compellingly depicted in the works of notable artist Kåre Espolin Johnson.

**Kabelvåg** is easily visited via a short walk from Nyvågar.

## Ørsvåg

68°12.38' N,  
14°24.29' E  
Last Updated: 2018  
[Google](#)

*Den Norske Los* describes Ørsvåg as one of the best harbours in E Lofoten with good protection in all weather, but this assessment appears to be based on the needs of larger boats than most pleasure craft. It is home to Ørsvågvær, a tourist centre with many services and facilities.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is good holding with lots of swinging room in this large bay. A number of private moorings are located in the most sheltered spots.

## Hopen

68°11.95' N,  
14°20.6' E  
Last Updated: 2018  
[Google](#)

This is a lovely sheltered anchorage with an easy well-marked entrance and numerous anchoring possibilities.

Note that there is a charted submarine cable across the bar between the inner and outer basin, but there is also an uncharted water pipe in that area.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor in the inner basin in 5 to 10 m depth in mud with rocks. The bottom is uneven and the depths are variable. Note the 1 m rock charted just N of the anchoring waypoint.

There are also anchoring possibilities in the outer basin.

**Things To Do:** On the W shore of the outer basin is a very nicely restored old trading station now tourist centre known as Kalle.

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## Henningsvær

68°09.3' N,

14°12.4' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 5, aerial

Perhaps the best known of Lofoten's fishing harbours, Henningsvær, known locally as The Venice of the North, is a gem. A group of small islands connected by moles forms the harbour, situated at the foot of high craggy mountains.

**Approaches:** Entrance from the W is under an 18 m high bridge; from the E there is no height restriction.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Henningsvær is a major tourist centre and the small village is teeming with visitors during high season, including numerous visiting boats.

The official guest docks are three short pontoons for alongside mooring, S in the harbour by the largest mole.

There is a pontoon outside the Fiskekrogan Restaurant but it is for patrons of the restaurant only.

Many docks are now marked as private. Enquire about berthing at an unmarked dock.

**For The Boat:** Water and electricity are available at all the pontoons. Diesel is available at the Esso by the mole S in the harbour. They are open 0800 to 1530 and take cash only. Access to their pump is somewhat limited due to moored boats.

**For The Crew:** There is a small grocery store, a kiosk, several small restaurants, and a small bakery.

**Things To Do:** The Galleri Karl Erik Harr painting and photography museum is excellent. A walk up to the Nordland boat monument by the bridge, or onto the bridge itself, provides superb views, as does a walk out to the lighthouses on the cliffs to the S.

There is a challenging but worthwhile hike up Festvågind, the mountain on the mainland just to the N of town (alt 541 m), across the bridges. You will find the trailhead just after the second bridge. It is about a 4-hour hike, roundtrip.

Henningsvær is home to Nordnorsk Klatreskole, the climbing school of N Norway, which offers courses and guided climbs. Even if climbing is not your thing, their *café* is worth a visit.

Henningsvær has a range of small *cafés* and the restaurant at the hotel has

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been given a good review by our contributor.

You may be lucky enough to attend a lecture by a researcher at the Ocean Sounds Centre near the Henningsvær Bryggehotell.

## Lyngværet (SW Austvågøya)

68°13.3' N,  
14°11.2' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

In its day, this was a busy fishing village, competing with Henningsvær. Today, all the buildings on the islands are gone and the only remains are the remnants of a stone dock and some building foundations.

With its sand bottom and clear water, this is a lovely anchorage in settled weather, and a useful place to wait for the tide on passage N up Gimsøystrømmen.

**Approaches:** Pass between the islands where there are no uncharted dangers.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor in between Børøya and Storøya, off the old stone dock in 5 to 8 m depth, sand bottom.

**Things To Do:** There are cloudbberries (*multebær*) in season.

## Stamsund (SE Vestvågøya)

68°07.35' N,  
13°51' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
[Google](#)  
DNL, Vol. 5, aerial  
photo & sketch

Stamsund is a large old whaling harbour. It is now a picturesque village with many old and well-maintained *rorbuer*.

Stamsund is reputed to have the longest dry stone pier in Northern Europe, built by men paid only with food and clothing.

**Approaches:** Use the SW entrance if your boat has a tall mast since the SE entrance has an overhead cable with 23 m clearance.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a very sheltered floating quay with 2 to 8 m depth alongside (it gets shallow towards shore), just N of Skjæret, at Skjærbrygga (Live Lofoten), about halfway up the W side of the harbour, inside Tørnholmen.

**For The Boat:** There is water and electricity on the quay.

**For The Crew:** There are laundry facilities, toilets and showers (for a charge) in the restaurant building. There is a grocery store next to the pub/restaurant.

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**Things To Do:** There is an interesting puppet shop and theatre, a gallery and a good pub. The restaurant Skjærbrygge serves excellent local food.

Two WWII guns were recovered from the harbour in 1992 and are now on display.

Good walks start from the ski area and pass around a lake on the cross-country trails. There is a 3 to 4 hour (round trip) hike up Steinetinden (alt 509 m), which leaves from Ringveine Street. There are chains to help with a couple of exposed spots.

## Æsøya (SE Vestvågøya)

68°06.15' N,  
13°48.4' E

Last Updated:  
2018

This is an island anchorage in beautiful surroundings, but only suitable in very settled weather and for a very small vessel.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The anchorage is in a very tiny cove, in 2 to 3 m depth, sand bottom, with bolts on shore. Sadly, during the summer it seems there is now a boat permanently moored in the inner basin making anchoring difficult even with lines ashore.

**Things To Do:** A slightly difficult scramble to the top (well to the left of the beach, not behind it) offers exceptional views.

## Ballstad (SW Vestvågøya)

68°04.5' N, 13°32'  
E

Last Updated:  
2018

[Google](#)  
DNL, Vol. 5, aerial  
photo & sketch

This is a scenic, complex and busy fishing harbour. Note that the charted overhead cable with 17 m clearance has been removed.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Most visitors will prefer to moor in Kræmmervika havn, the bay to port before you enter the inner harbour. Moor outside the wave breaker or enquire about a vacant fingerberth. In the main harbour there is a council dock next to Ballstad slip, close to the shops but intended for short stay only. It may be possible to moor to one of the many docks in the inner harbour with permission.

**For The Boat:** There is electricity on the pontoon, a chandlery, a shipyard (adorned with Norway's largest wall painting), and fuel.

**For The Crew:** There is a small grocery store.

**Things To Do:** The restaurant Himmel og Havn has a good reputation. There

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is a nice trail up onto Ballstadheia, which begins on the point at the W side of the harbour entrance.

## Nusfjord (SE Flakstadøya)

68°01.9' N, 13°21'

E

Last Updated:  
2018

[Google](#)

DNL Vol 5 aerial

This is a picturesque, compact and well-sheltered harbour with an easy entrance. Noted for its restored *rorbuer*, the entire settlement is now owned by a private company and there are plans for a major facelift. Nusfjord made the national headlines in the summer of 2005 when the owners began charging an entrance fee to the village.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a 12 m long floating guest pontoon with just under 3 m alongside. Some SW swell may roll in.

**For The Boat:** There is electricity on the pontoon.

**For The Crew:** There are showers and laundry facilities in the season.

**Things To Do:** Harbour dues include access to the museum, which includes many of the town buildings. There is an old-time shop and *café* in the season and a beautiful 3-mile walk along the coast to the point, Nesland, to the SW. Start on the gravel shore road and follow the signs when the road stops.

## Kunna

68°00.3' N,  
13°14.3' E

Last Updated:  
2018

**Anchorage, Moorings:** This pleasant wild anchorage gives good views of the mountains. The cove is open to the NE, with anchorage in 9 m depth, sand bottom.

## Sund (SW Flakstadøya)

68°00.2' N,  
13°12.4' E

Last Updated: 2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 5, aerial  
photo

The charted 15 m high overhead cable has been removed.

This is an attractive well-sheltered harbour at the E side of Sundstraumen between Moskenesøya and Flakstadøya.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The council dock to port before entering the inner harbour is partly occupied by seemingly abandoned boats; it may be possible

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to berth alongside one of them. Further in it may be possible to berth at the fish processing plant where there is a well-padded dock. The owner of the plant charges a small fee for berthing; ask for directions to his home. The pontoon system further in welcomes visitors but is not suitable for boats over 30'.

**Things To Do:** At the Sund Museum you can watch the artistic blacksmith Tor-Vegard Mørkved as he forges a lump of red-hot iron into a beautiful statue. Or you can watch historic marine semi-diesels being hand-started.

## Hamnøya (SE Moskenesøya)

67°56.8' N,  
13°08.1' E

Last Updated:  
2018

[Google](#)

DNU Vol 4 Serial

**Approaches:** Hamnøya lies inside an 18 m high bridge and the final perch in the narrow harbour entrance must be left to starboard in spite of any red reflecting tape on it.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a council pontoon with deep water on both sides, S in the harbour. There are several private quays where it may be possible to berth with permission.

**For The Boat:** There is water on the council dock.

**Things To Do:** There is a doll museum and an excellent restaurant (Hamnøy Mat og Vinbu).

## Kjerkfjorden (SE Moskenesøya)

67°59.5' N, 13°01'  
E

Last Updated:  
2018

Inside Reine and Hamnøya (and an 18 m high bridge), the island of Moskenesøya is cut nearly in two by a triple-pronged fjord, with an exceptionally scenic N arm, Kjerkfjorden. Selfjorden (between Moskenesøya and Flakstadøya) is on the backside of the spectacular scenery in Kjerkfjorden, but a detour via Sundstraumen (bridge, 18 m clearance) will likely prove disappointing.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a dock in the small village useful for dropping off hikers. It is used by the shuttle boat that takes hikers from Reine and a boat should not be left unattended here. Anchoring in the inner harbour is difficult due to the two submarine cables and some private moorings. We anchored SE of the perch on Steinsflu, E of the cables, in 10 m depth in mud with good holding. The wind tends to funnel out the fjord in settled summer weather with NE'lies; make sure the anchor is well set before leaving the boat.

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**Things To Do:** There is a fine walk NNW on a path over the saddle to an enormous Atlantic beach at Horseid.

## Reine (SE Moskenesøya)

67°56' N, 13°05' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 5, aerial  
photo & sketch

Voted by Norwegians as Nor-way's most scenic area, the harbour of Reine is surrounded by looming spires and cliffs. The village is a major tourist destination and an atmosphere of "tourist fatigue" is evident. In no other harbour in the Lofoten islands will you find so many "Private dock, no mooring" signs. This makes even landing with the dinghy near the shop on Olnsilsøya challenging.

**Approaches:** Enter between the new mole with the lighthouse to port and Olnilsøya to starboard, then through a well-marked, dredged channel into the inner harbour. For Vågen and the council visitors' pontoon, pass between perches with red and green tops.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There are two pontoons for visiting boats:

- There is a deep water visitors' pontoon to port as you exit the dredged channel, outside the red shed, N of the small mole. Pay in an honesty box on the pontoon. This is one of Norway's most expensive visitors' berths (400kr/night in 2017).
- There is a council pontoon S of the small mole in the inner harbour. There is only 2 m depth at LW in the approaches and the pontoon has 3 m depth at the outer end of the N side but it shoals rapidly. This pontoon is mostly used by motorboats.

There is a good anchoring area in 20 to 25 m depth W of the dredged channel and W of the charted submarine cable, as indicated in the plan in *Den Norske Los*, in mud with good holding.

**For The Boat:** Water and diesel are available at the S pontoon.

**For The Crew:** Showers (for a fee) are available, enquire at the hotel by the N pontoon. Fresh fish products are sold at a small shop and Statoil has a small kiosk next to the pontoons. Groceries and a P.O. are in the shop on the other side of the harbour, about a 30-minute walk. Note they are not open on Sundays. WiFi is available from the hotel.

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**Things To Do:** There is a steep trail to the top of Reinebringen, towering 615 m overhead to the SW, from where there are breathtaking views. Follow the road through the village to the main road where you turn left (S) towards the tunnel. Take the pedestrian bypass for the tunnel and a white arrow will indicate the beginning of the trail. After a hiker was killed on the trail in 2015 by falling rocks, sherpas from Nepal with experience working in stone have been tasked with building a stone path up Reinebringen. They will be continuing their work in the spring of 2019 and hopefully the path will be open to the public in the summer of 2019.

There are also various trails to nearby lakes and valleys. You can take a ferry to Vindstad and then hike across to Bunes on the W coast.

It is possible to rent a car or bikes here for longer excursions.

## Sørvågen (SE Moskenesøya)

67°53.35' N,

13°01.7' E

Last Updated:

2018

Google

While **Moskenes** is a ferry terminal with no facilities for visiting boats, immediately to the S is Sørvågen, a scenic old fishing harbour.

**Approaches:** Enter between the mole heads.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a visitors' pontoon immediately to starboard as you enter between the mole heads, which is often busy with fishing boats, and a very sheltered pontoon in a dredged area in the inner harbour next to the Maren Anna Restaurant.

**For The Boat:** Electricity and water are available on both pontoons.

**For The Crew:** There is a grocery store about 200 m from the pontoon.

**Things To Do:** The Maren Anna Restaurant occasionally has live music. There are some lovely old wooden buildings and the Norwegian Telecom Museum is worth a visit: The wireless link between Sørvågen and **Røst** in 1906 was the first in the country.

There is a marked trail to the Norwegian Trekking Association (Den Norske Turistforening) cabin at Munkebu and on to Vindstad. Another possible excursion is to take the express boat to Forsfjorden (inland from **Reine**) in the morning and then walk inland back to Sørvågen. This hike will take you through some of the region's most spectacular scenery.

It is a 2-km walk to **Å** along a busy road.

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## Buvågen (S Moskenesøya)

67°50' N, 12°49'

E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNI Vol 5 aer-

In settled conditions, Buvågen is one of our favourite anchorages in Lofoten due to its spectacular location at the very S tip of Moskenesøya.

**Approaches:** There is a strong cross-current from Moskenstraumen in the early part of the approach. Pass between two perches into the bay, which is out of the current.

**Anchorages, Moorings:** There are several large mooring buoys E in the bay, fixed to a bottom chain that crosses the bay. Anchor W of the moorings in good holding in sand. Strong gusts occur in winds from the E.

## Værøy

67°39.2' N,

12°42.8' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

This spectacular high island has a coastal plain to the SE with two long peninsulas; between them is the large harbour called Sørlandsvågen.

Dutch friends of ours spent much of an early winter here in their motor-sailor and had a wonderful time until they were crowded out by the winter cod fishery.

**Anchorages, Moorings:** There is a visitors' quay at the head of Sørlandsvågen but it is quite shallow there (2 m depth). There is also a floating quay between the mole and the ferry quay, to port when entering the harbour, which may have room for visiting boats. It is, however, far from the shops. It may be possible to tie to a private quay with permission.

Anchoring is possible in both the outer and inner basins in Sørlandsvågen as indicated in the plan in *Den Norske Los*, but note that large ships moor NW in the harbour and need room to manoeuvre.

There is a small and rather picturesque fishing harbour just E of the main harbour but it is very crowded.

In fine weather you can anchor off a popular beach just W of Sørland, or off the abandoned village Måstad further to the W.

**For The Boat:** Bunkeroil on the W side of Sørlandsvågen is a cheap place for diesel if you pay cash.

**For The Crew:** Showers are available at the Havly Fiskarheim (30-minute walk from the pontoon). Two grocery stores are open from 0900 to 1800,

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with a P.O. in the shop. There is ferry service to **Røst** and **Bodø** and a daily helicopter to Bodø.

**Things To Do:** There is a nice museum on the N coast. The Kornelius pub occasionally has live music.

It is possible to scramble to the top of Måhornet (alt 445 m), which provides superb views. There are numerous other less challenging hikes to various bird colonies and to the abandoned village of Måstad. A dramatic inner channel lies close off the SW tip of the island, teeming with nesting birds early in the season, and culminating in a minuscule cove (immediately S of Elseset Lighthouse), which can be entered by dinghy in very calm weather.

## Røst (SE Røstøya)

67°30.45' N,

12°04.5' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 5, aerial

photo & sketch

Low-lying Røstøya, the outermost inhabited island in Lofoten, offers an unusual atmosphere of remoteness. The main harbour, Røst, lies between the two narrow peninsulas opening SW. Note that dredging has taken place in Røst in recent years, and an overhead cable and several perches, shown on older charts, have been removed.

Ellefsnyken, Hernyken, Trenyken and their associated skerries are part of the Røstøyan Nature Reserve and landing on the islands is prohibited between April 15th and July 31st.

**Approaches:** Several approaches are possible:

- From the S: For a first visit, most vessels will prefer this approach through Ramskjærleia. There is a useful sketch in *Den Norske Los*, Vol. 5, for the final part leading into the harbour, NE of Glea. Note that two of the marked perches are gone due to recent dredging.
- From the E: On passage from **Værøy** in settled conditions, the approach from the E through Blomskjærleia is feasible for boats with a draught < 2 m. In poor visibility Brattklakkleia, passing S of Brattklakkskallan, would be preferable, as Staven (alt 140 m) is a conspicuous landmark. The passage on from Brattskjæret Light is well marked and lovely. Note that you must pass S of Nordholmen and Sørholmen and then N of Lyngværøya.
- From the SW: The passage from **Skomvær** Lighthouse passing SE or NW of **Vedøya** is strewn with unmarked hazards but feasible on a calm day. The high islands of Trenyken, Storfjellet and Vedøya are a stunning backdrop to this route, and there are large colonies of

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puffins and cormorants as well as many eagles. On triple-peaked Trenyken, a deep cavern has recently been discovered containing a stone-age painting.

- Approaches from the N and NW: We have no personal experience with the charted approaches from the N and NW. These approaches are the standard approaches to the fishing grounds and are used by the hundreds of vessels that converge on Røst during the winter fisheries. They are well marked but less suitable for a first-time visit.

In heavy weather, approaching an unfamiliar Røst would be dangerous.

## **Anchorage, Moorings:**

Along the mole on the NW side of the harbour is a council dock with 2 to 4 m alongside, there is also a short pontoon here. Other pontoons in the main harbour are private and you need to enquire about availability and fees.

There is also a small mole harbour at Nes, E on Røstøya, with a council dock with 2 m depth alongside, useful for a short stay. This harbour is otherwise occupied by moored fishing boats.

**For The Boat:** Water and electricity are available on the docks at the Røst Bryggethotell and electricity is available on the new NW and NE docks. Diesel is available at a couple of the fish plants.

**For The Crew:** Toilets and showers are available in the Røst Bryggethotell. Groceries are available at the Joker at Glea. There is a P.O. on Glea. Internet is available at the Querini Restaurant and Pub.

**Things To Do:** There is a pub and restaurant at the Røst Bryggethotell. The Røstmat *café* and bakery is located by the church (they don't bake every day). If maritime delicatessen is your thing, the Querini Restaurant's Italian-style stockfish should be sampled. The Querini is a favourite among both locals and sailors and only a 1.5 km walk from the council pontoon.

Røst has a large production of stockfish, primarily for the Italian market. In summer the final quality control takes place, and you can inspect the winter's production before it is shipped out in late summer.

The church altar screen is an art treasure donated to Røst in 1520 by the Netherlands' Princess Elisabeth 'in heartfelt thanks for surviving a stormy voyage', a sentiment which will no doubt find sympathy in the heart of the modern cruising mariner (**Alstahaugvågen**, Vol. 3, has an altar board from the same source).

You can walk to the old church ruins N on the island and then stroll through

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Nes, the oldest settlement on Røst.

On Storfjell are remnants of a 13th-century settlement. At the centre of Sandøya is the Querini monument to the Italians shipwrecked there in 1472 who, after wintering with the sheep farmer from Røst who found them in December, wrote a remarkable description of Røst still in the Vatican archives.

## Foldvik

68°41.7' N,  
17°25.8' E  
Last Updated:  
2019

Foldvik was voted “guest harbour of the year” in Troms county in 1999. But it is quite a detour up the fjord, and visiting boats seem to be a novelty these days, except when there is a special event.

Foldvik is home to Gratangen Kystlag (Gratangen coastal heritage federation) and some of the waterfront buildings are nicely restored. Unfortunately, the old buildings are somewhat dwarfed by a large salmon hatchery.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The 35-m long pontoon has many small boats used by tourists moored alongside, but room is usually made for visiting boats.

**For The Boat:** There is electricity at the shore end of the pontoon and water is available on the pontoon.

**For The Crew:** There are toilets and laundry facilities at Foldvik Brygge in season.

**Things To Do:** There is a seasonal restaurant and pub in the building where fish nets were dried and repaired in days gone by (Foldvik Brygge).

Foldvik Marked og Kystkulturfestival takes place in August every year.

The Nordnorsk Båtmuseum has quays in Foldvik for the larger in-water boats owned by the museum.

The salmon hatchery welcomes visitors.

## Elveneset

68°40.2' N,  
17°40' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Quays are available at Elveneset in Gratangsbotten, inside a 17-m high bridge. There is less than 2 m depth alongside.

**For The Crew:** There are showers and laundry at Gratangen.

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**Things To Do:** The main part of the Nordnorsk Båtmuseum is located in Gratangsbotn, which has the world's largest collection of Nordlands boats, the oldest from 1825.

## Breivoll (SE Rolløya)

68°45.5' N,  
17°09' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL Vol 6 2018

Breivoll is a small mole harbour with a bar in the entrance of about 2 m depth. There is a board to port in the entrance showing the profile of the bottom in the entrance. The harbour deepens once inside the mole. There is limited room to manoeuvre inside the mole.

Though the nearby harbour at **Hamnvik** has more room, it does not offer the all-weather protection that Breivoll does.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The visitors' berth is to port past the high dock.

**Things To Do:** Breivoll is a good starting point for the hike to Sula (alt 848 m), a popular summit summer and winter. The summer route is marked.

## Hamnvik (E Rolløya)

68°46.7' N,  
17°10.8' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

This is the main village in Ibestad municipality and an old trading post.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** This is a small mole harbour with a 25-m long visitors' pontoon along the shore, with approximately 2 m depth alongside.

**For The Boat:** Water and electricity are available, both at an extra charge. There is a ship yard with slip, but probably not suitable for smaller boats.

**For The Crew:** There are a couple of shops in the village. The old trading post is nicely restored with a *café* open in season. You can start the ascent of Sula (alt 858 m) from here, but the distance is somewhat shorter if starting at Breivoll.

## Bolla (NE Rolløya)

68°50.3' N,  
17°04.4' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

Bolla is a sheltered mole harbour.

**Anchorage, Moorings:**

- There is a visitors' berth on the outside of the outermost finger-berth to starboard after entering the harbour basin. There is a locked gate,

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so you will either have to liaise with a local to get a key, or use the dinghy to get ashore.

- There is a municipal dock with wood cladding to port after the mole; visiting boats are asked to use the E-facing end of the dock as the ambulance boat at times uses the N-facing wall where the steps are.
- It may be possible to anchor but we are told there may be old bottom chains at uncertain locations.

## Harstad (E Hinnøya)

68°48.1' N,

16°32.8' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, aerial

photos & sketch

maps

[Webrite](#)

This is a sizable and attractive city with all facilities.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a central guest berthing area with pontoons with fingerberths in downtown Harstad. Pay at a metre, credit card only, or at the harbour office during opening hours. The harbourmaster can be reached at Tel.: +(47) 77 00 12 12. Historically, these pontoons were poorly sheltered from winds from the E and NE, but a wavebreaker, installed in 2017, has made these docks much more sheltered than previously.

Alternatively, there are visitors' berths at the [Harstad Båtforening](#) pontoon system at Nygård in Bergsvågen, a 3.5 nm passage around the peninsula from the city pontoons. Visitors' berths are located at the end of the pontoons. Contact the posted telephone number to obtain a key for the gates and the service building.

**For The Boat:** There is electricity on the central guest pontoons. There is a chandlery and diesel at [Harstad Marina](#), a half-hour walk from the town centre.

For information on leaving your boat here for the winter, see Harstad Båtforening under Boat Storage Facilities in the Appendix (Volume I).

**For The Crew:** There are laundry facilities and showers (for a fee) in the *café* at the central guest pontoon. Extensive shopping is available. WiFi is available at the [Thon Hotel](#) for a fee.

There is a service building at the Harstad Båtforening docks.

**Things To Do:** At Trondenes, 1.5 km NE of Nygård, there is a handsome Romanesque mid-13th century church, and in fair weather you can anchor off and row ashore to visit it. Next door is the [Trondenes Historical Centre](#), which tells the Viking history of the region, including the story of Bjarkøya (see [Nergårdsvika](#)). Just to the N of the church, a military installation offers

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guided tours of King Adolph, a giant siege cannon from WWII. A car is needed for this excursion if coming from town.

Harstad has a small maritime museum, and there is a notable arts festival in late June/early July called the Festspillene i Nord-Norge, a lively time with a multitude of concerts and shows attracting many visitors.

## Kjøtta

68°52.6' N,  
16°42.7' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
Google

The waypoint given refers to the E anchorage.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There are two anchorages between Kjøtta and Kjøttakalven entered respectively from either the W or E:

The W anchorage is open to the W. Be aware that there is a submarine cable and the quay is used by the catamaran ferry.

The E anchorage is open to the E and is deeper than charted. The holding is good but there is little swinging room due to the many moorings. There is a KNBF mooring buoy N in the anchorage, max. 10 tonnes, free to all for 24 hours.

**Things To Do:** There is good walking on the islands.

## Sandsøya (W)

68°57' N,  
16°39.2' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

Hallevika, NE Sandsøya and the area just SE of Dalsneset used to be military; they are now open to the public.

This is a beautiful harbour inside Sandsholmen, with a small mole harbour.

**Approaches:** Boats with masts will need to approach from the S due to a new bridge with only 12 m clearance between Grytøya and Sandsøya in the N approaches. There is a bar with more than 2 m depth whether you pass N or S of Sandsholmen.

**Anchorage, Moorings:**

- The charted anchorage is > 20 m deep, but it is possible to anchor in shallower water E of Sandsholmen. Landfill now gives better protection from the N.
- There is a visitors' pontoon in the mole harbour with 3 m depth.
- Large vessels may be able to moor at the public quay (*almenningskai*), which is the first berth to port inside the mole.

**For The Boat:** There is water and electricity on the visitors' pontoon.

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**Things To Do:** There is a marked footpath to the summit of Vetten, which begins near the old ferry berth.

## Engenes (NW Andørja)

68°55.5' N,

17°07.5' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNI Vol 6 aerial

Andørja is said to be the most mountainous island in Scandinavia, with 20 peaks higher than 1000 m.

Engenes is a pleasant and well-sheltered harbour, although there will be some swell in strong N and E winds. There are plans for a new mole enclosing a larger and deeper harbour basin.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The first fingerberth on the inside of the wave-breaker is the visitors' berth and is suitable for large boats. Moor on the outside of the wavebreaker only in settled conditions.

**For The Boat:** Water and fuel are available. There are electricity outlets, some of which work.

**For The Crew:** There is a small shop and a *café* that shares space with a fish farm education centre. There is a toilet in the express boat waiting room; toilets and showers also available in the *café* during opening hours. The express boat between **Harstad** and **Tromsø** stops here, making crew changes possible.

**Things To Do:** Accessible from the harbour are Middagstind (alt 629 m), home of sport events such as Tour de Andørja (bicycle) and Andørja Freeride (offpiste skiing), Klåptind (alt 988 m), Årbostad-tind (alt 1179 m), and Langlitind (alt 1276 m), the highest peak on Andørja.

If you don't have the time or weather conditions to hike one of the many 1000 m peaks in the area, the walk to Nappen (alt 371 m) makes for a nice afternoon hike from the harbour. From the cairn there are excellent views of Andfjorden and the midnight sun.

For the less agile, the short walk to the WWII fortifications also provides good views; follow the signposts to "Batteriet".

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## Dyrøyhamn (SE Dyrøya)

69°00.7' N,  
17°27.1' E  
Last Updated:

There are no longer berths for visiting boats here; in fact, there is a big Private Docks sign, and anchoring is not advisable due to a water pipe. The dock at Langhamn, another small mole harbour a couple of nm N, is in disrepair and no longer suitable for mooring. There are a couple of small private pontoons and private moorings with no room for visiting boats. We no longer recommend either of these harbours.

## Finnlandsneset Båthavn (Brøstadbotn)

69°05.4' N,  
17°36.8' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
Google

This is a small mole harbour on the mainland side of the bridge that links Dyrøya and the mainland. A landfill now connects Finnlandsholmen with the mainland and the marina is located between the bridge and this landfill.

**Approaches:** Following an ENE course, parallel the S side of the landfill on the mainland (E) side of the bridge until past the mole, when the harbour opens up to starboard.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Moor alongside the 15-m long pontoon or enquire about vacant fingerberths. The harbour is less than 2 m deep, shallowing as you get closer to the mole. Keel boats do moor at the outer part of the pontoon, but make sure to check water depths before tying up and be aware of the projected tidal variation. The bottom is sand. Expect some wash in S winds. Pay in the honesty box.

Deep draught vessels will prefer the marinas at **Djupvågen** or **Gisund Båthavn**, further E.

**For The Boat:** There is water and electricity on the pontoon.

**For The Crew:** There are toilet facilities at the back of the red clubhouse. Showers and a kiosk are located at the campsite across the road.

**Things To Do:** Finnlandsholmen is a public recreation area with graveled paths and designated BBQ sites. Firewood is available. You can rent bicycles. There are shops and a *café* 2.5 km away.

## Djupvågen (E Solbergfjorden)

69°09.8' N,  
18°06.8' E  
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This is a small mole harbour.

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**Approaches:** Approach from the S, passing E of the low wavebreaker (a necklace of tyres) that extends well beyond the mole.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The visitors' berth is courtesy of Sørreisa og omegn båtförening. Visitors should tie to the outside of the outermost fingerberth or enquire about a vacant fingerberth.

**For The Boat:** Water and electricity (for an extra charge) are available.

**For The Crew:** There are shops 4 kms to the S at Sørreisa. The road here is busy and there is no sidewalk. A more pleasant walk is to follow the sidewalk along the main road 2 kms NW to the church. Buses to Bardufoss Airport stop on the main road near the harbour.

## Gisund Båthavn (Finnsnes)

69°14.4' N,  
17°58.8' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

This is a useful passage stop with all-weather protection behind a mole, located on the mainland immediately N of the bridge.

**Approaches:** N of the bridge, pass N of a green buoy, then follow the shore and through the narrow opening in the mole.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Moor alongside the large visitors' pontoon in front of the white service building, clearly marked *Gjestebrygge*. Off-season and long-term rates available.

**For The Boat:** Water and electricity are available on the pontoons. There is a diesel pump in the mole harbour; credit card only. The chandlery Best Marin is located just S of the marina.

For information on leaving your boat here for the winter, see Gisund Båthavn under Boat Storage Facilities in the Appendix (Volume I).

**For The Crew:** There is a service building with toilets, showers and laundry room. There are a few shops about 5-minutes' walk away at Finnsnes Brygge. It is about a 15-minute walk to **Finnsnes** town centre.

**Things To Do:** Gisund Båthavn is home to Senja Seilforening and early in August every other year they stage the boat race Senja Rundt, a 4-day event circumnavigating the island of Senja (next race is in 2020). The social life during the 3 stop-overs is said to be a major reason for the event's popularity.

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It's a nice afternoon walk (4 km) to the small cabin at Varden (alt 440 m) with views of the fairway and bridge to Senja. Signposted paths begin at the water tower and by the school in Finnsnes.

## Gibostad (E Senja)

69°21.3' N,  
18°05.1' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
Google

This was a military area with strict rules for passage but most of the military activity has ceased and the area is now open to normal activity.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a new mole protecting a pontoon harbour by the old ferry docks, with a new visitors' pontoon running parallel to the original pontoon.

## Hestøya (E Senja)

69°22.2' N,  
18°03.8' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

This anchorage, 1.2 nm N of Gibostad, is a good place to wait for HW to enter the better-protected Skognesbotn, 5 nm SW.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor to the W of the wildlife reserve Hestøya, in 5 to 15 m depth, sand/mud bottom with some weed. The holding is good and the anchorage is well sheltered except from N winds.

**Things To Do:** There is good walking on Hestøya, though landing on the N part of the island is prohibited during the bird breeding season.

## Hennes (SW Hinnøya)

68°31.8' N,  
15°14.2' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
Google

**Anchorage, Moorings:** This is a small sheltered harbour with two floating pontoons for small boats, which is often filled with local boats. It may be possible to tie up to one of the numerous private quays with permission.

**For The Boat:** Water and electricity are available on the floating pontoons.

**For The Crew:** There is a shop.

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**Things To Do:** The Møysalen National Park Centre, with a seasonal *café*, is located here. Enquire about a guided hike to Møysalen (alt 1262 m), the highest peak in Lofoten and Vesterålen.

## Melbu (S Hadseløya)

68°29.8' N,

14°48.4' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNI Vol 5 serial

Note that the harbour entrance was moved during the winter of 2007. Instead of entering to the W of Svinøya (the island with the factory buildings on it), the new entrance is to the E of the island. This change protects the harbour from SW winds.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There are visitors' berths in two locations:

The Melbu small boat harbour is immediately to starboard after the mole opening. The visitors' pontoon is the first pontoon after the inner mole. It is a 10-minute walk to the nearest shop; a 20-minute walk to the town centre. There are two visitors' pontoons in the town centre. These are close to the ferry harbour.

**For The Boat:** Electricity and water are available at both locations. There is a fuel pontoon with good depths in the small boat harbour. Water is available here year-round.

**For The Crew:** There is shopping.

**Things To Do:** Melbu is noted for its Sommer-Melbu arts festival in July. Part of the festival is a guided group hike up Strøna, alt 907 m, across the sound to the S.

The old buildings on the W mole head are from the herring oil industry and are now a fisheries museum and an occasional concert venue. There is also a museum in the old Melbu *hovedgård* (Melbu Manor), which is open June 20 to August 20.

The walk up an unsurfaced road to the TV tower on the peak 5 km NE takes passes through a pleasant wooded area and offers outstanding views of the midnight sun and the mountains and fjords of Langøya.

## Stokmarknes (NE Hadseløya)

68°34.1' N,

14°55.1' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNI Vol 5 serial

Stokmarknes was historically an important hub of transport and trade for Vesterålen and was in its time the largest market place in N Norway, as described in the novel *Landstrykere* (Wayfarers) by Knut Hamsun.

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**Approaches:** Boats with tall masts will need to pass under the 30-m high bridge and approach from the NW as there is a 15-m high bridge S of the pontoon.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Immediately N of the bridge connecting the town and Borøya, there is a 60-m long pontoon with 4-m depth alongside. Note that in E winds there is a lot of swell at the pontoon.

The boat club in Børøysundet, SE of the 15-m high bridge, has a visitors' pontoon but it is small and exposed to the E. The charted anchorage SW of the pontoons is free of moorings and probably preferable to the boat club pontoon for an overnight stay S of the bridge.

The harbourmaster can be reached at Tel.: +(47) 76 16 46 50.

**For The Boat:** Electricity (for an extra charge) is available on the pontoon, water at the base of the pontoon. Diesel is available during shop opening hours, 0800 to 1600 weekdays and 1000 to 1400 Saturdays. They take cash or credit card.

**For The Crew:** Toilets, showers, laundry facilities and internet access are available at the Tourist Information Office during opening hours. There is a good range of shopping, including a liquor store.

The coastal boat stops here and there is a small airport (Skagen).

**Things To Do:** When Richard With and his companions wanted to link communities along the coast from **Bergen** to **Kirkenes** with a year-round coastal steamer, William Hals from Stokmarknes was the only ship-owner who rose to the challenge and, in 1881, he established Vesterålen Dampskips-selskab in Stokmarknes. This was the start of the famous Hurtigrute (coastal steamer) service, which still runs today. When the coastal steamer *Finnmarken* was taken out of service in 1993 it was taken to Stokmarknes as the first exhibit for the museum that came later. The Hurtigrute Museum now boasts a new building which also houses a hotel and a cultural centre, and is open every day at midday when the S-bound coastal boat stops here.

The Rødbrygga pub by the museum is pleasant, with live music on occasion.

## Blokken (W Hinnøya)

68°35.95' N,  
15°22.6' E

Last Updated: 2018

[Google](#)

DNI Vol 6 aerial

This is a beautiful small fishing harbour at the SE side of Sortlandsundet, well known for fish farming and fishing boat repairs.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The local boatclub has an old pontoon where all spaces are private. A berth may be available upon enquiry. Mooring lines are

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quite near the surface at the end of the pontoon. If the gate is locked there is usually a key in one of the two mail boxes inside the gate.

This is a very sheltered anchorage but the bottom is rocky.

**For The Boat:** There is water on the pontoon. Though there are a few electrical outlets, they are usually in use by local boats.

**Things To Do:** Walk along the river and inspect the old hydroelectric power plant, built to provide power for the boatyard. There is a salmon farm information centre on the docks.

## Sortland (E Langøya)

68°42' N, 15°25.6'

E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 5, aerial  
photo & sketch

This is the administrative and commercial centre for the Sortland municipality, with a wide range of shops and services available. The harbours and the town are on the W side of Sortland-sundet.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The Sortland Boatclub is located 2 nm S of the bridge and will be the preferred berthing for most cruising boats. The middle pontoon in the boatclub harbour is for visitors. Boats with a draft of 2 m or greater will want to avoid entry at LW springs, but there appears to be > 2 m depth at the visitors' berth.

There is also a visitors' pontoon at the town square, Torghuken, exposed to wash from passing vessels.

The small mole harbour, 1 nm N of the bridge, belongs to Vesterålen Sjøhus. While they welcome visiting boats, there is limited room to manoeuvre and most fingerberths will be suitable only for small boats. They prefer you moor on the outside of the first pontoon. Keys for the gates can be had in reception.

**For The Boat:** Water and electricity are available on the boatclub pontoon. It may be possible to fill with diesel at the gas station located between the bridge and the commercial harbour. Their small pontoon may be accessible at high tide, depending on the draft of your boat. Use only in settled weather and with great care.

**For The Crew:** A wide range of shopping is available. The coastal express berths here and there are buses to the airports at **Stokmarknes** (Skagen) and Evenes.

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## Lifjorden (NE Langøya)

68°51.2' N,  
15°17' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

**Anchorage, Moorings:** This is a small anchorage in the bight between Sørøya, Nordøya and Kalvøya. You can get quite far into the narrow sound between Sørøya and Kalvøya, where it is possible to take lines ashore on both sides. There is one mooring quite far S in the small sound.

Note that this anchorage is subject to gusting in strong winds, as we found out during a September gale we rode out here on *S/V Morgan's Cloud*.

## Tranesvågen (SE Andøya)

69°00' N, 15°34'  
E  
Last Updated:  
2018

This is a pleasant wild anchorage, overlooking pretty wooded valleys between mountains. Though it provides good shelter in normal summer weather, the surrounding high hills suggest strong gusting in windy weather.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is good holding in 3 to 5 m depth in mud W of Kobbøya.

## Finnbukta (SE Andøya)

68°58.9' N,  
15°37.9' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The holding is excellent with lots of swinging room, though watch for shallow places around the harbour edges.

## Risøyhamn (SE Andøya)

68°58.4' N,  
15°38.8' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

This small harbour on the NW side of Risøysundet is an adequate passage stop-over.

**Approaches:** There is a buoyed channel to the harbour.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a pontoon system with visitors' berths (Risøyhamn Brygge). Moorings limit anchoring room at the charted anchorage but it may be possible to anchor N of the pontoon system.

**For The Boat:** Water and electricity are available on the visitors' pontoon.

**For The Crew:** There is a P.O. and shop with a limited selection. The Hurtigrute stops here, enabling crew changes, and there are buses to **Andenes**.

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**Things To Do:** There is a small museum.

## Nordvågen (SW Jørgenfjorden)

68°40' N,  
14°40.2' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

This sheltered anchorage in beautiful surroundings is located on your port hand inside the entrance to Jørgenfjorden, and is one of our favourite anchorages in this area.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is good holding in sand/mud with good swinging room.

In strong E'lies, the small pontoon complex at Ringstad, .5 nm SW, will provide better shelter.

## Vinjesjøen (Bø i Vesterålen)

68°36.9' N,  
14°26.3' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

Bø i Vesterålen is the administrative and commercial centre for this part of Vesterålen.

**Approaches:** Approach from the SW along a well-marked passageway.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The boatclub at Vinjesjøen has a pontoon system behind an inner mole. There is a dedicated visitors' pontoon outside the small club house. There is a locked gate here but help can usually be found. Depths alongside are < 1.5 m at LW and deep draft vessels should ask about berthing outside the outermost fingerberth.

Alternatively, Steinesjøen, .2 nm SE, is the commercial harbour and large boats may want to enquire about berthing here.

**For The Boat:** Water is available. Electricity is available at the shore-end of the visitors' pontoon.

**For The Crew:** There are a few shops including a liquor store.

**Things To Do:** There is a small museum and a permanent outdoor exhibition on "Artscape Nordland". The sculpture "Mannen fra Havet" (The Man from the Sea) is located up a small hill from the harbour, from where there are good views to **Gaukværøya** and Lofoten.

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## Gaukværøya

68°37.2' N,  
14°20.2' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

This smallish high island is an especially interesting deserted outpost, which can be visited in settled weather. The last settlers departed in 1952, taking their houses with them, leaving only extensive stoneworks as a legacy of the 300 fisherfolk once resident here (600 in the winter). Note that this harbour is not sheltered at all in SW or W winds when there will be a big swell.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There are 4 charted anchorages on the W side of Gaukværøya, running from S to N:

- Skjæringstad: a very tiny mole harbour, which supposedly offers the best shelter of the 4 anchorages, if you can get in. It is entered from the S between two perches.
- Nordvika: anchor in 9 m depth with little swinging room. Enter from the W, not from Skjæringstad.
- Naklingvågen: located at the waypoint for this entry, it has good room for anchoring in 5 to 6 m depth in sand/mud. Anchor N of the mooring. There is a small pontoon used to drop off day trippers. Enter from the SW or W (Vågsleia).
- The cove furthest N is not suitable for fixed keel boats.

**Things To Do:** There is an old path, now used by sheep, that runs along the W side of the island and makes for an interesting walk, and the view from the top of the cliffs is superb.

## Skårvågen (SW Langøya)

68°40.7' N,  
14°24.8' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

**Anchorage, Moorings:** This is a pleasant anchorage to the S behind the small island Lensmannsholmen, but make sure to avoid the cable and drain-pipe along the N shore. The anchorage is overlooked by a couple of new cabins.

Alternatively, it may be possible to tie to the wooden quay at the fish plant or the fishing boat pontoon with permission.

SW winds bring a big swell into the cove.

## Nykvåg (W Langøya)

68°46.75' N,  
14°28.2' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

[Google](#)

DNV Vol 5 Serial

The islands Fugløyken and Votten are a bird sanctuary and landing is not permitted between April 15th and July 31st. This area was noted for its large

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population of sea birds but, sadly, populations have plummeted by as much as 75% since 1990.

**Approaches:** Approach from the N through the mole opening, then take a 90° turn to starboard and pass under the 19 m overhead cable.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a long pontoon where it may be possible to moor alongside a fishing boat, or enquire about berthing at the municipal quay S of the pontoon. There are other quays but these appear to be in poor shape.

Anchoring could be hazardous as there is old bottom chain in both the outer and inner harbour basins.

## Hovden (W Langøya)

68°49.02' N,  
14°32.9' E

Last Updated:  
2018

[Google](#)

DNI Vol 5 Serial

Hovden harbour produces stockfish on an industrial scale and further harbour developments are underway.

**Approaches:** Approach from the NE along a narrow but well-marked passage. *Den Norske Los* reports breakers form in the harbour mouth in NW gales. SW of the harbour is a conspicuous windmill.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Hovden offers good shelter and has a large pontoon with good depths alongside (> 5 m).

**Things To Do:** Hovden has two excellent beaches, one facing N and one facing S.

## Tinden (W Tindsøya)

68°50.4' N,  
14°45.5' E

Last Updated:  
2018

[Google](#)

Tinden is an attractive trading post preserved from the last century, that was operated by its 80-year-old owner, Skjalg Halmøy, as a general store and informal museum up until he died in the fall of 2002. Tinden is now run as a Trust and the shop is open in the summer. You can browse a fascinating assortment of miscellany and imagine what it was like in the old times.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Refurbishment of the old docks is now complete and the new docks are in very good condition. There is also a pontoon that may be available for visitors with permission. The bay has a sand bottom with good holding. Note that both the harbour and anchorage are subject to *williwaws* in strong N'ly winds, when **Skipnes** provides better protection.

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**Things To Do:** There is a lovely walk to Skipnes.

## Skipnes (SW Tindsøya)

68°49.6' N,  
14°45.1' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
Google

There are old *rorbu* facilities nicely restored as holiday homes where you can rent rooms at a reasonable cost. The premises are used by participants in the Arctic Sea Kayak Race held the last week in July every year.

**Approaches:** Approach from Stavsundet with no particular hazards.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** You can moor at either end of the long wooden dock, leaving the central part clear for the shuttle boat. There is also a small pontoon only suitable for very small vessels.

**For The Crew:** There are toilets, showers and laundry facilities. WiFi is available in the small shop and immediate vicinity.

**Things To Do:** There is a pub and *café*, which sometimes offers live music. There is a lovely 40-minute walk to the old trading station at Tinden. You can visit the statue “Anna på Vinje”, which commemorates the hardy women who lived on the island. The sculpture is by Anne-Kirsti Thoralvsdatter Lind and depicts her great-great-grandmother Anna Serine who fostered 10 children in her small homestead on the island, and who lost her husband and 5 sons to the sea.

## Finnvåg (NE Nærøya)

68°48.3' N,  
14°47.5' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
Google

Except for one house belonging to the last full-time resident, the buildings are summer homes with a conference/event centre in the old school building.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The holding is okay but the bottom is rocky in the sheltered anchorage behind the small island. Alternatively, you may be able to tie alongside the docks of the event centre if not in use and with permission, or at the dock just below the church yard S in the bay.

**Things To Do:** There is a pleasant walk up to the lake to the SW.

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## Ånnfjordbotn (NW Langøya)

68°44.6' N,  
14°53.7' E  
Last Updated: 2018  
Google

The various sounds between this anchorage and Tinden make a pleasant sheltered diversion; you can even see a pretty pink sister of the Copenhagen mermaid overlooking Perneset at SE Nærøya.

Sadly, the 20 m overhead cable has been replaced by a 14 m overhead cable, limiting access to this anchorage.

**Approaches:** Enter holding to starboard in 2 to 3 m depth with a lookout for rocks. Beware an uncharted shoal and rock which just covers at HW located close NE of the 4 m sounding.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Once past the uncharted rock, there is good swinging room in 4 to 5 m depth in this sheltered anchorage surrounded by high peaks. Even though partly skirted by a road, it's a wild and beautiful scene.

**Things To Do:** There is good hiking SE by a lake to **Olderfjorden**.

## Breistrandvågen (S)

68°52.5' N,  
14°55.2' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

The charted 18 m overhead cable has been removed from the harbour entrance.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Tie up alongside the wood-clad wharf in good depths.

**Things To Do:** If you are feeling energetic, there is a 9-km hike that starts at the creek that runs into the bottom of the harbour, then loops past several lakes and ends up back on the beach at Hjellsand, requiring a walk along the road back to Breidstrandvågen.

## Øksnes (S)

68°52.6' N,  
14°57.8' E  
Last Updated:  
2010

There is an interesting camp here where children come from the state school system to learn about traditional coastal crafts.

**Approaches:** Pass between multiple perches to enter the small cove W of the church. Deep draft vessels may wish to enter at half-tide or better. We found 3 m depth, 1.5 hours before HW.

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**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor in 5 to 7 m depth in the cove below the church.

**For The Crew:** The old school building is now a DNT cabin, locked with their standard lock. There are toilets and showers available for DNT members.

**Things To Do:** Visit the old church; the doors are locked but if you enquire kindly with the camp school teachers it may be possible to borrow a key. For an afternoon stroll, follow the road 500 m W from the anchorage, where there is a marked path towards Øknes Heia, leading to excellent views of the anchorage.

## Myre (NW Langøya)

68°54.7' N,  
15°04.2' E  
Last Updated: 2018  
[Google](#)  
DNL, Vol. 5, aerial  
photo

Myre is a large fishing harbour protected by an impressive mole to the N. It is the commercial centre for Øksnes municipality. The harbour does not cater to visitors as such, but it is useful for shopping and crew changes.

**Approaches:** Approach from the W with all hazards marked.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Myre has no dedicated visitors' berths, and the harbour can fill up during seasonal fisheries. The best chance of finding a berth is at Myre Sjøarkhavn, in the SW corner of the harbour. Contact the harbour-master on Tel: +(47) 761 34 035/ +(47) 951 53 872 to enquire about available berths and payment of harbour dues.

**For The Boat:** Water and fuel are available; electricity is generally for permanent berth holders only.

**For The Crew:** There is a service room for the fishing fleet SW in the harbour that it might be possible to use. There is a reasonable range of shopping, including a liquor store. WiFi is available at the small *café*.

**Things To Do:** There is a nice afternoon walk to the summit of Myretind (alt 350 m); the path starts behind the church.

## Nyksund (N Langøya)

68°59.73' N,  
15°00.8' E  
Last Updated: 2018  
[Google](#)  
DNL, Vol. 5, aerial  
photo

Nyksund is a small fishing harbour in very attractive surroundings, which was completely abandoned around 1950, resurrected for a few years as an

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international student centre, very nearly abandoned again, but now built up as a tourist town. The harbour should be avoided in strong W winds.

**Approaches:** From the WSW, pass S of the rusty remnants of the beacon on Seiskjærene. Note the overhead cable, height not charted, but seems to be about 20 m (a sailboat with an 18 m mast passed under with plenty of room to spare).

**Anchorage, Moorings:** You can moor along the extensive docks on either side of the inlet, paying close attention to the building overhangs. A fender-board is essential. Some older boats undergoing restoration appear to be semi-permanently moored along the docks on the S side—enquire about mooring alongside. We have not been charged for dockage during our visits, but dock owners have happily accepted a bottle of wine!

The Expedisjonen Vertsbrygge restaurant has a dock to starboard (when entering) that is nicely restored but it is shallow alongside. The next dock also belongs to the restaurant and has better depths, but birds nest in the overhanging building, so there will be mess on the deck.

If you are unable to tie up, you can go to **Stø** and walk here.

**Things To Do:** Dronningruten, the path between Nyksund and Stø, which loops over the ridge tops one way and along the shoreline on the other, is one of our favourites, but not for the faint of heart! For an easier walk, consider joining a guided tour led by Øksnes Museum (prebooking essential).

There are a couple of nice *cafés* and an art gallery. The Ekspedisjonen restaurant serves excellent seafood.

## Stø (N Langøya)

69°01.25' N,  
15°07.5' E  
Last Updated: 2018  
[Google](#)  
DNI Vol 5 aerial

Stø is a pleasant small harbour with good shelter. Note that it is still an active fishing community, so it may be busy during seasonal fisheries.

Gisløya and Grunnfjorden, 4 nm SE, are landscape and bird protection areas. Anda Island, 2.5 nm N, is a Ramsar Nature Reserve, Important Bird Area, and landing is prohibited during nesting season.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a well-maintained wooden community quay, though balloon fenders are needed to deal with the tyres. There are also two floating pontoons inside the mole. There is no local harbourmaster; facilities are operated by the harbour office at **Myre**. Enquire to Tel.: +(47) 761 34 035/+(47) 951 53 872 about available berths and electricity if required.

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**Things To Do:** Go on a tour with Arctic Whale Tours to find the whales, which frequent the waters to the NW.

There is a very fine marked hiking path loop to **Nyksund** along the ridge tops (rugged) one way and the shoreline on the other; a brochure with a map may be available at the campground. This was one of our favourite walks in N Norway, although we would not recommend it for those without a head for heights.

There is a small *café* at the camper van park, W of town, that serves meals in the afternoon.

## Nergårdsvika (E Bjarkøya)

69°00.1' N,  
16°32.2' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
Google

Bjarkøya was a major Viking centre, to which the king of the time would send his sons to learn how to become proper Viking rulers. The Trondenes Historical Centre, located near Harstad, relates the Viking history of this area.

**Approaches:** All hazards in the approaches to the mole harbours are clearly marked.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There are two mole harbours located in the large bay NE on the island:

- The old mole harbour is located SW in the bay and has a 50-m pontoon for visitors with 5 m depth alongside. Pay in the honesty box. You may also tie up alongside a fishing boat with permission.
- E of the old harbour is a new, smaller mole harbour, outside the holiday homes. It is exposed to the W. There is a 50-m pontoon and several finger piers, the latter suitable only for smaller vessels. There is 2 m depth alongside the pontoon. Pay in the *café*.

John Armitage recommends the anchorage at N Leirvåg, NW Bjarkøya.

**For The Boat:** Water and diesel (with a credit card) are available in the old harbour.

**For The Crew:** There is a shop in the old harbour open 6 days/week with a small kiosk open every day. In the new harbour there is a service building with toilets and showers. The shop with a P.O. is open three days/week. There is daily ferry service to **Harstad**, which will be discontinued when the 3250 m subsea tunnel between Grytøya and Bjarkøya is opened for traffic sometime in 2018/2019.

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**Things To Do:** There are many old buildings, including an old church from the 1700s. Behind the altar there is a painting of Christ with a Viking helmeted figure at his feet.

You can also visit the memorial stone to Tore Hund (ca. 990), one of the leaders of the group who opposed Norwegian King Olav Haraldsson and who was an important character in Snorre Sturlason's saga chronicling King Olav.

There is a museum in an old house but the holder of the key is not easy to find.

There are nice walks in the area and local hiking maps are sold in the shop and *café*.

## Helløya (SW)

69°01.7' N,

16°30.4' E

Last Updated:

2018

This enclosed cove at the SW corner of the island is the best anchorage in the area, with true "hurricane hole" qualities.

**Approaches:** Once between Bårnøya and Helløya, turn to the E and pass N of the small island; if you keep along the N shore you will have about 3 m depth. It is also possible to pass S of the small island, but there is less than 2 m depth at LW.

Pass E of the perch with pointer in the final narrows to the cove.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a KNBF mooring buoy in the middle of the bay (free to all; suggested max displacement 10 tonnes). Anchor W of this in 6 to 12 m depth, sand bottom. E of the mooring buoy it is deeper and lines ashore will probably be required.

There is another KNBF buoy in the small bay Hamnan, formed by a number of islands NW of Helløya, including Store and Litle Sandøya. There are a number of lovely sand beaches on the islands.

**Things To Do:** It is possible to walk to the summit of the island but the terrain is boggy. The only footpath runs N to S between the settlement on the N shore and Sundsvollsundet.

There is a large colony of kittiwakes on the steep S side of the island, which you can approach quite closely by boat.

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## Mefjordvær (Mefjorden)

69°31.18' N,  
17°26.45' E

Last Updated: 2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, sketch

map

Mefjordvær is a small mole harbour located 1 nm NW of Senjahopen. *Den Norske Los* warns that the harbour is subject to swell.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There are two floating pontoons for visiting boats at Mefjord Brygge, depths unknown.

**Things To Do:** Mefjord Brygge runs a restaurant and offers accommodations as well as hiking, biking and fishing tours.

## Kjerringvika (SE Hersøya)

70°05.7' N,  
19°00.7' E

Last Updated:  
2018

The harbour provides good shelter from all directions except the SE.

**Approaches:** Beware of the charted rocks and also the uncharted rocks at 70°05.49' N, 19°01.5' E, barely awash at LW.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The holding is good on the N side of the anchorage.

## Toftfjorden (NE Rebbenesøya)

70°05.45' N,  
18°55.1' E

Last Updated:  
2018

This natural anchorage is one of our favourites and is the scene of the dramatic sinking of the Norwegian resistance fishing boat *Brattholm* by a German gunboat in World War II. David Howarth's book *The Shetland Bus* mentions this sinking and his *We Die Alone* is entirely devoted to it and the incredible tale of Jan Baalsrud's subsequent escape to Sweden. We highly recommend both books for anyone interested in the history and culture of N Norway.

If you prefer movies to books, *The 12th Man* (*Den 12. Mann*), a Hollywood movie about Jan Baalsrud's escape to Sweden from here, was released May 2018. *Nine Lives* (*Ni Liv*), a Norwegian film about Jan's escape, was released in 1957 and was nominated for an Oscar.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The holding is good and there is good shelter behind the small island. You may require two anchors or a line to the shore to restrict swing. We have experienced very strong *fallwinder* here in SW and SE gales.

**Things To Do:** On the shore of the anchorage is a small memorial to Jan Baalsrud's comrades who died or were captured here.

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## Store Follesøya/Lille Follesøya

69°55.3' N,  
20°41.1' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

The anchorages between Store Follesøya and Lille Follesøya are usable only in settled weather. The few buildings on Lille Follesøya are in use as summer homes. Both islands are nature reserves and part of Lille Follesøya is a bird sanctuary where you are asked to keep away from the birds' nests and respect that no pets are allowed ashore between April 1 and November 1. Note the cable across the sound with a charted clearance of 12 m.

**Approaches:** From S or E as charted.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor W or N of Lille Follesøya depending on wind direction. The anchorage W of the island shoals rapidly and there are a couple of moorings occasionally used by fish farm support vessels. The anchorage N of the island is deep with poor holding (rock); you need to go far in to find reasonable holding in sand in 4 to 5 m depth.

Towards the shore on Lille Follesøya there are some private moorings and mooring chain/wire on the sea bed. It may be possible to borrow a mooring.

## Langfjorden (S)

70°06.4' N,  
20°32.6' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

Although a rather long detour from the main passageway, this anchorage is a good alternative when Akkarvik becomes untenable; however, expect gusty winds in the fjord.

**Approaches:** Approach from the S up Langfjorden with no particular hazards.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor in 8 to 10 m depth in the bottom of the fjord with good holding in mud. There are many streams emptying into the fjord, and the area of best anchoring depth is often iced-up until the middle of May. You will then have to anchor in 20 m depth further out.

A road winds around the anchorage but does little to detract from the beauty—the M25 it's not!

**Things To Do:** Halfway up the fjord on the W bank you will see a spiky mountain with a rather odd looking square peak called Finnkjerka (alt 787 m). Finnkjerka and the neighbouring peak Lappguden are sacred mountains

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in the Sami tradition. The peaks are on a list of “Norwegian mountains to be skied before you die”.

## Skjervøy (E Skjervøya)

70°02' N, 20°59.2'

E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, aerial  
photos & sketch

This busy fishing harbour provides good protection. Skjervøy has around 2500 inhabitants and is a commercial centre for the municipality, therefore a useful stop for provisioning and repairs. Boats with mechanical problems have used this as a landfall port on passage from Svalbard, as the approach up Kvænangenfjorden is clear and you can expect to carry the wind to the mole opening. There is a rescue vessel stationed here.

**Approaches:** When approaching from offshore, stay in the middle of Kvænangenfjorden to keep in deep water. The final approach is from the E through the mole opening. The harbour is accessible in all weather conditions.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Visitors' berths are available at the municipal pontoon and at the 40 m long boatclub pontoon marked *gjesteplasser*, immediately to starboard upon entering the inner harbour. Berthing fees are lower at the municipal pontoon. The harbour is often quite busy with small fishing boats, so expect to raft up. If these pontoons are too crowded, enquire about a vacant berth elsewhere in the inner harbour.

**For The Boat:** Diesel, water and electricity are available. Skjervøy Diesel has a slipway and repair facilities. There is a chandlery.

**For The Crew:** Toilets and, for a fee, showers and laundry are located in the boatclub building; pay at the chandlery (open 1000 to 1600). There are several grocery stores, a hardware store, and a liquor store. The coastal express (Hurtigruten) stops here, and there are express boats to the other islands and to **Tromsø**.

**Things To Do:** Store Kågtinden (alt 1228 m) is a popular hike summer and winter, conditions permitting. *Randonnée* skiers on a “sail and ski” tour will usually start from Storbuktdalen, just S of the bridge to Kågen, and descend the slopes down to Nymo on the W shore of Kågen where they are picked up by boat.

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An easier walk of about an hour takes you to the lighthouse and an old mostly destroyed WWII structure. Start at the football field and follow a pleasant path through the trees with occasional views.

## Seglvik

70°12.5' N,

21°12.8' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

Seglvik, at the W tip of a large mainland peninsula, is a pretty mole harbour with only two year-round inhabitants.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Enquire about an available pontoon berth or berth at the municipal dock after checking when the express boat will be using it.

There is room for anchoring; however, the holding may be hampered by weed.

**For The Crew:** There are toilets in the community “hall” (a small cabin near the old mole in the S part of the village).

## Bergsfjord (NE Langfjorden)

70°15' N, 21°47.2'

E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL. Vol. 6.

**Approaches:** Entry from the N is easy once the first *varde* is identified.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Located just SE of the island Silda, Bergsfjord is a sheltered harbour with limited anchoring room due to the many moorings off the fishermen’s quay. There is a floating pontoon with possible space for one boat as the ambulance boat has reserved one side of the pontoon.

**For The Boat:** Water is available on the fishermen’s quay near the shop. Fuel may be available during shop opening hours but the fuel hose is large diameter, so less suitable for pleasure craft.

The boatyard ([DeWilde Slipp og Mek](#)) is run by Dutchman Cornelius De Wilde who in a short time has developed a good reputation locally. The yard will haul boats up to 60’/30 tonnes. Contributors Berit and Jarle Land haul their Hallberg Rassy 36 S/V *Drott II* here annually.

**For The Crew:** There is a P.O. and shop just up from the quay. The shop offers broadband internet access.

**Things To Do:** There are great walks ashore with paths and maps posted on the wall outside the shop.

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## Meltefjorden

70°30' N,  
22°21.43' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

This anchorage W of Storholmen is in beautiful surroundings. There are a couple of houses in the S approach but none that overlook the anchorage.

Note that there will be gusting here in strong winds; already in a W Force 5 we experienced strong gusts.

**Approaches:** If approaching from the SE, leaving Storholmen to starboard, you will pass over a sandy bar charted as 2 m; however, we found only 3 m at half-tide and suspect there may be less than 2 m at LW springs.

If approaching from the NE, pass W of a perch in deep water.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor in 16 to 18 m depth in soft sand where our Spade gave good holding. There are a couple of small pontoons and some moorings S in the anchorage.

## Breivikbotn

70°35.5' N,  
22°17.2' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
[Google](#)  
DNL, Vol. 6, aerial  
photo & sketch

This village of 300 inhabitants is an administrative centre for Hasvik municipality.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** This is a small mole harbour, subject to surge in strong winds from the W.

Lengthening of the mole and dredging of the harbour basin (to 4 m depth) is planned for 2019.

## Saksfjorden

70°47.8' N,  
23°05.5' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

This beautiful small fjord is open to the NW and the Midnight Sun. This is not a place to get caught in a N blow, but it is fine in settled weather. The white sand and crystal clear water are more reminiscent of a Caribbean anchorage than the Arctic, although a quick swim will remind you of where you are. The surrounding shores are totally deserted, without even a cabin to indicate the presence of humans—unusual for Norway.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor anywhere in the inner cove that is shallow enough, in hard sand. The water is so clear that even in 5 m of water you will be able to watch your anchor set.

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**Things To Do:** There is a lovely beach, great hiking and many reindeer. On a fine-weather late evening in summer, landing the dinghy at the beach in the inner cove and walking NW will reward you with truly stunning views of the high cliffs across the fjord and your boat bathed in the long light of the Midnight Sun.

## Hammerfest (NW Kvaløya)

70°40' N, 23°41' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, aerial

photo & sketch

map

[Wehcite](#)

Hammerfest is the world's N-most mainland city, with extensive facilities. Landing and processing of gas from the Snøhvit field in the Barents Sea takes place at Melkøya, just NW of the city. Gas from Snøhvit is compressed and cooled in an underwater facility and then shipped out in liquid form. Apparently, the flame produced is quite impressive! Note that navigation is forbidden in the area when the tankers are underway.

Although some may feel that the processing plant reduces the area's aesthetic qualities, it has created an improvement in services useful to the long distance cruiser. The activity has also increased the selection of shops, eateries and other establishments in which to spend your *kroner*!

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There are new visitors' pontoons in the town centre, to starboard inside the commercial harbour. The large pontoon E of this is in use by the harbour authorities and ambulance boat from the island. Enquire with the harbourmaster (VHF channels 12 or 16 or to the posted telephone number) about the availability of berths here.

The boatclub pontoons N of the city are on the other side of a 4 m high bridge, hence of no use to boats with masts. The pontoons at Rypefjord, S of the city, are private, but docks in this bay may be useful if mechanical repairs are required.

**For The Boat:** Electricity (for an extra charge) and water are available at the visitors' pontoons in the town centre using a chip card available from the harbourmaster or from the hotel. Diesel and water are available at Bunker Oil across the bay. Mechanical repairs and some chandlery can be sourced at Båt og Motor in Rypefjord, 3 km S, by [Polarbase](#), which can be accessed by bus.

**For The Crew:** Shower and laundry facilities are available at the camp site, a 15-minute walk S of the pontoons, and showers are available at the Tourist Information Office (for a charge).

**Things To Do:** You can purchase a membership in the Royal and Ancient Polar Bear Society ([Isbjørnklubben](#)), if not expecting to actually see a real *isbjørn* (polar bear) in Svalbard.

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If you would like to learn more about the effect of WWII and its aftermath on Finnmark, you can visit the [Gjenreisningsmuseet](#).

There are notable views from the top of the zigzag road to Salen.

## Ingøy (N Ingøya)

71°05' N, 24°03.6'

E

Last Updated:  
2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, aerial

Previously a town of some size, Ingøy now has only 25 permanent residents but sees many visitors. It is worth visiting for its end-of-the-world feel. Ingøy is well known by crews working in the Barents Sea for its antenna providing longwave weather forecasts and entertainment as far N as Svalbard. With a height of 362 m, it is supposedly the tallest man-made structure in Scandinavia.

The lighthouse at Fruholmen claims to be the most Nly “proper” lighthouse in the world and regularly features in meteorological reports.

**Approaches:** If approaching from the NW, pass Fruholmen Lighthouse and the Ingøy sector light.

If approaching from the E, pass either side of Store Kartøy, then follow one of the two leads marked with perches with pointers. This is the approach used by the express boat, but note that the lead S of Henrikholmen is charted as 1.5 m at LW springs.

Note that the charted perch SW of Langholmen in the N approaches was missing in 2017.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a pontoon with some fingerberths. Moor at the section without outriggers or enquire about a vacant fingerberth. Larger boats will want to enquire about berthing alongside one of the docks. There are plans to extend the pontoon system.

**For The Crew:** There is a small store. The express boat runs to **Havøysund**.

**Things To Do:** There is a *café* in the store.

## Hamna (Akkarfjorden, NW Hjelmsøya)

71°04.5' N,  
24°41.9' E

Last Updated:  
2018

Hamna is located in dramatic surroundings in a large bay NW on the offlying island of Hjelmsøya. Once an active fishing village, today there are a few holiday homes.

*Den Norske Los* reports that the anchorage is exposed to strong *williwaws* under most conditions, so probably best to visit under settled conditions. We

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found it very calm, but the sun disappears for quite a few hours even in mid-summer due to the surrounding mountains.

**Approaches:** From offshore, Hjelmøystauren, a rocky pinnacle, is conspicuous on the E side of the mouth of the fjord. Pass E of three perches in the main fjord, then S of a perch with pointer in the final approach.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor in 10 to 15 m depth off the old derelict docks. There are a couple of private moorings and several mooring bolts ashore.

**Things To Do:** Walk along the old road to the better preserved buildings at Sandvikværet.

## Østervågen (SE Måsøya)

71°00.4' N,  
25°00.6' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
[Google](#)

Østervågen is a pleasant mole harbour with a large sand beach. Though the fish factory is closed down there are still boats fishing out of the harbour. Måsøya's claim to fame is as the birthplace of Norway's best-known composer of religious hymns, Magnus Brostrup Landstad. The Norwegian book of hymns is known as *Landstads salmebok*. There are about 40 inhabitants on the island.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Visiting boats can moor at the municipal pontoon immediately to port after passing the mole head. If wishing to anchor, consider the plan in *Den Norske Los* carefully in order to avoid the bottom chain. In gale force winds local fishing boats move to their moorings and visiting boats may wish to enquire about a vacant mooring or move to better shelter in **Havøysund**.

**For The Boat:** The electricity outlets on the pontoon require pre-paid chip cards but no one seems to know where to get one since the fish factory closed down. The slips and dry-dock are no longer in commission.

**Things To Do:** There is a fine old church to visit. You can hike to the top of the island for expansive views east towards Magerøya.

## Honningsvåg

70°58.8' N,  
25°58.3' E  
Last Updated:  
2018  
[Google](#)  
DNL, Vol. 6, aerial  
photos & sketch

This is a busy and sometimes noisy port. The town is the center of activity on the island and thousands of tourists come through by bus or cruise ship on their way to Nordkapp.

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The people of Honningsvåg hotly contest **Hammerfest's** claim to be the world's N-most *city*, but bear in mind that the entire municipality of Nordkapp has only 3200 inhabitants, which is reflected in the level of services offered.

The Johan Castberg oil and gasfields are located 150 nm NW of Nordkapp, which is further N than the existing Snøhvit and Goliat fields. If found commercially viable, the fields will be served by a floating production and storage platform, from which a subsea pipeline will carry oil to Veidnes, 5 nm SW of Honningsvåg. The oil storage facility at Veidnes was scheduled to be completed by 2018 but at the time of writing the project is on hold. This project is expected to bring more activity and services to this area.

**Approaches:** The tide in Magerøysundet regularly reaches 4 knots. The tide flows E from 3.5 hours before HW Hammerfest until 2.5 hours after HW Hammerfest. HW Magerøysundet is approximately 1 hour after HW Hammerfest (*Den Norske Los*, Vol. 6).

**Anchorage, Moorings:** In 2010, work on the harbour walls and dredging was carried out to a reported depth of 5 m throughout the harbour. There are many quays and two pontoons where you may find a spot to berth. The pontoon immediately to port after passing the dock for the coastal steamer is part of the ISPS security zone; however, this seems to be largely ignored except when in use by tenders from anchored cruise ships. There is a mole-protected marina .5 nm further to the N than the main harbour, but it is shallow and crowded with local boats.

**For The Boat:** The fuel pump at the pontoon S in the inner harbour is only available with a special Esso card. There is a water hose at the small pontoon E in the harbour; it is the service pontoon for Honningsvåg Rør. The slip in Nordvågen, .8 nm E, will haul boats up to 60' in length. For engine repairs, contact HMMV. Their chief mechanic, Odd, is known as "The Professor".

**For The Crew:** There are showers in the Rica Hotel though you will get better value for your *kroner* at the swimming pool or at the local gym (Nordkapp treningsssenter) if open. There are public toilets on the docks. During the fishing season showers and laundry facilities may be available at Fiskarlagets Velferdssentral in Nordvågen; the telephone numbers are posted at the grocery store in Honningsvåg. WiFi and computers with internet access are available at the library.

**Things To Do:** There is bus service to the exhibits at Nordkapp, 34 km away, which are interesting but expensive. The Nordkapphuset Museum is

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interesting. Honningsvåg's church, dating from 1884, was one of the few buildings in Finnmark not burned in 1944 and is worth a visit.

While fish & chips isn't really a Norwegian thing, a serving of deep fried cod tongues at Corner Café comes pretty close! Corner is known for serving local catch at decent prices (all is relative)—don't let the rather sad exterior scare you! And if you are stuck here in inclement weather you could do worse than mingle with the locals at Nøden Pub. While the pub dates back to the 1950s, their huge TV screen does not. Yes, there is soccer.

There are marked hikes beginning from just above the harbour. For the more adventurous there are marked footpaths from Nordvågen, 1 nm E, to **Kjelvik** and to Helnes Lighthouse.

## Mehamn

71°02.2' N,

27°50.5' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, aerial

photo & sketch

man

This large natural harbour lies E of Kinnarodden, which is mainland Norway's most Nly point. Expect some surge in the harbour even on calm days, though this is much improved after a short mole was built projecting NE from Vardholmen. A further mole is planned to project W from the current light. In bad weather many larger vessels move to moorings.

There is now a rescue vessel stationed at Mehamn.

Adrian Flanagan borrowed a mooring and wintered S/V *Barrabas* here in 2007/08, after an epic single-handed sail from Nome, Alaska through the Northern Sea Route. His book Over the Top: The First Lone Yachtsman to Sail Vertically Around the World makes an excellent read.

**Approaches:** Enter from the NW.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a pontoon system S in the harbour where you can enquire about a vacant berth. There are numerous docks where mooring alongside may be possible.

Alternatively, there is a good anchoring area in mud in 10 m depth, E of the bottom chains shown in the sketch plan in *Den Norske Los*.

**For The Boat:** Diesel is available at Bunker Oil with a credit card. A phone number is posted.

**For The Crew:** Toilets and showers are available if berthed at the pontoons. There are toilets at Nordkynterminalen, where the coastal steamer docks. There is a Coop store.

The coastal express (Hurtigruten) docks here and there is an airport for crew changes.

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**Things To Do:** There is a *café*.

## Gamvik

**71°03.75' N,  
28°15.2' E**  
Last Updated: 2018  
[Google](#)  
DNL, Vol. 6, aerial  
photo & sketch  
man

Gamvik was a quiet spot after the fish plant closed but it is now hopping since entrepreneurial souls from Iceland have taken over the plant. Several fishing boats work out of the harbour and there is a lot of activity at the plant. Room for visiting boats may be limited. The harbour is open to the E.

Note that the area between Avløysingsbukta and **Finnkongkeila**, a couple of nm SE, is a Bird Reserve, out to 500 m offshore.

**Approaches:** Approach from the E, staying clear of the shallows off Flintodden and Barden, marked with a cairn and an E cardinal mark.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Behind the small mole N in the harbour there is a rough dock where it may be possible for larger boats to moor alongside with permission, and smaller boats may find room alongside one of the three pontoons.

**For The Crew:** There is a shop.

**Things To Do:** There is a *café* and a small museum on the docks S in the harbour. From Gamvik it is an interesting walk to visit the old lighthouse at Slettnes where there is a *café* and guided tours of the lighthouse in the season. If you wish to walk further, from the caravan parking lot near the lighthouse, there is a marked path that takes you through old settlements and out to the old labyrinth at Mikkelsbergodden, which is a somewhat less obvious labyrinth than the one further E at **Ytterhamna** or the one on the SW coast at **Espevær** (Vol. 2).

## Finnkongkeila

**70°54.4' N, 28°28' E**  
Last Updated: 2018  
[Google](#)

After WWII, towns and villages in Finnmark were left more or less in ruins. All were rebuilt after the war, with one exception: Finnkongkeila, located on the NW shore of Tanafjorden. In its day a bustling fishing village, it was considered too exposed to rockslides to be safe to rebuild. Also, it is not a good anchorage as it is open to the E, subject to gusts from the mountains in other wind directions, and too deep for comfort.

It does, however, make for an interesting lunch stop.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a charted and marked cable along the N shore. Anchor in 20 to 25 m depth, SW in the bay, close in on the shore as it

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is even deeper further out. Swinging room and anchoring scope will probably be too limited to leave the boat unattended for long.

**Things To Do:** A walk ashore is interesting, and one can only admire the generations who scraped a living in this exposed bay.

## Berlevåg

70°51.6' N,  
29°06.4' E

Last Updated:  
2018

[Google](#)

DNL Vol. 6, aerial  
photos & sketch

Berlevåg is a large fishing harbour protected by an elaborate French-designed double breakwater system. It took many attempts to build a breakwater that could withstand the Barents Sea in a storm. Further recent developments include a new inner N mole, making the approach S-shaped. This has reportedly lessened surge in the harbour in onshore gales.

The village was the inspiration for Danish author Karen Blixen's book *Babette's Feast*. Today it is well known for its men's choir (*mannsangforening*), which was featured in a documentary by Knut Jensen titled Heftig og Begeistret (Cool and Crazy).

**Approaches:** Enter from the NE.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a municipal pontoon SE in the inner harbour; visiting boats usually moor on the E side of this. If busy, enquire about berthing outside the old derelict fish factory NE in the inner harbour. The building is listed with the Directorate of Cultural Heritage (Riksantikvaren) and is undergoing a slow restoration.

**For The Crew:** There are a couple of grocery stores.

**Things To Do:** There is a store of glassware in the new wooden building S in the harbour and an interesting harbour museum to visit. It's fun to walk the moles, which are comprised of 25-tonne concrete tetrapods. For information on building the mole there is a video at the harbour museum worth watching.

## Kongsfjord

70°43' N, 29°19'  
E

Last Updated:  
2018

[Google](#)

DNL Vol. 6

The buildings in Kongsfjord were not burned in 1944 and hence the place has a special ambience.

Note that the three islands lying 3 to 4 nm E are Bird Reserves, out to 200 m offshore.

**Approaches:** Enter the harbour heading WSW, then N and NE.

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**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchoring is probably not advisable due to the old mooring chain and a drainage pipe on the bottom (see the sketch map in *Den Norske Los*).

The docks SE in the harbour are undergoing restoration and it may be possible to berth there or alongside the fish processing plant, N in the harbour, when it is not in operation. Other docks in the harbour are in less than good condition.

**For The Crew:** There is an old-fashioned country store.

**Things To Do:** It is a 1 km walk NE to the Kongsfjord Gjestehus at Veidnes, near **Sebulonbukta**, which is known for serving high quality meals from local produce.

## Båtsfjord

**70°38.2' N,  
29°43.8' E**  
Last Updated: 2018  
[Google](#)  
DNL, Vol. 6, aerial  
photos & sketch

This is a large, attractive harbour with good shelter.

Note that the area 10 nm ENE, between Molvika (SE of Makkaur Light) and Sandfjorden, is a Bird Reserve, out to 500 m offshore.

**Approaches:** From offshore, the wide mouth of the fjord can be made out between Makkaur Lighthouse to the E and the conspicuous antenna and windmills on hills to the W. It is a safe landfall in all weather. The approach passes through busy fishing grounds; many of the boats mark their fishing gear with AIS transponders.

Visiting boats usually moor in Ytre Havn, the N-most of the two mole harbours, which is entered from the E.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Moor at the pontoon NW in Ytre Havn or proceed further S to Indre Havn and look for a vacant berth or moor alongside a fishing boat.

The plan in *Den Norske Los* indicates that it is possible to anchor N in Indre Havn; however, with large trawlers moored 4-deep and a continuous traffic of fishing vessels, this does not seem a realistic or comfortable option.

The harbourmaster will offer advice on VHF channel 12.

**For The Boat:** Water and electricity are available on the pontoon. There is a fuel pump.

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**For The Crew:** There is a reasonable range of shopping, including a liquor store which is open a few days a week. There is a bakery and *café* that offers a good selection.

## Makkaursandfjorden

70°39.1' N,  
30°07.6' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor at the head of the fjord in beautiful surroundings and good holding. This anchorage is open to winds from the E and is only suitable in settled weather or as a lunch stop.

## Nordfjord

70°33' N, 30°05' E  
Last Updated: 2018  
[Google](#)  
DNL, Vol. 6, aerial  
photo & sketch

**Approaches:** Enter the mole harbour from the SE.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The W face of the dock has relatively new cladding but is used by the support vessel for the fish farm. With a long fender board it may be possible to moor at another part of the dock.

## Indre Syltefjordhamn

70°31.6' N,  
30°03.5' E  
Last Updated: 2018  
[Google](#)

This is a beautiful area of cliffs and comparatively lush green vegetation.

**Approaches:** Enter through a narrow entrance marked by buoys. Watch for the charted 3 m shallow area just inside the entrance.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Located at the end of Syltefjorden, Indre Syltefjordhamn has good holding in about 10 m depth (despite what *Den Norske Los* has to say!). There are also some decrepit quays but it is too shallow alongside for a keelboat.

There is a strong current from the river in the harbour and there was a surprising amount of swell in the anchorage the night we were there in 2002, despite the settled weather and the distance from the fjord mouth.

This anchorage would not be suitable in strong winds with an E component.

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## Hamningberg

70°32.3' N, 30°37' E

Last Updated: 2018

[Google](#)

This is an interesting old fishing village, one of the only ones in Finnmark not burned by the Germans during their retreat from the Russians in WWII. The buildings have been restored and the village has become a major tourist attraction.

In May 1894, Hamningberg made headlines and gave the newly established Redningselskapet (rescue service) great publicity. During the spring fishery the harbour was packed with fishing boats at anchor when a gale sprung out of the east, which quickly strengthened to storm force. Disaster seemed imminent. A telegram was sent to the province's governor asking for immediate assistance. The steam ship *Heimdal* attempted to come to the rescue but had to turn back due to the weather conditions.

The recently built rescue vessel RS 1 *Colin Archer* had taken up station in Vardø just the day before, and made two passages to Hamningberg in poor visibility and gale force winds, saving a total of 36 lives. 86 vessels were wrecked during the storm. The incident showed the importance of rescue vessels and the crew of RS 1 *Colin Archer* became national heroes.

RS 1 Colin Archer has been restored and is still sailing. (Source: Redningselskapet)

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a restored dock NW in the harbour that it may be possible to tie to in calm weather and with permission. Note that there are depths alongside of < 1.5 m at LW. The stone mole is not suitable for berthing alongside.

It is possible to anchor on either side of the peninsula in settled weather depending on wind direction; beware the charted cable that runs through the coves on both sides.

**Things To Do:** There are interesting German WWII fortifications on the top of the hill, built to attack the Murmansk convoys. There is a seasonal *café*.

## Vardø (SE Vardøya)

70°22.6' N,

31°06.4' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, sketch  
map & aerial  
photo

This is a very old town, now connected by a tunnel to the mainland. It is also the E-most town in Norway. This makes it the most convenient port of clearance to or from Russia; however, both Customs and Immigration are dealt with by the police who are only in residence every second week and never on weekends. Kirkenes, even though not as convenient, may be a better option. Note that there is a very large bird colony at the N of Reinøya; this island and the three just SE are Bird Reserves.

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**Approaches:** Approach from the N or SE and then enter from the N.

## **Anchorage, Moorings:**

- Visiting boats will usually be asked to moor at the pontoon outside Tourist Information, which is very exposed in N'lies.
- Alternatively, see if there is a berth available inside the Hurtigrute docks, next to the museum boat *Einar II*.
- If the fish plant is not in operation, it may be possible to moor on their dock; take lines ashore on both sides to keep off the tyres.
- In strong N winds or if the harbour is full of fishing boats, **Svartnes Havn**, 1.5 nm W on the mainland, is an alternative.

**For The Boat:** There is a fuel dock across the harbour from the pontoons but it is a high quay subject to a lot of wash from passing boats.

**For The Crew:** There is good shopping, including a Vinmonopolet. There are self-service laundry facilities available at the hotel and full-service is available at the old hospital. There is ferry service to Kirkenes.

**Things To Do:** There is an ancient fort (Vardøhus Festning) that is worth a visit. A must-see is the Steilneset Memorial, an impressive monument to the 91 witches burned here during the 17th century.

For an English pub ambience, visit Nordpol pub. The Thai restaurant ABC Thai, in addition to decent food, has an impressive selection of bottled beer, at prices lower than most competitors in this region.

## Svartnes Havn

70°22' N, 31°02' E

Last Updated:

2018

Google

DNL, Vol. 6, aerial  
photo & sketch

Svartnes Havn was the mainland harbour for the ferry to Vardø prior to the opening of the undersea tunnel to Vardøya.

If the harbour at Vardø is full of fishing boats or there are strong winds from the N, which can make Vardø uncomfortable, Svartnes makes a good alternative.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There may be room at one of the pontoons or you can anchor in the bay. In strong N winds it may be preferable to anchor close under the N mole.

**Things To Do:** Hitch a ride through the tunnel to Vardø.

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## Ytre Kiberg

70°17' N, 30°59.8'

E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNI . Vol. 6. aerial

Due to its location far E on the Varanger peninsula, villagers in Kiberg have traditionally had close ties with Russian traders and fishermen (the *Pomors*). During WWII many villagers fought the occupation forces as partisans under Russian command.

Today the village is a quiet outpost with less than 200 inhabitants.

**Approaches:** Approach from the S passing either side of the cairn on Skip-paskjæret, then head NE through the mole opening (there are leading lights).

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is a pontoon system N in the harbour that is usually full of local boats. Enquire about berthing at a private dock or alongside a local boat. Some of the docks are not in good shape.

**Things To Do:** The village was not burnt by the retreating occupying forces in 1944 and a walk through the village is interesting. Sadly, some of the old buildings are in disrepair.

There is a small museum about partisans, open during the school summer holidays. There are also extensive WWII gun emplacements within a short walk of the town.

## Ekkerøy

70°04.3' N,

30°05.6' E

Last Updated: 2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, aerial

photo & sketch

map

There are large bird colonies on Store Ekkerøya, with the N and S coasts a Bird Reserve out to 200 m offshore.

Note the beacon with broken top marker at Skagodden, Store Ekkerøya.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The harbour is shallow and suitable for small boats only. In settled weather you can anchor either side of the isthmus (Innersida or Yttersida). Alternatively, you can leave the boat in **Vadsø** and hitch a ride to Ekkerøy.

**For The Crew:** Hurtigruten stops here, so a possible place for crew changes.

**Things To Do:** The large kittiwake colony is worth a visit, as is the small museum *cum* gallery with *café*. There are German fortifications on top of the island.

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## Vadsø

70°04.4' N,

29°44.5' E

Last Updated:

2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, aerial  
photos & sketch

Vadsø is a large mole harbour W of the small isthmus to Vadsøya.

**Approaches:** Approach through the mole opening from the W, then into the inner harbour, passing S of two beacons with red top markers.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The harbour office will refer you to Fabrikkaia, the dock off the white building E in the harbour. The dock is rough at LW and W winds will press you against the dock. It may be possible to berth at one of the pontoons or outside another boat. The gates are locked so you will need to use the dinghy to get ashore.

The old herring oil factory SW in the harbour has been closed for years and has large docks less suited for pleasure craft, but it may be possible to anchor off.

The charted anchorage NE in the harbour is in the approach to the pontoons and appears less than suitable.

**For The Crew:** There is easy waterfront shopping.

**Things To Do:** The Vadsø Museum is worth a visit.

## Bugøyenes

69°58.2' N, 29°39' E

Last Updated: 2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, aerial  
photos & sketch

map

[Website](#)

Bugøyenes reached national fame in 1989 when the small community placed an ad in a large Oslo paper searching for someone to buy the town—inhabitants and all! The local fish processing plant had closed down and the future looked bleak. Although no one bought the town, today its 200 inhabitants manage to make a living from seasonal king crab fishing and some tourism. Bugøyenes was populated when, starting early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, a large number of Finns (known as *Kven*) migrated to Norway because they were starving at home. The town is still known for its strong ties to Finland.

**Approaches:** Enter the mole harbour through the SE opening. The N opening is for small vessels only. Be aware of the buoys connected by floating lines in the approach during salmon fishing season.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Enquire about a vacant berth in the small boat harbour or it may be possible to moor alongside the wavebreaker; however, there is little room to manoeuvre.

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There is a good area for anchoring in 3 to 5 m depth in sand, E in the harbour.

**For The Crew:** There is a small shop.

**Things To Do:** This is an attractive town with a gallery and *café* open in the season.

## Natlibukta

69°48.5' N, 29°44'  
E

Last Updated:  
2018

This bay is overlooked by a couple of farms and a cabin but provides good protection in winds from the N.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor in 10 to 15 m depth in mud. There are a couple of moorings SW in the bay but there is plenty of swinging room for anchoring.

## Sandbukta

69°45.3' N,  
29°38.2' E

Last Updated:  
2018

This is a harbour in scenic surroundings. Though not as scenic, Natlibukta, 4 nm N, is a better anchorage in winds from the N.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor in 8 to 12 m depth in sand behind Storbuktholmen. You need to tuck right in behind the island for protection against the N wind. A couple of moorings limit swinging room here and you may want lines ashore for an overnight stay.

## Kirkenes

69°43.8' N,  
30°02.3' E

Last Updated:  
2018

[Google](#)

DNL, Vol. 6, aerial photos & sketch maps (commercial harbour only)

[Website](#)

After the preceding outposts, this town of about 3000 inhabitants may seem a real metropolis.

Note that Customs is only open on Mondays and Thursdays, but Immigration has an office in the police building, where it is possible to check in if arriving from Russia.

**Approaches:** To access the small boat harbour in Soldaterbukta, which is the preferred mooring for visiting pleasure boats, there is a bar with charted 2.7 m depth. It is vital that you precisely follow the leading markers (two white squares), one of which is not easy to see.

**Anchorage, Moorings:**

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- The preferred mooring for the ordinary-sized visiting boat will be the Kirkenes Båtføring pontoons at Soldaterbukta (69°43.3'N, 30°04.6' E), which is a well-protected small boat harbour tucked in behind Prestøya, 1 nm SE of the commercial harbour. The small pontoon N of the short mole is for visitors, with a least depth of 4 m alongside. Note that Pasvikelva pours a lot of fresh water into Soldaterbukta, which is frozen over well into May. The pontoons are lifted out of the water in October every year and launched in spring as soon as ice conditions allow.
- There is a central guest pontoon in the commercial harbour, near the waypoint given (#6 on the sketch map in *Den Norske Los*), with good access to services.
- In strong E winds you may prefer to anchor in Soldaterbukta.

**For The Boat:** Electrical outlets are on the land end of the visitors' pontoon at Soldaterbukta. There is diesel and water at the fueling pontoon. For fuel, call the posted telephone number for assistance.

**For The Crew:** There is a small clubhouse at Soldaterbukta with a shower, toilets and a washing machine.

**Things To Do:** There is an interesting WWII underground bunker museum and the possibility for land tours to the Russian border.

## Ytterhamna (Holmengråfjorden)

69°51.1' N,  
30°17.9' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

Holmengråfjorden is known for a labyrinth that is of unknown origin. There are also several huts on the shore of the cove that were used by the Sami when salmon fishing.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** This is a good anchorage with better protection than it would seem from the chart, though any swell from the E enters the anchorage. There are some moorings and we suspect there is a bottom chain of some sort in the bay as there is a thick rope attached to the shore on both sides. Anchor S of this.

## Lanabukt (Jarfjorden)

69°44.35' N,  
30°27.2' E  
Last Updated: 2018  
Google

It is interesting that a short way up these coastal fjords there can be lush vegetation while only a few miles away the coast is treeless.

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Note that the land bridge connecting Hinnøya to the mainland is covered at HW.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** Anchor in good holding off the small village of summer cabins, in amongst the many moorings, in mud in 10 m depth.

## Pasvikhamna

69°48.4' N,

30°35.5' E

Last Updated:

2018

This is a surprisingly calm anchorage (in settled weather) considering that it is open to the NW.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The charted anchorage in Sandbukta is small with a small dock on the shore, but there is a good anchorage at the end of the fjord in 12 to 18 m depth. The holding is excellent in clay with some rocks.

**Things To Do:** There is a lovely scramble along reindeer trails to **Ytre Småstraumen**.

## Ytre Småstraumen

69°48.3' N,

30°40.9' E

Last Updated:

2018

This is a beautiful cove only suitable in settled weather as it is open to the N and NE, which is the direction of the prevailing winds and, therefore, the swell.

**Approaches:** *Den Norske Los* states the approach can be difficult, but we found it okay in settled summer weather and with the use of a chart plotter.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is good holding in sand in the outer harbour. There is a very sheltered inner harbour but it is inaccessible to keelboats.

**Things To Do:** There is a lovely scramble along reindeer trails to **Pasvikhamna**.

## Midtre Kobbholmen

69°47.3' N,

30°44.3' E

Last Updated:

2010

There is no practical access to the Russian border from Kobbholmfjorden.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** The charted anchorage at Midtre Kobbholmen is only suitable for small boats and only on a calm day.

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Farther into the fjord there is a decrepit quay at Fabrikkbukta that it might be possible to tie up to. An automated hydro plant has been built here. It is too deep for anchoring at the end of Kobbholmfjorden.

## Lille Sandbukt

69°47.4' N,  
30°47.2' E  
Last Updated:  
2018

The border between Russia and Norway is 196 km long and was supposedly agreed to by both parties in 1826; however, there continued to be arguments about the exact placement of portions of the border. So in 1869 Norway built Kong Oscar II's Chapel as a cultural border marker (meaning that the area is culturally important to the country in question).

**Approaches:** When approaching from the sea, be aware of the border markers and stay on the Norwegian side; there are radar stations on both sides of the border.

**Anchorage, Moorings:** There is good holding in 6 to 8 m depth in hard sand just off the two short stone moles. This anchorage is only suitable for a day stop in settled weather.

**Things To Do:** There is an interpretation panel on the beach at Lille Sandbukt and it is an easy walk from Lille Sandbukt to the Russian border and Kong Oscar II's Chapel, which is located between the radar stations of the two countries. Unfortunately, the Chapel was locked when we visited. You might be interested to note that when you are at the Chapel, you are as far N as parts of Greenland and further E than Istanbul or Alexandria.

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