

Knausgaard's Secret Book

Novelist Karl Ove Knausgaard is the latest person—and first Norwegian—to contribute to the Future Library. The only catch: His book will stay under wraps for the next century. The Future Library is a time capsule-like project that was started in 2014 when 1,000 spruce trees were planted in the Nordmarka forest. In 2114, these trees will be turned into paper and used to print an anthology of manuscripts, books and creative works from 100 authors. Knausgaard, who is known for his autobiographical series “My Struggle,” will submit his manuscript in May.

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TERJE RANKE / NORDIC LIFE | NORDICORGE.COM.JPG

City Spotlight: Kirkenes

History buffs and adventure seekers unite in Kirkenes, a remote town in northeastern Norway located just 9 miles from the Russian border. At Borderland Museum, exhibits reflect the life and culture of the area, with a special emphasis on World War II and the experiences of people caught in the firing lines and air raids. Head over to the nearby Soviet Liberation Monument, which pays homage to the lives lost and celebrates the Soviet soldiers who helped liberate the city from Nazi rule in 1944. Brave visitors can spend the night at Snowhotel Kirkenes 365, a hotel made of snow and ice. It offers activities for guests, such as snowmobiling, husky tours and king crab safaris.

Sustainable Design

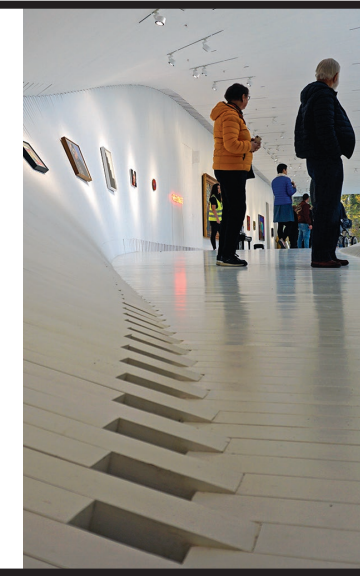
Oslo-based BAMA Packaging won the 2019 ScanStar Award, an annual Nordic packaging competition, for its environmentally friendly blueberry containers. In an effort to reduce plastic waste, the cartons are made of fibers from Scandinavian trees. The shape takes up less space in delivery trucks, while holding the same number of berries as previous versions. This means fewer vehicles are needed to transport the fresh produce. According to BAMA, the carton uses 30% less packaging and reduces its CO₂ emissions by 48%. The company also estimates that the package reduces the need for plastic by nearly 170 tons per year.



COURTESY BAMA



TORD BAKLUND / VIST OSLO



Art with a Twist

Intertwining art, architecture and nature, The Twist opened in September 2019 in northern Europe's largest sculpture park for modern art. Located in Jevnaker, this new structure at the Kistefos Museum rotates 90 degrees at the midway point (hence its name) as it crosses the Randselva River connecting the north and south banks. The helix acts as both museum and bridge, which visitors must cross to complete the art tour. Danish architecture firm Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG) used aluminum panels arranged like a stack of books—fanning out ever so slightly—to create the illusion of walking through a camera shutter. In all, guests can explore three different exhibition galleries within this new structure. kistefosmuseum.no

THE WORLD'S MOST FASHIONABLE COUNTRIES

Considering factors such as global fashionistas, the number of fashion schools, market size and affordability, CEOWORLD magazine ranked the 20 most fashionable countries in the world—and Norway made the list.

Nordic style generally follows aesthetics of functionality, sustainability, minimalism and a neutral palette. Here is the full list of the top 20 fashion-forward regions:

1. Italy
2. France
3. United Kingdom
4. Japan
5. United States
6. India
7. Spain
8. China and Hong Kong
9. United Arab Emirates (Dubai)
10. Brazil
11. Turkey
12. Sweden
13. Singapore
14. Netherlands
15. Australia
16. South Korea
17. Austria
18. Germany
- 19. Norway**
20. Denmark

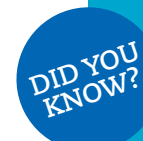


YULIYA CHRISTENSEN / GETTY IMAGES



Looking Back

The Sons of Norway building opened in 1962 in the Uptown neighborhood of Minneapolis. Designated as the international headquarters of the organization, it was home to Sons of Norway for more than 50 years. In 2020, Sons of Norway will return to its historic home in a newly constructed building at the same location.



Norway's national dish is *fårikål*—a stew made by layering mutton and cabbage in a large pot and cooking very slowly.

Want to make *fårikål*? Find a recipe for this dish and others at Sons of Norway's recipe box at sonsofnorway.com.

kalender

Feb. 3–9
Tromsø, Norway
Sámi Week
This annual festival celebrates the Sámi, the indigenous people of northern Scandinavia, with art exhibitions, seminars, lasso throwing and reindeer racing throughout the city center. msm.no

Feb. 7–8
Thousand Oaks, Calif.
Nordic Spirit Symposium
Lecturers and performers tell stories about Nordic creatures, legends, folklore and magic at this event put on by the Scandinavian American Cultural and Historical Foundation. scandinaviancenter.org

Feb. 18–22
Røros, Norway
Rørosmartnan
This lively winter market was born thanks to a royal decree in the 1850s. More than 70,000 people flock to this mountain town to check out the 250 vendors that offer festive food and drinks, music and sleigh rides. rorosmartnan.no

Feb. 22
Portland, Ore.
Fastelavn
This family-friendly event will entertain kids with crafts, sweets, photo booths and a costume contest, alongside a bar for adults to ward off the winter chill. nordicnorthwest.org