NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE Essential wild reindeer habitat

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3 KM ROUND TRIP / 1 HOUR FAMILY-FRIENDLY HIKE -

Rauland – Telemark DESTINATION Falkeriset TOPIC Panoramic Views of Hardangervidda



ESSENTIAL WILD REINDEER HABITAT. You are close to wild reindeer country. Norway is the only country in Europe with vestigial populations of the original wild mountain reindeer (tundra reindeer). The 10,000–11,000 specimens that inhabit Hardangervidda make up more than a guarter of all the wild reindeer in Norway. The large, continuous unspoiled area makes the plateau particularly attractive to wild reindeer. The herds migrate between calving areas and various seasonal pastures over the course of the year, so they need a wide area. Wild reindeer are at their most vulnerable on the winter pasture and in the spring calving season. Some years the area around Falkeriset is an important calving area. Please help us protect the reindeer by not using the trail or visiting the area before June 16. If you see the wild reindeer, consider yourself lucky. Stay quiet and enjoy this rare sight. Learn more about wild reindeer at www.villrein.no

FALKERISET takes its name from falcon trapping, an important business in the 16th and 17th centuries. Dutch falconers used to visit Falkeriset to hunt the world's biggest falcon, the gyrfalcon. If a falconer managed to catch just one falcon each summer, it was worth the trip. They sold the falcons to wealthy princes in Europe, where the birds were trained to hunt game. You can still see the remains of the falconers' stone huts below Falkenuten. Immediately northwest of the summit, you can just make out a circular meadow, where the trapping hut once stood. Gyrfalcon, merlin and common kestrel still nest in the mountains around Falkeriset.



Vandreregionen www.vandretelemark.no

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WHAT YOU MIGHT SEE ON YOUR WALK

CLOUDBERRIES:

Jdberry crème is a gourmet dessert. : Ove Bergersen

STONE ART

 The path built by sherpas from
 Bitter

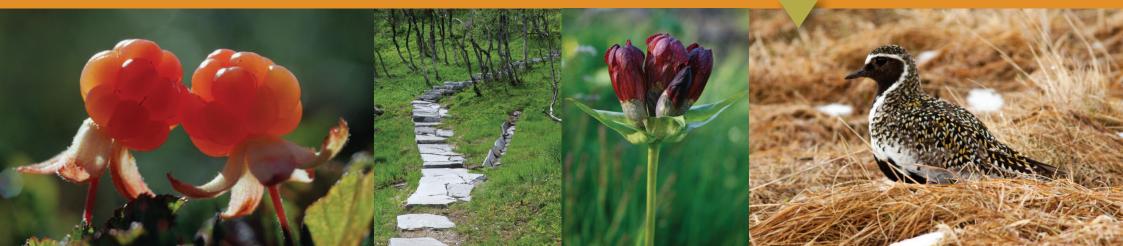
 Nepal is a work of art.
 Rare

PURPLE GENTIAN: Bitter taste but good medicine.

te but good medicine. result of picking. i



GOLDEN PLOVER: At Falkeriset you can see the golden plover, the finest o mountain birds. Photo: Kjell Bitustøyl



Description of the walk

A FAMILY-FRIENDLY HIKE through beautiful mountain scenery with 360-degree views of Hardangervidda, Gaustatoppen, Møsstrond and Rauland. Sherpas from Nepal have built a fine stone path to the viewpoint. Suitable for hikers aged 2 to 90. The kids will love jumping from one stone to the next! Starting at the stone steps beside the car park, the trail is easy to follow. It climbs gently and steadily all the way through the birchwoods and up to the viewpoint above the tree line.

To conserve the natural environment and avoid creating muddy tracks, please use the stone steps rather than walking on the path shoulders.

For the sake of the grazing sheep, please keep your dog on a leash. Unleashed dogs may chase lambs and cause them to fall over a precipice.

Driving direction

Start in Rauland village.



Kromviki 12

Take RV 362 in the Haukeli direction. After 4 km turn off to the right towards Kromviki.

Follow Kromvikvegen (gravel road) for 10.5 km until you reach a car park on the left, where an information board and stone steps mark the trailhead. (GPS: N59°47.775' E008° 04.861')

FURTHER READING: "Fjellbygdi ved Møsvatn" by Øystein Kostveit.



You are responsible for your own safety during the walk. Treat the countryside and grazing animals with respect. Take only photos, leave only footprints. Please take your rubbish home with you. Enjoy the trip!

