



Workshop and study tour on European Rural tourism Safety and security in Norway, Hardanger region

PROGRAM and MINUTES
26th – 29th of May 2014

25th of May. Arrival.

From [Bergen Airport, Flesland](#) you take the [airport bus](#) to Bergen City. Hotel “Scandic Neptun” Valkendorfs gate 8.

19.00 Meet in the hotel lobby in Bergen city.

26th of May

Breakfast

Safetur project meeting in the hotel

9.00 Inception began with initial greetings from Mr. Jan Tjosaas, GS of Eurogites.

Presentation by manager of [EkstremSPORTveko](#) (Extreme Sport Week), Sofie Torlei Olsen. The theme of the presentation is *focus on safety*.

Coffee

12.00 Lunch break

13.00 Safetur meeting continues. Coffee.

18.00 End of meeting.

19:00 Sightseeing in Bergen (walking).

Overnight stay at [Scandic Neptun](#) in Bergen.



27th of May

Breakfast

9:00 – 10:00 Safety aspects in marketing of Norway.
Guest speaker - Kristian B. Jørgensen, director of Fjord Norway – director.

10:00 Departure from the hotel by bus.

Had a stop at [Steinsdalsfossen](#) (waterfalls). The waterfall is one of the most visited in Norway. A trail goes behind it where visitors can walk dry "into" the rumbling water. Steinsdalsfossen is 46 meters high. This is start of the Hardanger tourist road - one of 18 tourist roads of Norway.

- Discussion regarding safety of walking trails.
- Possible enhancements for the footpath from the car park up to and under the waterfall.
- Visitor reception center - information on risks and adequate behaviour
- Parking – “nice” construction of parking lots but their metal frames cut bus tyres



12:00 Arrived at Hardingasete <http://hardingasete.no/kurs-konferanse.php>

Hardingasete is a unique seminar and conference centre where the old meets the new. Hardingasete is created from 20 houses from the western region of Norway, dating from the period from 1600-1870. A number of old houses have been moved to the spot, fitted with both antique furniture and the comforts of modern bathrooms and kitchens. Boathouse and floating embarkment on the lakeshore – protection measure were checked. Electric ity installation in wooden construction – maintenance problem with accident / fire risk.



Lunch break.

13:00 – 17.00 Workshop and discussion on European Safety and security aspects in rural tourism
Presentation Project results “Practice based training tool for safety and security in European rural tourism”, SAFETUR, 2012-1-LV1-LEO05-03389:

- Customer survey results, answers from respondents on graphic diagrams.
- General feedback from respondents.
- Discussing the satisfaction received from rural tourism services in regards of SPECIFIC safety concerns.
- Informing where online survey was found (with country examples).
- Handbook an Inspection Manual on Safety and Security criteria.
- Germany undertook the process of reviewing and adapting a German translation of the handbook, despite not being an original partner.
- Participants discussed and analized developed online training tool and inspectionam manual.
- Country specific issues – project partner experiences.
- Introducing with project results reached this far.
- Project dissemination, specifying the requirements from each partner.
- Discussion and debates, reaching an agreement for further actions:
 - all partners agreed to summarize the national feedbacks, LC committed to take the responsibility for refinement of the results based on partner testing feedback;



- deadline when, online tool with three parts: Safety & Security check, inspection manual, virtual training module with criteria and photos, should be completed, was set. (01.09.2014)
- deadline was set for result transfer/ reflect in Eurogites (07.2014)
- Discussion over RT Congress in Austria – Safetour dissemination main event through both a separate half-day seminar, and a thematic workgroup during the congress program
- Updated deadlines
- Open discussion for participants

Overnight stay at [Hardingasete](#)



28th of May

07:30 Breakfast

08:15 Departure for the study trip around Hardanger by bus. Introduction to the program during first part of transfer - Safety aspects on public transport, nature tours, nature trails, water activities, food and hygiene, licensing, and road signs.

08:40 Ferry from Tørvikbygd to Jondal (25 '). It is an opportunity to see the fjords from the "inside", provision of protection installation and equipment for passengers on land and on boat.

10:30 Arrival at [Hardangertun](#). Tour and presentation by the marketing manager, Lars Instanes Coffee. Hardangertun is both a camping and an amusement park. Added active tourism services are explained. They also have conference facilities. Discussion on the viability and problems of short season with high occupancy, versus most of the year with low coverage.

11:45 Departure from Hardangertun

12:30 Lunch break at [Syse Gard](#). Syse Gard is a traditional fruit farm, and the owners also produce jam, apple juice etc. which is sold in the farm shop. Explanation of the history, requirements for production and sale to public, degustation and catering. Short tour of the fruit farm at the end of the visit.

14:00 Walking from Syse Gard to Hardanger Juice and Cider factory

14:15 Tour of [Hardanger Juice and Cider factory](#). Tasting of different types of cider.

Hardanger Juice and Cider factory is located by the innermost part of the Hardanger Fjord at the fruit farm Lekve in Ulvik. They produce apple juice and cider from traditional recipes. In 2009 they also started





production of apple brandy. Transformation from farming activity into food production and a more service-orientated catering activity. Licensing and taxation for alcoholic beverages was discussed.



15:30 Departure from Hardanger Juice and Cider factory

16:30 Arrival at [Vøringsfossen](#)

Vøringsfossen is the 3rd highest waterfall in Norway with a fall of 163 meters. It is perhaps the most famous waterfall in the country and a major tourist attraction on the way down from Hardangervidda to Hardangerfjord. In spite of high danger of falling off the edge right at the end of the parking area, there is no protection and only few warning signs. The full hiking path to an exposed viewpoint is unprotected, everybody can leave it and move right to the edge of the gorge. The protection at the viewpoint is equally very weak – low rails, no warning signs, etc. Several deadly accidents per year are the consequence. Differences with regulation and access control in EU is discussed.

17:15 Departure from Vøringsfossen

17:45 Arrival, dinner, overnight stay at [Eidfjord Fjell & Fjord Hotel](#)

29th of May

09:00 Departure by bus towards Bergen

Stop at [Steinstø Fruktgard](#) for coffee and a tour of the beautiful gardens. The farm offers quality fruits and berries, homemade apple juice, different types of home made jam, jellies, a traditional spread “lelse”, apple cake and several other delicious dishes. Visitor area and small parking is set right beside the main road, without any kind of protection (however, low traffic and good visibility). Business model and the seasonality of the business were again discussed with owners.

Discussion on experiences of the tour.

Ca 14:00 Arrival at Bergen, end of tour.

