

Fedje is an island municipality in the county of Hordaland, Norway.

The fleet should split overnight into two harbors, indicated on the chart detail and satellite photograph that follow. Both harbors are at the northeast side of the island of Fedje. One - the main harbor, in which the ferry comes and goes - has docks, which are first come/first serve. You may raft out several deep, even if vessels not affiliated with the cruise are already tied up. The other harbor, just north of the main harbor, has a dock on its north side, but is mainly suitable as an anchorage. We are allowed there with the prior permission of the pilot boat station, which is at the southwest corner of the harbor. Do not anchor too close to the pilot station dock since their vessel is on call 24 hours a day.

Fedje is the traffic control center for shipping for this area of Norway and the North Sea. The monitoring and lookout is from a tower, about a ten minute walk from the pilot station in the north anchorage, where tenders may be tied off. **Terje Alling, the manager of the station, invites us to tour the tower in groups of 20, starting at 1700.** The base of the tower provides beautiful views and will be a wonderful place, if the weather co-operates, for all of us to gather for BYO drinks while we take turns touring the station in the tower.

The main island of Fedje is surrounded by about 125 smaller islands and rocks, mostly north of the main island. The name Fedje applies both to the main island and to all the islands and rocks as a whole. The main island covers an area of about 7.4 square kilometers. Counting the main island and the smaller islands, the area is about 9.4 square kilometers with a population of approximately 600 people. Fedje has one whaling ship and is known for its fisheries.

There is a small, self-operated chain ferry in the main, town harbor. There is a self-service gasoline pump a one minute walk away from the chain ferry on the south side of the main harbor, but it requires a Norwegian credit card. In 2007 a local person using the pump was kind enough to take Norwegian cash from us and inserted his credit card so we could fill our dinghy gas tank.

On the south side of the harbor the road leads to an ICA supermarket near a white church, a five minute walk from the chain ferry, but it is closed on Sundays. For the record, hours are Mon-Thurs 9:00-5:00, Friday 9:00-8:00, Sat 9:00-3:00. The market does not take American credit cards.

The name Fedje

The Norse form of the name was *Fejar*. The meaning of the name is unknown.

Coat-of-arms

The coat-of-arms is from 1990, and shows two oars.

The Islands

The best known smaller island is called *Holmengrå*. Holmengrå has a 16-metre tall lighthouse. In the southern part of Fedje which is called *Stormark*, there is a lighthouse called *Hellisøy fyr*, maybe the most famous feature of Fedje. Hellisøy fyr was built in 1855 and is 32.3 meters tall, painted red and white.

The People

The population of the island community is decreasing. There is a high percentage of people over 60 (25% as of January 1, 2003), and the island is losing population because of the lack of work. Most of the people live on the lagoon-like northern part of the island, in the vicinity of the grocery shop, the church, and the ferry. The most important industries on the island are fishing and whaling.

Infrastructure

The island is supplied with power, telephone and internet cables from an underwater pipe connected to the mainland. A ferry, crossing 20 times a day, connects Fedje to the mainland. The voyage lasts for about 30 minutes. Fedje is about a 1 hour, 40 minute drive (including a 30-minute ferry voyage) from Bergen.

Geography

The highest point on Fedje is the 47-meter-high hill called Fedjebjørnen. The largest lake is Storevatnet.

Education

Fedje has an elementary school and a junior high school, both of which are situated in the center of the island in the same building. The school is also used as a movie theatre twice a week.

Sports

The main sporting activity on Fedje is football, played on the football grounds in the eastern part of the island. The football ground is also the home ground of the local football team called Fedje A-lag. The club currently plays in the Norwegian 6th division. Swimming is also popular; there is a beautiful beach on Fedje in the center of the island on the shoreline of Lake Husavatnet. The water is reported to be clean, as a freshwater spring runs out in the vicinity of the beach.

History

There are traces of human activity on Fedje from 4,000 years ago. In the 1700's, Fedje was important for trading, which took place on the small island Kræmmerholmen. Kræmmerholmen was reopened in 1991 and is now a restaurant/hotel/museum area, as well as where one can buy whale meat.

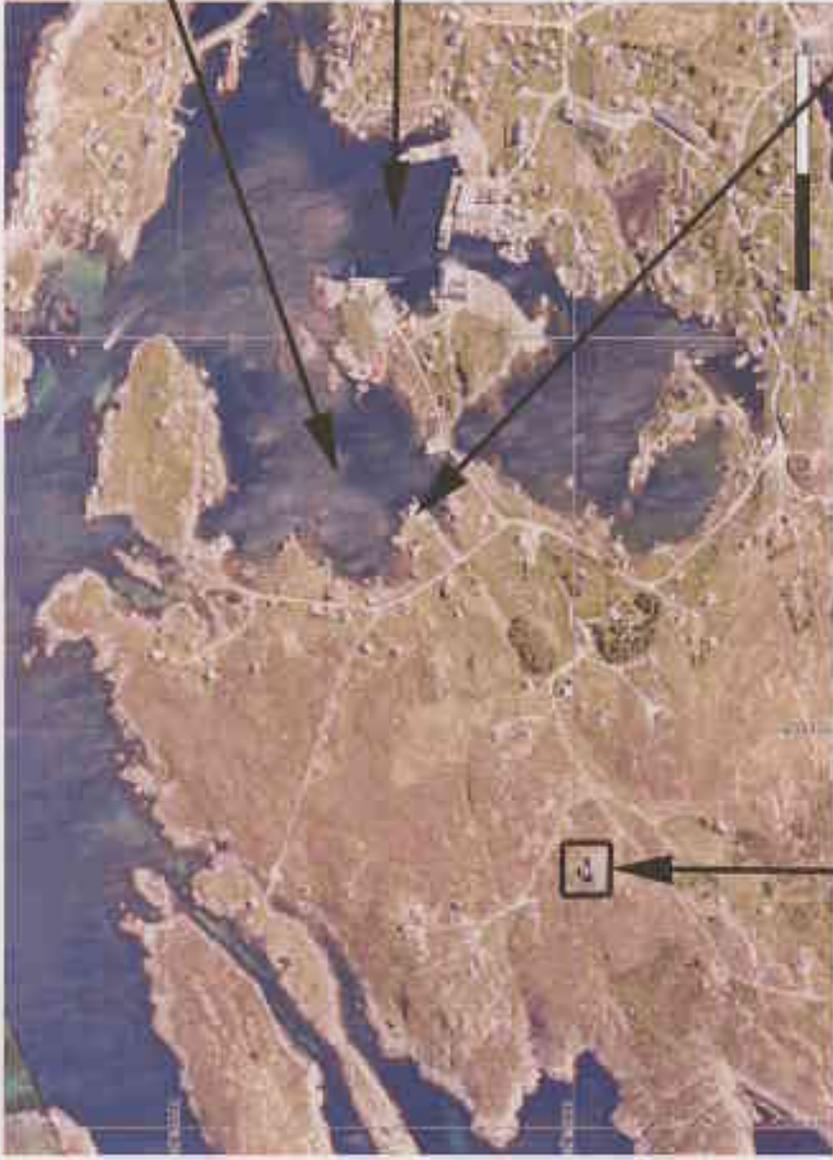
Fedje was a substantial producer of peat, which led to the construction of Norway's first railway – on Fedje. The railway was given up together with the peat industry in 1920.

During the Second World War Fedje was occupied by over 300 German soldiers. There are still remains of the German cannons and bunkers throughout the island, especially in the eastern part close to the traffic station, which is actually built on the remains of a German radar station.

In February 1945 a German submarine, U-864, was sunk by British naval forces outside western Fedje. The U-boat was en route to Japan carrying 70 tons of mercury. It now lies on the bottom of the North Sea 150 meters below the surface, a potential environmental disaster.

On January 12, 2007, M/V Server sunk outside Fedje. The ship leaked oil and caused major environmental damage.

Fedje



Anchorage

Anchorage at docks

**Pilot Station Dock
OK for dinghies**

**Traffic Station Tours
1700
Sunday, July 13, 2008
BYO drinks at the base**

Anchorage

The fleet should anchor out in Balestrand in the area designated on the sketch chart. Do not raft up at the town dock. The wash from wakes makes for an uneasy lie. Tenders may be brought into the town docks where the small boats are and tied off. Take care not to block access for vessels using slips and docks.

Harbormaster: Arvid Bale

Aregebale@Online.com

Tel: 57691677/41334884

He is the longtime harbormaster and a very nice, cooperative man.

He can provide fuel and water by arrangement.

Shopping

There are two Supermarkets, both facing the town dock:

Coop Marked Balestrand

Mon-Fri 9-8

Sat 9-6

Closed Sunday

Mastercard, no Amex.

Spar

Visa only.

Same hours as Coop.

There is an excellent Danish bakery on the quay, open everyday, Sundays until 3:00 PM.

There is an ATM machine next to the Spar supermarket.

The bank is up the street in the same building as the police ("Politi") across the street from the church.

To see and do

Visit the famous English Church, St. Olaf's, where Anglican services are conducted in English. Rumor has it that the Resistance sometimes used the church as a drop and a meeting place.

There is a tiny folk museum of sorts on the quay attached to a restaurant with furniture, objects, and ephemera from the town and the region. It is almost worth a detour.

NB: Unless you are fanatic about such things, the aquarium on the quay is not all that fascinating.

There are many choices of trails to hike. Inquire at the tourist bureau on the quay.

Kvikne's Hotel

The largest wooden structure in Norway, the Kvikne's, which is still in the ownership of the Kvikne's family, has a fine crafts interior as well as an estimable collection of paintings, drawings, and photographs. Notable are photos of the Kaiser fit out in white yachting uniform at the hotel in the early 20th century. He stayed every summer and was a guest when WWI broke out. The town gave him 24 hours to leave; he did.

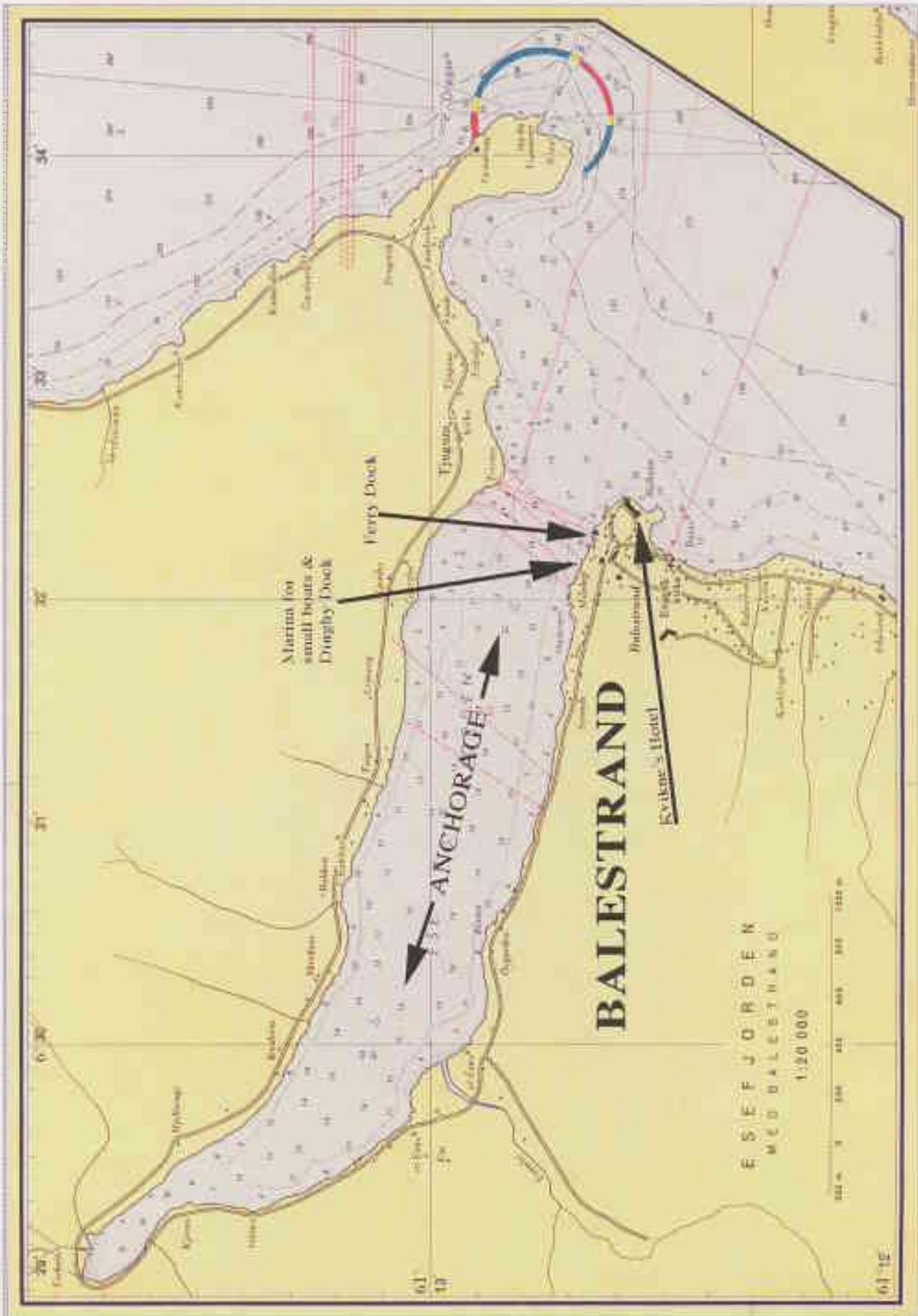
Our mid-cruise dinner is at the Kvikne's on Day 6, Thursday, July 17th.

Drinks will be at 1930, dinner at 2030.

Dress code: blazer, tie, & khakis for the men, equivalent for the ladies.

Showers

We have arranged for showers at the Kvikne's for the days we're there, if the hotel has rooms available to us. If not, they are supposed to allow use of a downstairs locker room, Ask at the desk. Kari Kvikne is the person who knows about it. The Cruise Chairman will try to smooth the way a few days in advance.



NB: Not for navigation

Anchorage

Proceed past the ferry dock to a quay that runs parallel to the shore behind a cluster of two-story wooden structures. It will be tight, but the fleet is advised to raft out at this quay, which is reserved for our use with Mrs. Vangsnes, the owner of the grocery store and the quay.

Shopping

Grocery store: Joker Fjærland, 9:30-6:00, Saturday 9:30-2:00, closed Sunday.

Tel: +47-57-69-22-24

History

Fjærland is the district surrounding Fjærlandsfjord, a branch of Sognefjord. Fjærland has 300 inhabitants, and is part of Sogndal municipality. The centre in Fjærland is **Mundal**, about 3 km from the main road, down the fjord. Most people in Fjærland are engaged in farming and tourism.

The area has been settled since the Viking Age, but there are findings dating back to the late Stone Age. The size of the population has varied over the years (Large-scale emigration to America took place at the turn of the century). Mundal includes a school and church, as well as shops, hotels and other services. The church is from 1861, rebuilt in 1931. It is open to the public.

To see and do

Mundal is a designated "National Book Town," with about a dozen second hand book stores lining the main street. The shelves offer a variety of subjects in a variety of languages, thousands of volumes in all prices ranges, which attract collectors, dealers, and browsers from all over the globe. Hours: 1000-1800 daily.

The Jostedalbreen Glacier:

Tourists have journeyed for more than 150 years to visit the glacier, described by most sources as the largest in Europe. We have an excursion by private bus to two branches of the glacier and to the Glacier Museum, a modern structure that won the prestigious Pritzker Prize for Architecture when it was built. A striking new addition was added this past year. See schedule at the front of the cruise book for the day's pickup and drop off times. Take boots for mud, and you may wish to bring along your own bag lunch. We will assemble for the buses in front of the tourist bureau.

Hiking: There are many trails and opportunities, some requiring a considerable amount of strength and skill, some requiring a guide. For information, go to the very helpful tourist bureau, across the street from where we will dock. The tourist bureau website www.fjaerland.org provides a map with marked walks. Download Fjaerlandsinfo (pdf format).

Hotel Mundal

In the same family since its founding in 1891. Our NAS member Ragnar Meyer-Knutsen, whose cousin is the proprietor, is generously hosting us to a drinks reception on Tuesday, July 15, at 1700. Dress code: jackets, no ties; for the men equivalently casual for the ladies. Note the original furniture and mural in the dining room. Owner: Marit Mauritzen, www.mundal.no.

tel: +47 57 69 31 01.

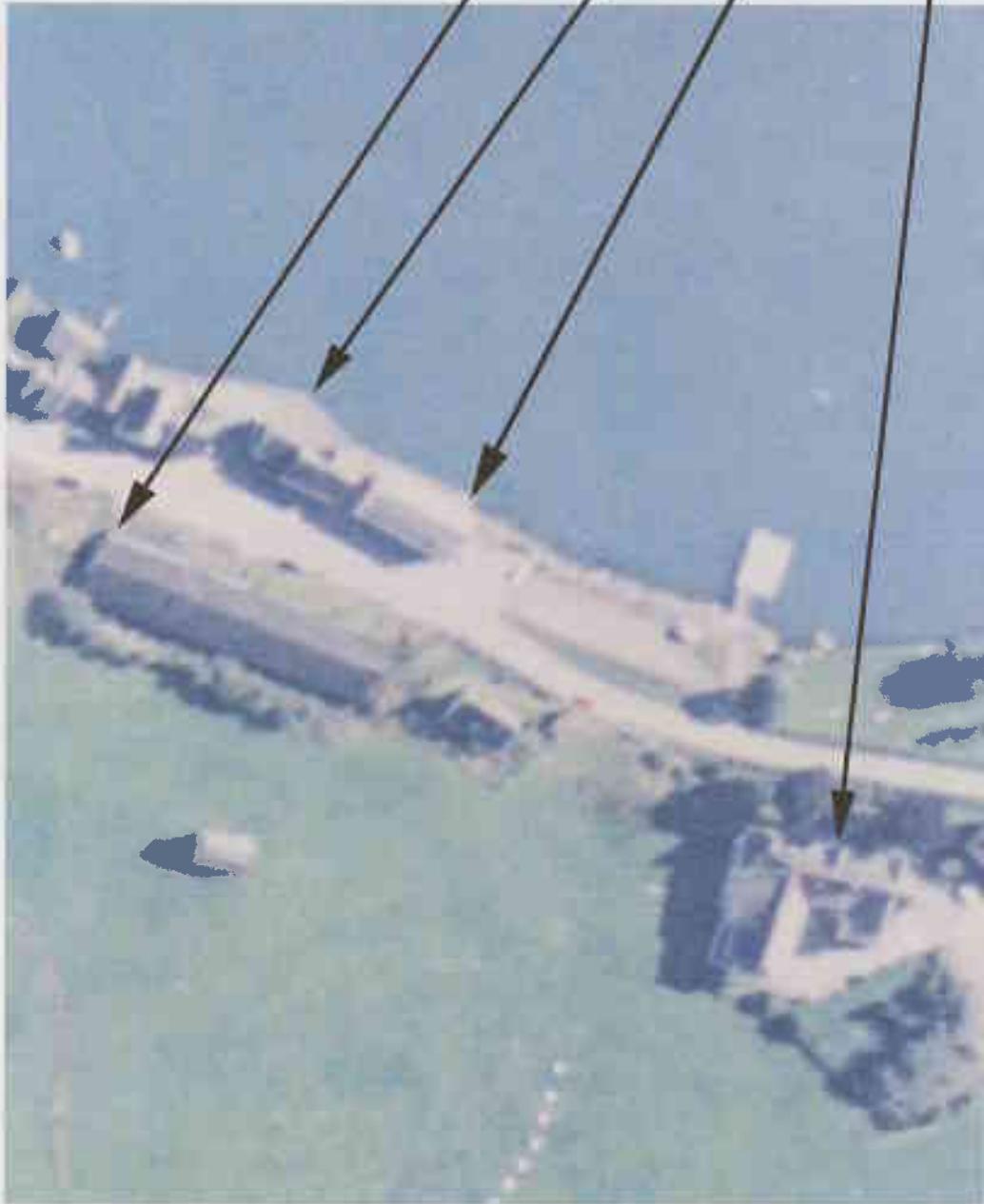
Tourist Bureau

Across the street from where we will be docking. info@fjaerland.org, +47 57 69 32 33.

MUNDAL



MUNDAL



SOLVORN

Chart

61° 17.6 N

07° 15.0 E

Population: c. 194

Anchorage

Anchor in 4 to 15 meters off the town. The public dock – the south of the two docks - is too tight for a 50+ footer to get in to due to the moored local small craft, but a smaller boat might be able to maneuver in. Water, no fuel at the dock.

Okay to tie up at the ferry dock on a calm night when the ferries don't use it. (Ferry normally stays in the V section of the dock overnight; so, other part free until morning.) There is apparently a charge for yachts, but no one could say for sure when we inquired August 2007.

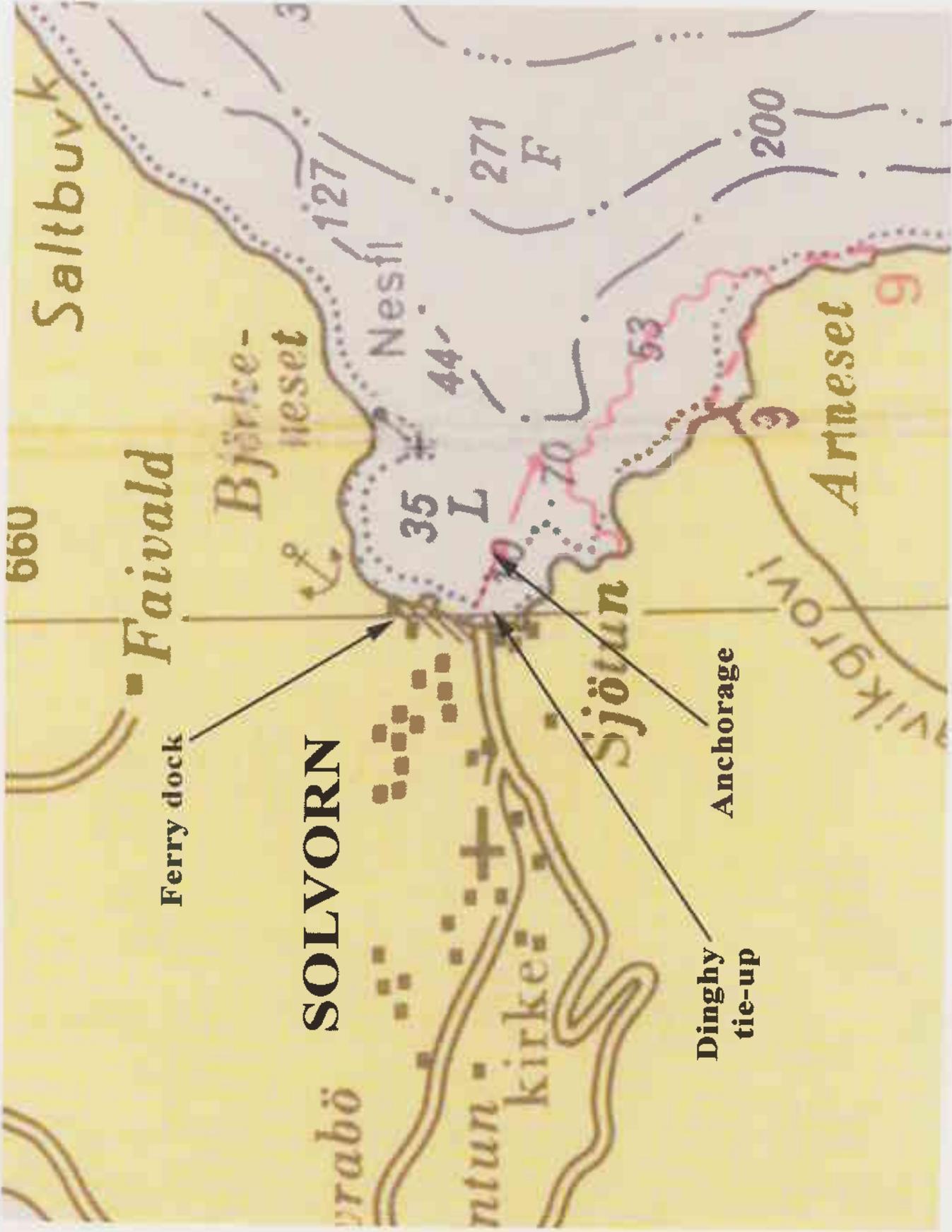
Shopping

Small grocery store on the main street, normal hours, café attached.

To see and do

Solvorn is a charming summer village off the beaten path and not in the usual English language travel books. Look into the one hotel, the Walaker, still in the same place and in the same family after 300 years. Wander down the narrow lanes among the perfectly kept cottages with their small flower gardens. Solvorn has its own natural beach and the warmest water for swimming in the Sognefjord.

Not to be missed: The Urnes stave church, a Unesco world heritage site and the oldest stave church among the 28 surviving. The exquisite, almost perfectly preserved 800-year-old carvings on the exterior and interior walls are among the most photographed attractions in Norway. Ferry leaves every half hour for the short trip across the fjord to Urnes from the Solvorn town dock – takes about 5/10 minutes, then a 10/20 minute walk up a hill to reach the church, worth every step. Do not attempt to anchor off Urnes, which is too deep (called Ornes on the chart).



NB: Not for navigation

SOLVORN



Ferry Dock

Docking

Raft up at the long wooden guest dock towards the south end of the harbor, indicated by signage readable when close. The signs are in Norwegian and English, with white lettering on blue fields posted on the causeway that runs along the dock. NB: The quay contiguous to the guest dock to the west is for local boats, tour boats, and ferries only. Contiguous to the east beware of rocks and shallows. The cruise ship dock is on the western rim of the harbor. Cruise ships are scheduled both days we will be in Flam.

Friends of the NAS and the CCA and the harbormaster have gone to extraordinary ends for the fleet to be in Flam, the most popular harbor in the Sognefjord. We may be required to make adjustments when we arrive, so that some berthing of yachts might be removed to more remote parts of the harbor. The harbormaster warns us of the wash due to the cruise ship tenders and other traffic and stresses the need for adequate fenders between rafted yachts.

In 2007 the fee for a yacht over 15 meters was NOK 50 (c. \$10), payable at the railroad station (skipper's responsibility).

Grocery store

A good one, the COOP. in town, just beyond the railroad station and shops. Hours: Mon-Fri 0900-2000, Sat 0900-1800, Sun 1200-1800.

Other shopping

The best you are likely to see on the cruise other than in Bergen, e.g., for sweaters and souvenirs, in the small cluster of stores in town.

Internet

Service available for a fee on three or four computers at the railroad station (2007).

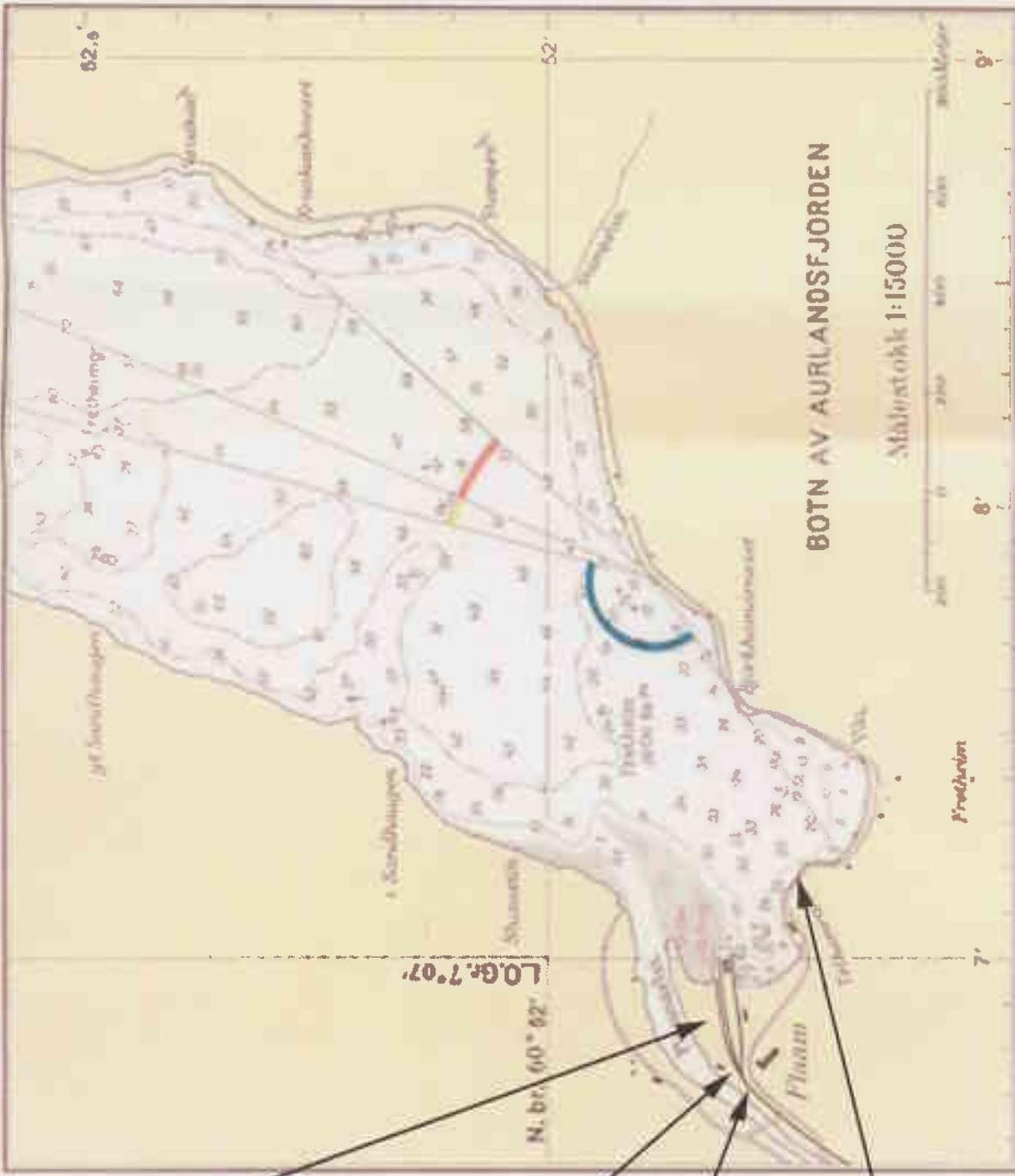
Dining

The Fretheim Hotel, a modernized structure, has been a tourist destination since opening in 1870. It has the best and biggest kitchen in Flam, with an impressive dinner and breakfast. Bookings recommended: mail@fretheim-hotel.no Tel: +47-63-63-00.

Flam Railway

The biggest attraction is the Flamsbana Railroad, which draws visitors from all over the world. While it's an individual expense, we booked for everyone to take the memorable twelve-mile electric train up a hairpin gradient that is 55% in its steepest incline through what has to be some of the country's most magnificent scenery. You will see rivers pouring through wide ravines, waterfalls that cascade down the side of mountains, and miniscule farms nestled in snug gaps at the foot of the valley. (Only 2% of the land in Norway is arable.) From its height at some 3000 feet above sea level, the ride down through twenty tunnels is dramatic. The experience inspires respect for the Norwegian engineers and laborers who constructed the line over a period of twenty years. They finished in 1940, in effect linking the vital Sognefjord by rail to Oslo when roadways were in short supply.

FLÅM



Supermarket
& stores

Railroad
Station

Train

dock-
raft up here

NB: Not for navigation

Anchorage

Mind the markers on the approach. Raft at motel dock or anchor out in 10/15 meters, per the chart that follows. Beware the shallows and rocks at the north end of the motel dock.

A convenient, sheltered way stop as we exit the Sognefjord; otherwise, not much here.

The motel at the head of the harbor:

Leirvik Kro og Motell

Postboks 4

6951 Leirvik

Norway

Tel: +47 57 78 89 20

post@leirvikkro.no

Motel dockage = NOK 75 (c. \$15) per boat, NOK 25 (\$5) more for electricity; responsibility of each skipper to pay at the motel desk.

Pontoons if empty may be available for boats under 45 feet. Check with motel owner Leila Feten, tel +47-90-86-81-57. She owns the dock, not the pontoons, but may know what pontoons are free for use.

Motel has a modest restaurant and bar, 0900-2100, open for soft drinks and beer until 2300. All credit cards accepted.

Shopping

Excellent small supermarket across the street from the motel dock, 0900-2000.

Alternative anchorages:

1. Rysjedalsvika: Just to west of Leirvik. Good anchorage on a calm night in 10/20 meters at edge of or just outside of north cove. Space for three or four boats. Exposed to south. Beware underwater cable.

Major ferry stop if any crew need to disembark a few days early.

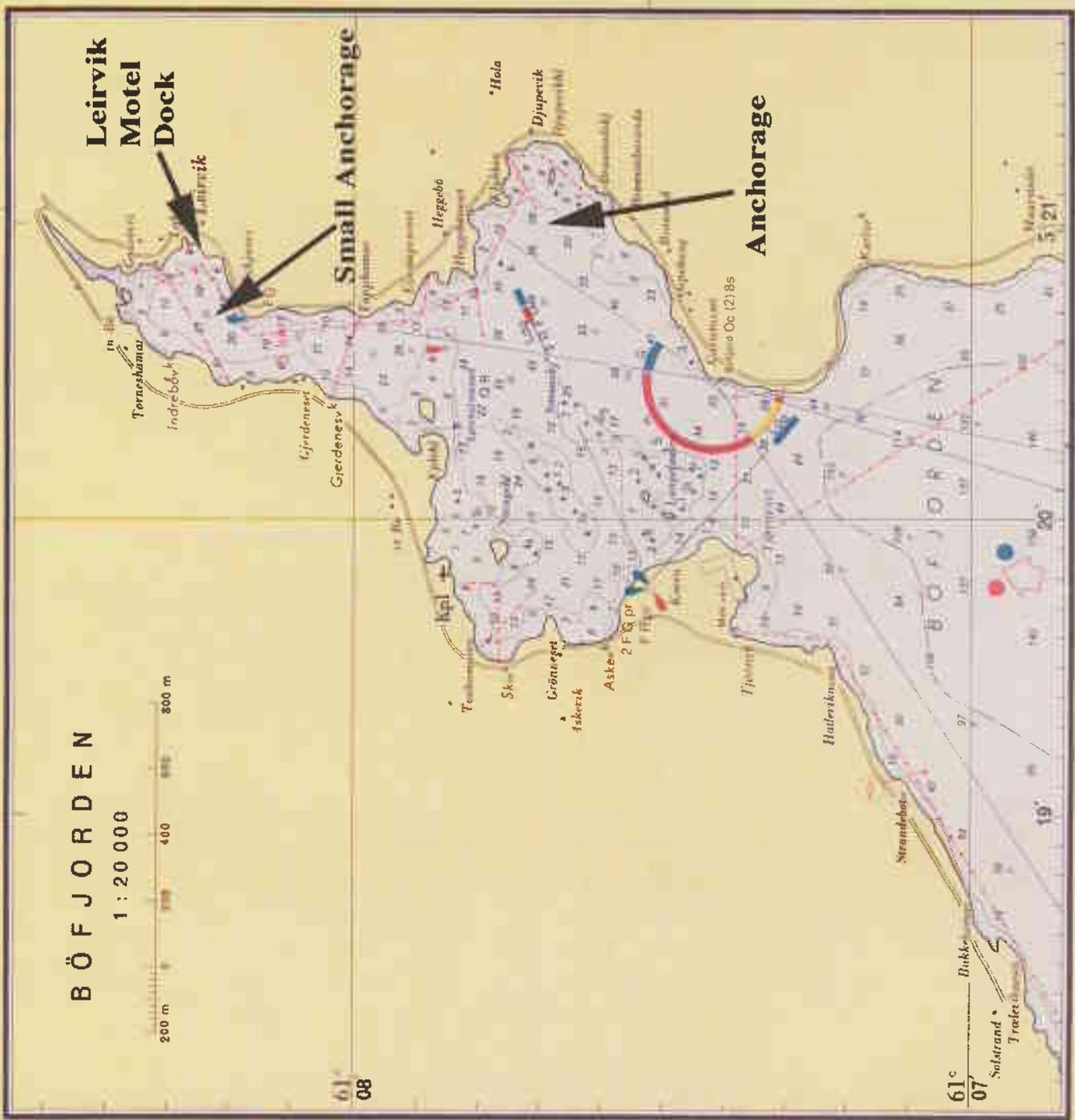
2. Flöhl: Another anchorage for two or three boats just to west of Rysjedalsvika in 7/22 meters tucked just to north of island as you enter on the eastern side of the cove. Beware rocks in the northwest of the cove that presumably cover at high water. (We were there at low.)

3. Risnefjord, Brekke: Tie up at disused ferry dock, which can probably take three boats alongside and raft out three or four deep. Do not tie up at rough stone pier contiguous to and just north of old ferry dock – there are rocks just below the surface. Also can tie up at middle pontoon, two on each side rafted out. Others can anchor.

Fuel pump, but possibly not operational. No facilities.

Beautiful views, though shore side up close not so pretty, with low, non-descript work structures, except for an old church and some old houses a short distance above the docks.

Exposed to north & east, quiet when we visited summer 2007.



NB: Not for navigation



Om Leirvik Kro og Motell
Kvar er Leirvik?
Aktivitatar
Pub'en
Overnatting
Båtturistar
Catering
Kurs og konferanse
Linkar
Kontakt/Booking



Velkommen til Leirvik Kro og motell

Leirvik Kro og Motell vart nybygt i 1996 og ligg i midt i Leirvik sentrum i Hyllestad kommune. Vi kan tilby deg rom m. dusj, wc, tlf. og tv.
Om du vil på tur, har vi utleige av båt og sykkel.

Prisar rom:
Dobbelrom Kr 900,-
Enkelrom kr 700,-

Ekstraseng kr 150,-

Leirvik og Hyllestad er eit eldorado for naturelskere og fiskeinteresserte.
Her kan du fiske i sjø og vatn eller gå tur på det kjende fjellet Lihesten.

Avslutt dagen med heimelaga mat hjå oss. Leirvik Kro er kjend for å lage god og velsmakande vestlandsmat.



Velkommen skal du vere.

Anchorage

Anchor in the slot at the northeast corner of Herdla between Herdla and the island of Lamoy at 60 34.6 N 4 58.36 E. Larger boats may anchor out in 10/15 meters; smaller boats can anchor further in 5/7 meters in the pool or tie off to pitons on the rocks. No supplies, no garbage disposal.

In this cluster of picturesque islands, vessels may find other spots in which to tuck away for the night. Beware the rocks, and watch the buoys that mark the channels through which local boats can come flying at any hour.

In the event of heavy weather, alternative anchorage is in Herdla harbor at 60 34.1, N 4 57.3 E where vessels may tie up to the jetty and raft up or take slips at the marina.

HERDLA

From Wikipedia (always slightly suspect)

Herdla, is an island, and former municipality, in Hordaland county, Norway. Herdla was separated from Manger as a municipality of its own in 1870. It was divided in three parts, which were merged with Askøy, Meland and Øygarden January 1, 1964. Herdla is situated north of the Island of Askøy. Askøy is adjacent to the city of Bergen.

The island is a popular target for tourists. The nature reserve at the Island has many birds. Some 220 species of birds are registered. The nature reserve is also a nice place to walk and bathe. There are good fishing possibilities in the area.

Air base and coastal fortifications

During the Second World War, all of Herdla was in effect a military base for the German Luftwaffe. The flat area "Herdlevalen" was considered a good place for an airport. The air base at Herdla was important to defend the west coast of Norway against Allied attacks. Many fortifications were built to hinder possibly invading forces. All civilians had to leave the island. In 1945 they came back to an island full of military installations.

Herdla was seriously considered as the site for Bergen's main airport. After the war the air traffic control for the Bergen area was placed at Herdla. However, in 1955, the airport was finally built at Flesland instead, since that would not require boat to reach it.

After the war some of the military installations were assimilated into the Royal Norwegian Coastal Artillery, who also built a series of new installations on the island. In recent years the fortress has been used for training new recruits for the coastal artillery, but the fortress was permanently closed in 2000 as a part of a major restructuring of the Norwegian armed forces, when the Royal Norwegian Coastal Artillery was decommissioned.

