Is it Norge or Noreg?

Two 21st century stamps depicting lighthouses

2005: **Norge** stamp of Tranøy lighthouse in Hamarøy in Nordland Fylke

2007: **Noreg** stamp of Ona lighthouse in Romsdal in Møre og Romsdal Fylke.
There are two official Norwegian languages. Bokmål is the written language of >80% of Norwegians, however 27 municipalities (12% of population) have declared Nynorsk as their official language. In Bokmål the country is Norge, in Nynorsk it is Noreg. The postal service has recognized both languages on the nation’s stamps.
Municipalities in Norway

There are currently 430 municipalities in the 19 Norwegian fylke. In the mid 20th century there were as many as 744 distinct municipalities, but by 2006 this number had been pared by consolidations and mergers, primarily of rural locations.

Each municipality has an administrative center that is also a postal center, but most municipalities are also comprised of separate villages which are also postal centers. All postal centers are assigned a four digit postal code which often appears in the postmark.

Postal Codes

The 4-digit postal code is sufficient to identify a postmark.

(6150) – Ørsta, a municipality in Møre og Romsdal

These two stamps were postmarked 5 days apart in the village of Ørnes in October of 1981. Ørnes is in the municipality of Meløy in Nordland. The postal code of 8150 is missing in both.

Hospitals, airports, and military bases also have postal codes. This Christmas stamp was postmarked at the hospital in Trondheim, in Sør-Trøndelag fylke.
Finnmark Municipalities

1. Alta
2. Berlevåg
3. Båtsfjord
4. Gamvik
5. Hammerfest
6. Hasvik
7. Karasjok
8. Kautokeino
9. Kvalsund
10. Lebesby
11. Loppa
12. Måsøy
13. Nesseby
14. Nordkapp
15. Porsanger
16. Sør-Varanger
17. Tana
18. Vadsø
19. Vardø

postmarks – next page
locations – stamps on this page
NORDKAPP

I WAS THERE

3 JUL 1999
NORDKAPP

I WAS THERE
Nordkapp Monument, but issued to commemorate Svalbard issue of 2005
NORDKAPP

July 3, 1999 in Nordkapp
Hurtigruten stops from Bergen to Kirkenes

“I was there” souvenir envelope

Scott #1042 (1983) 100 years
Hammerfest in Finnmark and the Hurtigruten Cruise Ship

The Haynes boys and their transport - June 30, 1999 in Hammerfest, Norway

Scott #939 (1989)
Alta Rock Carvings (Petroglyphs)

Discovered under lichen and moss in 1972, the rock carvings in Alta Norway date from 4200 B.C. to 500 B.C. Over 6000 have been discovered and exposed for study and viewing. Many have been painted red to permit the detail to be visualized at this UNESCO World Heritage site in northern Norway.
Alta Rock Carvings (Petroglyphs)

Fred Haynes photo in July, 1999
Population (2013) – 239,611
Area (km²) – 38,483
# of Municipalities – 44
Admin. Center – Bodø

Municipalities
1. Alstahaug
2. Andøya
3. Ballangen
4. Beiarn
5. Bindal
6. Bø
7. Bodø
8. Brønnøysund
9. Dønna
10. Evenes
11. Fauske
12. Flakstad
13. Gildeskål
14. Grane
15. Hadsel
16. Hamarøy
17. Hattfjelldal
18. Hemnes
19. Herøy
20. Leirfjord
21. Lødingen
22. Lurøy
23. Meløy
24. Moskenes
25. Narvik
26. Nesna
27. Øksnes
28. Rana
29. Røøya
30. Røst
31. Saltfjellet-Saltdal
32. Sømna
33. Sørøya
34. Sortland
35. Steigen
36. Tjeldsund
37. Træna
38. Tysfjord
39. Værøy
40. Vågan
41. Vefsn
42. Vega
43. Vestvågøya
44. Vevelstad

Aurora Borealis
Scott 1318-1319 (2001)
Photo by Fred Haynes (1999)
Passing North of the Arctic Circle aboard the Hurtigruten
(June 29, 1999)
Photo by F. Haynes (July 1, 1999, ~1:00 AM)
from the Hurtigruten, north of the Arctic Circle
The Mining Town of Røros, Sør-Trondelag flyke was honored with this 1998 issue and FDC with commemorative coin.
Alesund is a gorgeous coastal and island community in Møre og Romsdal fylke.
Alesund is a gorgeous coastal and island community in Møre og Romsdal fylke.

Photo by F. Haynes (1999)
Borgrund Stave Church in Ålesund
(*built between 1180 and 1250 AD*)

Photo by F. Haynes (1999)
Bergen is in Hordaland fylke

Population (2013) – 497,135
Area (km²) – 15,438
# of Municipalities – 33
Admin. Center – Bergen

Rosenkrantz Tower in Bergen
Postens filatelitjeneste
Postboks 1085 Sentrum
OSLO 1

Bergen celebrates its 900th Anniversary in 1970
Vøringfossen, in Eidfjord and Hordaland Flyke

Just the 83rd highest waterfall in Norway, but one of the most picturesque.

Photo by F. Haynes, 1998

Scott #553 (April 10, 1970)
Trains of Norway

Scott 765b (1980)

"Bergen Line" through the mountains to Oslo

Vintage photo of narrow gauge steam locomotive at Koppang station on the Røros line between Hamar and Trondheim

Urskog-Høland Railway 100th Anniversary in 1996

1979 photo of diesel locomotive at Flatmark station on the Rauma line
I lived in Lura, a village within the municipality of Sandnes.
The posthorn is a valveless cylindrical brass or copper instrument with cupped mouthpiece used in the 18th and 19th century to signal the arrival of a post rider or mail coach. Posthorns such as those on display at the Norwegian Postal Museum (see postcard to left) acted as a siren, the sound travelling some distance ahead to warn of an approaching mail coach. Once alerted, folks would gather at the town’s post site to collect their mail and to post outgoing mail.
Preikestolen is a favorite hiking site about an hour from Stavanger. The 25m by 25m flat topped cliff is a 3.8km hike from Preikestolen Mountain Lodge (see stamp on lower envelope). Once on top, it is 604m (1982 feet) straight down to Lysefjorden on 3 sides.
Photos by Fred Haynes (1998)
Preikestolen (Pulpit Rock) as approaching on the trail

Photo by Fred Haynes (1998)
Kjerag ("Bolt Rock") – 900m above Lysefjord and a 15 km round trip hike along the fjord ridge.

Yes, we made it (July, 1999)
1997 Stamp and Envelope depict the Ocean Viking Drillship operating for Phillips Petroleum in the Ekofisk Field in the Norwegian North Sea. The commemorative envelope on this page and both on the next page commemorate the opening of the Norsk Oljemuseum in Stavanger, Rogaland, Norway in May of 1999.
Statfjord 1974 - 1979 - 1999

25 år siden oljefeltet ble erklært drivverdig i 1974
20 år siden produksjonsstarten i 1979

Statfjord Field, declared economic in 1974, first production in 1979
At 462m, the Troll Platform is the tallest structure that has ever been moved to another position. This commemorative cover depicts the platform being towed to location in 1966.
Lindesnes lighthouse in Vest Auger Flyke

First built in 1655

Scott #724 (1983)

Photo by F. Haynes (2000)
Norwegian stabbur in Telemark Fylke
Scott #721 (1983)
Stabbur (or stabur) translates to storehouse and was used to store foods and other items off the ground and protected from rats and other pests. Some were built simply, others like this one, quite ornate.
Stabbur now in the Norwegian Folke Museum in Oslo
Lillehammer is in Oppland Flykke

1994 Winter Olympic Games

1994 Paralympic Games

Norske OL-frimerker
NORWEGIAN OLYMPIC STAMPS
In 1994, Edvard Munch’s painting “The Scream” was stolen from the National Gallery in Oslo, and held for ransom. It was recovered later in the year.

In 1998, the famous painting was featured on this postal card.

Upper left - Self-portrait
Lower Left – “Loneliness”
Upper Right – “Fertility”
Lower Right – “Girls on Bridge”
The city of Oslo is divided into boroughs instead of municipalities. After a reorganization in 2004, there are now 15 boroughs in addition to Sentrum Oslo (Oslo center). Within these boroughs are train stations and neighborhoods, many of which have (or had) recognized postal centers.

Boroughs

1. Alna
2. Bjerke
3. Frogner
4. Gamle Oslo
5. Gorud
6. Grunerløkka
7. Nordre Aker
8. Nordstrand
9. Sagene
10. St. Hanshaugen
11. Stovner
12. Søreide Nordstrand
13. Ullern
14. Vestre Aker
15. Østensjø
Oslo Attractions

Norway’s Royal Palace
Scott #1207 (1998)

Photo by Fred Haynes

Sculpture by Gustav Vigeland now in Vigeland Park

Mother and Child
Man, Woman, and Child
Fountain in Vigeland Park
Holmenkollen, Oslo, Norway
The Cairns of Norway

Scott #511 (Jan, 1998)
Fred Haynes photo along the road from Sinnes to Lysebotn in West Agder fylke.
Somewhere north of the Arctic Circle, summer of 1999.