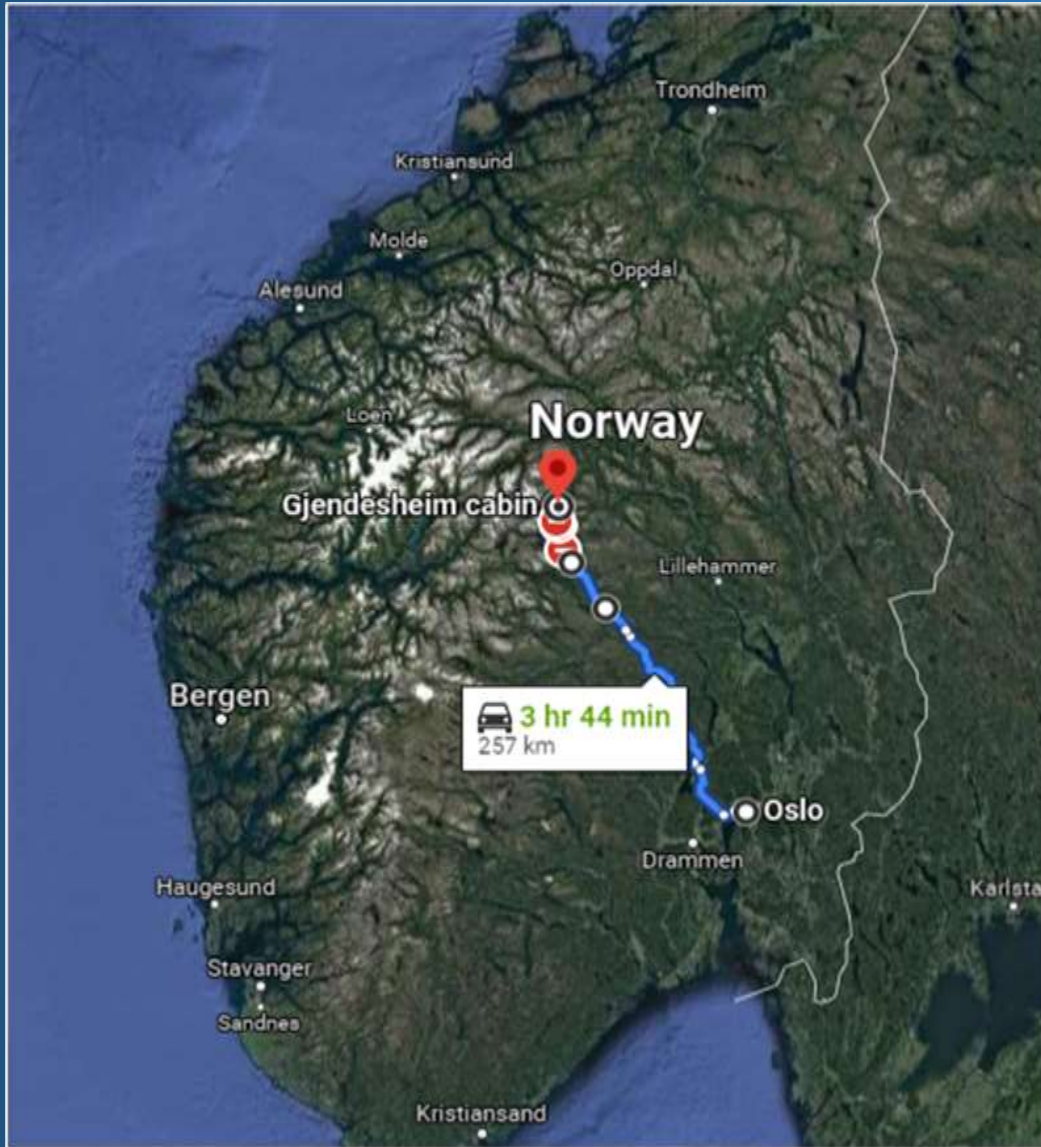
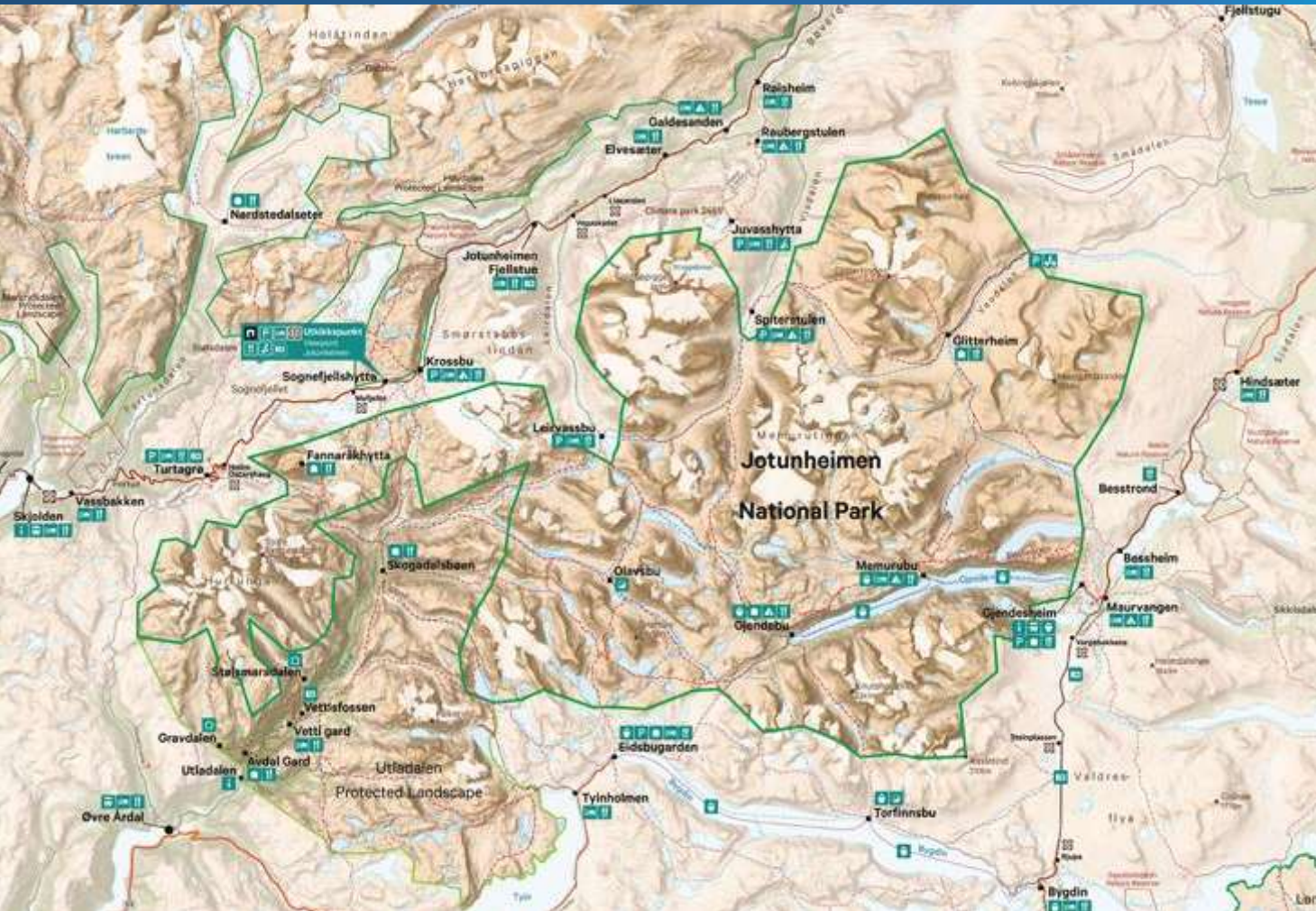


Our Jotunheimen Circuit Hut Trekking Adventure – June 25-July 5, 2019



- Gathered in Oslo → private shuttle bus to Jotunheimen National Park (3.75 hrs).
- Then 8 days hiking between full-service huts
 - 88 miles and 18,949' gain
 - 3 private huts, 5 run by the Norwegian Trekking Association DNT.
 - Beds and food provided at huts – could carry light packs
- Back to Oslo on private shuttle



Jotunheimen “Home of the Giants”

- National park of 282k acres
- 2 highest peaks in northern Europe, and over a dozen named glaciers
- 15 mountain huts, hundreds of miles of trails for walkers and xc skiers



Drive from Oslo to Jotunheimen



Gjendesheim Hut – Run by DNT





Gjendesheim Hut



<https://gjendesheim.dnt.no/>

Our Jotunheimen Circuit

Spiterstulen Hut

Glitterheim Hut

Leirvassbu Hut

Memurubu Hut

Skogadalsboen Hut

Gjendesheim Hut

Gjendebu Hut

Fondsbu Hut

Google Earth

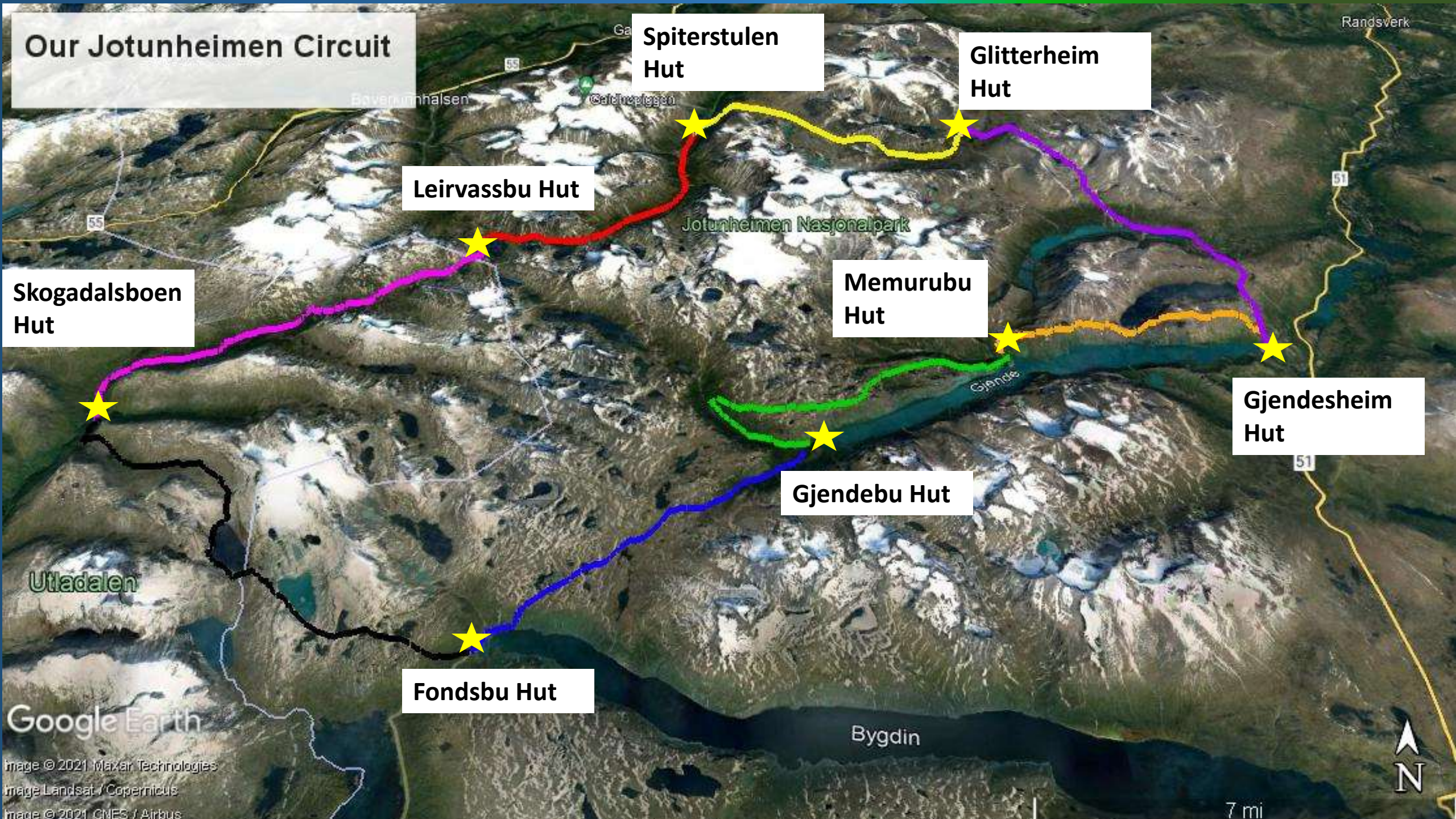
Image © 2021 Maxar Technologies

Image Landsat / Copernicus

Image © 2021 CNES / Airbus



7 mi



Our Jotunheimen Circuit

DAY	FROM	TO	MILES	GAIN (FT)	LOSS (FT)
1	Gjendesheim Hut	Glitterheim Hut	13.6	3608	-2322
2	Glitterheim Hut	Spiterstulen Hut	9.9	1194	-2152
3	Spiterstulen Hut	Leirvassbu Hut	9.8	1500	-450
4	Leirvassbu Hut	Skogadalsboen Hut	12.2	964	-2838
5	Skogadalsboen Hut	Fondsbu Hut	14.1	3447	-2738
6	Fondsbu Hut	Gjendebu Hut	8.9	1653	-1901
7	Gjendebu Hut	Memurubu Hut	11.3	3123	-3049
8	Memurubu Hut	Gjendesheim Hut	8.2	3460	-3605
ALL			88.0	18,949	18,949

DAY 1.

Gjendesheim to Glitterheim

Distance **13.6 mi**
Ascent **3,908 ft**

Elevation



Ascent **3,908 ft**

Descent **2,634 ft**

Max Elevation **5,649 ft**

Min Elevation **3,223 ft**





Climbing above Lake Gjende







Bessvatnet



Russa River





Russvatnet









Glitterheim Hut



DAY 2.

Glitterheim to Spiterstulen

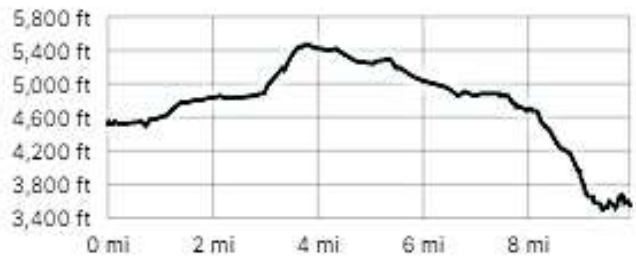
Edit

November 10, 2021, 03:49 PM

Jotunheimen Circuit

Distance **9.94 mi**
Ascent **1,498 ft**

Elevation



Ascent **1,498 ft**

Descent **2,482 ft**

Max Elevation **5,458 ft**

Min Elevation **3,495 ft**



Glittertind (2452 m) is the second tallest peak in N. Europe (first if you count its 3m ice cap!).

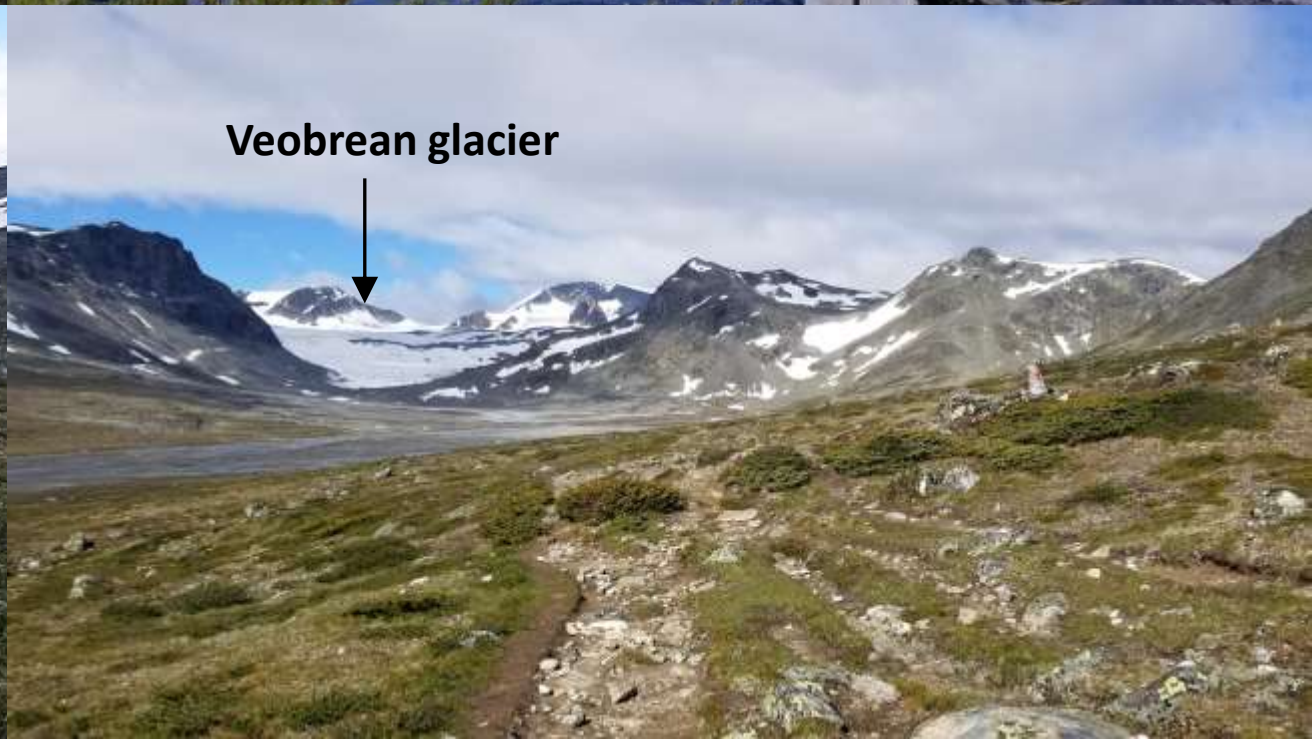




Following the river Veo upstream



Veobrean glacier





**Elaborate DNT Cairns –
“Don’t add to or modify...”**





**Descent to the river Visa
and Spiterstulen Hut**



**Spiterstulen Lodge
(private)**





Spiterstulen Lodge (fancy!)



Galdhøpiggen

- Spiterstulen is common starting point for hiking to the top of Galdhøpiggen (2469m/8100').
- Can be done with or without a guide, several routes. Shorter route crosses a glacier.
- RT: 13 km with 1520 m gain. The trip usually takes between 7 - 9 hours.
- This was not on our itinerary.



Galdhøpiggen
(2469m) ↓



DAY 3.

Spiterstulen to Leirvassbu

Edit

November 10, 2021, 03:50 PM

Jotunheimen Circuit

Distance **9.75 mi**
Ascent **2,673 ft**

Elevation

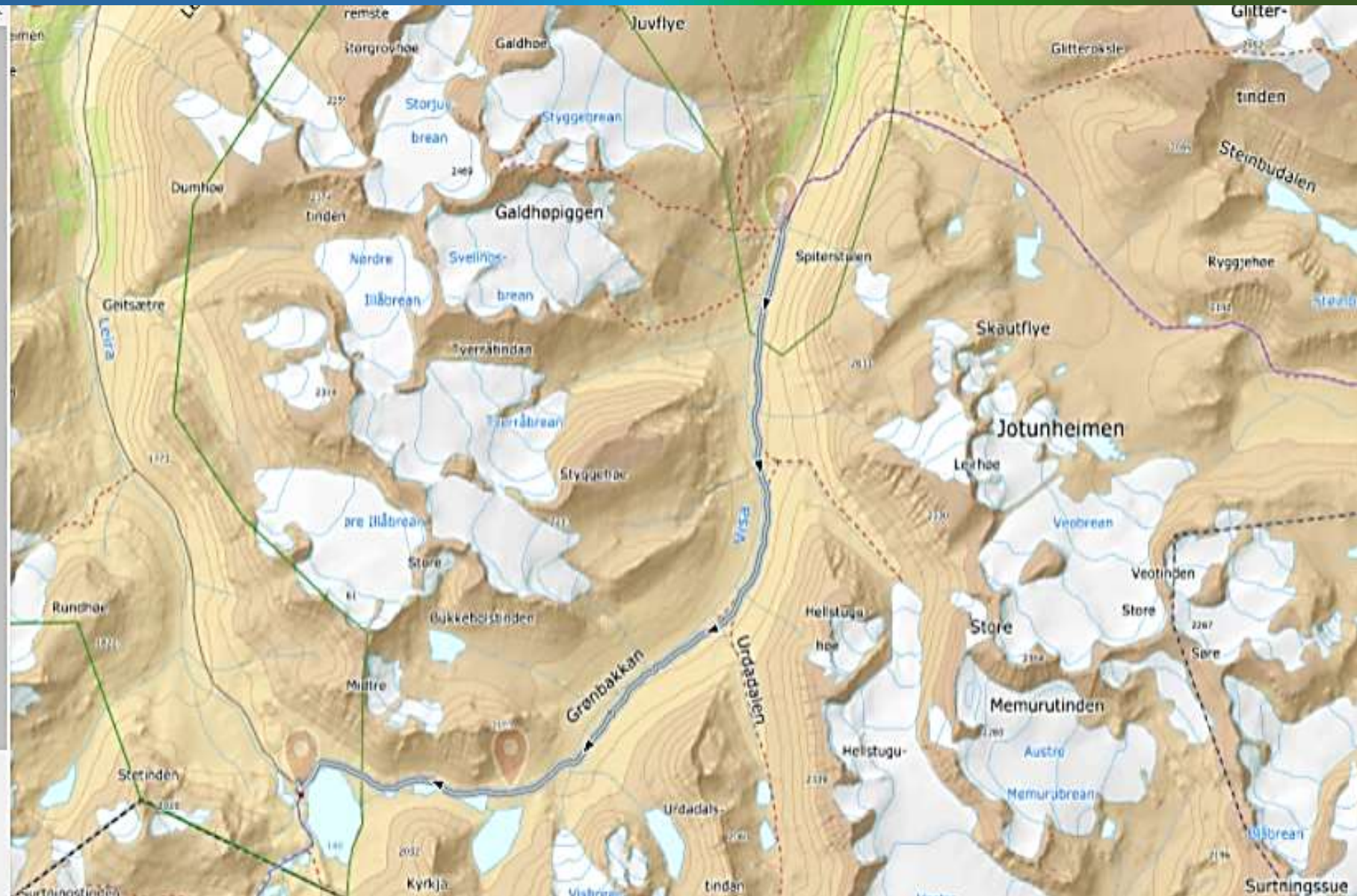


Ascent **2,673 ft**

Descent **1,664 ft**

Max Elevation **4,915 ft**

Min Elevation **3,554 ft**



Sunrise from Spiterstulen



Walking up the river Visa





**Iconic peak
"Kyrka" (church)**





**String of lovely lakes as
we approach Leirvassbu**



**Leirvassbu Lodge
(Private)**





DAY 4.

Leirvassbu to Skogadalsboen

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November 10, 2021, 03:51 PM

Jotunheimen Circuit

Distance **12.2 mi**
Ascent **2,170 ft**

Elevation

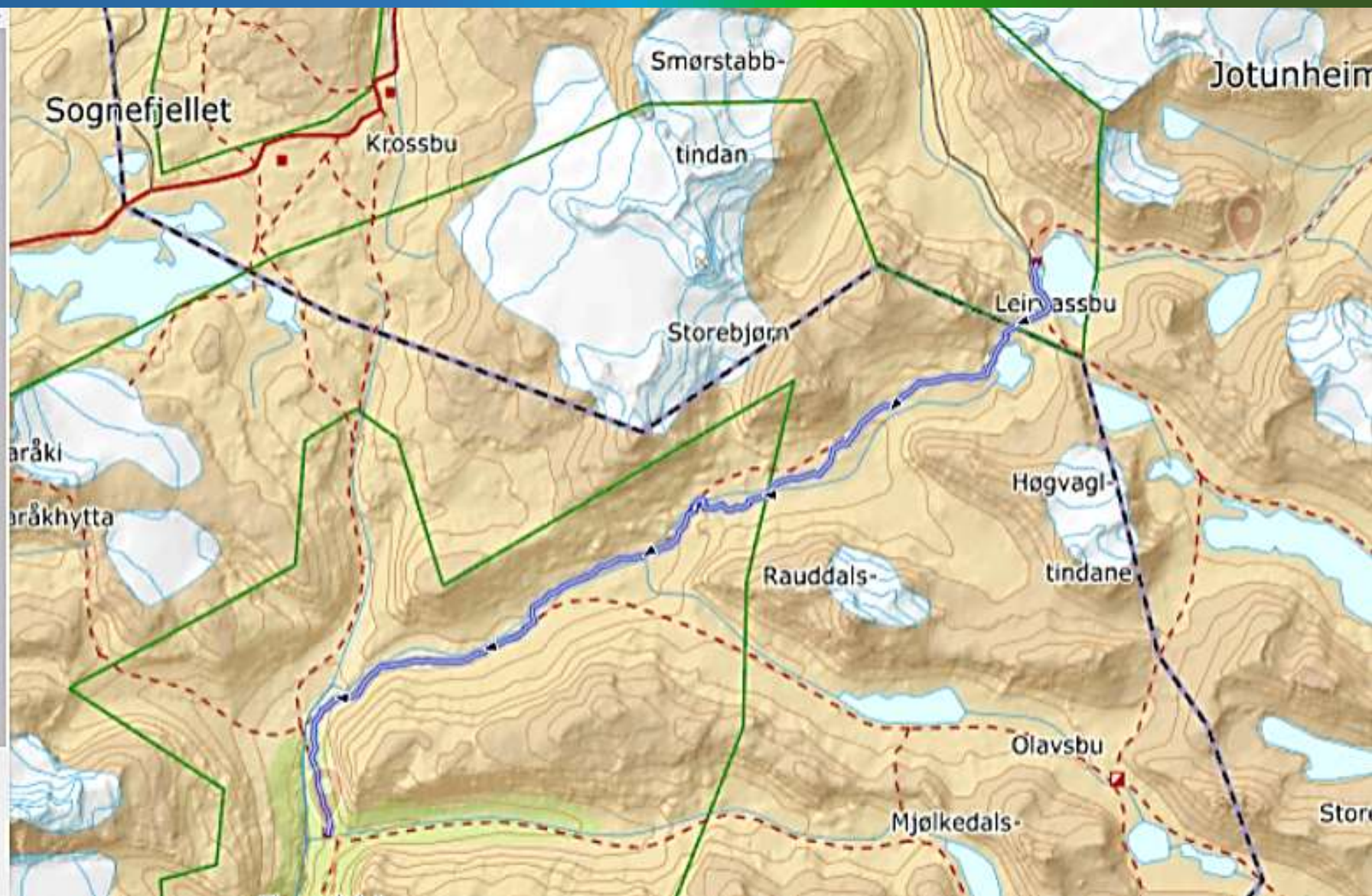


Ascent **2,170 ft**

Descent **4,057 ft**

Max Elevation **4,745 ft**

Min Elevation **2,580 ft**





Leaving Leirvassbu
on a rainy morning







Hiking along the Gravdalen





REINDEER!!



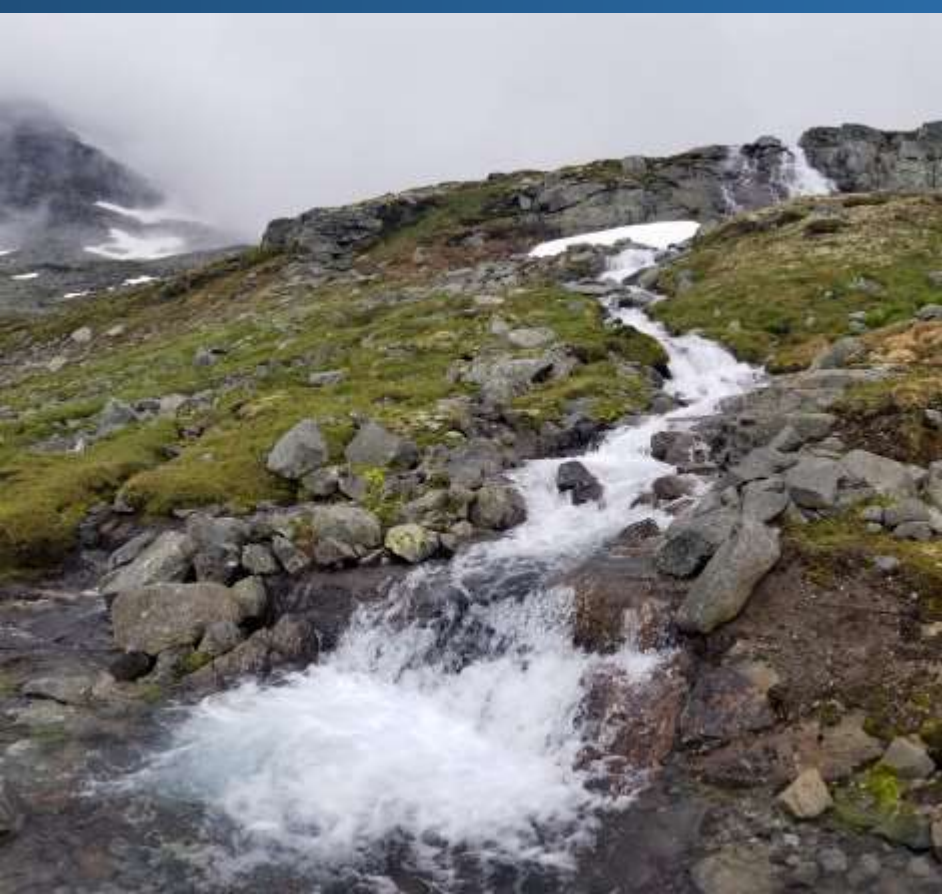


Gravdaldammen





Water
pouring into
the valley
from all sides!





**Skogadalsboen Hut
(DNT)**



DAY 5.

Skogadaleboen to Fondsbu actual

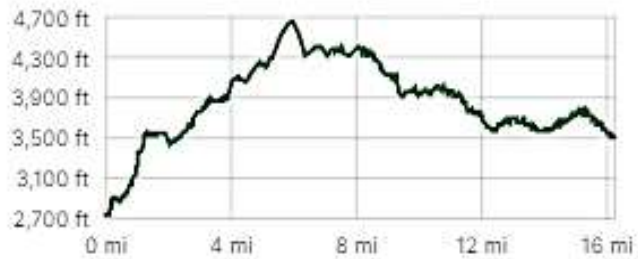
Edit

November 10, 2021, 03:51 PM

Jotunheimen Circuit

Distance Ascent
16.3 mi **4,278 ft**

Elevation



Ascent **4,278 ft**

Descent **3,502 ft**

Max Elevation **4,651 ft**

Min Elevation **2,731 ft**



Wet climb to a 2157m pass



Soggy snack stop!





**Hopping slick boulders around
Uradalsvatnet – a total nightmare!**



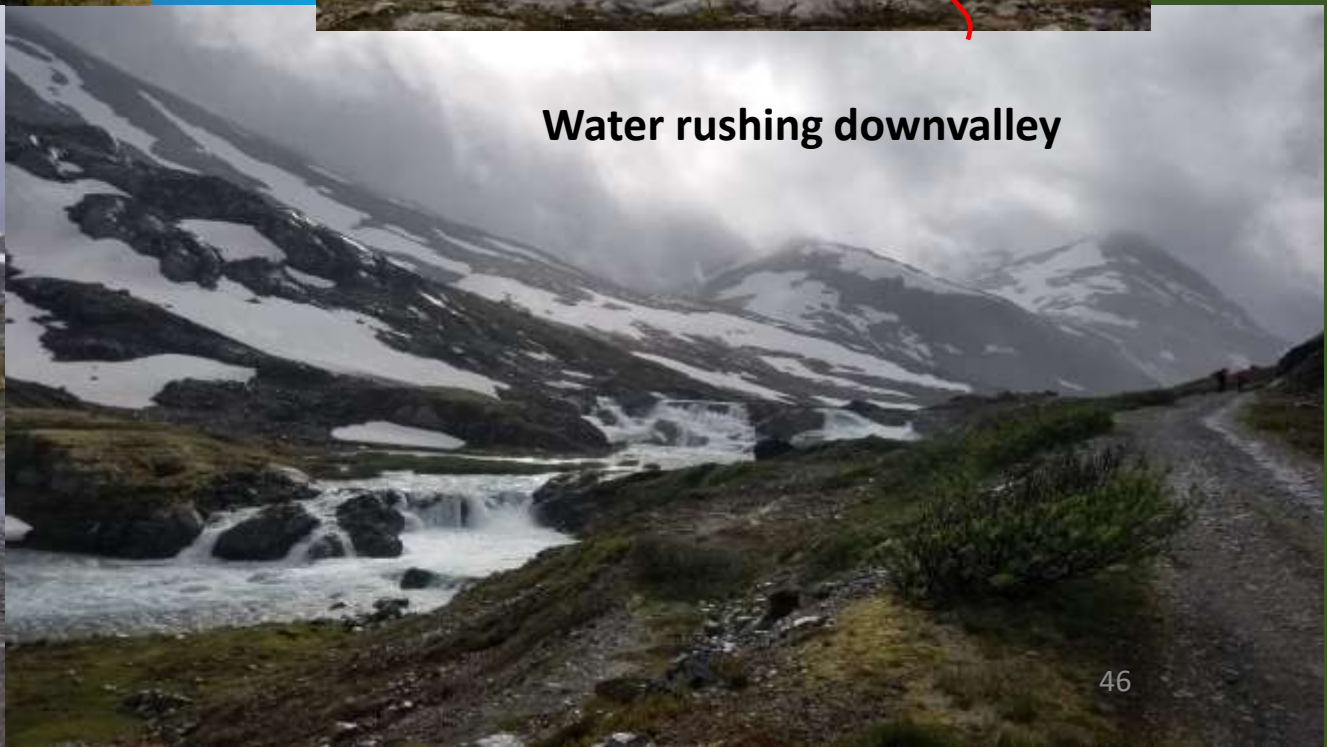
We decided to descend to the road vs. take a shorter high route



5 mile road walk to Fondsbu past Koldedalsvatnet and Tyin lakes



Water rushing downvalley





**Upper end of the
large lake Tyn**





We sent 3 people ahead to a hotel and they sent a van back to pick us up for the last 2 miles to Fondsbu!



Fondsbu Hut (DNT) – on the shore of Lake Bygdin



Some exhausted
puppies at Fondsbu!



The proprietress at Fondsbu, Solbjørg Kvålshaugen, serenaded us with a Norwegian folk song at dinner! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Afdx_3D6WM



DAY 6.

Fondsbu to Gjendebru

November 10, 2021, 03:52 PM

Jotunheimen Circuit

Distance **8.91 mi**
Ascent **2,482 ft**

Elevation



Ascent **2,482 ft**

Descent **2,799 ft**

Max Elevation **4,656 ft**

Min Elevation **3,211 ft**



**Giving the Viking some love
before we leave Fondsbu**





Around and above Lake Bygdin



Crossing another high plateau..



...before descending to Lake Gjende



And Gjendebu Hut!

**Gjendebu, the oldest DNT hut!
(from 1871)**



Gjendebu hut



Gjendebu ferry – to Memurubu and Gjendesheim



DAY 7.

Gjendebu to Memurubu actual

Edit

November 10, 2021, 03:53 PM

Jotunheimen Circuit

Distance **11.3 mi**
Ascent **3,456 ft**

Elevation



Ascent **3,456 ft**

Descent **3,429 ft**

Max Elevation **5,062 ft**

Min Elevation **3,253 ft**



**Snow overnight, halfway
down the slopes**



So some took the ferry to Memurubu
and the rest took the long way
around to avoid Bukkalaegret





We followed the Storåe R. for about 2.5 miles, then climbed to the tops

A snowy wonderland high above Lake Gjende





Descent to Memurubu Hut



The
Memurudalen



**Memurubu, at the
end of the rainbow!**







Memurubu, a lovely private lodge



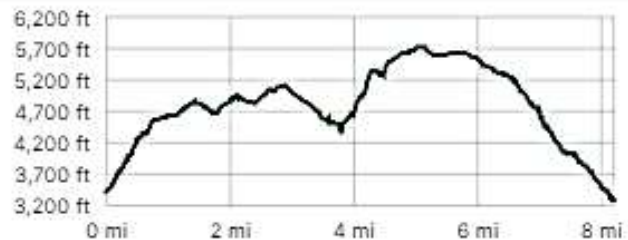
Memurubu to Gjendesheim Plan [Edit](#)

November 10, 2021, 03:53 PM

Jotunheimen Circuit

Distance **8.21 mi**
Ascent **3,645 ft**

Elevation



Ascent **3,645 ft**

Descent **3,786 ft**

Max Elevation **5,716 ft**

Min Elevation **3,281 ft**



DAY 8.

**Snow on Bessegen
Ridge, morning of day 8**





So we all took the ferry to
Gjendesheim and walked to
Besseggen



Gjendesheim ahead



 Besseggen
 Memurubu
 Glitterheim



**Freezing headwinds
heading for Besseggen**



**Lake Gjende
(glacial)**

**Lake Bessvatnet
(non-glacial)**







**Wine, snacks and a good rest
at Gjendesheim!**



Strong new friendships and rich memories!



The Jotunheimen Huts and Lodges

- Full-service and self-service huts run by DNT, plus several private lodges
- Large dorms to private en-suite rooms to 2- 4- bunk rooms.
 - *Most huts have campsites – walk-ups*
 - *DNT huts are ~\$105pp for members, \$130pp for non-members, full board in 3-4 bunk rooms. The private lodges are \$130 and up for full board.*
 - *Can purchase full board, bed only or meals only.*
 - *Consider a DNT membership (725 NOK) if you plan to spend 4+ hut nights with full board.*

The Jotunheimen Huts and Lodges (continued)

- Warming/drying rooms are AMAZING!!
- Meal service is standard in full-service huts, usually family style for dinner, buffet for breakfast and lunch.
- Road access, buses to some but not all during summer and Easter.
- Wide variety of winter and summer activities on offer.

Jotunheimen – Highlights & Cautions

- Dramatic glacier-sculpted scenery with broad panoramic views.
- Amazing huts and food – full service so you don't need to carry much.
 - Even the self-service DNT huts have a food pantry – pay for what you eat
- Bus transport and ferry service add to the options and convenience.
- Lots of interesting routes and side trips. Trails mostly well marked/cairned.
- These routes are VERY rugged and exhausting – boulder hopping for miles.
 - *Adjust your daily mileage expectations!*
- Routes are very treacherous when wet or snow-covered. Some super-steep sections.

Jotunheimen Planning Tips

- Best hiking is mid June to mid August – warmest, least snow – but also the wettest. (May & Sept drier but much colder – possible snow – and public transport limited.)
 - *Jotunheimen is a Nordic skier's paradise! March-April*
- Need to book huts and lodges in advance.
- During main summer season, public buses run close to many of the huts.
- Did not need an outfitter or guide service, though you can find them especially for glacier walks and climbs along the route.
- We carried daypacks with just lunches, water, clothing, raingear and sleep sacks (could also rent bedding and towels at the huts).

Questions?



Walking the Wild: Trek 265 Miles of the Qhapaq Ñan World Heritage Trail through the Peruvian Andes, with David Burdick



- Coming up February 15, 2022 - 7-8:30PM - Zoom Online Presentation
- To get your advance ticket go to www.mountaineers.org and search for *Walking the Wild*