

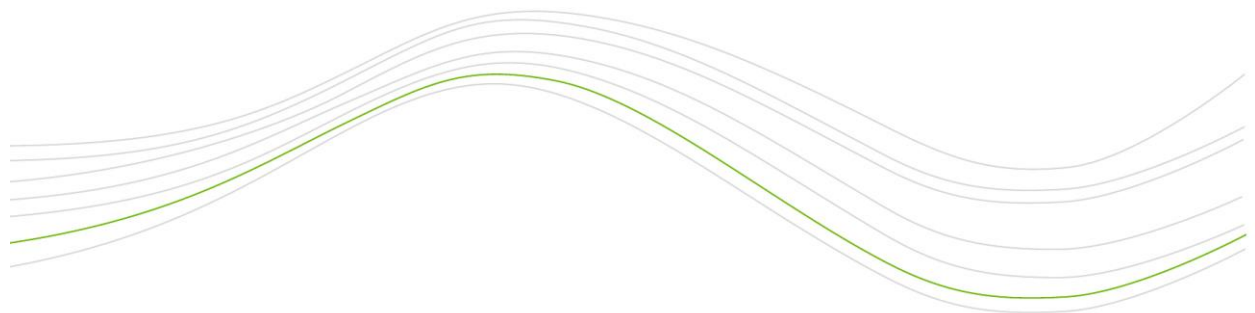


Kartverket

Toponymic Guidelines

for Map and Other Editors for International Use

***Norway
Revised Edition
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Topic Toponymic Guidelines for Map and Other Editors, for International Use.

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1. Languages

1.1 General remarks

Norway is a unilingual country in the sense that Norwegian is the only nation-wide language. Norwegian is the principal language of more than 95 percent of the country's 5.33 million (as of December 2018) inhabitants. The Saami (sometimes written Sámi) language spoken by the indigenous people Sami, also has official status in the country. Kven, Romanes and Romani are acknowledged as official minority languages in Norway, but the latter two are scarcely reflected in geographical names, nor are languages spoken by more recent immigrants.

1.2 Linguistic situation

There are two official forms of written Norwegian, one called "Bokmål" (Book language), used by approximately 88 % of the population, and one called "Nynorsk" (New Norwegian) used by approximately 12 % of the population. Of the 356 municipalities of Norway, 33 % of the municipalities have Bokmål as the official language, 25 % have Nynorsk as the official language, and 42 % have decided to stay neutral as to preferred language. Saami (North Saami, Lule Saami and South Saami) is spoken by about 20 000, whereas a few thousand speak Kven. However, the figures are vague.

1.3 Historical background

During the union with Denmark (1397–1814), Danish supplanted Norwegian as the official written language of the country. The two languages are closely related and mutually intelligible, although there are certain differences in pronunciation that are reflected in the spelling. It was quite possible to write most Norwegian geographical names in accordance with Danish spelling rules, and it was also possible to reverse the process.

One of the aims of the national renaissance that developed after the separation from Denmark in 1814 was to create a genuinely Norwegian language. During the latter part of the nineteenth century, two Norwegian language forms emerged, one based on (written) Danish and adjusted to the spoken language used by the upper classes (Bokmål), and the other based mainly on the dialects of the western and central parts of the country (Nynorsk). Both underwent a number of spelling reforms, the most important of which were those of 1907 and 1917, which brought about the definitive transformation of the spelling of the traditional Dano-Norwegian language.

The national renaissance did not embrace the minority languages. On the contrary, during the following century the Norwegian authorities pursued a policy aiming at Norwegianizing Saami and Kven names. Only in the middle of the 20th century regulations were given to ensure equality of the status of names in the minority languages. Still today the use of Saami and Kven place names is met with opposition in many local communities.

1.4 National language

1.4.1 General remarks

Norwegian belongs to the Germanic language group and is written in the Roman script.

There are four old established minority languages: Saami (constituted by three subdivisions North Saami, Skolt Saami, Lule Saami and South Saami), Kven, Romanes and Romani.

1.4.2 The Norwegian alphabet

A a	H h	O o	V v	Å å
B b	I i	P p	W w	
C c	J j	Q q	X x	
D d	K k	R r	Y y	
E e	L l	S s	Z z	
F f	M m	T t	Æ æ	
G g	N n	U u	Ø ø	

The letters C c, Q q, W w, X x, and Z z, are not normally used in Norwegian geographical names (place names). Exceptions are foreign names and names of artefacts containing personal names or loan words.

The additional letters Æ æ, Ø ø, Å å are always treated as separate letters and placed after Z in dictionaries, indexes, etc. If those letters are not available they may be written Ae, ae, Oe, oe, Aa, aa. Before the spelling reform of 1917, Å å was generally written Aa aa, and accordingly placed before Ab ab, in alphabetical indexes, etc.

1.4.3 Spelling rules for Norwegian geographical names

Historical remark

Some attempts were made to reintroduce Norwegian forms of spelling for geographical names on maps and in cadastral surveys while the language reform was still in its earliest stages in the middle of the 19th century. The spelling reforms of the early 20th century made it impossible to retain Danish spelling for geographical names while the rest of the language was being revised.

Map-makers had consulted linguists about the spelling of Norwegian geographical names on new maps since the 1870s. The radical spelling reforms made it necessary to have a set of rules for the spelling of Norwegian geographical names. Detailed rules were first issued in 1913, and have been revised several times since. The latest revision came in 2018.

Norway has had an act on the standardization of geographical names (the Place Name Act) since 1990, see subchapter 2.2.

Capitalization

One-word geographical names are always capitalized, e.g. *Borg, Oslo, Sogn*. Compound names are normally written as one word and capitalized: *Dovrefjell, Finnmark, Trondheim*. In names consisting of more than one word, only the first word is capitalized, except when one of the following words is a proper name. Examples: *Folldalen naturreservat, Huitfeldts gate* but *Store Falkevatn, Øvre Eidfjord*, compare *De forente stater* (United States [of America]), *Forbundsrepublikken Tyskland* (Bundesrepublik Deutschland/The Federal Republic of Germany).

The use of one word, two words or hyphen

The hyphen is not common in Norwegian geographical place names, but it is used in some names, more by chance than by rule, in order to make the main element more legible, mostly when the first element is a direction adjective. Both elements are then capitalized. Examples: *Aust-Agder, Vest-Agder, Nord-Norge* (Bokmål), *Nord-Noreg* (Nynorsk).

If the specific of a geographical name consists of a personal name of more than one word it may be attached to the generic by a hyphen: *Morten Petersen-vegen, Ol Jonsa-haugen*. If two

separately existing geographical names are combined in one name, for instance for an administrative division, the two words are attached by *og* and still capitalized, e.g. *Møre og Romsdal, Nore og Uvdal*.

Names of counties and municipalities with more than one official language are written separately in either language (the same language as the text in question). Both or all three names are used in tables, registers and on signs and maps, e.g. *Unjárga, Nesseby* (Saami, Norwegian), *Gáivuona suohkan, Kåfjord kommune, Kaivuonon komuuni* (Saami, Norwegian, Kven).

Foreign names

The general principle is that foreign names should retain the form used in the country of origin (endonym), transliterated if necessary in accordance with an officially recognized system of transliteration. As in other countries there are numerous exceptions to this rule, mainly traditional conventional names for countries, towns and natural features (exonyms) that have been known for centuries to literate Norwegians – names like *Storbritannia* (Great Britain), *Dolomittane/Dolomittene* (Le Dolomiti), *Rhinen* (Der Rhein).

1.5 Standard pronunciation of geographical names and appellatives in Norwegian maps

The key does not cover all cases, and it does not include the pronunciation of foreign names/words. The letters q, w and z have the values [k], [v] and [s], but mostly occur in loan-words and rarely in Norwegian maps. A vowel may be pronounced long or short. A long vowel is normally followed by a single consonant in a stressed syllable, and vice versa a short vowel is followed by a double consonant or a group of consonants. As a general rule the first syllable of a compound is stressed. Due to the historical development words of more than one syllable are pronounced with either simple or double musical accent.

Pronunciation key

The following are examples of geographical place names found on Norwegian maps.

Spelling	(IPA alphabet)	Pronunciation examples
A	[a:], [a]	<i>Hamar</i> [ɑ:], <i>Land</i> [ɑ]
Ai	[ai]	<i>Straisvannet</i>
Au	[ɛu], [æu]	<i>Haugesund</i>
B	[b]	<i>Bodø</i>
Bb	[b:]	<i>Rebbenes</i>
Ch	[ʃ]	<i>Charlottenlund</i>
D	[d]	<i>Bodø</i>
Dd	[d:]	<i>Nadderud</i>
E	[e:], [e], [ɛ:], [ɛ], [ɐ]	<i>Nes</i> [e:], <i>Etterstad</i> [e], <i>Nes</i> [ɛ:], <i>Erkna</i> [ɛ], <i>Hille</i> [ɐ]
Ei	[ɛi], [æi]	<i>Eina</i>
F	[f]	<i>Fana</i>
Ff	[f:]	<i>Offersøy</i>
G	[g] (+ back vowels) [j] (+ front vowels)	<i>Godøy</i> [g], <i>Geilo</i> [j]
Gg	[g:]	<i>Ogge</i>
Gj	[j]	<i>Gjerpen</i>
Gn	[gn], [ɲn]	<i>Begna</i>
H	[h]	<i>Hitra</i>
Hj	[j]	<i>Hjelle</i>
I	[i:], [i]	<i>Hisøy</i> [i:], <i>Hitra</i> [i]

Spelling	(IPA alphabet)	Pronunciation examples
J	[j]	<i>Jæren</i>
K	[k], [ç]	<i>Kabelvåg, Kinn</i> [ç]
Kj	[ç]	<i>Kjosen</i>
Kk	[k:]	<i>Bakken</i>
L	[l], [ɫ]	<i>Larvik</i> [l], <i>Dal</i> [l,ɫ]
Lj	[lj], [j]	<i>Ljosnes</i> [lj], <i>Ljan</i> [j]
Li	[l:]	<i>Velle</i>
M	[m]	<i>Molde</i>
Mm	[m:]	<i>Remma</i>
N	[n]	<i>Nes</i>
Ng	[ŋ]	<i>Langset</i>
Nk	[ŋk]	<i>Junkeren</i>
Nn	[n:]	<i>Rinna</i>
O	[u:], [u], [ɔ:], [ɔ]	<i>Oma</i> [u:], <i>Oslo</i> [u], <i>Opedal</i> [ɔ:], <i>Ogge</i> [ɔ]
P	[p]	<i>Polmak</i>
Pp	[p:]	<i>Oppdal</i>
R	[r], [R]	<i>Rana</i>
Rd	[ɾ], [d], [r], [R], [Rd]	<i>Gardåa</i>
Rl	[l], [Rl]	<i>Storli</i>
Rn	[ɲ], [Rn]	<i>Furnes</i>
Rr	[r:], [R:]	<i>Forra</i>
Rs	[ʃ:], [Rs]	<i>Korset</i>
Rt	[t], [Rt]	<i>Arteid</i>
S	[s]	<i>Sira</i>
Sj	[ʃ]	<i>Sjursnes</i>
Sk	[sk], [ʃ] (+ front vowels)	<i>Skansen</i> [sk], <i>Ski</i> [ʃ]
Skj	[ʃ]	<i>Skjomen</i>
Stj	[stj], [ʃ]	<i>Stjørdal</i>
T	[t]	<i>Tinn</i>
Tj	[ç]	<i>Tjølling</i>
Tt	[t:]	<i>Tjøtta</i>
U	[u:], [u], [u]	<i>Bu</i> [u:], <i>Utne</i> [u], <i>Munkby</i> [u] (esp. in front of <i>ng, nk</i>)
V	[v]	<i>Vardø</i>
Y	[y:], [y]	<i>Ygre</i>
Æ	[æ:], [æ]	<i>Værnes</i>
Ø	[ø:], [ø], [œ]	<i>Øre</i> [ø:], <i>Børve</i> [ø], <i>Ølve</i> [œ]
Øy	[œy]	<i>Øye</i>
Å	[o:], [ɔ]	<i>Åsen</i> [o:], <i>Åsta</i> [ɔ]

1.6 Linguistic substrata

There is a Finnish substratum in many of the geographical names for the woodlands of Eastern Norway (mainly dating from the immigration of Finnish farmers in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries), and a Kven substratum in certain parts of northern Norway (mainly dating from immigration from Northern Sweden and Northern Finland in the seventeenth century).

1.7 Dialects

Local dialects of Norwegian are spoken in most rural districts and to some extent in the towns. The standard language and its variants are now increasingly used in the rural centers of population, especially those where industry has developed during the last century.

As a result of the linguistic situation in the country, there is probably a stronger admixture of dialect forms on Norwegian maps than on the maps of most of the neighbouring countries. In addition to the standardized forms of Bokmål and Nynorsk a number of dialectal forms occur, thus variants such as *tjern, tjørn, tjenn, tjønn, tjødn* (small lake, pond), *lille, lisle, litle, litje, lisje, likje* (little), *aust, øst* (east), *kirke, kyrkje, kjerke, kjærke* (church), may be found on maps. If a map covers a district with dialectal differences, several variants may be found on the same map.

1.8 Minority languages

Saami

Saami has official status and is used as an official language in addition to Norwegian in several municipalities in Northern Norway. Saami also has status as an indigenous language. Saami geographical names occur scattered over a wide area, as far south as Innlandet, earlier Hedmark County in Eastern Norway. Because of the Norwegianization process that took place in the 19th and 20th centuries, the number of Saami speakers in Norway has drastically decreased. Still, today there are a lot of tracks that prove that there has been and still is Saami settlement in these areas, such as Saami place names.

The Saami belongs to the western branch of the Uralic language family and is closely related to the Balto-Finnic languages.

Saami is spoken in Norway, Sweden, Finland, and on the Kola Peninsula in Russia. The number of people with Saami as their first language varies immensely. The majority of Sámi and speakers of Saami live in Norway, altogether approximately 30 000. Traditionally there are ten Saami languages, and North Saami, Lule Saami and South Saami are spoken in Norway nowadays. These three variants are regarded as different languages and they also have their own orthographies. The variants differ considerably so that speakers from distant language areas do not understand each other. There are a few Pite Saami and Skolt Saami speakers in Norway, but these languages do not have any status as official languages. In those areas in Norway, there are Pite Saami place names (in Nordland) and Skolt Saami place names (eastern Finnmark/Finnmárku), and these areas are also defined as part of their traditional areas of settlement. Most Saami languages are phonetically complicated. Consonant gradation, often called simply gradation, exists in all Saami languages except South Saami.

Following a long period of neglect and oppression, the language has acquired and even become the subject of laws and regulations that decisively strengthen its official status position in society. Saami is taught in all levels of schools and should be used officially in the administration of the municipalities where the Saami language is recognized as an official language.

The Norwegian Place Name Act decrees that Saami place names (geographical names) should be used on maps, signs and other official documents according to traditional local use. When an entity has a name in Saami as well as in Norwegian and/or Kven, all the relevant names should be used on maps, road signs etc. In 1978 a new South Saami orthography was introduced. In 1979 a new North Saami orthography was introduced. In 1983 a new Lule Saami orthography was taken into use. In more recent map editions the new orthographies are applied. Finland, Norway and Sweden have agreed upon a common policy in this respect.

North Saami

North Saami is the most widely used Saami language and is spoken over a vast area from the northern part of Nordland to eastern Troms og Finnmark in Norway. In this area a great number of place names are of Saami origin and are written in the North Saami alphabet.

The North Saami alphabet

A a	E e	L l	S s	Ž ž
Á á	F f	M m	Š š	
B b	G g	N n	T t	
C c	H h	Ŋ ŋ	Ʀ Ʀ	
Č č	I i	O o	U u	
D d	J j	P p	V v	
Đ đ	K k	R r	Z z	

The pronunciation of many of the sounds varies considerably, depending on their position in the word. The distinction between long and short monophthongs is not made in the orthography. In the North Saami language there are 4 diphthongs and 6 monophthongs in the first syllable: *dievvá*, *čearru*, *muotki*, *oaivi*, *čilla*, *heŋgo*, *skurču*, *johka*, *čahca*, *skáidi*.

An important part of the North Saami is the grade alternation in the consonant centre. The consonant gradation participates in the inflections and derivations of Saami in the same way as umlaut and ablaut of Germanic languages. In North Saami toponymy, the grade alternation can occur in specific positions of compound names. Hence, *Čoalbmiejávri* (*čoalbm*) in the strong grade and *Čoalmmejávri* (*čoalmme*) in the weak grade can occur as place names. The grade alternation in the generics of place names is used according to the syntactical surrounding, e.g. *Olmáivággi* and *Olmáivákki skuvla*.

Pronunciation key according to Eastern pronunciation

(Examples given are words used in North Saami geographical names in Norwegian maps)

<i>Ie</i>	<i>dievvaa</i>	[tievva:]	<i>ea</i>	<i>čearru</i>	[tʃearru:]
<i>Uo</i>	<i>muotki</i>	[muoø ^e ki:]	<i>oa</i>	<i>oaivi</i>	[oaj ^e vi:]
<i>I</i>	<i>čilla</i>	[tʃi.lla]	<i>e</i>	<i>heŋgo</i>	[heŋ:ku]
<i>U</i>	<i>skurču</i>	[skur ^o h ^t fju:]	<i>o</i>	<i>johka</i>	[jo.hka]
<i>A</i>	<i>čahca</i>	[tʃa.htsa]	<i>á</i>	<i>skaaidi</i>	[ska;j:ti:]
<i>C</i>	<i>čahca</i>	[tʃa.htsa]	<i>č</i>	<i>rohči</i>	[ro ^o htʃi:]
<i>Đ</i>	<i>boađđu</i>	[poaððu:]	<i>dj</i>	<i>veadji</i>	[veacci:]
<i>Nj</i>	<i>njaarga</i>	[ŋa:r ^a ka]	<i>ŋ</i>	<i>geavŋŋis</i>	[keavŋŋi:s]
<i>Š</i>	<i>raašša</i>	[ra:f:ʃa]	<i>t</i>	<i>guotku</i>	[kuoø ^e hku:]
<i>Ž</i>	<i>aavži</i>	[a:v:tʃi:]			

Skolt Saami

There are some Skolt Saami place names used in Norway in a part of Sør-Varanger municipality in Troms og Finnmark. Still in this area there are only a few place names of Skolt Saami origin registered in the place name database.

The Skolt Saami alphabet

A a	Đ đ	J j	Õ õ	Z z
Â â	E e	K k	P p	Ž ž
B b	F f	Ķ ķ	R r	Å å
C c	G g	L l	S s	Ä ä
Č č	Ĝ ĝ	M m	Š š	’
Ʒ Ʒ	Ğ ğ	N n	T t	
Ž ž	H h	Ŋ ŋ	U u	
D d	I i	O o	V v	

Lule Saami

The Lule Saami is spoken in some parts of the county of Nordland, especially in Tysfjord. The letters used for writing Lule Saami are the following:

The Lule Saami alphabet

A a	G g	M m	S s
Á á	H h	N n	T t
B b	I i	Ŋ ŋ	U u
D d	J j	O o	V v
E e	K k	P p	Ä ä/Æ æ
F f	L l	R r	Å å

An important part of the description of the Lule Saami is the grade alternation in the consonant centre. The consonant gradation participates in the inflections and derivations of Saami in the same way as umlaut and ablaut of Germanic languages. In Lule Saami toponymy, the grade alternation can occur in specific positions of compound names. Hence, *Tjoalmmejávrre* (*tjoalmme*) in the strong grade and *Tjoalmejávrre* (*tjoalme*) in the weak grade can occur as place names. The grade alternation in the generics of place names is used according to the syntactical surrounding, e.g. *Ájluokta* and *Ájluovta skåvllå*.

Some toponymic examples in Lule Saami: *jiegge* 'bog, marsh', *ædno* 'main river', *duottar* 'mountain tract, high mountain moorland', *oajvve* 'head, round-shaped top of mountain' and 'leader/manager', *gårttje* 'waterfall', *ájdde* 'isthmus', *tjåhkkå* 'summit, mountain top'. For a more comprehensive list of Lule Saami words used in place names see the toponymic guidelines of Sweden.

South Saami

South Saami is spoken in scattered areas from Saltfjellet in Nordland to Elgå in Northern Innlandet.

The South Saami alphabet

A a	H h	M m	T t	Å å
B b	I i	N n	U u	
D d	Ī ĩ	O o	V v	
E e	J j	P p	Y y	
F f	K k	R r	Æ æ	
G g	L l	S s	Ö ö	

An important part of South Saami is umlaut, also known as sound alternation. The umlaut participates in the inflections and derivations of South Saami. The vowels in stressed syllables are affected by the vowels in the following, unstressed syllables. The sound of a vowel changes and is pronounced more like the following vowel. Hence, *Voerhtjevaerie* (Nominative case) and *Voerhtjevaaran* (Illative case). Another example is *Måel*hkie (Nominative case) and *Måal*hkan (Illative case).

South Saami has 9 short vowels (a, e, i, ĩ, o, u, y, æ, å) and 14 long vowels (aa, ae, ea, ee, ie, ĩe, oe, ua, ue, yö, öö, åa, åe, åå).

Some toponymic examples in South Saami:

baahkoe [baahkuo] 'mountainside', *durrie* [d̥urrie] 'cleft, small mountain gap', *gaejsie* [gæjsie] 'high mountain', *guevtele* [gævtele] 'mountain tract, high mountain moorland', *jaevrie* [jævrie] 'lake', *jeanoë* [jeænuo] 'the main river', *johke* [juhke] 'river', *loekte* [luokte] 'creek, inlet, bay', *mehkie* [mehkie] 'bay, creek in river or lake', *sååle* [soole] 'island, islet', *tjahke* [tʃahke] 'summit, mountain top', *vaerie* [væerie] 'mountain', *vaegkie* [væekkie] 'valley', *vuemie* [væemie] 'woodland', *åejjie* [oæjjie] 'head, round-shaped top of mountain', *åelkie* [oælkie] 'shoulder of mountain, small mountain'.

Kven

The Kvens have lived in Northern Finland, Sweden and Norway for several centuries. Today the term Kven is only used for those of Finnish descent who live in Northern Norway. The Kven language (Norwegian "Kvensk") language is similar to the Finnish dialect of Northern Finland, in particular the dialect of Tornedalen in Sweden. Most of the Norwegian Kvens live in the county of Troms og Finnmark where they often live amongst Norwegians and Sámi. Kven geographical names are found in these areas and also outside the districts where the Kvens live today.

Principles for the spelling of Kven names in Norway are the same as for standard Finnish in Finland (cf. the toponymic guidelines for Finland), although the Kven alphabet has an additional letter, *đ*. These principles apply also to compound names and to capitalization. Rules for the standardization of Kven place names are not as strict as for Finnish names in Finland, and spelling follows the local variants of Kven.

Kven has 8 vowels, all of which may be short or long. They can make 18 diphthongs. Long vowels are written with two letters.

<i>a</i>	[a]	<i>pahta</i>	[pahta]	<i>ä</i>	[œ]	<i>lähe</i>	[læhe]
<i>e</i>	[e]	<i>kenttä</i>	[kent:æ]	<i>i</i>	[i]	<i>kivi</i>	[kivi]
<i>o</i>	[o]	<i>koro</i>	[koro]	<i>ö</i>	[ø]	<i>köngäs</i>	[køN:æs]
<i>u</i>	[u]	<i>kuru</i>	[kuru]	<i>y</i>	[y]	<i>kylä</i>	[kylæ]

Examples of diphthongs:

kaisa [kaisa], *autsi* [autsi], *kielas* [kielas], *outa* [outa], *kouta* [kouta], *öystä* [øystæ].

Examples of long vowels:

vaara [va:ra], *kiiruna* [ki:runa], *uurre* [u:r:e].

Kven has 15 consonant phonemes. [ð] and [ŋ] occur only medially. [ŋ] occurs only as long, or before k. Medially the consonants except [ð] occur as long or short. Long consonant phonemes are written with two letters.

<i>đ</i>	[ð]	<i>puđas</i>	[puðas]	<i>n</i>	[n]	<i>nielu</i>	[nielu]
<i>f</i>	[f]	<i>fierua</i>	[fierua]	<i>p</i>	[p]	<i>pahta</i>	[pahta]
<i>h</i>	[h]	<i>hauta</i>	[hauta]	<i>r</i>	[r]	<i>ruto</i>	[ruto]
<i>j</i>	[j]	<i>juova</i>	[juova]	<i>s</i>	[s]	<i>laassa</i>	[la:s:a]
<i>k</i>	[k]	<i>rapakko</i>	[rapak:o]	<i>š</i>	[ʃ]	<i>šoru</i>	[ʃoru]
<i>l</i>	[l]	<i>lahti</i>	[lahti]	<i>t</i>	[t]	<i>tieva</i>	[tieva]
<i>m</i>	[m]	<i>mella</i>	[mel:a]	<i>v</i>	[v]	<i>vaara</i>	[va:ra]
<i>nk</i>	[ŋ]	<i>penkkä</i>	[peŋk:æ]	<i>ng</i>	[ŋ:]	<i>köngäs</i>	[køŋ:æs]

The first syllable of the word is always stressed, and the last syllable is always unstressed, regardless of the quantity.

2 Authorities for names and name standardization

2.1 Historical background

Some attempts were made to reintroduce Norwegian forms in the spelling of geographical names on maps and in cadastral surveys while the language reform was still in its earliest stages in the middle of the 19th century. The spelling reforms of the early 20th century made it impossible to retain Danish spelling for geographical names while the rest of the language was being revised.

During the nineteenth century the Government and map-makers consulted historians and linguists about the correct spelling of place names. From 1879 the Geographical Survey of Norway employed a permanent adviser, who revised the names on all official maps, and who was also consulted by the Government on the spelling of names of administrative divisions. An adviser for Saami (Lapp) names was consulted from the 1880s and onwards. From 1912 there were two advisers for Norwegian place names, representing the two official forms of Norwegian (Bokmål and Nynorsk). A National Names Authority was set up by Royal Ordinance in 1933, from which date two government consultants advised on Norwegian place names, and from 1971 there were also two consultants for Saami names, one for North Saami and one for South Saami.

2.2 The Place Name Act of 1990 with amendments of 2005, 2015 and 2019

In 1990 the Norwegian national assembly (Stortinget) passed an act on the standardization of geographical place names in official use. Amendments to the Act were passed in 2005, taking effect from 1 August 2006. The Place Name Act underwent a revision in 2015, and a new amendments came in the 1 July 2019 (<http://www.lovdatab.no/all/hl-19900518-011.html>).

The main provisions of the Place Name Act are:

- The written standardized form should be based on the traditional, local pronunciation, while at the same time keeping to current spelling rules;
- A public body should authorize the spelling (in most cases The Norwegian Mapping Authority or the municipality);
- Geographical names which have been determined by law should be used by other public bodies.

The Act states that geographical names should be standardized according to the official form of Norwegian (Bokmål or Nynorsk) which corresponds best with the traditional local pronunciation. However, some dialectal traits as well as widely used old spellings may be retained. More detailed spelling rules are issued in the regulations of the law, and these were revised in 2018. Saami and Kven geographical names should be standardized according to the spelling rules of those languages. During the standardization process local parties must be heard and their views shall be taken into consideration before the determination of a spelling. Concerning the spelling of names of single holdings, the view of the property owner should be emphasized. This recommendation became more accentuated in a law amendment in 2015, in which the property owner got the right to determine that an old spelling used in a public document – historical or present – should be the authorized spelling for his particular single holding. This could result in a great extent of inconsistencies between the spelling of the names of single holdings and the same name used for other entities. However, so far rather few owners have taken advantage of this amendment. At the very last the law was amended with the purpose of giving communities more influence on the spelling of all names, including names standardized by The Norwegian Mapping Authority.

The purpose of the Act is to safeguard geographical names as cultural monuments, to determine a spelling which is practical and useable and to promote knowledge and active use of the names. The Act shall secure the consideration of Saami and Kven geographical names

in accordance with national law and international treaties and conventions. The Act applies where any state, county or municipal body shall determine geographical names or the spelling thereof, or use them in the performance of its duties.

The Act also applies to the use of geographical names in companies that are fully publicly owned and in textbooks that are to be used in the schools. This Act does not apply to Svalbard, Jan Mayen and the Norwegian dependent territories, the Norwegian Continental Shelf and Norway's Economic Zone.

The current organization of the geographical names consultancy service came into force on 1 July 2018 and will be continued throughout 2019 – and probably beyond. The name consultancy service for Norwegian geographical names shall during the trial period consist of three advisors and four consultants. The consultants are coordinated in a separate specialist advisory board, in line with the other advisory boards in the Norwegian Language Council. The advisors have higher education in onomastics and prepare place names cases for the consultants, respond to inquiries etc. The consultants have offices in Tromsø, Trondheim, Bergen and Oslo, respectively. In addition, there is a geographical names consultancy service for Kven names in Northern Norway with offices at the University of Tromsø, and a service for North Saami, Lule Saami and South Saami geographical names located in Guovdageaidnu. All names recognized under the Place Name Act must be reported to a national digital register (SSR) administrated by The Norwegian Mapping Authority. A Complaints Board is appointed to deal with complaints about authorized spelling decisions.

Different spellings of a name may be in official use at the same time, and the goal of establishing a single standardized form for each name is still a long way away. This increased with the mentioned amendments of the Act in 2015, in which the property owner got a stronger influence on the spelling of the name of his single holding, even though the name is an old, inherited one. In the ongoing amendments, it has furthermore been proposed that the municipalities should receive more influence on the spelling of all place names.

3 Source material

3.1 Map Series

The Norwegian national, official map series are:

Map series	Producer
1. Topographic maps, 1:50.000-1:250.000	Norwegian Mapping Authority
2. Nautical charts 1:5.000-1:10.000.000	Norwegian Mapping Authority

The Topographic Main Map Series, Norway 1:50.000, cover the whole country in 727 sheets. The map series were completed in 1988 and contain approximately 340.000 names. The Nautical charts cover the coast with 143 sheets together with harbour maps, other coastal charts and general charts.

3.2 Geospatial data

Geospatial data is available and can be downloaded free of charge from the national geoportal Geonorge (<https://www.geonorge.no/en>):

- Topographical land data at scale 1:50.000 and smaller
- Road network
- Place names from The Norwegian Place Name Register
- Administrative boundaries
- National elevation model

Other available geospatial data:

- Marine geospatial data
- FKB standard data (detailed vector data in scale 1:1.000-1:5.000).

Services for retrieving place names

- Full service from The Norwegian Place Name Register:
<http://wfs.geonorge.no/skwms1/wfs.stedsnavn50?service=WFS&version=2.0.0&request=GetCapabilities>
- Inspire service from The Norwegian Place Name Register:
<https://wfs.geonorge.no/skwms1/wfs.inspire-geonorge.no?service=WFS&request=GetCapabilities>

3.3 Online maps

Digital map available at <http://www.norgeskart.no/> include service for searching all place names in The Norwegian Place Name Register (SSR).

3.4 Gazetteers

An index for names on 1:50.000 scale maps of Norway was published by The Norwegian Mapping Authority and Norwegian Military Geographic Service in three volumes (1990-91). It contains names from the Topographic Main Map Series, approximately 340.000 names. This gazetteer was official when it was published.

The spelling of the names in the Index for names on 1:50.000 scale maps of Norway has not been evaluated or treated by the rules of the Norwegian Place Name Act, which came into force in 1991. Names which have been treated by these rules, are found in The Norwegian Place Name Register (SSR), an official database at The Norwegian Mapping Authority.

4 Glossary of appellatives, adjectives, and other words necessary for understanding of maps

4.1 Norwegian

Below follows a list of appellatives commonly used as parts of Norwegian geographical names. The list only provides examples and is not regarded to be complete. According to the Act, geographical names are to be spelled on the basis of the local inherited pronunciation at the same time following official Norwegian orthographic rules; that means the rules for Nynorsk where the local dialect is closer to Nynorsk, and the rules for Bokmål where the local dialect is closer to Bokmål. However, a number of dialectal forms are admitted. If several different pronunciation varieties exist, a strictly local form may be chosen where special reasons (as defined in the regulations of the Act) apply.

The appellatives listed below mostly occur as generics in place names, and then most commonly in the definite form. For instance, the definite form *dalen* is more frequent than the indefinite form *dal*. The endings *-en*, *-et* are definite articles in the singular, and *-an(e)*, *-ene* are definite articles in the plural. The endings *-a*, *-i*, (in some areas *-e* or *-o*) may be the definite article either in the singular or in the plural, depending on which noun group the word belongs to.

Decoding

aksel, akselen
aksel, aksla
bakke, Bakken

English equivalent

shoulder, mountain
shoulder, mountain
mountain, plain

Decoding

bekk, bekken
 benk, benken
 berg, berget, berga, bergi
 boe, boen
 bog, bogen
 botn, botnen
 botn, botnen
 bre, breen
 brot, brotet
 brott, brottet
 bru, brua, brui
 brun, brunen
 bug, bugen
 bukt, bukta, bukti
 bygd, bygda, bygdi
 b ae, b aen
 dal, dalen
 dam, dammen
 dokk, dokka, dokki
 egg, egga, egg
 egg, eggen
 eid, eidet
 elv, elva, elvi
 eng, enga, engi
 evje, evja
 fall, fallet
 fet, feta, feti
 fit, fita, fiti
 fjell, fjellet, fjella, fjelli
 fjellstue
 fjord, fjorden, fjordene
 fjord, fjorden, fjordan(e)
 fj odd, fj oddet, fj odda, fj oddi
 flak, flaket
 fles, flesa, flesi
 flo, floa, floi
 floe, floen
 floe, floen
 flog, floget
 flot, flota, floti
 fly, flya, flyi
 flu, flua, flui
 fonn, fonna, fonni
 fors, forsen
 foss, fossen, fossene
 foss, fossen, fossan(e)
 gard, garden, gardene
 gard, garden, gardan(e)
 gil, gilet
 gjel, gjelet
 gjuv, gjuvet
 glup, glupen
 grend, grenda
 grunne, grunnen, grunna, grunnene
 grunne, grunna, grunnan(e)
 g ard, g arden, g ardene
 hall, halla
 hall, hallet
 hals, halsen

English equivalent

brook, little stream
 ledge
 mountain, hill
 shoal, reef
 bay, cove
 head of fjord
 upper end of valley
 glacier
 break, edge
 break, edge
 bridge
 mountain, hill
 bay, cove
 bay, cove
 rural district
 shoal, reef
 valley
 pond
 hollow
 hill, mountain, ridge
 hill, mountain, ridge
 isthmus
 river, stream
 meadow
 back water, creek
 cliff
 meadow
 meadow
 mountain
 hospice, hut
 fjord, cove, lake
 fjord, cove, lake
 mountain
 shoal
 island
 flat land
 small pool
 marsh, pen
 cliff, mountain
 plateau
 mountain plateau
 shoal, half tide rock
 snowfield, glacier
 waterfall
 waterfall
 waterfall
 farm
 farm
 canyon, gorge
 canyon, gorge
 canyon, gorge
 gap
 hamlet
 shoal
 shoal
 farm
 slope
 slope
 mountain neck, ridge

Decoding

halvøy, halvøya, halvøyi
hamar, hamaren
hammar, hammaren, hamrene
hammar, hammaren, hamran(e)
hamn, hamna
hatt, hatten
haug, haugen, haugene
haug, haugen, haugan(e)
hav, havet
havn, havna
hei(d), hei(d)a
hette, hetta
holme, holmen, holmene
holme, holmen, holman(e)
hø, høa, høi
høgd, høgda, høgdi, høgdene
jøkel, jøkelen
jøkul, jøkulen
kam, kammen
kamp, kampen, kampene
kamp, kampen, kampan(e)
kil, kilen
kjøl, kjølen
klakk, klakken
kleiv, kleiva, kleivi
klepp, kleppen
klett, kletten
klubb, klubben
kluft, kluftha, klufti
klump, klumpen
kløft, kløfta, kløfti
knatt, knatten
knaus, knausen
knippe, knippa
knoll, knollen
knopp, knoppen
knud, knuden
knut, knuten, knutene
knut, knuten, knutan(e)
koll(e), kollen, kollene
koll(e), kollen, kollan(e)
kulp, kulpen
kvam, kvam(m)en
kvelv, kvelven
kvæv, kvæven
lei, leia, leii
li(d), li(d)a, li(d)i
lon, lona, loni
læger, lægeret
løk, løken
mø, moen
myr, myra, myrene
myr, myra, myri, myran(e)
nakke, nakken
natt, natten
nase, nasen
nebb, nebben
nebbe, nebba
nes, neset

English equivalent

peninsula
crag, mountain
crag, mountain
crag, mountain
harbour
hat (mountain)
hill, small mountain
hill, small mountain
sea, ocean
harbour
hill, mountain
mountain
holm, islet
holm, islet
hill
hill, small mountain
glacier
glacier
hill, mountain, ridge
hill, mountain
hill, mountain
cove, inner part of fjord
ridge, marsh
islet, small island
hillside, ascent
hill, mountain
cliff, mountain
hill, mountain
canyon
hill, mountain
canyon
hill, mountain
hill, crag
peak
peak
peak, top
peak, mountain
peak, mountain
peak, mountain
rounded mountain top
rounded mountain top
deep pool in a river
valley
short valley
valley
fairway
mountain slope
calm, pool
drovers camp (past)
brook, pool
heath
marsh
marsh
hill, mountain
hill, mountain
hill, mountain, peak
hill, mountain, peak
hill, mountain, peak
promontory, headland

Decoding

nibbe, nibba
 nip, nipen
 nipe, nipa
 nos, nosa, nosi
 nud, nuden
 nut, nuten, nutene
 nut, nuten, nutan(e)
 næring, næringen
 odde, odden
 oksel, oksla, oksli
 os, osen
 os, oset
 pigg, piggen
 pik, piken
 plass, plassene, plassene
 plass, plassene, plassan(e)
 poll, pollen
 putt, putten
 pynt, pynten
 pytt, pytten
 rabb(e), rabben
 rand, randen
 res, reset
 rev, revet
 rinde, rinden
 rust, rusta, rusti
 rygg, ryggen
 sal, salen
 seter, setra, setri, setrene
 sjø, sjøen
 sjå, sjåen
 skag, skaget
 skage, skagen
 skar, skaret
 skard, skardet
 skarv, skarvet
 skau, skauen
 skjer, skjæret, skjera
 skjær, skjæret, skjæra
 skog, skogen
 skolt, skolten
 skor, skora, skori
 sla, slaet
 slepe, slepa
 staul, staulen, staulene
 staul, staulen, staulan(e)
 stein, steinen
 stove, stova
 strand, stranda
 strond, stronda, strondi
 straum, straumen
 strøm, strømmen
 stue, stua
 stugu, stugua
 stul, stulen
 stup, stupet
 støl, stølen, stølene
 støl, stølen, stølan(e)
 støyl, støylen, støylen(e)

English equivalent

hill, mountain, peak
 hill, mountain, peak
 hill, mountain, peak
 peak, hill, mountain
 peak, hill, mountain
 peak, hill, mountain
 peak, hill, mountain
 promontory
 point
 shoulder (mountain)
 mouth of river, narrow neck of water
 mouth of river, narrow neck of water
 peak, mountain
 peak
 place, spot
 place, spot
 bay, fjord, cove
 small lake, pool
 point
 small lake, pool
 hill, mountain
 edge
 ridge
 reef
 ridge
 ridge
 ridge
 mountain
 chalet
 lake, sea
 lake
 windy, open place
 point
 pass
 pass
 mountain
 forest
 rock, reef
 rock, reef
 forest
 mountain, hill
 canyon, gorge, ledge
 slope, hollow
 trail, track
 chalet
 chalet
 reef, skerry
 hut, building
 shore, beach
 shore, beach
 strait, stream, current
 strait, stream, current
 hut, building
 hut, building
 chalet
 cliff
 chalet
 chalet
 chalet

Decoding

sund, sundet
 sva(d), sva(d)et
 sæ
 sæter, sætra, sætrene
 sæter, sætra, sætri, sætran(e)
 såte, såta
 tagg(e), taggen
 tange, tangen
 tare, taren
 tind, tindene, tindene
 tind, tindene, tindene(e)
 tjenn, tjenna, tjennan(e)
 tjenn, tjennet, tjenna, tjenni
 tjern, tjerna, tjernan(e)
 tjern, tjernet, tjerna, tjerni
 tjønn, tjønna, tjønnan(e)
 tjønn, tjønnet, tjønna, tjønne
 tjørn, tjørna, tjørnan(e)
 tjørn, tjørnet, tjørna, tjørni
 topp, toppen
 tue, tua
 tunge, tunga
 tunnel, tunnelen
 tuve, tuva
 ur, ura, uri
 urd, urda, urdi
 vad, vadet
 varde, varden
 vann, vannet, vanna
 vatn, vatnet, vatna, vatni
 vegg, veggen
 vete, veten
 vidde, vidda
 vig, viga
 vigg, viggja
 vik, vika, viki
 vol, vola
 voll, vollen
 vord, vorda
 vær, været
 våg, vågen
 ør, øra, øri
 øy, øya, øyi
 øyr, øyra, øyri
 å, åa, åi
 ål, ålen
 ås, åsen, åsan(e)

Decoding

Austre
 Indre
 Lille, Litle, Lisle, Litje
 Mellom, Midtre
 Nedre, Nedste
 Nordre, Nørdre, Nørdste
 Søndre, Søre, Sørste
 Store, Største
 Vestre
 Vesle, Vetle

English equivalent

sound
 naked rock
 lake
 chalet
 chalet
 hill, mountain
 top, peak
 point, promontory
 shoal, reef
 peak, mountain
 peak, mountain
 small lake, pond
 small lake, pond
 small lake, pond
 small lake, pond
 small lake, pond
 small lake, pond
 small lake, pond
 top, peak
 top, peak
 point
 tunnel
 top, peak
 stony slope, talus
 stony slope, talus
 lake
 hill, peak, mountain, ridge
 lake
 lake
 wall (mountain), wall of rock
 mountain, hill
 mountain plateau
 cove, bay
 mountain field
 cove, bay
 mountain, hill
 field, meadow
 mountain, hill
 island, fishing camp
 cove, inlet
 delta, sandbank
 island, peninsula
 delta, sandbank
 stream, river
 hill, mountain, ridge
 hill, ridge, mountain

English equivalent

Eastern
 Inner
 Little, Small
 Middle
 Lower
 Northern, Northernmost
 Southern, Southernmost
 Great, Greatest
 Western
 Little, Small

Decoding

Ytre, Ytste
 Østre, Øystre
 Øvre, Øvste

English equivalent

Outer, Outmost
 Eastern
 Upper

4.2 North Saami

List of the most common appellatives used in North Saami place names:

North Saami	English equivalent
áhpi	ocean, wide moor
áidi	fence, isthmus
ávži	narrow valley
áidi	isthmus
bákti	cliff, rock
bálggis	path
boadđu	rock, reef
boatka	narrow
boazoáidi	reindeer fence
boldni	little round hill
borri	mountain side
buolža	hill, ridge
čacha	high pass between two mountains
čearru	mountain plateau
čielgi	mountain ridge
čoalbmi	sound
čohkka	mountain top
čopma	small mountain
čorru	hill, ridge
dállu	farm
dearbmi	hillside, ground
deatnu/eatnu	big river
dievvá	round hill
duottar	mountain plateau
eana	land, ground
fávli	ocean
fielbmá	small stream
gáisá/gáisi	mountain top
gárg(g)u	delta, sand point
geađgi	stone
gieddi	meadow
gielas	hill, ridge
goahti	turf hut
gohpi	hollow
gohppi	cove, bay
gorsa	cleft, gorge
gorži	waterfall
guoika	rapid
guolbba	heath
gurra	cleft, pass
jávri	lake
jeaggi	heath
jiehkki	glacier
johka	river
láhku	mountain plateau
leahki	valley
luohkká	hillside
luokta	cove, bay
luoppal	small lake

North Saami	English equivalent
mohkki	cove, bay, hook
muotki	isthmus
njálbmi	mouth, outlet
njárga	promontory, point
njunni	spur
nuorri	sound
oaivi	rounded mountain top
oaivvoš	mouth, outlet
oalgi	small mountain
rášša	stony mountain area
riehppi	narrow valley
roavvi	wooded hill
rohtu	scrub
skáidi	stretch of land between two rivers
suolo	small island
vađđa	plain without trees
vággi	valley
váhki	cove, bay
várri	mountain
vuohppi	inlet
vuopmi	wooded valley
vuotna	fjord

4.3 Lule Saami

List of the most common appellatives used in Lule Saami place names:

Lule Saami	English equivalent
bállne	little round hill
bårre	mountain side, hill, ridge
diermme	hillside, ground
dievvá	round hill
duottar	mountain plateau
ednam	land, ground
gájsse	mountain top
gárdde	reindeer fence
giedde	meadow
gielas	hill, ridge
giergge	stone
gievttse	high pass between two mountains
goahte	turf hut
gåbbå	wooded hill
gåhpe	hollow
jåhkå	river
láhko	mountain plateau
luokta	cove, bay
luoppal	small lake
lusspe	mouth, outlet
merra	ocean
muorkke	isthmus
måhkke	cove, bay, hook
njálme	mouth, outlet
njárgga	promontory, point
njunne	spur
oajvve	rounded mountain top
oalgge	small mountain
riehppe	narrow valley
rijdda	hillside

Lule Saami	English equivalent
roahtjo	stony area
råhto	scrub
sijdda, hæjmma	farm
skájdde	stretch of land between two rivers
skåhppe	cove, bay
suoloj	island
tjavelk	mountain ridge
tjoalmme	sound
tjærro	lower mountain plateau
tjåhkkå	mountain top
tjárro	hill, ridge
vágge	valley
váhke	cove, bay
vahta, ujtto	plain without trees
várre	mountain
vuobme	forrest, wooded valley, taiga
vuohppe	bay with narrow inlet
ædno	big river

4.4 Kven

List of the most common appellatives used in Kven place names:

Kven	English equivalent
eno	river
fierua	shore, beach
joki	river
juova	stony slope, talus
jänkkä	marsh
järvi	lake
kaisa	high mountain
kartano	big building
keino	path
kenttä	meadow
kesäsija	summer farm, chalet
komuuni	municipality
koppa	ocean bay
koski	small waterfall
kuolpano	heath
kurkkii/kurkkio	waterfall
kuru	cleft, canyon
köngäs	big waterfall
laassa	rock, reef
lahti	bay, cove
laki	mountain top
lantto	small lake, pond
meri	see, ocean
mettä	forest
mukka	bay, cove
muotka	isthmus
niemi	promontory, point
niva	small waterfall, stream
nuora	sound in bodies of salt water
oja	brook
outa	forest, wood
pahta	mountain, rock

Kven	English equivalent
palo	area where a forest fire has occurred
perä	upper end of valley, inner end of fjord
puas/puđas	small inlet
ranta	shore, beach
reikä	passage
ruto	dense wood, forest
rässi	shore, beach
saari	island in bodies of fresh water
salmi	sound in bodies of fresh water
silta	bridge
šoru	small mountain
sullu	island, in bodies of salt water
suu	mouth, outlet
suvanto	pool in a river
tie	road
tieva	hill
tunturi	mountain plateau
törmä	hill
vaara	mountain
vankka	river valley
vuoma	river valley
vuono	fjord

5 Administrative divisions

5.1 The names and numbers of counties and municipalities of Norway

Norway is divided into 11 counties (fylker) including the capital city Oslo, which is distinct from the surrounding county of Viken. The 11 counties are divided into 356 municipalities (kommuner/herad).

Ecclesiastically, the country consists of 1204 parishes (sogn/sokn).

The number of administrative divisions is not stable and may change. The last big change was made 1. January 2020, number of counties was reduced from 18 and municipalities from 422.

The index should be read from left to right. Note that there are new numbers at all changed counties and municipalities in case of the change 1. January 2020.

Eight municipalities in Troms og Finnmark, four in Nordland and three in Trøndelag have double names (Norwegian and Saami). Four municipalities in Troms og Finnmark have three names (Norwegian, Saami and Kven).

Official administrative number and name of municipalities and counties in Norway since January 2020:

Multilingual counties and municipalities with more than one official name are marked in yellow.

Counties

Nr.	Language	Name
03	Norwegian	Oslo
11	Norwegian	Rogaland
15	Norwegian	Møre og Romsdal
18	Norwegian	Nordland
30	Norwegian	Viken
34	Norwegian	Innlandet
38	Norwegian	Vestfold og Telemark
42	Norwegian	Agder
46	Norwegian	Vestland
50	Norwegian	Trøndelag
50	South Saami	Trööndelage
54	Norwegian	Troms og Finnmark
54	North Saami	Romsa ja Finnmárku
54	Kven	Tromssa ja Finmarkku
21	Norwegian	Svalbard

Municipalities

Nr.	Language	Name
0301	Norwegian	Oslo
1101	Norwegian	Eigersund
1103	Norwegian	Stavanger
1106	Norwegian	Haugesund
1108	Norwegian	Sandnes
1111	Norwegian	Sokndal
1112	Norwegian	Lund
1114	Norwegian	Bjerkreim
1119	Norwegian	Hå
1120	Norwegian	Klepp
1121	Norwegian	Time
1122	Norwegian	Gjesdal
1124	Norwegian	Sola
1127	Norwegian	Randaberg
1130	Norwegian	Strand
1133	Norwegian	Hjelmeland
1134	Norwegian	Suldal
1135	Norwegian	Sauda
1144	Norwegian	Kvitsøy
1145	Norwegian	Bokn
1146	Norwegian	Tysvær
1149	Norwegian	Karmøy
1151	Norwegian	Utsira
1160	Norwegian	Vindafjord

Nr.	Language	Name
1505	Norwegian	Kristiansund
1506	Norwegian	Molde
1507	Norwegian	Ålesund
1511	Norwegian	Vanylven
1514	Norwegian	Sande
1515	Norwegian	Herøy
1516	Norwegian	Ulstein
1517	Norwegian	Hareid
1520	Norwegian	Ørsta
1525	Norwegian	Stranda
1528	Norwegian	Sykkylven
1531	Norwegian	Sula
1532	Norwegian	Giske
1535	Norwegian	Vestnes
1539	Norwegian	Rauma
1547	Norwegian	Aukra
1554	Norwegian	Averøy
1557	Norwegian	Gjemnes
1560	Norwegian	Tingvoll
1563	Norwegian	Sunndal
1566	Norwegian	Surnadal
1573	Norwegian	Smøla
1576	Norwegian	Aure
1577	Norwegian	Volda
1578	Norwegian	Fjord
1579	Norwegian	Hustadvika
1804	Norwegian	Bodø
1806	Norwegian	Narvik
1811	Norwegian	Bindal
1812	Norwegian	Sømna
1813	Norwegian	Brønnøy
1815	Norwegian	Vega
1816	Norwegian	Vevelstad
1818	Norwegian	Herøy
1820	Norwegian	Alstahaug
1822	Norwegian	Leirfjord
1824	Norwegian	Vefsn
1825	Norwegian	Grane
1826	Norwegian	Aarborte
1826	South Saami	Hattfjelldal
1827	Norwegian	Dønna
1828	Norwegian	Nesna
1832	Norwegian	Hemnes
1833	Norwegian	Rana
1834	Norwegian	Lurøy
1835	Norwegian	Træna
1836	Norwegian	Rødøy
1837	Norwegian	Meløy
1838	Norwegian	Gildeskål
1839	Norwegian	Beiarn

Nr.	Language	Name
1840	Norwegian	Saltdal
1841	Norwegian	Fauske
1841	Lule Saami	Fuossko
1845	Norwegian	Sørfold
1848	Norwegian	Steigen
1851	Norwegian	Lødingen
1853	Norwegian	Evenes
1856	Norwegian	Røst
1857	Norwegian	Værøy
1859	Norwegian	Flakstad
1860	Norwegian	Vestvågøy
1865	Norwegian	Vågan
1866	Norwegian	Hadsel
1867	Norwegian	Bø
1868	Norwegian	Øksnes
1870	Norwegian	Sortland
1870	Lule Saami	Suortá
1871	Norwegian	Andøy
1874	Norwegian	Moskenes
1874	Norwegian	Hábmer
1875	Lule Saami	Hamarøy
3001	Norwegian	Halden
3002	Norwegian	Moss
3003	Norwegian	Sarpsborg
3004	Norwegian	Fredrikstad
3005	Norwegian	Drammen
3006	Norwegian	Kongsberg
3007	Norwegian	Ringerike
3011	Norwegian	Hvaler
3012	Norwegian	Aremark
3013	Norwegian	Marker
3014	Norwegian	Indre Østfold
3015	Norwegian	Skiptvet
3016	Norwegian	Rakkestad
3017	Norwegian	Råde
3018	Norwegian	Våler
3019	Norwegian	Vestby
3020	Norwegian	Nordre Follo
3021	Norwegian	Ås
3022	Norwegian	Frogn
3023	Norwegian	Nesodden
3024	Norwegian	Bærum
3025	Norwegian	Asker
3026	Norwegian	Aurskog-Høland
3027	Norwegian	Rælingen
3028	Norwegian	Enebakk
3029	Norwegian	Lørenskog
3030	Norwegian	Lillestrøm
3031	Norwegian	Nittedal
3032	Norwegian	Gjerdrum

Nr.	Language	Name
3033	Norwegian	Ullensaker
3034	Norwegian	Nes
3035	Norwegian	Eidsvoll
3036	Norwegian	Nannestad
3037	Norwegian	Hurdal
3038	Norwegian	Hole
3039	Norwegian	Flå
3040	Norwegian	Nesbyen
3041	Norwegian	Gol
3042	Norwegian	Hemsedal
3043	Norwegian	Ål
3044	Norwegian	Hol
3045	Norwegian	Sigdal
3046	Norwegian	Krødsherad
3047	Norwegian	Modum
3048	Norwegian	Øvre Eiker
3049	Norwegian	Lier
3050	Norwegian	Flesberg
3051	Norwegian	Rollag
3052	Norwegian	Nore og Uvdal
3053	Norwegian	Jevnaker
3054	Norwegian	Lunner
3401	Norwegian	Kongsvinger
3403	Norwegian	Hamar
3405	Norwegian	Lillehammer
3407	Norwegian	Gjøvik
3411	Norwegian	Ringsaker
3412	Norwegian	Løten
3413	Norwegian	Stange
3414	Norwegian	Nord-Odal
3415	Norwegian	Sør-Odal
3416	Norwegian	Eidskog
3417	Norwegian	Grue
3418	Norwegian	Åsnes
3419	Norwegian	Våler
3420	Norwegian	Elverum
3421	Norwegian	Trysil
3422	Norwegian	Åmot
3423	Norwegian	Stor-Elvdal
3424	Norwegian	Rendalen
3425	Norwegian	Engerdal
3426	Norwegian	Tolga
3427	Norwegian	Tynset
3428	Norwegian	Alvdal
3429	Norwegian	Folldal
3430	Norwegian	Os
3431	Norwegian	Dovre
3432	Norwegian	Lesja
3433	Norwegian	Skjåk
3434	Norwegian	Lom

Nr.	Language	Name
3435	Norwegian	Vågå
3436	Norwegian	Nord-Fron
3437	Norwegian	Sel
3438	Norwegian	Sør-Fron
3439	Norwegian	Ringebu
3440	Norwegian	Øyer
3441	Norwegian	Gausdal
3442	Norwegian	Østre Toten
3443	Norwegian	Vestre Toten
3446	Norwegian	Gran
3447	Norwegian	Søndre Land
3448	Norwegian	Nordre Land
3449	Norwegian	Sør-Aurdal
3450	Norwegian	Etnedal
3451	Norwegian	Nord-Aurdal
3452	Norwegian	Vestre Slidre
3453	Norwegian	Øystre Slidre
3454	Norwegian	Vang
3801	Norwegian	Horten
3802	Norwegian	Holmestrand
3803	Norwegian	Tønsberg
3804	Norwegian	Sandefjord
3805	Norwegian	Larvik
3806	Norwegian	Porsgrunn
3807	Norwegian	Skien
3808	Norwegian	Notodden
3811	Norwegian	Færder
3812	Norwegian	Siljan
3813	Norwegian	Bamble
3814	Norwegian	Kragerø
3815	Norwegian	Drangedal
3816	Norwegian	Nome
3817	Norwegian	Midt-Telemark
3818	Norwegian	Tinn
3819	Norwegian	Hjartdal
3820	Norwegian	Seljord
3821	Norwegian	Kviteseid
3822	Norwegian	Nissedal
3823	Norwegian	Fyresdal
3824	Norwegian	Tokke
3825	Norwegian	Vinje
4201	Norwegian	Risør
4202	Norwegian	Grimstad
4203	Norwegian	Arendal
4204	Norwegian	Kristiansand
4205	Norwegian	Lindesnes
4206	Norwegian	Farsund
4207	Norwegian	Flekkefjord
4211	Norwegian	Gjerstad
4212	Norwegian	Vegårshei

Nr.	Language	Name
4213	Norwegian	Tvedestrand
4214	Norwegian	Froland
4215	Norwegian	Lillesand
4216	Norwegian	Birkenes
4217	Norwegian	Åmli
4218	Norwegian	Iveland
4219	Norwegian	Evje og Hornnes
4220	Norwegian	Bygland
4221	Norwegian	Valle
4222	Norwegian	Bykle
4223	Norwegian	Vennesla
4224	Norwegian	Åseral
4225	Norwegian	Lyngdal
4226	Norwegian	Hægebostad
4227	Norwegian	Kvinesdal
4228	Norwegian	Sirdal
4601	Norwegian	Bergen
4602	Norwegian	Kinn
4611	Norwegian	Etne
4612	Norwegian	Sveio
4613	Norwegian	Bømlo
4614	Norwegian	Stord
4615	Norwegian	Fitjar
4616	Norwegian	Tysnes
4617	Norwegian	Kvinnherad
4618	Norwegian	Ullensvang
4619	Norwegian	Eidfjord
4620	Norwegian	Ulvik
4621	Norwegian	Voss
4622	Norwegian	Kvam
4623	Norwegian	Samnanger
4624	Norwegian	Bjørnafjorden
4625	Norwegian	Austevoll
4626	Norwegian	Øygarden
4627	Norwegian	Askøy
4628	Norwegian	Vaksdal
4629	Norwegian	Modalen
4630	Norwegian	Osterøy
4631	Norwegian	Alver
4632	Norwegian	Austrheim
4633	Norwegian	Fedje
4634	Norwegian	Masfjorden
4635	Norwegian	Gulen
4636	Norwegian	Solund
4637	Norwegian	Hyllestad
4638	Norwegian	Høyanger
4639	Norwegian	Vik
4640	Norwegian	Sogndal
4641	Norwegian	Aurland
4642	Norwegian	Lærdal

Nr.	Language	Name
4643	Norwegian	Årdal
4644	Norwegian	Luster
4645	Norwegian	Askvoll
4646	Norwegian	Fjaler
4647	Norwegian	Sunnfjord
4648	Norwegian	Bremanger
4649	Norwegian	Stad
4650	Norwegian	Gloppen
4651	Norwegian	Stryn
5001	Norwegian	Trondheim
5006	Norwegian	Steinkjer
5007	Norwegian	Namsos
5007	South Saami	Nåavmesjenjaelmie
5014	Norwegian	Frøya
5020	Norwegian	Osen
5021	Norwegian	Oppdal
5022	Norwegian	Rennebu
5025	Norwegian	Røros
5026	Norwegian	Holtålen
5027	Norwegian	Midtre Gauldal
5028	Norwegian	Melhus
5029	Norwegian	Skaun
5031	Norwegian	Malvik
5032	Norwegian	Selbu
5033	Norwegian	Tydal
5034	Norwegian	Meråker
5035	Norwegian	Stjørdal
5036	Norwegian	Frosta
5037	Norwegian	Levanger
5038	Norwegian	Verdal
5041	South Saami	Snåase
5041	Norwegian	Snåsa
5042	Norwegian	Lierne
5043	South Saami	Raarvihke
5043	Norwegian	Røyrvik
5044	Norwegian	Namsskogan
5045	Norwegian	Grong
5046	Norwegian	Høylandet
5047	Norwegian	Overhalla
5049	Norwegian	Flatanger
5052	Norwegian	Leka
5053	Norwegian	Inderøy
5054	Norwegian	Indre Fosen
5055	Norwegian	Heim
5056	Norwegian	Hitra
5057	Norwegian	Ørland
5058	Norwegian	Åfjord
5059	Norwegian	Orkland
5060	Norwegian	Nærøysund
5061	Norwegian	Rindal

Nr.	Language	Name
5401	Norwegian	Tromsø
5402	Norwegian	Harstad
5402	Norwegian	Hársttták
5403	Norwegian	Alta
5404	Norwegian	Vardø
5405	Norwegian	Vadsø
5406	Norwegian	Hammerfest
5406	North Saami	Hámmerfeasta
5411	Norwegian	Kvæfjord
5412	North Saami	Dielddanuorri
5412	Norwegian	Tjeldsund
5413	Norwegian	Ibestad
5414	Norwegian	Gratangen
5415	North Saami	Loabák
5415	Norwegian	Lavangen
5416	Norwegian	Bardu
5417	Norwegian	Salangen
5418	Norwegian	Målselv
5419	Norwegian	Sørreisa
5420	Norwegian	Dyrøy
5421	Norwegian	Senja
5422	Norwegian	Balsfjord
5423	Norwegian	Karlsøy
5424	Norwegian	Lyngen
5425	Norwegian	Storfjord
5425	North Saami	Omasvuotna
5425	Kven	Omasvuono
5426	North Saami	Gáivuotna
5426	Norwegian	Kåfjord
5426	Kven	Kaivuono
5427	Norwegian	Skjervøy
5428	Norwegian	Nordreisa
5428	North Saami	Ráisa
5428	Kven	Raisi
5429	Norwegian	Kvænangen
5430	North Saami	Guovdageaidnu
5430	Norwegian	Kautokeino
5432	Norwegian	Loppa
5433	Norwegian	Hasvik
5434	Norwegian	Måsøy
5435	Norwegian	Nordkapp
5436	Norwegian	Porsanger
5436	North Saami	Porsáŋgu
5436	Kven	Porsanki
5437	North Saami	Kárášjohka
5437	Norwegian	Karasjok
5438	Norwegian	Lebesby
5439	Norwegian	Gamvik
5440	Norwegian	Berlevåg
5441	North Saami	Deatnu

Nr.	Language	Name
5441	Norwegian	Tana
5442	North Saami	Unjárga
5442	Norwegian	Nesseby
5443	Norwegian	Båtsfjord
5444	Norwegian	Sør-Varanger

Counties are often grouped in larger regions:

- Sør-Noreg/Sør-Norge (Southern Norway): counties 3, 11, 15, 30, 34, 38 42 and 46.
- Austlandet/Østlandet (the east): counties 3, 30, 34 and 38.
- Sørlandet (the south, mostly coastal districts): county 42.
- Vestlandet (the west): counties 11, 15 and 46.
- Trøndelag: county 50.
- Nord-Noreg/Nord-Norge (Northern Norway): counties 18 and 54.

A number of old district names are still widely used, some as names of municipalities or even counties, but most cover larger areas within a county. Some commonly used district names are:

- Viken: Akershus fylke, Buskerud fylke, Østfold fylke, Follo, Romerike, Hallingdal, Numedal, Ringerike,
- Innlandet: Hedmark fylke, Oppland fylke, Hedmarken, Odalen, Solør, Østerdalen, Gudbrandsdalen, Hadeland, Land, Toten, Valdres
- Vestfold og Telemark: Vestfold fylke, Telemark fylke, Grenland
- Agder: Aust-Agder fylke, Vest-Agder fylke, Setesdal, Lista
- Rogaland fylke: Dalane, Jæren, Ryfylke
- Vestland fylke: Hordaland fylke, Sogn og Fjordane fylke, Hardanger, Nordhordland, Sunnhordland, Nordfjord, Sogn, Sunnfjord
- Møre og Romsdal fylke: Nordmøre, Romsdal, Sunnmøre
- Trøndelag fylke: Gauldalen, Orkdalen, Fosen, Namdalen
- Nordland fylke: Helgeland, Lofoten, Ofoten, Vesterålen
- Troms og Finnmark fylke: Troms fylke, Finnmark fylke

Administrative divisions of Norway (fylke)

