

# Norway and the United Kingdom

NORWAY



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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# Introduction

Since the first millennium AD, Norwegian and British ships have been crossing paths on trade routes over the North Sea. During the 8th and 9th centuries the Vikings rampaged through the British Isles, after which they began settling down and imposing their own customs on the indigenous British. After the Viking landings, the two countries began a fertile exchange of language and traditions, which has continued ever since.

Norway and Britain have long shared a common sea, and have taken to the waves to trade, explore and fight. The royal families of both countries have a long history of intermarriage and alliance. When Norway became independent in 1905, and chose a Danish prince as king, the first queen of independent Norway was his English wife, Maud. Over the centuries the countries have forged many and diverse alliances, both in peacetime and at times of national crisis. During the Second World War, Britain was host to the Norwegian royal family and government, who fled across the sea after the Germans occupied Norway.

Today, Norway and the UK are close political allies, and cooperate in international organisations such as the United Nations, NATO and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Despite having different forms of affiliation to the European Union, the two countries share many priorities and principles. Both countries place great emphasis on ensuring that their close relations continue.

Britain is Norway's largest trading partner, with a two-way trade of around NOK 131 billion (GBP 1.00 = approx. NOK 13, May 2001) in 2000 – an increase from 85 billion in 1999. The UK is Norway's single most important export market, and is the third largest market for imports to Norway, after Sweden and Germany. Britain is an important supplier of equipment and machinery to Norway.

The British were among the first tourists to Norway, and continue to cross the North Sea to enjoy the spectacular beauty of the fjords and the mountains, while the Norwegians travel to the British Isles in great numbers, many of them heading for London to savour the atmosphere of a large city.

Over the centuries, cultural influences have crossed the ocean in both directions: from Henrik Ibsen, whose psychological dramas shocked and intrigued playgoers in 19th century London, to the Beatles and the Rolling Stones, who supplied the soundtrack for the youth of a whole generation of Norwegians. Norway is very keen to develop its cultural links with Britain, and in 1999-2000 produced an extensive presentation of Norwegian culture in a programme entitled "Visions of Norway".

The purpose of this brochure is to supply a brief introduction to some of the most important aspects of the relations between Norway and the UK. The names and contact details of organisations and institutions which can supply further information about the links and agreements between Norway and the UK are given at the end.





# History

Norway and Britain have been in regular contact for over a thousand years. Even before the Vikings sailed towards the west, Norwegians were crossing the North Sea on peaceful trading errands. The first Viking raids began on the east coast of Britain in the late 8th century, and by the end of the 9th century Viking hordes had overrun the kingdoms of East Anglia, Northumbria and Mercia. Settlements grew up in the Orkneys, the Faroes, the Shetlands, the Hebrides, and the Isle of Man. Ireland was also attacked, and Viking kingdoms were established in Dublin, Limerick, and Waterford.

Alfred the Great held out against the Viking forces in Wessex, and nearly defeated them at the end of the 9th century. His son, Edward the Elder, continued the reconquest of England and before his death in 924 had regained Mercian and East Anglian territory. However, the Vikings renewed their attacks on England in 980, and the country came under the rule of King Canute of Denmark and, for a short time, Norway. By the 11th century, the Vikings had either been driven out or had become integrated into the British population, and the hostilities ceased. The Scandinavian conquests in England greatly affected the country, leaving traces of Viking dialects, place-names, personal names and social organisation. The Vikings were astute tradesmen, and developed townships such as York (Jorvik). A variant of Norwegian, called Norn, was spoken on the Orkney Islands until the 1700s.

The Viking chiefs were also influenced by their visits to British shores. One chief, Olaf Tryggvason, was baptised in England in 991, and on his return to Norway began to Christianise the country. Later, Olaf II continued to spread Christianity. The two Olafs were assisted in their attempts to establish the power of the monarchy by bishops from the British Isles. In return, they placed estates they had confiscated from Viking chieftains in the hands of the British church. In the 11th and 12th centuries, the clergy of the Scottish isles were brought under the dominion of the church of Norway. Ties were forged between individual British and Norwegian churches and often resulted in practical exchanges of manpower and resources. British artisans helped to build the cathedral in Stavanger and the Lyse monastery in Bergen, while the St Magnus Cathedral in Kirkwall, on the Orkney Islands, was built by Norwegian earls. Many of the same artisans, artists and engineers worked on the cathedrals in Trondheim, Norway and Lincoln, England. The cathedrals share many similar architectural features, most noticeably the twin column structure.

*Picture, left:  
The cathedral  
in Stavanger, built  
with help from  
British artisans.  
Photo credit:  
Halvard Alvik,  
Scanpix.*

As late as the 14th century, the inhabitants of the Shetland Islands were paying an annual tithe to Bergen. In the 15th and 16th centuries English and Scottish merchants competed with a declining Hanseatic League for trade privileges in the Norwegian towns. Many Britons settled in Norway. After the Great Fire of London, in 1666, there was a huge demand in Britain for timber for repairs and reconstruction. Timber was brought over from Norway, and ships returned to Norway laden with foodstuffs, tobacco and cheap goods. In the 18th century the English style came into fashion in Norway, and wealthy Norwegian shipowners in the coastal towns acquired luxury goods from Britain: furniture, silver, glass and ceramics.

When the Napoleonic Wars began, Norway was under Danish rule, and suffered from the naval actions the English took against the Danish fleet. The continental blockade of England caused great poverty in Norway, and led to national bankruptcy. The sufferings endured at this time are vividly described in Henrik Ibsen's poem about Terje Vigen. Eventually, Karl Johan of Sweden defeated Denmark, and a condition of the peace was that Denmark transferred all its rights in Norway to Sweden. However, the Norwegian people resented the agreement, and the Swedes compromised. In 1815, Norway was declared "a free, independent, indivisible, and inalienable kingdom united with Sweden under one king". The union with Sweden lasted until 1905, and was a union of monarchy alone: in matters of government, finance, the economy, defence and law the two countries acted as separate entities.

During the 19th century, relations between Norway and Britain continued to develop. In the mid-1800s, an Englishman called Thomas Bennett settled in Christiania - which was the name given to Oslo by King Christian IV, who rebuilt the town after it was razed by fire in 1624. In 1850, Bennett began to organise tours of the Norwegian mountains for curious and adventurous Britons. Norwegians also travelled to Britain, including the poet Åsmund Olavsson Vinje, who recorded his impressions in *A Norseman's View of Britain and the British* (1863). The eccentric tales of three English fishermen who roamed Norway in search of perfect fishing appeared in a humorous book called *Three in Norway by Two of Them* (1882), the anonymous authors in fact being J.A. Lees and W.J. Clutterbuck. The English visitors particularly applauded the fine coffee they were served in the huts of even the poorest peasants.

In 1905, Norway petitioned for independence, and Britain took a sympathetic view of Norway's case. The Norwegian parliament, the Storting, chose Prince Carl, the second son of Crown Prince Frederick of Denmark, to be their king. Prince Carl was elected by referendum in November 1905, and was crowned King Haakon VII on 22 June 1906, in Nidaros Cathedral in Trondheim. His wife, Princess Maud Alexandria, the youngest daughter of Edward VII of England, became Queen.

The Norwegian polar explorer and scientist, Fridtjof Nansen, had been sent to Britain in 1905 to petition for support for Norwegian independence, and became Norwegian Ambassador to Britain in 1906. Nansen was a confirmed anglophile, and was readily adopted by British society, charming those he met with his brooding Viking looks and courteous intelligence. He was welcomed at Court, and became a close associate of King Edward VII. Nansen also strongly supported the choice of Prince Carl and Princess Maud as the first king and queen of an independent Norway.



On 9 April 1940 the Germans attacked Norway, and presented a series of demands to the Norwegian government, including that the government should ask the population and army to submit to the German troops. Norway refused to concede, and fought the Germans with British and French assistance. After fighting began on the Western Front, the British were forced to withdraw their forces from northern Norway, and the Norwegian government decided to continue the battle from beyond Norwegian shores. In June 1940, King Haakon and the government crossed to the UK on the British ship Devonshire and took up residence in London. From here they were able to send morale-boosting broadcasts from London to occupied Norway, and also to direct the establishment of the Free Norwegian Armed Forces, which subsequently played an active part in the Allied war effort.

On 7 May 1945 the Germans surrendered, and the Norwegian home forces took over the country. King Haakon, Crown Prince Olav and the Norwegian government returned to a liberated Norway in June 1945. Every year the city of Oslo provides the Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square as an expression of the continuing gratitude of the Norwegians for the assistance and hospitality shown them by the British during the war.

*Picture, left:  
Fridtjof Nansen as  
Norwegian  
Ambassador in  
Britain, 1906.  
Photo credit:  
Nasjonalbiblioteket  
avdeling Oslo,  
Billedsamlingen.*



*In 1886, the British King Edward VII's youngest daughter, Princess Maud, was married at Buckingham Palace to Prince Carl of Denmark. Their son was born in 1903 at Sandringham in Norfolk, and was christened Alexander Edward Christian Frederik in Sandringham Church. In 1905, an independent Norway chose Prince Carl as its king, and he took the Norwegian name Haakon, becoming King Haakon VII. Princess Maud became Queen, and Prince Alexander became Crown Prince Olav. Forged by family ties and history, the links between the Norwegian and British royal families are very strong. King Haakon made two official visits to England during his reign, the first in November 1906, the second in June 1951. In the spring of 1908, King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra came to Norway to visit their daughter and son-in-law, Queen Maud and King Haakon. In June 1955, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, made a state visit to Norway, with King Haakon as their host. This was the first country Queen Elizabeth visited after her round tour of the Commonwealth countries.*



## Close ties between the Royal Families

There have also been many private visits over the years. Until the First World War broke out in 1914, Queen Maud and Crown Prince Olav travelled to England every autumn for an extended family visit to Appleton. Crown Prince Olav always said that he greatly enjoyed visiting his cousins, and this strengthened his sense of attachment to Britain. In his youth, the Crown Prince studied at Oxford University. When he became king, he made an annual autumn visit to Britain throughout his life, and during these visits he always tried to find time to take in a football game.

King Haakon and Crown Prince Olav had their headquarters in London during the Second World War, after they had fled from an occupied Norway. During his official visit in 1951, King Haakon thanked the British people for all their assistance during the war years. King Olav reiterated this thanks on an official visit to Edinburgh in 1962. He wanted specifically to thank the Scots for the welcome they gave to the Norwegians during the war. King Olav was made an Honorary Colonel of the Green Howard Regiment, and visited Britain many times in this capacity. King Olav made his last state visit to Britain in 1988.

The current king of Norway, Harald V, also studied at Oxford University, like his father King Olav, and he too is Honorary Colonel of the Green Howard Regiment. In 1994, King Harald and Queen Sonja made a four-day official visit to Scotland, which included Edinburgh and the Orkney Islands. The King and Queen of

Norway also try to make time every year for their traditional autumn holiday in England.

Queen Elizabeth II and King Harald are second cousins. They are also related on the Danish side – Queen Maud and King Haakon were cousins, with a shared grandfather in the Danish King Christian IX, who was known as “the father-in-law of Europe”. Prince Philip is also a member of the family, being a great-grandchild of Queen Victoria. In 1929, when Crown Prince Olav married Princess Martha of Sweden, the Duke of York, the groom’s cousin, was also his best man. This Duke of York later became King George, Queen Elizabeth’s father.

When Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip visited Norway in the spring of 2001, they were welcomed by close relatives, friends and official guests. At the banquet given in the Queen’s honour, King Harald emphasised the close ties between the royal families and the many shared interests of the two countries.

*Picture, left:  
Queen Elizabeth and  
King Haakon,  
June 1955.  
Photo credit:  
Sturlason.*

*Picture below:  
From Queen Elizabeth  
and Prince Philip’s visit  
to Norway in the spring  
of 2001.  
Photo credit: Knut  
Fjeldstad, Scanpix.*





# Political cooperation

The UK is the country in Western Europe that Norway has the strongest ties with, and the bilateral relations between the countries are extremely good. These have been forged and strengthened by the countries' geographical proximity, as well as by agreement on fundamental political issues. Britain is a country with great global influence, both politically and economically, and is an important member of the UN Security Council and a member of the Group of Seven (G7) and the Group of Eight (G8). Britain also has a central position in NATO and the EU. Norway actively participates in NATO and the UN, and cooperates with the EU through the EEA Agreement. Norway participates fully in UN development initiatives, and was the first country to implement 100 per cent unilateral debt relief to the poorest countries, quickly followed by the UK and the USA. The UN Development Programme (UNDP) will be establishing its global Centre for Democratic Governance in Oslo. This is the agency that will be in charge of the UNDP's efforts to promote good governance in its 172 programme countries.

Participation in NATO is of fundamental importance to both Norway and the UK. Both countries place great emphasis on maintaining good relations with the USA. They are also in agreement about the importance of the creation of a European rapid reaction corps.

## Relations with Europe

Cooperation between Norway and the UK is closely intertwined with their participation in European politics. Norway and the UK were driving forces behind the establishment of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) in 1960.

In 1972, both Norway and the UK applied for membership of the EEC, together with Denmark. The UK and Denmark became members, while in Norway a national referendum resulted in a narrow majority against the



*Picture, left:  
Winston Churchill  
and King Haakon,  
Norway, May 1948.  
Photo credit: Scanpix.*

*The British  
Ambassador's  
Residence in Oslo.  
Photo: Courtesy of the  
British Embassy in  
Oslo.*



*The Norwegian  
Embassy in London.  
Photo: Courtesy of  
Statsbygg, Oslo.*



government's desire to join. This narrow majority against was repeated in a second referendum in Norway in 1994. Norway's formal relations with the EU after 1972 were regulated by a free trade agreement. In 1992, Norway became an associate member of the Western European Union (WEU), and in 1994 Norway also became part of the European Economic Area (EEA). Norway's participation in the EEA is the point of departure for many of the bilateral and economic links with the UK. Both countries participate fully in the EU's internal market.

European Monetary Union (EMU) and the approaching enlargement of the EU will be of great significance for Norway. Norway is fully committed to EU enlargement, which should foster closer relations between Norway and the new member countries. The introduction of the common currency – the Euro – will have a considerable impact on the economic situation throughout Europe. Of all the EU countries, the UK, together with Sweden and Denmark, has chosen to remain outside the currency union for the present.

The Norwegian economy is closely interwoven with European economics. If EMU leads to economic growth in EMU countries, this will provide greater opportunities for the Norwegian export trade. If EMU contributes to greater stability, increased trade and higher employment in the EU, then Norway will also benefit.

More generally, Norway aims to participate actively in all the relevant processes of the EU, and the UK is a very useful ally in this endeavour.

### **Defence and security**

The war with Nazi Germany created a close alliance between Norway and Britain, and laid the basis for a lasting Norwegian sense of solidarity with the Western powers in the post-war period. The defence links which were forged between Norway and Britain during the Second World War have been further developed through bilateral agreements and cooperation in NATO. The UK is currently one of Norway's most important allies. Since 1970, the Royal Marines have trained every winter in Norway, and many of the Norwegian defence forces undertake part of their training in Britain.

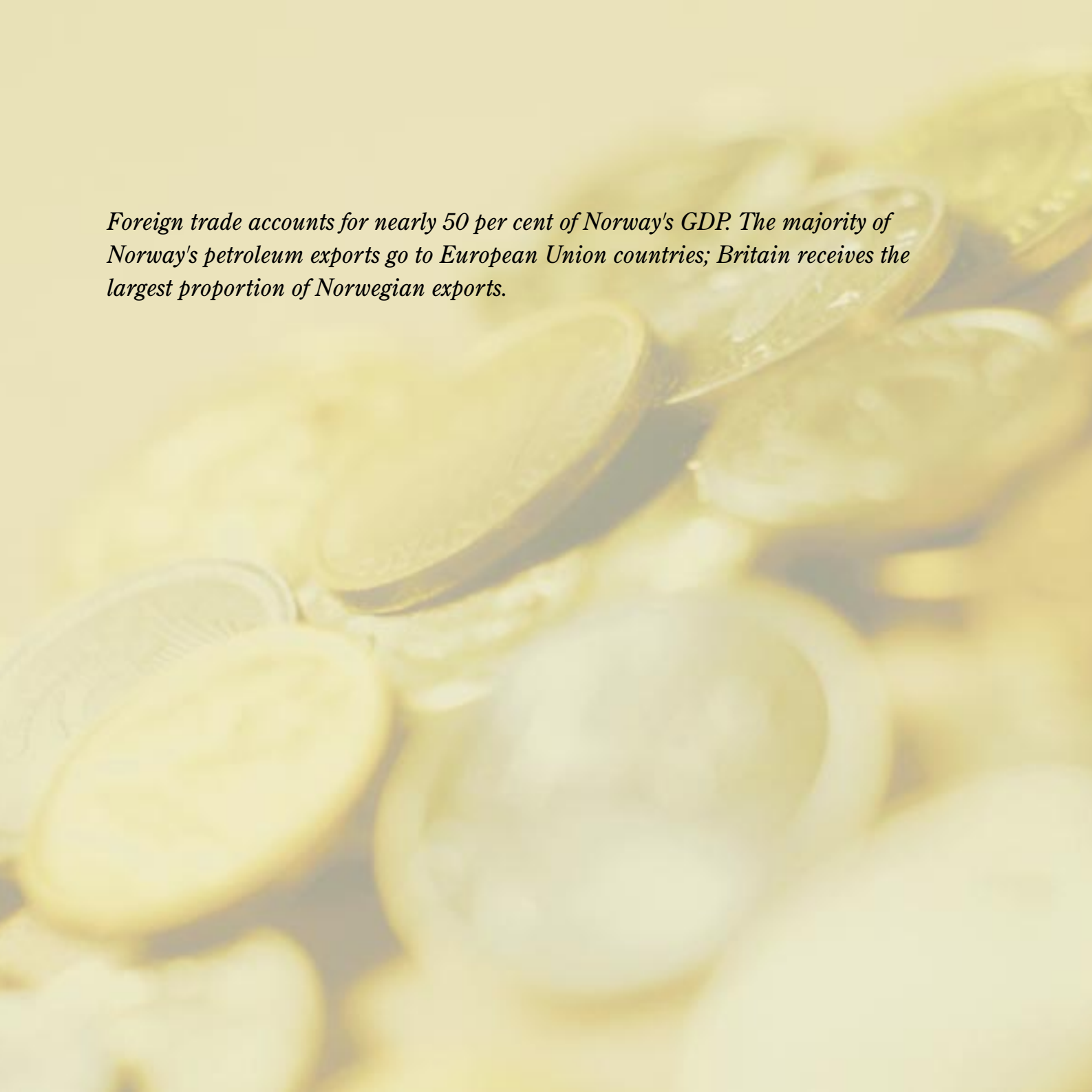


*Stamps issued  
by the Norwegian  
Government in  
London in 1943  
and 1945.*

Since the war, Britain has placed great emphasis on political and military involvement in NATO. British forces make up a significant part of NATO's defence forces and play a vital role in NATO's peacekeeping engagements. Norway also participates fully in NATO, and until 1994 the NATO Headquarters for Northern Europe were situated at Kolsås, near Oslo. When the location was changed, NATO's Joint Headquarters North were established in Stavanger.

The UK has been a driving force in the efforts to adapt NATO to new security challenges and to create a broader, inclusive Euro-Atlantic security order. Norway is currently preparing to re-

align its armed forces to enable it to contribute more effectively to Euro-Atlantic peace and stability within the context of a European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP). Britain has overseen the development of the ESDP, and Norway supports this initiative and is prepared to improve its capabilities and readiness to contribute to Alliance-led operations. The two countries agree that a successful ESDP must enhance the European capacity for rapid reaction in times of crisis, in line with US suggestions.



*Foreign trade accounts for nearly 50 per cent of Norway's GDP. The majority of Norway's petroleum exports go to European Union countries; Britain receives the largest proportion of Norwegian exports.*

# The economy

In 2000, two-way trade stood at around NOK 131 billion. The UK is also Norway's most important export market for oil, gas and off-shore-related products, and, like Germany and Sweden, is a major market for traditional Norwegian goods. Norway's main exports to Britain are seafood, metals, cardboard, paper, iron and steel. Industrial machinery, electronic equipment, scientific instruments, medical products and furniture are also exported.

British exports to Norway include machinery, data and office equipment and electronic and scientific equipment. Other exports include foodstuffs, iron and steel. British companies are among the largest foreign investors in the Oslo Børs (the Norwegian Stock Exchange), investing particularly in shipping, banking and insurance. More than a third of foreign investment in Norway is made by British companies.

Dominic Vines travels frequently to Norway in his capacity as Project Manager for Cims Global. He says that "having spent some time in Norway it is difficult to envisage not returning. Apart from the obvious beauty of the country, what is most appealing is Norway's unique culture. From the ski-slopes to the bars, and from the fiercely competitive environment of Norway's football league to the office, the people are genuinely friendly and welcoming (what's more, they all speak English!)." He was recently in Oslo for the Norwegian National Day on 17 May, and found it a wonderful experience, "celebrating with true vigour, literally thousands turn out to pack the scenic heart of the capital Oslo. With parades taking place all

## The EEA Agreement

The Agreement on the European Economic Area - the EEA Agreement - entered into force on 1 January 1994. Today it covers 18 countries, including the 15 members of the EU and the 3 EFTA countries - Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. The EFTA country Switzerland is not part of the EEA.

The EEA Agreement creates a common framework for trade and economic relations based on the provisions governing the EU's internal market. It covers the free movement of goods, capital, services and persons, and grants Norway entry into the internal market. In addition, it regulates a series of areas of mutual interest, such as research, education and the environment.

For British companies, with a few exceptions, the same rules and regulations apply for export to, for example, Germany as to Norway. The same applies for Norwegian companies exporting to EU countries.

day as children march down the street to wave to the King, it is unrivalled by any UK celebrations." Dominic Vines hopes to be back soon: "I am currently working on an excuse to visit again this summer, with long sunshine-filled days and many marinas dotted along the coast - can you blame me?"

Around 300 Norwegian companies have been set up in the UK, directly or through offshoot companies. Well-known Norwegian companies such as Norsk Hydro, Kværner and Statoil are well established in the British market and Norwegian banks such as Den norske Bank are active in Britain.



*Mackerel.  
Photo credit:  
Scanpix.*

Many other Norwegian companies have perceived possibilities in the British market, including companies trading in furniture, building materials, architecture, packaging, textiles, medical equipment and information technology. Norway and Britain also cooperate frequently and successfully in research and technology. Many of the Norwegian companies that have recently established branches in Britain have been in the ICT sector. In the fishing industry, Norway and Britain are mutual competitors and customers. The North Sea fisheries have been in existence ever since fishing vessels began sailing the North Sea. Norwegian and British fishermen often fish in the same waters, and fish are important exports for both countries.

Norwegian investors are also closely involved in the British fishing industry. Britain is currently Norway's main market for frozen cod fillet and shrimps.

*Graph: Exports, imports and two-way trade 1994 - 2000*



### Imports to and exports from Norway

| Most important export goods for 2000, from Norway | Share |
|---|-------|
| Petroleum and mineral products                    | 82 %  |
| Aluminium   | 2 %   |
| Seafood   | 2 %   |
| Machinery and data-processing equipment           | 1 %   |
| Electronic equipment                              | 1 %   |

| Most important imports for 2000, into Norway | Share |
|--|-------|
| Machinery and data-processing equipment      | 23 %  |
| Petroleum and mineral products               | 11 %  |
| Electronic equipment                         | 10 %  |
| Road vehicles                                | 6 %   |
| Iron/steel products                          | 4 %   |

The British-Norwegian Chamber of Commerce (BNCC) is a non-profit organisation under the patronage of the British Ambassador to Norway. It is based in Oslo, and was created with the aim of promoting business between Norway and the UK, by supplying contacts and organising regular meetings and speeches. The Norwegian-British Chamber of Commerce (NBCC) performs the same function in London. The Norwegian Embassy's Trade and Technology Office in London aims to offer the Norwegian business sector assistance with export promotion, internationalisation and technology transfer.





### **Norwegian doors and windows**

If you visit a Scottish home, the chances are that the windows and doors were made in Norway. About a third of the doors and windows in Scotland come from Norway, and many of them are made by Lyssand Treindustri in Os, near Bergen, which exports around 10 per cent of its production to Scotland.

“We not only export Norwegian doors and windows, but we have also developed windows tailor-made to Scottish tastes. The windows have a traditionally British appearance, but are made using Scandinavian technology,” says Olav Skretteberg, who represents Lyssand Treindustri in Britain. He has been in Scotland since 1992, when Lyssand began operations there. In 1994, Lyssand UK was established. It is based in Perth, about 70 kilometres north of Edinburgh. “This is a great place to work, and business is good. Now we are starting to make garden furniture too,” says Olav Skretteberg.

### **Chairs from Norway**

Skeie A/S in Sandnes, near Stavanger, makes chairs for cinemas and theatres, and has been exporting to the UK since 1994. “We don’t have an office in Britain, everything is done in Sandnes,” says Administrative Director Ståle Nilsen. “We employ around 30 people, and we develop, produce, market, sell and assemble. This means that our employees have to travel world wide, to wherever our products are being sold. In 2000 we had a turnover of over NOK 27 million. In Britain, various universities have ordered our chairs, and we have also supplied chairs for Richard Branson’s Virgin Cinema,” says Ståle Nilsen.





# Energy cooperation

Both Norway and the UK are major international players in the production of oil and gas. The Scottish city of Aberdeen is Britain's oil capital, as Stavanger is Norway's. Norway's first commercially important oil discovery was in 1969, at the Ekofisk field in the North Sea south west of Norway. The development of the Troll field, off the coast of Bergen, began in the mid-1990s.

This is one of the largest offshore gas fields to have been found, and will meet 25 per cent of Western Europe's gas needs by the year 2010. Many of the large Norwegian oil fields, such as Statfjord and Frigg, extend beyond the Norwegian-British delimitation line. Since the 1970s, oil has been transported by pipeline from Ekofisk to Teeside in Britain. Management of the pipelines has required close cooperation between the Norwegian and British authorities. The Frigg Treaty was signed in 1973, laying the foundation for dual management of the Frigg field.

The demand for gas in the UK is expected to increase in the future, and in 1998 the Norwegian and British authorities signed a new Frigg Treaty, which permits Norwegian gas from Frigg, as well as from other fields, to be transported through the Frigg pipeline to St Fergus in Scotland. Statoil is an important player, with various permits to extract in the British sector. BP is the largest British operator on the Norwegian side. In April 2000, Statoil joined with Shell, BP Amoco, TotalFinaElf and Dow Chemical in announcing the creation of a web-based "procurement exchange", to facilitate business. In April 2001, Statoil entered into talks with BP and Shell about plans to export

Norwegian oil through Sullum Voe in Shetland. Sullum Voe is owned by a consortium which includes BP and Shell. The project involves the construction of a new pipeline between Norway's Statfjord field and either the Shell Brent field or BP's Ninian field. Statoil became partly privatised (17.5 per cent) in June 2001.

There are still significant untouched reserves of both gas and oil in Norwegian and British territory. The British and Norwegian authorities and petroleum industries are cooperating to make sure the drilling of oil is cost-effective for both countries.

## INTSOK

Norwegian Oil and Gas Partners is an organisation which fosters cooperation between Norwegian oil and gas companies. It was established in 1997 by the industry itself, in collaboration with the Norwegian authorities, to strengthen international market possibilities for its companies, through databases and contacts. It now has a total of 75 partner companies, most of which are active participants in the most important markets. Seminars and workshops are arranged so that participants can share skills and knowledge. Its members include the oil companies Statoil and Norsk Hydro, as well as many technology suppliers and contractors, service suppliers and contractors, insurance and finance companies, consultants, and research institutions such as Global Geo Services ASA, IFE – Institutt for Energiteknikk, Marintek and SINTEF Petroleumforskning AS. Britain is one of the most important markets for the Norwegian member companies.

*Picture, left:  
BP/Statoil, Baku.  
Photo credit:  
©Statoil.*



*Troll Platform,  
Norway.  
Photo credit:  
©Øyvind Hagen/  
Statoil.*

*Norway derives its name from the waters along its coast, which were for seafarers the “road to the north” – Norveg, Nordrvegr, or in English, Norway. Norwegians have always lived along the coast and used the sea, whether travelling to visit their neighbours or embarking on exploratory trips to countries far away.*



# Shipping

From the earliest times, Norway and Britain have been great seafaring nations. The modern Norwegian trading fleet consists of tankers, which freight oil, gas and chemicals, container-ships and cruise liners. Shipping freight services are Norway's most important import in the service sector and Norway controls the third largest merchant shipping fleet in the world. The British merchant shipping fleet has diminished in size in recent years, but shipping remains an important part of British economic life. Measured in tonnage, around 95 per cent of British exports are freighted across the sea. There is also a considerable amount of ferry traffic to and from Britain, as well as to the European continent and to Ireland. Norwegian ships visit British harbours more frequently than any other harbours in the world. The UK is a centre for world shipping. For this reason, many Norwegian shipping companies have bases there, as do Norwegian companies specialising in ship financing, shipbroking and maritime insurance. These companies compete and cooperate with their British counterparts.

During the Second World War, Norwegian merchant ships were largely operated from London, through NORTRASHIP (Norwegian Shipping and Trade Mission). This strengthened the shipping links between Norway and Britain. Many Norwegian companies delivering services to the oil and gas industry are based in Britain because of the close cooperation between Norwegian and British oil companies.

Norway and Britain are active members of the UN's shipping organisation, the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), which has its headquarters in London. Both countries were among the earliest members: Britain joined in 1949 and Norway in 1958. The IMO is working to ensure that international shipping becomes safer and more environmentally friendly. Both countries are also members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Maritime Transport Committee, and have participated in the framing of the MTC's Common Principles on Shipping Policy.



*The ferry between Bergen/Stavanger and Newcastle.*



# Tourism

The British were among the first tourists to visit Norway. As early as the 1850s, they began to explore Norwegian fjords and mountains. In 1859, the first tourist guide to Norway for foreigners appeared, written in English. Over the years, the main lure of Norway has been its natural beauty - the Midnight Sun, the Northern Lights, the intricate contours of the fjords, the variations in the landscape from north to south, the extremes of summer and winter, the islands and inlets.

In the far north of Norway it is possible to experience the Midnight Sun from mid-May to late July. Norway has one of the longest coastlines in the world, and offers a great diversity of landscapes. The fjords have generally been the most celebrated of Norway's coastal features -

spectacular glacial valleys carved millions of years ago, flooded by the sea. Norway also has 3.5 million islands, in a wide range of sizes. Many British tourists head straight for Bergen, which provides an ideal starting point for exploration of the western fjords. From here they travel, often by boat, along the coast to marvel at the beauties of Sognefjord. Those more intrepid wander further north, to the tranquil Lofoten Islands north of the Arctic Circle, still an important area for fishing. For the more energetic there are surf beaches, which attract surfers from around the world. The biggest waves crash onto Norwegian shores in the winter months, attracting an unusually hardy breed of surfer!

*Picture, left:  
English fisherpeople in  
Lærdal, ca. 1909.  
Photo from Norsk  
Villakssenter in  
Lærdal.*

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*A surfer at Jæren.  
Photo credit: Scanpix.*

*From Winter Olympics  
in Lillehammer, 1994*



*Picture, right:  
The Vigeland Park, Oslo.  
Photo credit: DNFI  
©Vigelandsmuseet/  
BONO.*

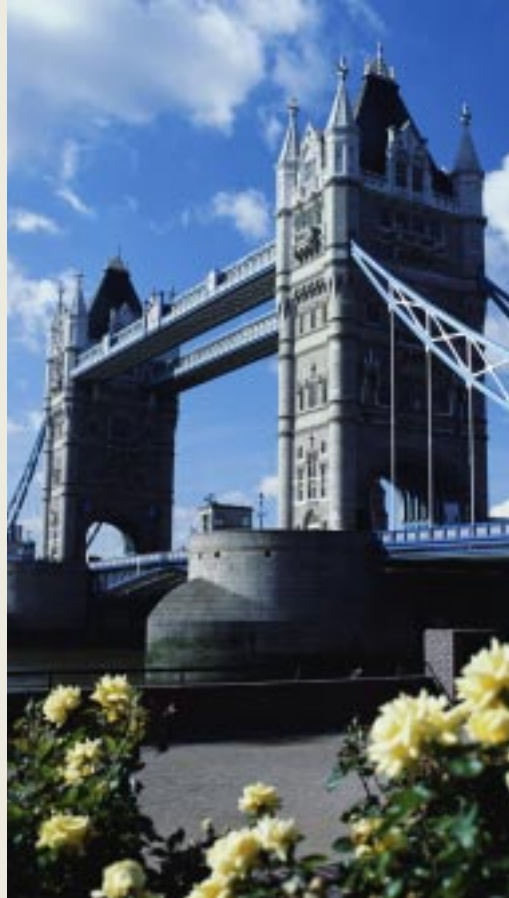
Others travel further inland, to stand on the strange blue ice of the Jostedal Glacier. Some take the Troll Road, a renowned mountain route with 18 hairpin bends and extraordinary views. Norway also offers a perfect terrain for winter sports: in 1994, Lillehammer hosted the Winter Olympics, and Oslo boasts the eye-catching Holmenkollen ski jump, located a short train ride away from the city centre.

Norwegian cities and towns offer a range of cultural events, museums, theatres, parks, and galleries. Vigeland Park, in Oslo, was designed by the Norwegian sculptor Gustav Vigeland and is filled with his sculptures, depicting the various phases of human life. Oslo offers a number of museums, including the Viking Ship Museum, the Kontiki Museum, exhibiting Thor Heyerdahl's rafts, and the Fram Museum, showing Fram, the ship designed by Colin Archer, a Norwegian of Scottish descent, which was used by polar explorers such as Fridtjof Nansen and Roald Amundsen. There are fortresses and folk museums, music festivals, sporting competitions and of course the Norwegian National Day on 17 May, when Norwegians dress up in national costume and there are parades throughout the country.





Around 200 000 British tourists visit Norway every year, and even more Norwegians cross the North Sea in the opposite direction: over 500 000 Norwegians arrive in Britain every year, the equivalent of the entire population of Oslo. And while the British in Norway relish the natural beauty and tranquility, Norwegians visiting Britain tend to plunge themselves into urban life, particularly London. Norwegian tourists spend most of their time in London, and their activities are as varied as the city itself. They marvel at the new developments on the South Bank, they enjoy the famous monuments, the Houses of Parliament, the Thames cruises, they drag bags of shopping up and down Oxford Street, or round Camden Lock, they take in West End Shows, they savour the eclectic cuisines to be found in Chinatown, Edgware Road, Queensway and Hampstead Village. And Norwegians go further afield than the metropolis; they travel great distances to see their favourite football teams play, while the north of England is host to over 100 000 Norwegians every year, particularly Newcastle and Manchester. Scotland is also very popular with Norwegian visitors, partly because of the long-standing ties between the countries, and partly because many Norwegians can trace their ancestry back to the lochs and the Highlands. The beauties of the Welsh landscape also attract many Norwegian tourists.



*Tower Bridge,  
London.*



# Cultural ties

Ever since the Vikings sailed westwards, there has been a lively cultural exchange between Norway and Britain. The Viking inheritance has created a feeling of shared culture between the countries, especially in Scotland and the Orkney and Shetland Islands, where traces of Scandinavian languages still remain in place names and dialects. From approximately 800 AD until the middle of the 1700s, Orkney's spoken language was a variant of Old Norse known as Norrœna or Norn. In the 19th century it was estimated that there were still 10 000 words of Norse origin in the dialect of the Orkney Islands. With the decline in crofting and the social changes which have come to the islands, many of these words have been lost. However, a number of words and phrases in the Orcadian dialect still contain traces of Norn, such as felkyo, meaning “witch”, speir, meaning “to ask” and kye, meaning “cattle”. Place names also recall the Viking settlers, such as Kirkwall, originally Kirkwaa, which meant “Church Bay”.

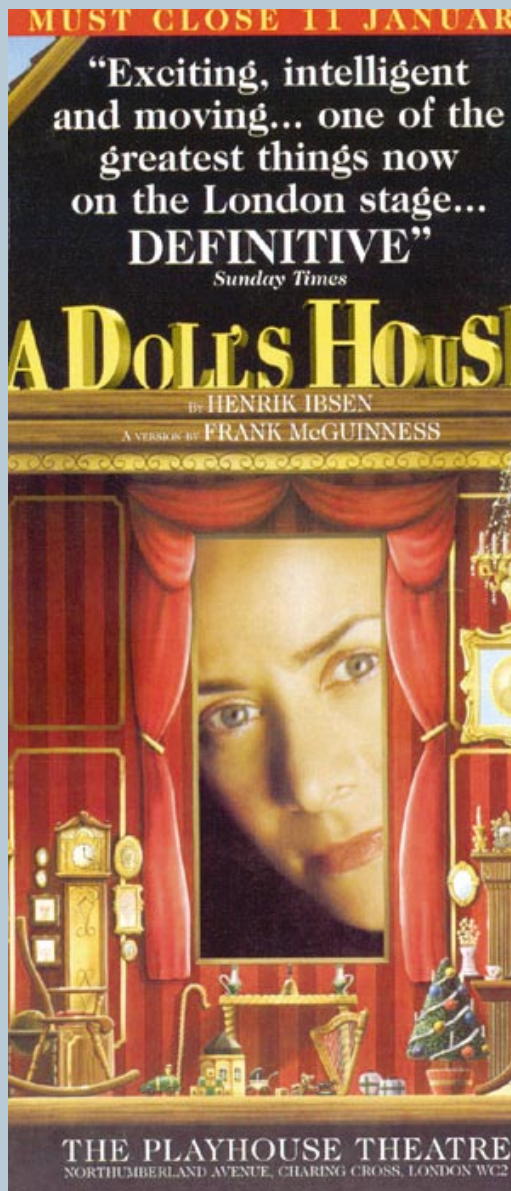
In the 9th and 10th centuries writers in the British Isles were influenced by the Norse sagas. The great Anglo-Saxon poem *Beowulf* is a tale of Scandinavian tribes, greatly indebted to the Norse sagas. It opens with a Viking ship burial, the funeral of Scyld Scylding, and proceeds to describe Beowulf's adventures against mythological creatures such as Grendel and a dragon.

The Viking influence has lasted into modern times. Ernest Shackleton, the British explorer, said that as a boy he had been inspired by reading the story of Eric the Red. Shackleton went on to explore the Antarctic, and in 1916 crossed the sea from Elephant Island to South Georgia in an open boat after his ship, *Endurance*, had been crushed in the ice.

At the end of the 19th century, Norwegian art and literature entered a golden age, and many internationally recognised artists and writers came to prominence. Possibly the most well-known is the playwright Henrik Ibsen, who was acclaimed in Britain as early as the 1870s. “Where shall we look for a young great poet among the continental nations?” Edmund Gosse cried in *The Fortnightly Review* in 1873. “In the Norwegian, Henrik Ibsen ... such a poet is found”. Gosse discovered Ibsen's work as a young critic on a visit to Norway in 1871. By the time Ibsen's plays *A Doll's House* and *Ghosts* were premiered in London (in 1889 and 1891, respectively), Ibsen had become a controversial figure. *Ghosts* was denounced in the *Daily Telegraph* as “an open drain...a loathsome sore unbandaged...a dirty act done publicly”, although it was also praised by George Bernard Shaw. Ibsen was caricatured in *Punch*; J.M. Barrie, the author of *Peter Pan*, also produced a parody of Ibsen's work, called *Ibsen's Ghost*, which was performed in 1891. Today Ibsen is the second most performed dramatist in Britain after Shakespeare.

Photo, left:  
“Kiss” by Anne  
Katrine Dolven.  
Video-installation,  
Anthony Wilkinson  
Gallery.

Stage bill for "A Doll's House" by Henrik Ibsen, for a production at the Playhouse Theatre.  
Photo: Courtesy of the Playhouse Theatre, London.



Edvard Grieg, born in Bergen in 1843, was also well received in Britain. Grieg's ancestors were Scottish emigrants, who changed the spelling of their name from Greig on acquiring Norwegian nationality in 1779. Among Grieg's great works are his *Piano Concerto in A Minor* (1868) and *Peer Gynt* (1874). His use of folk music in his compositions influenced a generation of British composers, including Ralph Vaughan Williams. Grieg visited Britain for the first time in 1888, and Britain was the last country in which he played, in 1906. In 1993, the Grieg Society of Great Britain was founded to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Edvard Grieg's birth.

The artist Edvard Munch painted some of his greatest works in the late 19th century, and has subsequently become one of the most well-known artists in Britain. The Norwegian writer and musician Ketil Bjørnstad's novel about Munch, *The Story of Edvard Munch*, was published in an English translation by Torbjørn Støverud and Hal Sutcliffe in spring 2001. Representations of Munch's most famous painting *The Scream* have even been used on pub signs in Britain, as part of a strange ploy to entice drinkers in.

Collaboration in the arts has supplied inspiration and new impulses to both countries. At the end of the 1940s, Norway wanted to establish a professional ballet company, and Britain offered practical help and artistic suggestions. Ny Norsk Ballett toured England in 1949 to enthusiastic audiences. The influence from Britain laid the foundations for today's Nasjonalballett – the National Ballet.

A generation of Norwegians grew up to the sound of the Beatles and the Rolling Stones, and their children now enjoy Robbie Williams and A1. In the 1980s, Norway's A-ha crossed the North Sea to make their name internationally from London. British newspapers sported headlines announcing that "the Vikings have landed!" and besotted teenagers developed an overnight interest in all things Norwegian. Norwegian writers and musicians such as Jostein Gaarder (the author of *Sophie's World*) and Jan Garbarek have also become very popular in Britain, and Garbarek's recording with the Hilliard Ensemble has sold extremely well. Linn Ullmann's first novel, *Before You Sleep*, recently appeared in Britain, and was well reviewed by national newspapers, including the *Observer*.

The cultural programme: "Visions of Norway – a Norwegian-British Partnership 1999-2000" brought many Norwegian artists and musicians to the UK: the Norwegian National Ballet performed at Sadler's Wells, Jan Garbarek and the Hilliard Ensemble played at the Royal Albert Hall, and a touring festival of new Norwegian

### **Frederick Delius (1862-1934): a great friend to Norway**

Few artists have been on closer terms with Norway and Norwegians than the British composer Frederick Delius. Delius was the son of a German wool merchant who settled in Yorkshire. He entered the family business but found himself unsuited to the work, and in 1886 he began studying music at Leipzig Conservatory, where he became friends with Grieg. On leaving the Conservatory, Delius moved to Paris, and lived mainly in France for the rest of his life. He met Edvard Munch in about 1890. Munch painted many portraits of Delius, while Delius helped Munch to arrange exhibitions. Between 1881 and 1923 Delius made many visits to Norway, and was so enchanted with the Norwegian scenery that Grieg called him the "Hardangervidda man", after the mountain plateau in the west of Norway. In 1888, Delius persuaded Grieg to come to London to conduct his own work and three years later Delius lived for a while with Grieg in Bergen. The Scandinavian influence is apparent in the references to folk tales and the intense responsiveness to nature that Delius incorporated into his music, in operas such as *The Magic Fountain* (1893-5) and *A Village Romeo and Juliet* (1907) and his orchestral idylls, *Song of the High Hills* (1911) and *Summer Night on the River* (1911). His orchestral work, *Paa Vidderne - On the Mountains*, was based on a poem by Henrik Ibsen.

cinema visited 24 towns and cities all over Britain,. While the Norwegian National Theatre visited Nottingham and Edinburgh with two Ibsen productions; *A Doll's House* and *Rosmersholm*.



*The pop group A1 on stage in Oslo in 1999. Photo credit: Knut Fjeldstad/Scanpix.*

### **Norwegian-British music cooperation**

At part of the EU's Erasmus programme, student and teacher exchanges are arranged between Norway and the UK. The cultural programme "Visions of Norway – a Norwegian-British Partnership 1999-2000" initiated a collaboration between the Norwegian State Academy of Music and two British music academies, the Royal Academy of Music and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. This collaboration was reaffirmed in March 2000, when students and teachers joined in workshops and master classes for piano, violin and chamber music, as well as in composition. In spring 2001 composition students and teachers from

Guildhall visited Oslo. The Norwegian State Academy of Music also has an exchange agreement with music academies in Cardiff and Birmingham.

There are many Norwegian institutions in the UK, particularly in the London area. The Anglo-Norse Society arranges cultural and social events, as well as supplying Norwegian authors in English translation and textbooks for Norwegian courses. There are Norwegian seamen's churches in St Olav's Square, Rotherhithe, and in Liverpool. Since 1998, the Norwegian Club has been renting premises at the In & Out Club in St. James's Square.

### **Anne Katrine Dolven**

is one of many Norwegian artists who have made London their base. She arrived in the city in 1997, at a time when "Young British Art" was just appearing on the cultural scene. She has found it extremely useful to live in London, and salutes the peculiarly British openness to foreign artists: "They think internationally – even at home – which allows for a good dynamic in art and also makes space for foreigners to work here," she says. Anne Katrine Dolven has worked in a wide range of media, but has attracted international recognition for her film and video installation work.

"Art should be a part of and also a reflection of its age. It should be a communal reference point, not merely the concern of a few," maintains Anne Katrine Dolven. "In recent years, the British have perceived art as an important element in the modernisation of society. In the course of the 1990s, a huge amount has been invested in culture, and we are now at the point at which the fruits of this labour can be harvested. Contemporary art has become more visible in the media, more like fashion and music, and now forms an important part of the collective debate in Britain. Artists succeed because they are interesting and can supply unusual perspectives on everyday life. For these reasons, London is a superb place to be based," says Anne Katrine Dolven.

The Norwegian Nobel Institute was established in 1904, and moved into its present building in central Oslo in 1905. The Nobel Institute assists the Nobel Committee in the task of selecting the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize and organises the annual Nobel events in Oslo. There have been many British winners of the Nobel Peace Prize, including Sir Joseph Austen Chamberlain (1926), then British Foreign Minister, and Amnesty International, London, in 1977. Another British Peace Prize laureate, Joseph Rotblat, was awarded the prize in 1995, in acknowledgement of his efforts to diminish the part played by nuclear arms in international politics.

## Students

Britain has a long tradition of playing host to Norwegian students. One of the first was probably Haakon, the son of Harald Fairhair, who was sent to the court of the English King Adalstein in 960. He was eventually nicknamed “Adalstein's son”, and gained a useful grounding in the art of statesmanship. When Haakon became King of Norway, he put his education into practice, and his apparently approving subjects bestowed a new nickname upon him: “the Good”.

Over a thousand years after Haakon arrived in Britain, there are now around 4 000 Norwegian students in the UK. Norwegian students are spread around the whole country and across a broad range of disciplines. The most frequently taken courses are economics, engineering and arts courses such as design, film, theatre and dance, but other subjects studied include journalism, law, medicine and physiotherapy.

One of these students is Henning Torp, who recently studied civil economics at Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh. “It was easy to choose Britain,” says Henning Torp. “It’s not so far away from Norway, and the courses here are easy to combine with later studying. The courses are also well-respected by employers in Norway.” Henning Torp enjoyed having the best of both worlds: “You learn to speak and write English, as well as gaining an insight into another culture. That the culture is in many ways like our own is an advantage, and yet you still have the sense that you’re abroad.”

## NRK takes inspiration from the BBC

The Norwegian television authorities have been inspired by the example set by Britain, a country which has gained a reputation for principled and informative public broadcasting. Since the 1950s, the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation, NRK, has aimed to broadcast along similar lines, and has enjoyed frequent and extremely useful collaboration with the BBC.

In the 1980s and 1990s, as Norway began to import more commercial TV and radio programmes, it was natural for the Norwegian authorities to consult their British counterparts about rules concerning practice and legislation. Particularly relevant was the BBC charter and the regulations applying to ITV stations. British legislation now forms the basis for Norwegian legislation applying to the channels NRK, TV2 and P4.

Digital television will bring an increase in broadcasting capacity and heighten competition; this will create significant challenges for public broadcasting. The Norwegian and British authorities agree on the standards public broadcasting must maintain in a digital age.

Henning Torp is just one of an increasing number of Norwegians who choose to study in the UK. Norway sends more students to the UK than anywhere else, and the largest branch of ANSA (the Association of Norwegian Students Abroad) is in the UK. Because Norway is not a member of the EU, Norwegian students pay more than other Europeans, and the annual tuition fee paid per Norwegian student currently stands at GBP 6 000-10 000. Perhaps it is some consolation that Haakon the Good's English education didn't come cheap either. Harald Fairhair gave King Adalstein a modest token of his appreciation for his son's education: a ship with a golden stern and a crimson sail, and a sturdy line of gilt shields along the gunwale.

### Scandinavian studies

After the Second World War, the close relations between Norway and Britain during the Nazi occupation created an enthusiasm for studying Norwegian language and literature at British universities. However, the enthusiasm for Norwegian studies has palled somewhat in the last decade. As in many other countries, financial pressures and changes in syllabuses have squeezed out smaller departments and languages. However, there are still courses in

Norwegian language and literature at five British universities, with an annual intake of between 150 and 200 students. The Nordic countries are looking for ways to improve the profile of Scandinavian studies abroad.

Outstanding British researchers have written major studies of Norwegian history and literature, and in doing so have made a great contribution to the study of Norwegian culture, especially in connection with Ibsen and Hamsun studies. Roland Huntford, a British journalist and writer, has produced substantial biographical portraits of Nansen and Amundsen. In 1999, the Norvik Press published a book called *Anglo-Scandinavian Cross-Currents*, edited by Inga-Stina Ewbank, Olav Lausund and Bjørn Tysdahl, which contains a wealth of research into the cultural influences between Britain and Scandinavia in the 19th century.

*The Norwegian Rock near Edinburgh Castle. Private picture.*





British researchers have also found useful scientific resources in Norway. Svalbard lies at 80 degrees north and is one of Europe's most unspoiled environments. The archipelago is a perfect location for laboratory work, and the collection and analysis of data. The University Courses on Svalbard (UNIS) is a private foundation established by the Norwegian government and owned by Norway's four universities. The foundation offers university-level courses and research opportunities relevant to Svalbard's geographical location in the high Arctic. The year 2001 was classified as an Arctic Year for the British Schools Exploring Society (BSES) and they have elected to travel to Svalbard to learn about Arctic geography, geology and climate.

### **Janet Garton**

Britons who choose to study Norwegian often have an initial connection with Norway. They may have a Norwegian mother or father, or they may have married into a Norwegian family. "In 2001, we have an intake of 35 students studying Norwegian, and most of them take the four year course," says Janet Garton of the University of East Anglia. "They study literature, modern history, history of language and linguistics."

"The university study of Norwegian has great importance for spreading knowledge about Norway in Britain," says Janet Garton. Many of the students have grants which allow them to travel to Norway, just as Janet Garton did in 1966. She started reading Norwegian almost as a hobby when she was studying at Cambridge. Her main subject was French, but her interest in Norwegian grew. After spending a year in Norway she spoke the language fluently. Janet Garton now runs the publishing house Norvik Press, which translates and publishes Norwegian fiction. Garton has translated Knut Faldbakken, Bjørg Vik, Cecilie Løveid and Paal Helge Haugen, among others, and her edition of the correspondence of Amalie Skram and Erik Skram appears in spring 2002. Norvik Press has recently published an English version of Jens Bjørneboe's trilogy, *Moment of Freedom*, *Powderhouse* and *The Silence*, translated by Esther Greenleaf Murer.



# English football

By Tom Stalsberg, London correspondent for *Dagbladet*.

## English football

The words conjure up a host of ideas: solid traditions and working class history, pubs and tribal culture, Wembley, George Best. 1966. Joy and sorrow, religion and hatred, Anfield, Moss Side. Scarves waving from the terraces, scornful chants, excited cheers. Everton and Liverpool, Newcastle United. Magpies!

Norwegian fans have been obsessed with the game ever since 1969, when the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation NRK first began broadcasting Match of the Day. From then on, Norwegians have generally caught the disease during adolescence, but once they've succumbed they can never shake it off, and are forced to live the rest of their lives dependent on red, striped or blue prescriptions.

The action at White Hart Lane, Vale Park or the Dell may be poetry, drama, passion; it may be nasty, nationalistic or pathetic. Riots and racism. Red cards. Norwegians arriving in Britain to see their teams get a hefty adrenalin kick from the heady atmosphere. The match is 90 minutes of ecstasy, offering highs and lows, injustice and brilliance. Norwegians seem to enjoy stadium food, the obese sausages, the fish and chips doused in vinegar. It differs greatly from their footballing countrymen's diet, which Georges-Marie Duffaud, the Frenchman responsible for feeding the Norwegian international squad during France 1998, claimed "really surprised me, especially mixing jam with smoked fish or even mackerel with bananas."

Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation's veteran football commentator, Arne Scheie, offers his explanation: "There's no one reason why we Norwegians are so obsessed with English football. One reason is what happened during World War II. The closeness between Britain and Norway. Another advantage for us is that we all learned English in primary school."

Scheie points to the three important years that increased the Norwegian fixation with football: "The 1966 World Cup, when England beat West Germany in the final at Wembley; Manchester United's triumph in the European Cup in 1968; and the start of the Norwegian version of Match of the Day in 1969. The first game shown in Norway was played on 29 November, in the Midlands: Wolves beat Sunderland 1-0."

Scheie adds that the interest in English football has exploded in Norway in the last twenty years, partly due to the players Ole Gunnar Solskjær, the great Tottenham goalkeeper Erik Thorstvedt and Tore André Flo. Scheie also remembers the first Norwegian to wear the colours of an English club: "All respect to the other Norwegian players in England, but when Einar Aas came to Nottingham Forest in 1980, it was huge. He was bought from Bayern Munich, and went right into the team, as skipper. We should remember that Forest were reigning champions of Europe at the time."

*Picture, left: Ole Gunnar Solskjær (Manchester United) after scoring the winning goal in the final of the Champion League, 1999, flanked by Dwight Yorke and Ronny Johnsen. Photo credit: Scanpix.*

**Old times, new times**

In extra time in 1999, Ole Gunnar Solskjær secured the Champions League for Manchester United. The Norwegian came on just before full time, as a substitute, and scored the decider against Bayern Munich. United's supporters were moved to sing "Who put the ball in the German net? Ole Gunnar Solskjær!" Solskjær has become one of the most famous Norwegians in the world. Everyone wanted to go to Old Trafford – the Theatre of Dreams – to watch their heroes – Beckham, Giggs, Keane and Solskjær. Nowadays, around 30 Norwegian footballers play for English clubs ranging from the Premier League to the 3rd Division. Henning Berg is at Blackburn Rovers, Andreas Lund is at Wimbledon, Steffen Iversen and Øyvind Leonhardsen are at Tottenham Hotspur, Eirik Bakke is at Leeds United, to name only a few. In addition, Tore André Flo is at Glasgow Rangers, and Norwegians also play for Aberdeen. In former times, Roald Jensen, "the dribbler from Bergen", played for Hearts, the giant goalkeeper Geir Karlsen was at Dunfermline, while Svein "Matta" Mathisen and Isak Arne Refvik made their living at Hibernian.

Of the 92 professional clubs in the league system, and one outside it, about half now have Supporters' Club branches in Norway. Manchester United's is the largest, with around 35 000 members. Other large branches in Norway are Liverpool, Arsenal, Tottenham, Chelsea and Leeds.

Initially the British press was slightly suspicious of the latter-day Viking invasion, but gradually the players have gained respect, especially since Norway beat England, home of football, before the US World Cup in 1994. These days, Norwegian players are highly valued, whether they are called Steffen, Leo, Ole, Vegard, Trond or Stavrum.



# Useful addresses

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WEB: www.norway.org.uk  
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Royal Norwegian Consulate General  
86 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 3BU  
Tel: 0131 226 5701  
Fax: 0131 220 4976  
E-mail: cons.gen.edinburgh@mfa.no  
WEB: www.norway.org.uk

Norwegian Trade Council  
Trade and Technology Office  
Charles House, 5-11 Lower Regent Street,  
London SW1Y 4LR  
Tel: 020 7389 8800  
Fax: 020 7973 0189  
E-mail: london@ntc.no  
WEB: www.ntclondon.com

Norwegian Tourist Board  
Charles House, 5-11 Lower Regent Street  
London SW1Y 4LR  
Tel: 020 7839 6255 (public)  
Tel: 020 7839 2650 (business)  
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WEB: www.visitnorway.com

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28 Arterberry Road, London SW20 8AH  
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ANSA UK (Association of Norwegian  
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Norwegian Church and Seamen's Mission  
1 St Olav's Square, Albion Street  
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138 Park Lane, Liverpool L1 8HG  
Tel: 0151 709 7763  
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4 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4JU  
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The Grieg Society of Great Britain  
25 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QD  
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NSA (Norwegian Scottish Association)  
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Orkney Norway Friendship Association  
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Shetland Norway Friendship Association  
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86 George Street  
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## STUDYING IN NORWAY

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or contact the Royal Norwegian  
Embassy, London (see above).

### ENGLISH SPEAKING SCHOOLS IN NORWAY

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The International School of Bergen  
(Pre-school to age 16)  
Vilhelm Bjerknesvei 15  
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Birralee International School  
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WEB: <http://birralee.wave.no>

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WEB: [www.surrey.ac.uk/LIS/](http://www.surrey.ac.uk/LIS/)

For EVENING CLASSES,  
contact your local education authority or  
visit [www.norway.org.uk](http://www.norway.org.uk).  
For self-study books, contact Anglo-  
Norse Society (see above).

### WORKING IN NORWAY

Contact the Euroadviser at your local  
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[www.eurescv-search.com](http://www.eurescv-search.com)  
[www.aetat.no](http://www.aetat.no)

For information on Norway and related subjects, please visit the website [www.norway.org.uk](http://www.norway.org.uk)

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