



Statens vegvesen

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PRESS RELEASE

Utsikten – the View – a new landmark of concrete and geometry

The Norwegian Public Roads Administration's new viewing platform along National Tourist Route Gaularfjellet can most easily be described as a large triangular concrete slab with corners that are bent upwards.

Describing the magnificent view is much more difficult; it has to be experienced. The concrete slab offers a clear view towards 1500-metre high mountains and deep canyons, and it appears to be balancing on the edge of the mountain, 700 metres above the ocean.

In addition to the viewpoints, the concrete slab has an amphitheatre and toilet facilities, as well as parking facilities for cars and busses. Visitors may walk in the terrain, around the concrete slab and, in some places, even underneath it.

In 2008, the Norwegian architect's office Code won the competition to design Utsikten:

- Our ambition was to make a functional object that exploits the qualities of the site to a maximum by establishing several and various viewpoints and ways of moving around, says Architect Eivind Nygaard in Code AS.

Building Utsikten has been quite challenging. There is not electricity at the construction site, and a diesel aggregate has been used throughout the construction period. The workers have no internet access, and cell phone reception is poor. Additionally, the weather at the top of the mountain is always unpredictable and challenging. The transportation route for concrete, reinforcement and other material is long, and the road up to the mountain is closed during the winter.

The work on Utsikten commenced in 2014, and the installation is scheduled to open in June 2016.

Construction client: Norwegian Public Roads Administration, Tourist Routes Section

Architect: Code AS

Contractor: Veidekke, district Sogn og Fjordane

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