

Roads in Venture North and hub to the world



Innhold

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General introduction

The Venture North region (Nord-Helgeland) is tied together by ever-improving transport roads and Mo i Rana as an increasingly strong hub towards the rest of Norway, the EU and the world.

Northern Helgeland has become the largest export region in the north with annual sales of goods worth NOK 16 billion in 2023 to the EU or globally. This is possible because the region has among the country's most complete infrastructures for industry and salmon production and with increasingly better transport solutions to and from the markets.

In recent years, NOK 20 billion worth of investments have been completed or initiated in the region's transport routes and hubs: Large airport and deep-water quay in Mo i Rana, improvement of the E6 and other road and rail measures. The municipalities in the Venture North region are working together to further improve the transport system.

A large cluster of transport companies and functions has been built up over time to serve the export cluster and other businesses' various transport and logistics needs.



New airport means a quantum leap

Today's flight offer with a short runway will be replaced by a large airport and a long runway of 2,700 meters from spring 2027 at the latest. The NOK 5 billion airport is being built by Avinor in a joint venture between the state, Rana municipality and the business community mainly in the Venture North region.

Large airport on Helgeland will revolutionize accessibility for the population and business, with direct routes to Oslo and several cities in Norway and abroad. This will result in a sharp drop in ticket prices, faster journeys, increased capacity and safe regularity. A new airport will make it easier for establishments, promote mobility and the recruitment of new residents to the region and strengthen business life in general.

Connecting roads

Fv810 and Fv17 connect business and population on the coast (Nesna, Lurøy, Træna and Rødøy) to the regional center and junction, where Fv810 meets two European roads, E6 north south in Norway and E12 west - east, from Norway to Helsinki in Finland. E6 connects the municipalities of Rana and Hemnes to an integrated housing and employment market, among the two largest commuting connections between two municipalities in northern Norway.

In the last ten years, NOK 10 billion has been invested to modernize the E6 through large parts of Helgeland, including between Rana and Hemnes and between Rana and Salten/Bodø. E12 and E6 in Mo i Rana were among the first stretches of road in Norway to be opened for modular vehicle trains (25.25 m).

Going forward, there is a particular need for point-by-point improvements to national and county roads/connections and measures that provide coherent solutions for walking and cycling and promote green mobility.

- Improvement of Fv810/Fv17 between Rana and Lurøy/Nesna/Træna/Rødøy. Including ferry connection. Nordland County Council is actively working on measures.
- Partial improvement of the E6 between Hemnes and Rana. Dialogue with the Norwegian Road Administration.
- Partial improvement of the E12 between Mo i Rana and Sweden. State transport agencies have recommended NOK 270 million for the improvement of the last winding parcel on the E12.
- Optimizing the existing transport system in Mo i Rana (where E6, E12, Rv12 and Fv810 are the main road network) with an emphasis on better access to Mo Industripark, the harbor and the city centre, reducing congestion on the main road network (E6, E12, Fv810) and making better arrangements for walking/cycling, public transport and green mobility. The Swedish Road Administration with a transport investigation in two phases. Rana Utvikling leads a project for green mobility in Mo i Rana (FuM0) together with SINTEF.

New deep-water quay improves the port

Mo i Rana harbor is one of the busiest in the country with more than 1,000 annual calls by cargo ships and more than 4 million tonnes of goods in and out of the four quays. The ships go to and from Nordic, European and global markets.



The two large port owners Mo Industripark, Rana municipality and the state are now collaborating on the construction of a new deep-water quay which will increase the sea depth from 8 to 16 meters at the largest quay (Rana Industrial Terminal). The number of meters of quay will be increased from 400 to 550 meters so that the port can accommodate both more and larger boats (PanMax). The investment of NOK 600 million takes place in a joint venture between local actors and the national Coastal Administration, which is currently working on the project. New quay will be opened in 2026.

In connection with the new deep-water quay, Mo Industripark has established 300 acres of new business and logistics space for new businesses and warehouses.

Junction on the Nordlandsbanen

Mo i Rana has become a growing hub for freight trains between Nordland, Oslo and the EU. Good cooperation has created a doubling of the offer on Nordlandsbanen from two to four daily freight trains in each direction. It is loaded in approx. 250,000 tonnes between rail and car at the Helgeland terminal, which is part of a large transport and logistics area north of Mo i Rana harbour. Both large shares of salmon from and consumer goods, and increasing amounts of industrial products to the region are transported by train, with the lowest environmental emissions and which saves the roads for approx. 25,000 trucks on the E6.

Bane Nor (state owner of the railway) has invested approx. NOK 100 million in a long crossing track through Mo i Rana, which provides a continuous "double track" from the existing goods terminal (Helgelandsterminalen) to Mo Industripark's port Rana Industriterminal.

A side track is now being planned from Nordlandsbanen's new "double track" to Rana Industriterminal, which will be realized in a joint venture between Bane Nor and local players. With direct unloading and loading between car and track in Mo Industripark, both costs and the environment are saved. Heavy traffic on the public road network is reduced.





Transport system in Mo i Rana



New airport under construction by E12 just east of Mo i Rana

