



VENTURE NORTH

Invest in Rana
Region Norway



Roads in Venture North and hub to the world

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Introduction

The Venture North region has become the largest export region in the north with annual sales of goods worth NOK 17 billion in 2023 to the EU and globally. This is due to the large industrial cluster of both process industries, and salmon farming, with associated transport infrastructure. The process industry exports NOK 10 billion worth of goods, which leaves NOK 7 billion in exported goods from salmon farming.

In recent years, NOK 20 billion have been invested in the region's transport infrastructure. This includes a large airport (NOK 5 billion) and a deep-water quay (NOK 600 million) in Mo i Rana, improvements of the E6/FV 78 road (NOK 12,5 billion) and railway (sidings). Combined with the cost of improvements of other roads, bridges and ferry docks the investments adds up to NOK 20 billion.

A large cluster of transport companies and subcontractors serves the export companies and their logistical needs, either by ship, train or trucks. The new airport will also create new opportunities for cargo flights.

Road connections in the region



Fv810 and Fv17 connect businesses and populations on the coast (Lurøy, Nesna, Rødøy and Træna) to the regional center Mo i Rana, where Fv810 meets to European roads, E6 North-South in Norway and E12 West-East, from Norway to Helsinki in Finland. E6 also connects the municipalities Rana and Hemnes.

In the last ten years, NOK 12,5 billion has been invested to modernize the E6 through large parts of Helgeland, resulting in better logistics.

Going forward, there is a particular need for point-by-point improvements of national and county roads/connections:

- Improvement of Fv810/Fv17 between Rana and Lurøy/Nesna/Rødøy/Træna, including ferry connections. Nordland County Council is actively working on measures.
- Partial improvement of the E6 between Rana and Hemnes. 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.

New deep-water quay in Mo i Rana

Mo i Rana harbor is one of the busiest ports in Norway handling approx. 4 million tonnes of goods, and more than 1,000 calls by cargo ships annually.

A new deep-water quay is under construction which will increase the sea depth from 8 to 16 meters. With the improvements, the port can accommodate both more, and larger boats (PanMax). The investment of NOK 600 million is a result of a joint venture between local actors and the National Coastal Administration. The new quay is planned to be in operation in 2026.

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



Illustration 1: Rana Utvikling

Railway

Mo i Rana has become a growing hub for cargo trains between Nordland, Oslo, and the EU. Favorable cooperation has created a doubling of the offer on Nordlandsbanen from two to four daily cargo trains in each direction. Approximately 250,000 tonnes of cargo is loaded between rail and car at the Helgeland Terminal annually, which is part of the large transport and logistics area in Mo i Rana harbor. Both large shares of salmon, consumer goods, and increasing amounts of industrial products are transported by train.

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

New airport

Today's airport in Mo i Rana will be replaced by a larger airport with a long runway of 2,700 meters, opening may/june 2027. The NOK 5 billion airport is being built by Avinor in a joint venture between the state, Rana Municipality and businesses in the Venture North region.

A large airport in Helgeland will make the region more accessible for visitors and business. With direct routes to Oslo, and hopefully abroad.



Photo 1: Hedda Hiller/Avinor



Photo 2: Hedda Hiller/Avinor