

Nye avsløringer på Elgfjellet

In this second article on the Elgfjell project, Lene Engevik Bukholm and Thea Krossøy continue their presentations of their work in the area situated in Lomsdal-Visten national park. Two different types of marble occur: a pure grey variety and a yellow variety. The team made a geological surface map and took rock samples for laboratory analysis. Caves were surveyed of the caves, revising earlier work of Trevor Faulkner by latest technology. In total, 13 caves were mapped and revised.

Caves located in the grey marble band of Gråryggen were Brungørrgrotta, Pustehola, Moskusgrotta and Vedgrotta. In th nearby Gulryggen, Bjørnetanngrotta, Elgfjellhola, Knollgrotta, Nederlagsgrotta, Paradoksgrotta, Openbaringa, Ryggsjakta, Skjulbekkgrotta og Spisestuehullet were are all located in the yellow marble. Structural measurements on the surface as well as underground revealed the different Caledonian mountain chain deformation phases. No relation to neotectonic movements was found. The caves are concluded to be a result of ice-contact speleogenesis.

The glacial landscape of Elgfjellet has low vegetation. It is easy to visualize how the glacier has modified the karst terrain and filled the cracks and caves with sediments. These karst features have acted as a drainage routes for subglacial streams. Other karst landforms has been destroyed by the glacier. But larger caves and dolines, such as the Elgfjellhola entrance, were protected and modified. In total 162 dolines were located, most of them underlain by cave passages.

The latest publications are from 2020 and some of the most important scientific findings in Elgfjellet can be found in this article. If you want to have further scientific information, please check our master thesis.