

Geitåggrottene - høyest i Norden?

Geitåggrottene – highest in the North?

Some years ago the farmers Erling Dagsgard and Eldar Eggen discovered caves high up in Jotunheimen. After some failed attempts the caves were re-located by Tom Ording Dahl. In the autumn of 2004 Magny Eggestad and Torstein Finnesand came to Bøverdalen to assist Dahl in the mapping.

The approach is interesting. A long, narrow limestone vein, visible on the surface for 9-10 km, is located at 1400-1700 m asl. Six holes in the area can be defined as caves, with lengths 8-50 m. The highest is at 1542 m asl. The river Geitåa flows in all caves but one. Some of the passages are threatened by rock slides. There are traces of collapse dolines. The caves may have been formed in connection with the melting down of the last ice age, but they may be older.

Four 3-stone cairns were built. A total of 158 m was mapped.

As far as we know this is the highest documented cave site in Norway. We have been told of other high-lying caves, for instance in the area around Hardangerjøkulen (Velurehola, Omnsbakke-hullet, Torsbuhøla), in Rondane (Kåsaagrotta/Kåsiholet c. 950 m asl), in Sylane c. 1000 m asl. Further information is solicited.