

Markusgrotta i Storfjord

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Markusgrotta in Storfjord was discovered in August 2009 by cavers from Tromsø. The cave is rather inaccessible, situated at nearly 1000 metres altitude in a remote area of Troms, far north of the Arctic Circle. The main area is approximately 4 km² large and contains numerous caves and karst features. The first years we explored the most promising caves and the surrounding area on our expeditions. From 2011, we started surveying and found connections between three of the initial caves. Markusgrotta now has four distinct entrances and several nearby caves that hopefully may be connected to the main cave system. As of 1 December 2013 the cave is the 6th longest in Norway with 3714 meters, the longest north of Tjoarvekrájgge and perhaps also the longest in the world this far north. The surveying will continue in 2014 and the cave is likely to exceed at least 5 km. The article also contains a section on the geology and history of the area, a preliminary cave map and a tour guide.