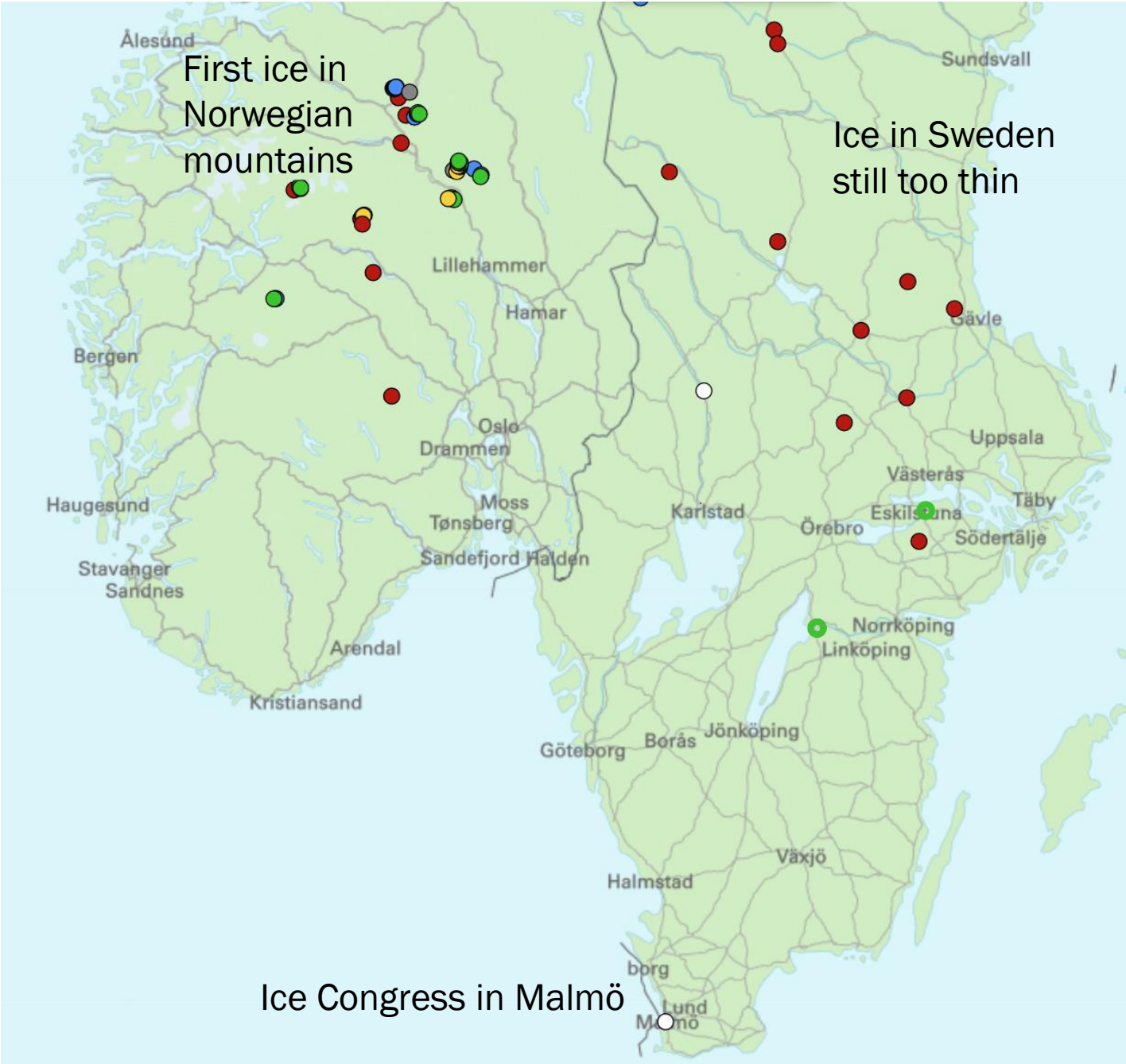




# Skating vacation with a campervan

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EVALUATION



# The Trip

## Part 1

- Departure Friday 14 october 2022 – 900 km to Malmö
- Ice congress Saturday in Hotel Scandic Triangelse

## Part 2

- Sunday 16 oktober 2022 – 800 km to Jotunheimen
- Monday 17 - Saturday 22 – six skating days

## Part 3

- Sunday – driving home 1700 km
- Monday – cleaning, filling up, maintenance
- Tuesday – delivering campervan back to rental place

In total 4000 km in 10 days, that includes the drives to the lakes

# General impressions

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The camper drives wonderfully on the highway. Good view, comfortable seats, nice workplace behind the front seats where passengers can use the laptop to find ice.

Having everything with you without having to carry stuff in and out of a place to sleep is a big advantage. It is also nice to be able to shower, redress, eat and drink immediately in a warm camper after skating.

During dinner you look for tomorrow's skating spot and you can drive there straight after dinner. With a passenger car you get cold from the drive to a place to sleep and the next morning you have to drive extra distance to the skating spot.

However, the time you gain with the camper is spent on the longer duration of the journeys and the supervision of the camper. Not that the driving speed is low, but all the checks and careful maneuvers take time. In addition, you cannot get to all places due to small roads in the mountains and/or through the forest to the lake. Finally, the effort required to handle the camper properly is high.

# Advantages

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No booking time for sleeping place

No packing and unpacking

No need to carry luggage in and out

Driving to sleeping place not necessary

Beds always ready

Kitchen ready: water and cooking place at hand

Drinking and eating directly after skating

Car always warm and no window scraping

Nice office with laptop and electricity at hand

Big storage for skates and poles

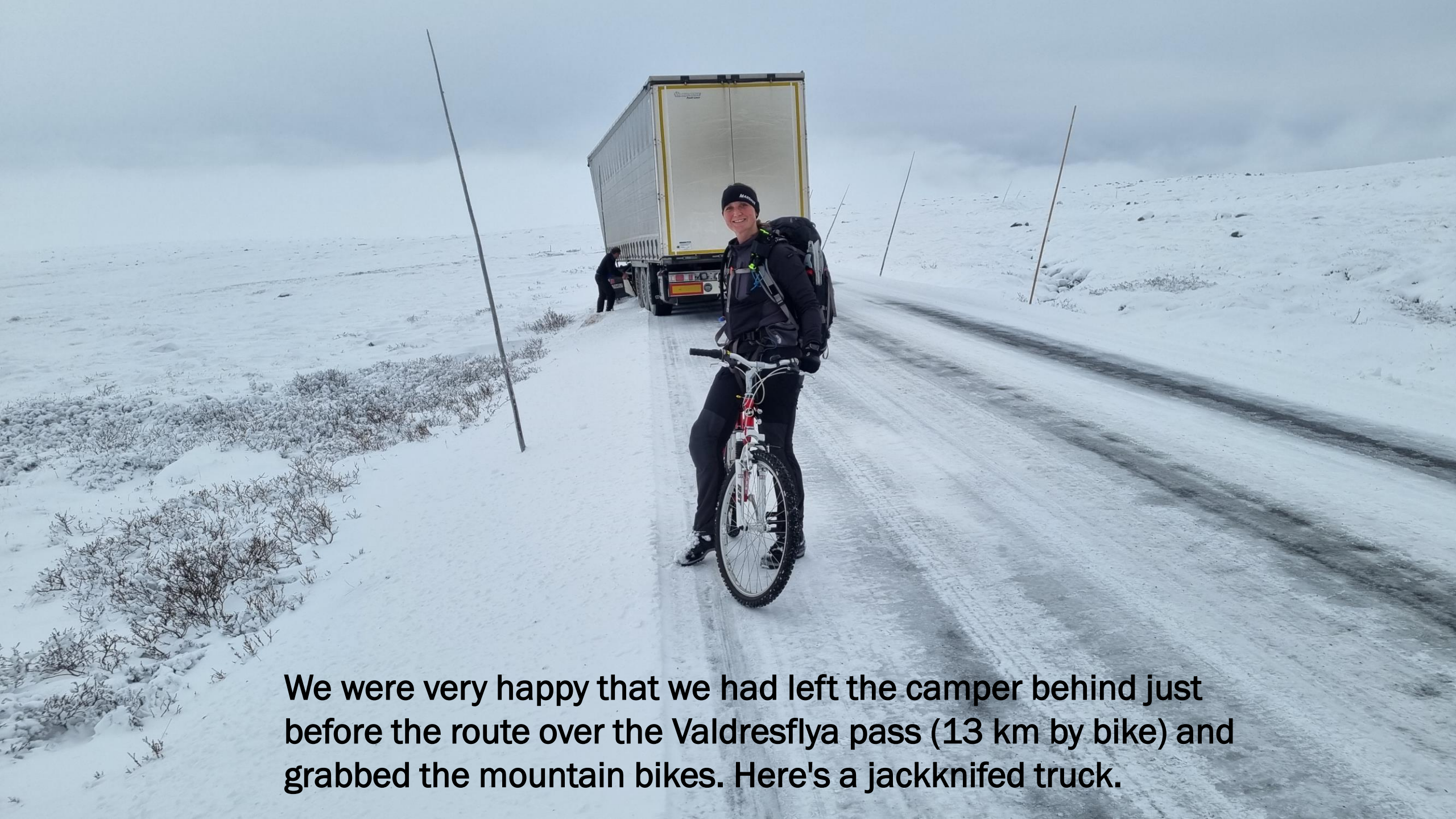
Every piece of equipment at fixed location

Redressing after skating immediately done

Mountainbikes in storage room in the back (used three out of six skating days in Norway)

Always dry socks and shoes for two persons because of heating outlets on the floor





**We were very happy that we had left the camper behind just before the route over the Valdresflya pass (13 km by bike) and grabbed the mountain bikes. Here's a jackknifed truck.**

# Disadvantages

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Long, wide, tall: big chance on damage while driving

Not possible to reach all (high altitude) destinations; then the bikes are needed; or the camper forces you to choose other destination

Need to prepare route to the lake with Google Streetview

Technology demands time and effort: batteries, Lynx computer, SIM-card (delivers notifications), leveler, steps, fridge

Automatic steps on the outside were frozen. We didn't dare to use steps and leveler further on.

With >2 persons: lowering the front bed takes time and decides about going to bed order

Clothes do not get totally dry after rainy day or plurring

Lots of condensation on the front window with three persons in cold night

Charging the batteries of this luxury camper needed to be done every two days. We stayed twice at campings to do that, but the costs and time needed are as high as sleeping in a vandrarhem.

Two ferries (back and forth to Sweden) are 160 euro more expensive for the camper than for one passenger car.

Higher usage of diesel (and diesel is more expensive in Sweden than in Holland)

Every tank stop needs two times filling because of a limit on your credit/debit card at Scandinavian gas stations

The camper needs to refill AdBlue after four diesel fillings and that means an extra filling at the gas station is needed

Belasting op camper is hoog in de Scandinavische winter: veel pekel, steenslag, piepende remmen, vorstimpact op kunststof, bekleding wordt vuil, krassen op vloer door steentjes naar binnen lopen

Camper is allowed to drive 80 in Denmark en Germany. In Norway and Sweden you can drive 100 at the highway, but speed at rural roads is much lower.





Here the road (to the right) is still clean, but the parking lot is not; it was tricky to get away.



# Other issues

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Not carefully thought about the consequences of needed driving license C1 for campers >3500 kg. Companions are not allowed to drive; The C1-driver drove everything alone. Norway was difficult, but it went well. However, to Kiruna, for example, it takes 28 hours, which is not feasible for one driver. Companions (rightly) ask questions about safety and driving times.

What happens if we are in the middle of nowhere and the C1-driver can no longer drive due to injury?

Rob's time management is in trouble. Normally he is the ice seeker while others drive; now that wasn't possible. The second day therefore found less good ice.

Contact at home less often than usual due to lack of time and driving everything alone.

Feeling constantly on guard during maneuvers is strenuous and exhausting after a week.

Already damage (backside hit when driving through the ferry gate) during the first trip doesn't feel good. Nobody can guarantee it won't happen again. Driving up and down the gates as well as the ferry itself is exciting. Resolving damage takes a lot of time, both for the renter and the rental company.

The deposits on the camper, the inside floor, the storage rooms and the equipment are very high in snow and frost. What does the camper look like after a long trip?





Out of six skating days in the Norwegian mountains, we were able to get close to the ice with the camper on one day. In Sweden the average probably is higher.





We had incredible skating days in Norway. Please watch Elisabeth's movie!