

Hammerfest townwalk

Welcome to the Northernmost town in the world: welcome to Hammerfest!

This walk will lead you through the centre of Hammerfest.

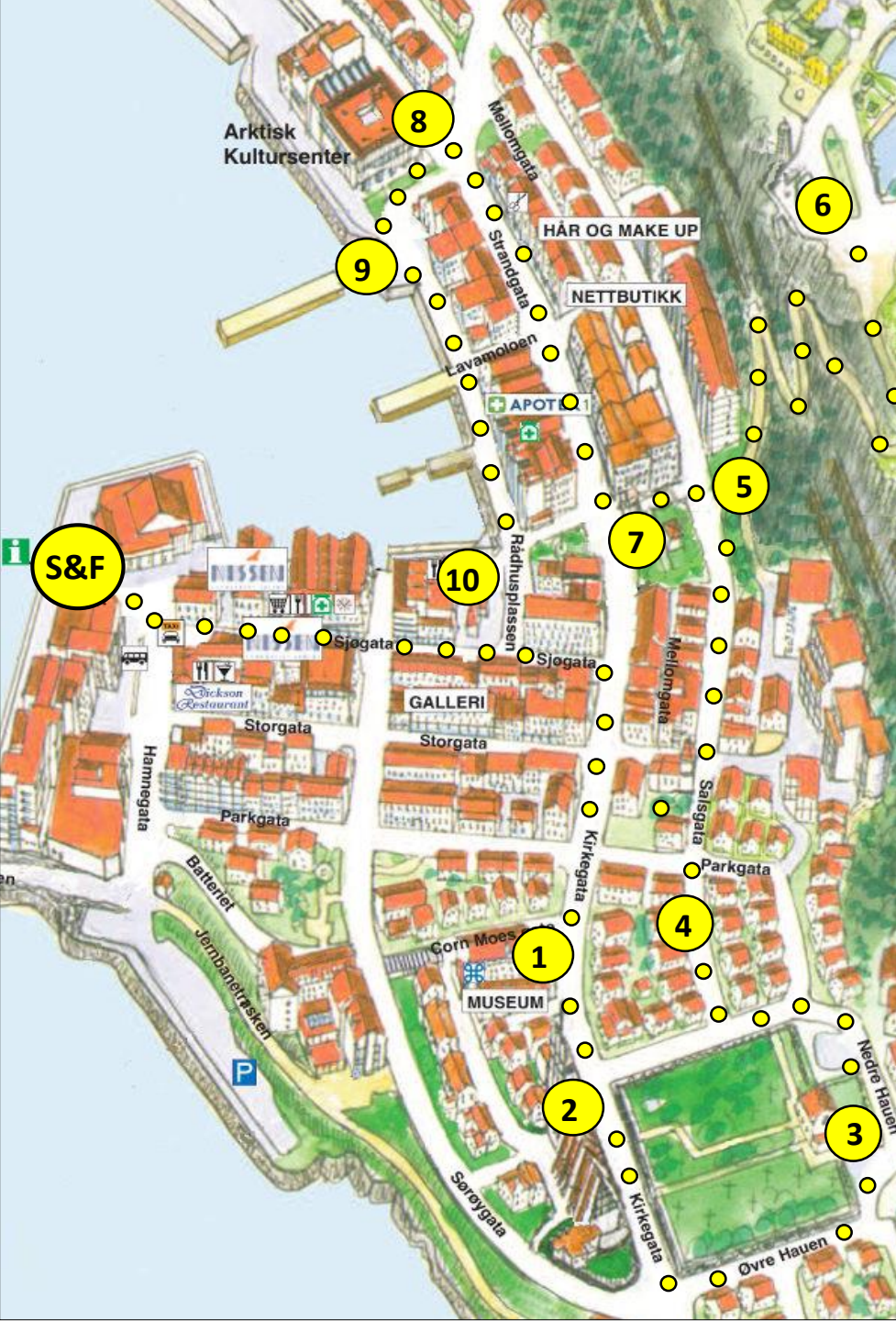
Of course, there is much more to see and to do: you can visit the fishing village of Førso, explore the beautiful islands of Sørøya and Seiland, go fishing and hiking around Hammerfest and enjoy the restaurants and pubs in the centre.

Just ask us at Hammerfest Turist, we are here to help.

The main points of the townwalk *A full description is on the backside!*

S&F.) Start and Finish at the tourist information

- 1.) Museum of Reconstruction
- 2.) Lutheran Church
- 3.) The Old Chapel
- 4.) Reconstruction period houses
- 5.) The trail to the viewpoint
- 6.) Viewpoint
- 7.) Bust of Ole Olsen and Pavillion
- 8.) Catholic Church of Hammerfest
- 9.) Waterfront and Harbor, with the statue of Adolf Henrik Lindstrøm
- 10.) The town square of Hammerfest



Hammerfest Townwalk

Start and Finish are at the tourist information

- *The tourist information is next to the Hurtigruten Pier, at Hamnegata 3. From here, walk along the street «Sjøgata» for about 200 metres to the main street - «Kirkegata». Go right here. Then the first stop is after 150 metres.*

1.) Museum of War and Reconstruction

Hammerfest and Finnmark were almost completely destroyed in the second world war and rebuilt afterwards. This story of war and of rebirth is being told here. Worth a visit!

- *Continue over the street «Kirkegata» to the church, 50 metres ahead.*

2.) Lutheran Church of Hammerfest

The first church in Hammerfest was built in 1620. Town fires, wars and wear and tear made it necessary to build new churches. The current one - the seventh! - was built in 1961. The triangular design was inspired by the wooden racks to dry the fish.

- *From the church, you can see the graveyard on the other side of the street, with a grey chapel in the back. Go right around the graveyard to the chapel.*

3.) The Old Chapel

The Old Chapel, built in 1937, was the only building in Hammerfest to have survived the war.

- *Continue around the graveyard over the street and take the second street on your right hand, it is called «Salsgata».*

4.) Reconstruction period houses

Many of the houses in «Salsgata» were built in the years following the war. The style is well-known: freestanding houses, built of wood.

- *Continue along «Salsgata» for about 250 metres, until you find a trail on your right hand, leading to the top.*

5.) Sikksakkveien

This trail, «Sikksakkveien» - The Zigzagroad - will lead you to the viewpoint on Mount Salen. It is a bit steep, but worth it!

6.) Viewpoint on Mount Salen

Welcome to Mount Salen! From here you can see Hammerfest and the harbor. Further back is the island Melkøya, with an LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) plant. Behind Melkøya, on the horizon, is the large island Sørøya, known to Norwegians as «The Green Island».

- *Go back down Sikksakkveien and cross the street. You will directly find a small park with a pavillion.*

7.) Ole Olsen Park with Music Pavillion

Ole Olsen (1850-1927) was a composer, known for his operas and military marches. His bust is here, close to the main street. The blue music pavillion was designed by local artists. The architecture shows the Russian influence on the town in the 19th century. Notice the polar bears near the roof!

- *Continue towards the main street, called «Kirkegata». Go right here and continue for about 200 metres.*

8.) Catholic Church

On your right hand is the Catholic Church of Hammerfest. It was rebuilt after the war by a priest and volunteers from Germany, and consecrated in 1958. The corner stone, a gift from a Vatican Cardinal, comes from the catacombs near Saint Peter's grave below the Vatican in Rome.

- *From the Catholic Church, cross the main street «Kirkegata and walk towards the waterfront and harbor.*

9.) Waterfront and harbor

The great natural harbor is the reason for Hammerfest's existence. The statue is of Adolf Henrik Lindstrøm, born in Hammerfest, who was with Amundsen on the first voyage to reach the South Pole, in 1911.

- *Go left and follow the waterfront for 200 metres, until the main square.*

10.) Rådhusplassen, the town square of Hammerfest

«Rådhusplassen» - Townhall Square - is the heart of the town. Notice the polar bears guarding the the town hall (the white building), and the work of art showing a fisher boat trapped in the ice. Life can be harsh here.

- *The townwalk finishes again at the tourist information. Visit the Polar Bear Society to learn more about the history of Hammerfest.*