

Welcome



We are one of the main 15 landowners in Malum/Winsnes fishing area, which is one of the best in the river Gaula and has salmon fishing history back to 1882. That is the reason why the Discovery Channel chose Storstuu Winsnes and the Malum/Winsnes fishing area for the summer 2004 filming of salmon fishing for North Atlantic salmon.

Winsnes Fly Fishing Lodge

Storstuu Winsnes (storstuu means 'big house') has been a home to the Winsnes family for hundreds of years. Traditionally a farm, today it is a modern guesthouse and fishing lodge offering full and half board accommodation.

Originally part of a much larger farm occupied by several Winsnes families, during the late seventeenth century when the families outgrew their surroundings, the original farm was split into several smaller farms, including Storstuu Winsnes. The buildings at Storstuu Winsnes go back to the seventeenth century (parts of the barns and outbuildings), the eighteenth century (summerhouse) and the nineteenth century (the main farmhouse).

It can be a place for simple relaxation or, for those who want a more active visit, a place to fish, hunt, horseback ride or use as a base for wilderness excursions. Perfect for weekend breaks or for longer holidays, Winsnes weaves a special magic and guests rarely visit just once!

Winsnes is famous for the quality of its food – a mixture of traditional Norwegian and international cuisine. British touches can be seen on the menu – British tea and marmite at breakfast being prime examples!

Winsnes was built in 1882. From approx. 1890 to 1910 the house was used for the English 'salmon lords' who began to visit the Gaula during this period. A number of pictures and other paraphernalia can still be seen from this period.

Built from traditional Norwegian wood, the house has been extended and modernized with a large ground floor kitchen, a spacious dining area and lounge. In high summer, most guests sit outside in the courtyard to sit and chat, drink wine or gin and tonic. All six bedrooms are on the first floor with shared or single occupancy possible. Some but not all of the rooms are en-suite. There is one toilet on ground floor and two toilets, showers and bathroom on the first floor.

Winsnes Fly Fishing Lodge – Salmon Fishing Lodge since 1882

Located next to the famous Gaula River, Winsnes Fly Fishing Lodge offers some of the best fishing available on Europe's best Salmon River.

The name Winsnes is known from the 13 century. The name probably comes from the water stream Vinda which is "winding" from the lake Vindtjønnna. Where the stream Vinda meets Gaula, it makes a headland (a "nes" in Norwegian). Originally it was 1 farm called Winsnes, but now it is actually 6 Winsnes farms. The original Winsnes farm is 1 km north of the place where Storstuu Winsnes Fishing Lodge is located. Sport fishing for salmon has been a tradition at the Winsnes Farm since the nineteenth century.

Winsnes received its first fishing visitors from England in 1882, the same year that the famous Green Highlander fly was invented in Great Britain. The visitors, members of the British gentry (known by the Norwegians as 'salmon lords'), no doubt used the Green Highlander fly extensively and it remains one of the top patterns on the Gaula River to this day.

The modern day green highlander embodies all the key components of the original fully-dressed salmon fly but has been thoroughly overhauled by modern Scandinavian fly-fishers to make it a cutting edge pattern – we like to think Winsnes embodies these virtues too and that is why have such a close affinity to this famous fly.

Today, the Winsnes Fly Fishing Lodge is still owned by the Winsnes family and caters for the modern generation of hardcore salmon fishers. The lodge is located next to statistically the best salmon fishing river in Europe: Gaula has always been famous, not just for the sheer numbers of salmon she produces (over 6000 in 2006) but also for big fish (average size around fourteen to sixteen pounds). Every year salmon weighing more than twenty kilos (forty pounds) are hooked on the Gaula.

In addition to offering fishing in the Winsnes fishing area, we are also part of the salmon fishing rotation run by Gaula Fly Fishing Friends. Fishing is exclusively reserved for sixteen rods each week with ten pools to fish including, of course, the Winsnes pools.

Guests at the farm can stay on a full or half board basis, with meals arranged around creating the least disruption to prime fishing times. In the early summer, (June/July) guests can fish all night and make the most of Norway's famous midnight sun!

Winsnes Today - 24 Hour Fishing

In high summer it is possible to fish for salmon 24 hours a day and, while none of our guests have so far managed a week of 24 hour fishing, a good few have tried! At Winsnes we expect our guests to come and go at all times of the day and night – we encourage them to do so.

Meal times are arranged to suit the best fishing times.

Fly Fishing on the Gaula & Surrounding Area



Salmon Fly Fishing

Officially ranked as Europe's number one Salmon River, the Gaula offers both quantity and quality of salmon. One of the few rivers in the world where your next cast might result in a forty-pound salmon, Gaula has fish that average between fourteen and sixteen pounds in weight.

In 2005 the Gaula became the best salmon fishing river in Norway with a catch of 37.5 tons.

Salmon Fishing: Fishing the Gaula

Gaula Fishing on the Malum Winsnes Fishing Area

Fishing takes place on the Gaula River and our guests enjoy some of the best fly water the river has to offer. Winsnes is part of the Malum Winsnes fishing area, a special zone owned and controlled by local land owners. The Malum Winsnes area has jointly operated the fishing zone since the late eighteen hundreds when the salmon lords arrived. The landowners are bound together by a special covenant that prevents the river from being broken up into smaller sections, the idea being that landowners work together to offer fishing rights on a much longer section of river. This is good news for visitors, ensuring that the river is open and available to fishing and that minor local interests do not interfere. In short, the Malum Winsnes fishing project was way ahead of its time and remains a fine model for modern Norwegian landowners to follow.

Fishing on Malum Winsnes is four very special pools and these are complimented by rights to fish ten other pools located outside the Malum Winsnes fishing zone. The Malum Winsnes pools include the most famous pool on Gaula, kroken (or 'the crook' in English). Kroken is so revered in salmon fishing circles that it is an ambition of many fishermen simply to be able to fish there. Other pools include Lillestrom (Pronounced lilly-strum), Oksoy (pronounced Ox-soya) and Kjellfue (pronounced shell-flu-a). All of these pools have excellent catch statistics and the Malum Winsnes fishing area forms the backbone of the larger GFF fishing area with around fifty percent of the annual return.

Rotation Fishing

Rotation fishing is exclusive, allowing visitors to fish in pairs on some of the best water on the whole river and not to have to worry about other anglers (note that on pool 4 we occasionally get fishermen on the far bank). There are four pools on the Winsnes fishing area and nine other pools located in the surrounded area. In total, our guests fish thirteen pools on an organized rotation basis because we are allied to Gaula Fly Fishing Friends (GFF).

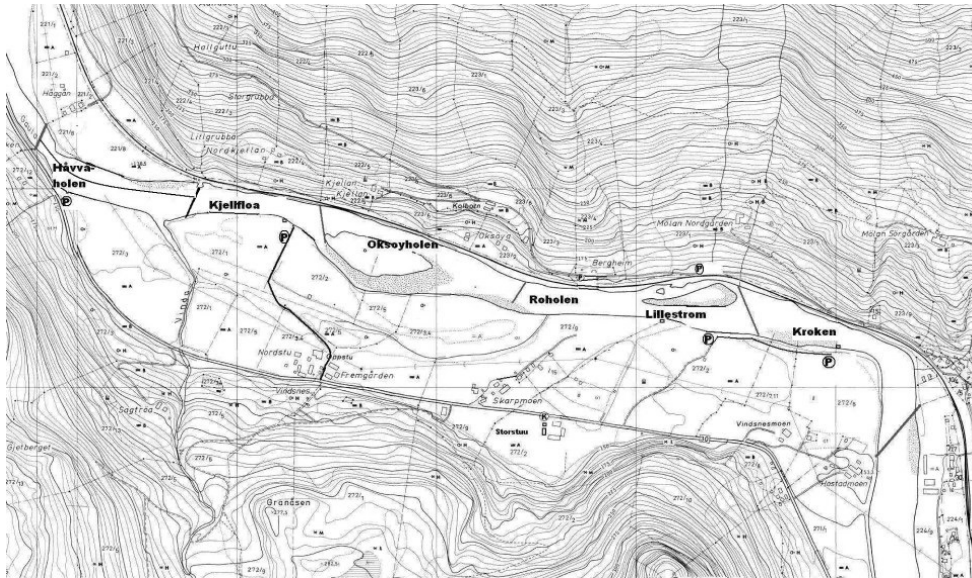
Pools are fished for six hours before moving on to another one, meaning that our guests fish four different pools every 24 hours. In this way, each guest is guaranteed to be fishing good water almost continuously. Of course, some pools will always fish better than others (the best pools vary according to water height and conditions) but the rotation system ensures that guests will fish top-performing pools every day. The rotation organizes 24 anglers into twelve groups of two. Each group fishes four pools every day in six hour shifts – genuine 24 hour fishing if you want it!

Guests arrive on Sunday with fishing from six in the evening until the following Sunday at midday.

Salmon Fishing: GFF Fishing Area and Pools

The GFF (Gaula Fly Fishing Friends) salmon fishing beats are widely acknowledged as among the best fly pools on the river and it is arguable that they represent the cream of Gaula fly water.

The pools are spread from the Malum Winsnes fishing area down to a short drive from the town of Støren. All of the pools produce salmon every season though they tend to fish at different water levels and some are more prolific than others. Most of the pools are on the left hand bank looking downstream with a few of the pools on the right bank.



Stadion (left bank)

Stadion is several hundred meters long and among the best pools on Gaula. Easy to fish, the productive middle section is around thirty meters wide at high water. It has several prime holding lies and it fishes at all water levels from low to high. It has a pacy head (where many fish are caught) followed by a short medium width run that is perfect for intercepting running fish and also has holding lies. The upper pool at stadion is more difficult to fly fish but it does hold a lot of fish and it produces salmon every year.

The lower pool is under-fished but productive with several lies toward the lower section.

Engan (right bank)

Another very long pool, especially good at high water near the head where the fish tend to lie against a large rock. Around forty to fifty meters wide at high water, Engan favors long casters due to its width.

The lower part of this several hundred meters long stretch of water is broken and pacy, making it good for medium to low water.

Langora (right bank)

This is the only pool on the rotation that offers occasional trouble with far bank fishermen which is a pity because it is a very productive pool indeed. Several hundred meters long, the best part is right at the head which is narrow and very fast opening into a widening neck. Lower down, Langora becomes more sluggish and wide but this section, though tough to fish, is productive for both salmon and sea trout, especially at the tail of the pool. The head of Langora is very good for single hand fishing because it is quite narrow.

Rottum (right bank)

A less popular pool because it has boulder strewn banks and difficult water. It is, however, one of those pools with very fast flowing turbulent water and as such is a decent pool in low water. If fished more, Rottum would produce many more fish.

Pools three and four (right bank)

These pools are joined together and classed as one pool for the purposes of fishing. Comprising the lower part of pool 5 (Saeter) on its far bank and the head of the next pool down, the pair gives anglers a tail and a head to fish. To get to the pools you have to take a row boat from pool five making them less popular but they are productive and should never be underestimated, especially in low water.

Saeter (left bank)

One of the best pools on the rotation, Saeter is a long, even paced glide in stunning surroundings. It has a fast head with broken water that runs alongside some rock faces before emptying into a deep sluggish pool. This is a great holding area. Lower down, in the middle area of the pool, some large rocks are found in mid-river and these too always hold fish. The lower part of the pool is another good place, comprising a shallowing even paced glide. A must fish pool with a reputation for producing big salmon.

Bridge (right bank)

Bridge, as its name suggests, is a long pool with a road bridge going over it. The most productive fishing is in the first fifty meters below the turbulent head and down to the bridge itself where a mid-water rock is an obvious lie. Below the bridge the water is deep and slow for some several hundred meters but at the tail it shallows and picks up again. An unpredictable pool that has produced some big fish in low and high water but one that tends to fish best at higher levels.

Kjellflue (left bank)

Another great pool, Kjellflue is very long and wide with the possibility of hooking a fish anywhere from the top the head to the tip of the tail. The head is fast, broken water, with the fish being channeled under the angler's own bank, making long casting unnecessary. In the middle of the glide, the fish have a crossing point, moving from the far to the near bank. This place, located opposite some flat rock faces is another hotspot. The tail of the pool, famous for the big rock on the far side is a real holding spot – there are always fish here and it is one of the most productive pools on the fishery.

Oksoy (left bank)

Oksoy is a really beautiful pool, located on an island. It has a huge fishing shelter offering a panoramic view of this super pool. Oksoy is one of the best pools in low water because it is pacy throughout its several hundred meters length. The head is broken and turbulent, a good holding place comprising as neck below that gradually widens and

also holds fish. The middle and lower parts of the pool are wide and difficult to fish at high water but nonetheless offer chances with running fish. A joy to fly fish, especially in medium to low water.

Lillestrom (fishing off both banks)

Lillestrom used to be part of the public fishing zone but has been moved onto the GFF rotation for 2008. A long pool, Lillestrom has the lot – a far bank island, a very fast, narrow head and a long, streamy lower part interspersed with boulders that tend to provide short-term lies for running fish. Fishing is on both banks, with both sides being productive. Lillestrom does not hold as many fish as some of the other pools but it has a reputation for big fish and it is a great pool to fish when the salmon are running.

Kroken (left bank)

The jewel in the crown of the Gaula, Kroken is always number seven on the rotation because it has been so lucky for so many. A classic pool that fishes at all water heights, it produces lots of fish and big fish. The water comes down through a fast cascade into a widening pool at a right angle. The pool is several hundred meters long, widening as it goes, with a good even-paced current and plenty of boulders to provide lies. A joy to fish, Kroken gives the fly a classic swing and allows it to almost fish itself. One of the salmon pools everyone should fish before they die!



Fly Fishing: Catch Statistics

Highlights, 2008

The good fishing on Gaula that predominated from the beginning of the season continued until the end. The Gaula has enjoyed a record season, experiencing good water levels and a fantastic run of fish.

GFF had a record season, producing over 2.7 tonnes of salmon over the thirteen week period. The total number of fish caught was 507, a total boosted by excellent fishing not only in the traditional prime weeks of late June and July but also in early June and in August. Indeed, the end of August held up very well, aided by regular top-ups to water levels and mini-floods.

The Malum Winsnes fishing area accounted for 213 of the 507 fish catch - a fantastic result that underlines the importance of the 4 Winsnes pools to the thirteen pool rotation.

The statistics for the pools is as follows:

Kroken - 95 fish

Oksoy - 31 fish

Kjellfloa - 54 fish

Lillestrom - 31 fish

What makes the season so remarkable is the consistency of sport with August producing an average of forty fish a week to boost already healthy totals.

Silver Release Shirts

As promised, Winsnes is giving away some catch and release shirts to guests who release their first Gaula salmon. Sponsored by Guideline, the shirts have got Winsnes/Guideline logos on the front and 'Let them Swim - Silver Release' on the back. The shirts have proved to be a great success and there is quite a competition among guests to own the coveted shirt. They are not for sale, though, because you have to release a salmon to get one...

Week 27 -Allan's First from Gaula

This week Winsnes is host to a group from Sportfish UK. The group, comprising seven Brits is taking part in a new program that combines fishing with tuition. The casting tuition, to learn modern spay (underhand) is being provided by Jan Erik Granbo.

On Monday night, group leader, Allan Sheppard, caught a fish weighing 10.5 kilos while being guided by Matt Hayes. The fish gave a thirty minute fight and was caught at one o' clock in the morning from the Stadion pool. Allan, who has fished Gaula on two occasions in the past, released the male fish in good condition. Well done, Allan!



The rest of the week was very hard. With temperatures soaring into the high twenties every day, the river shrank and the temperature of the water more than doubled. Fish were in the river but inevitably they were reluctant to take. The week finished with around 35 fish, most caught at the beginning.

Week 24 - Gaula Record!

Week 24 was a record week for the Gaula, the best week 24 so far with sixty fish recorded on the Winsnes/GFF pools. The average size of the fish was around 9.5 kilos. Biggest fish off Gaula to date has been seventeen kilos but there are reports of some monster fish being hooked and lost on our pools.

Menno van Damme from Holland, staying at Winsnes or the second year running did very well. Over a two week period, Menno landed salmon to over twelve kilos with a total of ten fish caught and seven lost. Most of Menno's fish were released. A consultant for the Sage tackle company, Menno prefers early season on Gaula and his judgment was certainly justified in style. Well done, Menno!

Since writing this, we have received a letter of thanks from Menno which is as follows:

Opening Day 2008

Gaula Kicks Off in Style!

Opening day on the Gaula produced a number of salmon hooked caught and lost on the GFF pools. Low water levels in the previous week had allowed a number of salmon to pass through the Gaulfosse and the middle and upper beats benefited as a result.

At this time of the year the river levels fluctuate wildly according to the weather - cool weather causes the river to drop while bright, hot, sunny conditions cause the snow to melt and the river to swell. Opening night saw very high water but, importantly, the fish were already through the fosse. By opening morning the river had dropped by almost a metre and fish responded immediately.

A huge fish was lost on the Winsnes pool, Lillestrom, and several salmon were caught. The biggest fish so far was caught on Engan at 13 kilos.

Jakob Winsnes stole the show by going out to make a few casts to celebrate the new season. Fishing Malum Winsnes' famous pool, Kroken, Jakob hooked a big fish on his third cast. The salmon took a Green Highlander variant tied by Matt Hayes and took around half an hour to subdue.



Jakob Winsnes with Opening Day 10.5 kilos salmon



Jakob Returns the Hen Fish to the Gaula

The hen fish was estimated at around 10.5 kilos and to his credit, Jakob released the fish in good condition. A textbook capture and release, the fish was netted, rather than being dragged onto the bank and she swam away really strongly after a few snaps to celebrate the event.

Well Done Jakob (you jammy so and so!)

Important - New Catch Limits in Norway

Recent important changes have been made in Norway regarding the number of salmon that anglers are allowed to take from the rivers. In a groundbreaking new initiative, not only have limits been imposed on all Norwegian rivers but also the fisheries minister has declared that it **is** legal to catch and release fish in Norway. On Gaula, the new limit is one fish per day per angler, three fish in a week and a maximum of ten fish per season.

This is great news for Norway's salmon rivers and will almost certainly improve stocks.

Whilst the amount of netting both offshore and in estuaries remains a major concern, the angling community is showing its commitment to conservation.

It is fair to say that the new move will not prove popular with all salmon fishers whom live in and visit Norway, notably the wormers and spinners, but it will undoubtedly be hugely popular with the majority of fly fishers. At Winsnes we are supporting the new catch and release initiative and we are encouraging our customers to do the same.

Winsnes Lodge Supports New Catch and Release Initiative

Winsnes Lodge is fully in support of the new catch limits on the Gaula. For some time we have made a voluntary contribution to the Trondheimsfjord netting buy out and any constructive move aimed at improving the salmon fishing gets our vote.

Winsnes Director of fishing, Matt Hayes comments 'We welcome the new catch limits and we are very keen to support the new legislation by asking our guests to return as many fish as possible.'

To this end, Winsnes is going to provide its guests with nets and unhooking mats for the duration of their visit and we will be also providing t-shirts to our guests when they release their first Gaula salmon. The shirts are being co-sponsored by the Guideline Company.

What our customers have to say:

Kampen, June 2008.

To the river Gaula and the house of Winsnes.

Two excellent weeks of salmon fishing wears you out! So much that you forget to write your feelings in the guestbook. To share feelings, thoughts and love for a fishery and its people. I'm sorry that I've missed the book, please put this letter into it.

I have enjoyed two weeks that went for beyond my expectations. You can dream about great catches, a falling river, fresh fish on the move, beautiful people and a home away from home. But then when it happens you find yourself into such a flow, that you almost don't realize what is happening. This is what happened to me during my stay at Winsnes in week 24 and 25 of 2008.

The fishing was challenging! Big fish were running deep; the river was high. A fishery demanding fast sinking lines and big flies. My cup of tea. I had my most successful week of salmon fishing in week 24. Everything worked for me.

It all came together in that week. Hooking 8 fish and landing 7, with an average weight of just over 10kg. When you come to Norway to fish salmon that's more than you may expect and certainly more than I deserve....

Salmon dominate salmon fishing trips. The people you meet dominate your feeling. That the way I feel about it. I've met the most wonderful people during my stay in the Gaula valley and especially at the Winsnes farm. A place filled with the love and care of dedicated people. A house of people who look after each other and they most certainly will take care of you! I felt at home. Found two weeks of happiness that filled my memories.

Many thanks to Ann-Bjorg and Jacob, to Anne-Marit and Matt for being such a great host and friend. Special thanks to the ladies; Lisa, Anita and Eirin for their smiles.

I hope to hear from you soon, to meet you again in good health and happiness. Skitt fiske. Have a good year.

God bless all of you!

Menno van Dam

Burgwal 99-II

8261 ET Kampen

The Netherlands

"Big powerful river with powerful Salmon, Great holiday, Gillie's and the lodge was right on the mark and a big thank you to Jacob and his family for making us feel like home."

Matt Halls

"Fantastic Salmon fishing highly recommend it."

John Walker

"Thank you to all the staff and the gillie's for taking good care of us. The 8 hours a day Grilling is defiantly worth the extra as the fishing is so different to Scottish and Irish rivers. "

Paul Mercer

Suggested Itinerary

8 - Days / 6 - Days Fishing

<p>Day 1 (Sunday)</p>	<p>At Trondheim Airport you will pick up your prearranged Hire Car. You will be provided with easy to use maps to drive yourself to Winsnes Farm. You will also be able to follow back our Winsnes Lodge staff member, a driving time of around 1 hours 20 minutes is normal.</p> <p>After arriving at Winsnes, meet your guide over coffee and receive welcome pack. At this stage you can arrange extra activities and anglers can book casting instruction.</p> <p>Fishing commences at midnight on the day following your arrival (in other words, the same night that you check in!)</p> <p>Overnight accommodation: Winsnes Farm F/B</p>
<p>Day 2 to 7</p>	<p>After breakfast depart for full days Fishing with your guide. Fish in pairs on private beat. Fish a new pool every six hours.</p> <p>Overnight accommodation: Winsnes Farm F/B</p>
<p>Day 8 (Sunday)</p>	<p>In the morning drive yourself back to Trondheim Airport and drop off car.</p>

What's Included & Excluded

Options	What's Included.	What's Excluded
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car Rental • International Flights • Guiding – one guide for two anglers 8 Hours per day. • Trip insurance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road maps • 7 nights' accommodation at Winsnes Farm F/B • Private beat fishing • Light Guiding • All required fishing permits. • Disinfection certificate • Meet and Greet at Airport • Full Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petrol • Drinks • Personal items • Local Tips

Note: Prices are per person and are based on two people sharing, accommodation, transfers and fishing. Please be advised these prices may fluctuate due to changes in flights and exchange rates.

Getting to Winsnes

From Trondheim airport the drive to Winsnes is around one and quarter hours using just two roads, the E6 and road 30. We are happy to arrange to meet guests at the airport.

Guests driving to Winsnes will need to have some Norwegian Kroner. There are two toll booths along the way, located on the E6 and the toll prices in 2007 are 10 and 25 kr.

Storstuu Winsnes Fishing Lodge is located halfway between **Trondheim** (75km) and **Røros** (80km) on the main RV 30 road.

From the E6 at **Støren** take the RV 30 for 22 km towards **Røros**. The commune is named **Midtre Gauldal** in the district of **Singsås**.

