

Welcome to Asker!

Where we live means a lot to us. Why we live exactly where we live, is sometimes carefully considered and planned, other times more random. Regardless why you just moved to Asker municipality, I hope that you will find yourself at home and enjoy your everyday life in Asker.

Asker municipality stretch from Tofte in the south, to Billingstad in the north after we became a new municipality January 1st 2020, when former Hurum, Røyken and Asker merged.

At the time of the merger, the new municipality had 94.500 inhabitants, spread over about 28.000 homes. Asker is also a popular destination for tourism and leisure, with over 4.000 holiday homes, many of them in the southern part of the municipality.

Wherever you are in Asker, the fjord, the forest, and the fields are never far away. These surroundings offer many opportunities, especially for various activities, and for recreation in the nature. Asker also has long and proud agricultural traditions, which characterizes both the cultural landscape and our local identity.

The coastline, the fjord, forests, fields and flower meadows - and centrally located between Oslo and Drammen. This combination makes Asker attractive for establishing housing, trade, and business. Given these unique qualities, we also need to ensure a balance between growth and protection. We must therefore be constantly aware of how our choices and our lifestyle affect our surroundings - both locally and globally, and in the short and long term. Asker was among the very first municipalities in Norway to work systematically with the UN's sustainability goals, which are goals for social, economic, and environmental sustainability. The goals are with us both in our daily politics and administrative work, and in the long-term planning and our strategic work.

Most Norwegian municipalities have adopted a set of values that define their identity and objectives. Generous, near, brave and creative are the values we hope will characterize Asker. We aim to be a municipality with generous employees and residents who wish each other well. The value near is a promise that services are there when you need it, but also express an ambition to see and know each other. The best we can do, is to be there for each other, care about each other and our local communities so that everyone can thrive and feel at home. We are brave when we expand our perspective and see ourselves as part of something bigger. We show courage when we welcome new ideas and are creative when we find solutions - together.

We want Asker to be a place where it is easy to get involved, and it should be easy to get in touch with both politicians and those who work in the municipality. In my work as a mayor, I find that Lene-timen gives me useful knowledge and inspiration. Lene-timen is an opportunity to those who live in Asker to sit down for an informal chat with me to share their ideas or worries – and happens about once a month.

Citizenship has been named one of Asker municipality's main areas of activity. That is because we believe that we get the best results when we work together - citizens, business, volunteering and the municipality. Our "Innbyggertorg" are hubs for much of the local involvement, activities, and also where the local community committees have their meetings.

You probably already had a look at our website - asker.kommune.no. This is where you will find information about everything from political meetings to the swimming pools' opening hours, and forms and contact information to different departments. On the website, in social media and in Askermagasinet which is sent to your house four times a year, you will also find news and information about activities that takes place in the municipality. We consider ourselves lucky to have

two devoted local newspapers, RHA and Budstikka, which reports on major as well as minor current affairs regarding Asker.

In Asker we certainly have a lot to be proud of - and fond of. We are lucky to have such a great diversity and many choices. I hope you will feel at home here in Asker!

Yours sincerely,
Lene Conradi, Mayor