

## **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 of 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 stretches from Tofte in the south, to Billingstad in the north. In 2024, the number of inhabitants is 98,815. Asker is also a popular destination for tourism and leisure, with over 4.000 holiday homes.

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. You will find a large selection of marked trails and trip suggestions on ut.no, or in the app with the same name. Asker also has long and proud agricultural traditions, which characterizes both the cultural landscape and our local identity.

Coastline, fjord and lakes, forest, fields - and a central location between Oslo and Drammen. Asker has it all! 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.

Asker was among the very first municipalities in Norway to start working systematically with the UN's sustainability goals, which are goals for social, economic, and environmental sustainability. We want to be a municipality where it should be easy to make environmentally friendly choices in everyday life.

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. In the municipality, we also have our own digital citizens' panel, where you can register and express your opinion through surveys and user tests.

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, volunteers and the municipality. Our "Innbyggertorg" are hubs for a lot of local involvement. Visit your closest "Innbyggertorg" to find activities!

You have probably already visited [asker.kommune.no](http://asker.kommune.no). Here you can find information on everything from political meeting activities to the swimming pools' opening times, forms and contact information for various services. On the website, in social media and in Askermagasinet, which is sent to your letterbox three to four times a year, you will also find information about much of what is happening 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 a diversity of opportunities in sports, culture and volunteering.

Every day there are many activities available for young and old. You can find a lot on the website [Hva sker i Asker](#), Asker kulturhus and Slemmestad MEK. If you like to read books, we have a total of six libraries in the municipality. A lot of activity takes place here during the day and evening, and everything is free!

The values that we want Asker to be characterize by are generous, brave, close and creative. It defines our identity and our mission. We strive to be a municipality with generous employees and residents who wants the best for each other. Being close is about security for services when you need them, but also about seeing and knowing each other. The best thing we can do is to be there for each other, and care about each other and our local communities, so that everyone can live good lives. We are brave when we look up and see ourselves as part of something bigger. We have the courage to welcome new ideas and are creative when we find new solutions together.

I hope you will feel at home here in Asker!

Yours sincerely,  
Lene Conradi, Mayor