



The [Norwegian Tourist Museum](#) has honored Erling Storrusten with a biography—dated April 12, 2011—which is maintained at its website.

Hereafter is a loose translation (from Norwegian into English) of the museum's [article about Erling](#):

*Erling Storrusten, who was born in 1923, became a central figure in Norwegian tourism. He was managing director at "Landslaget for reiselivet" [Association for Tourism] in Norway from 1963 to 1970 and director of the Norwegian Automobile Association from 1971 to 1986.*

*His entrance into the travel industry is a special story.*

*As a schoolboy in Lillehammer, he became a courier for Milorg [the Norwegian Resistance] during 1942. In the fall of 1944, the Germans moved their main quarters for 360,000 men from Rovaniemi to Lillehammer. They requisitioned the Lillehammer Tourist Hotel [for that purpose] and twenty additional nearby residential buildings.*

*Storrusten was able to provide military intelligence about the layout of the German headquarters at Lillehammer. Adopting a kind of "mindless" expression, and walking around with sacks of boiled potatoes, he pretended to be someone who just wanted to trade [food for trinkets] with the prisoners. The German guards allowed this apparently harmless young man to roam around the facility, and so he was able to chart the whole area.*

*In March of 1945, he had to hastily escape to Sweden. Immediately after, he flew to Britain. The plan was for him to parachute over Norway, but then the war ended. He enrolled in the Norwegian Air Force and did not demobilize after the war. Instead, he was stationed at Fornebu.*

*Thereafter [among other things] he was head of booking at DNL and European SAS in Copenhagen, then at the main office for SAS [Scandinavian Airlines] in Stockholm between 1951-1953. From 1954 to 1957, he was chief of sales training in the same city, and from 1958 was the district manager for SAS Egypt and Libya...*

The image depicts Erling Storrusten during later life.

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