

# Saksun Tjørnuvík

Saksun is one of the most beautiful and distinct places in the Faroe Islands. The trip to the lovely neighbouring village of Tjørnuvík is an unforgettable experience

The route starts at the parking lot below Dúvugarðar, located on the north-easterly side of the great gorge in Saksun. Dúvugarðar is a several hundred years-old listed farmhouse, which now functions as a museum.

Walk about 50 metres and turn right when you have crossed the bridge at Skipá, and walk about 2-300 metres uphill through the infield along the river.

When you get into the outfield, climb the first hill - about 30 vertical metres, around the same height as the start of the waterfall. From here, you need to look diagonally upwards towards the northeast. On the hill in the horizon you see a cairn about one kilometre away. Use it as a landmark. During the first 200 metres, you walk in roughly the same height and then reach the path that leads up to the cairn.

Saksun is one of the most beautiful places in the Faroe Islands. The place is simply wonderful, with a beautiful lagoon surrounded by sand in the fjord. The tall mountains give the area an air of mystery, but not least unimaginable beauty. The fjord used to be a

good natural harbour, but after a heavy storm in the 1600s, the fjord was blocked with sand.

On the way up to the cairn, the path may be indistinguishable in some places, but when you reach the cairn itself ❶, there is a cairn path all the way to Tjørnuvík. The cairns will lead you in a more easterly direction towards the area Frammi í Dal, where the river, Gellingará, meanders down through the valley. There is a special tranquillity here that ensures peace of mind and a smile on your face.

You now come to Tjørnuvíksskarð and the path goes slightly uphill. On Tjørnuvíksskarð ❷, there is a beautiful view to the north of Eysturoy. From here, you see the characteristic rock pillars, Risin and Kellingin (Giant and Witch). The story of these two is that they were sent to the Faroe Islands to drag the islands to Iceland. The giant was standing in the sea, while his wife climbed up the mountain Eiðiskollur to tie the Faroe Islands together so that the giant could pull the islands away. She then set off so hard that the north of Eiðiskollur cracked. The preparations took



longer than expected, and as the two were about to go back home to Iceland, the sun rose and turned the pair to stone.

Here, you also have a view of Slætтарatindur and Gráfelli, which - with their respective heights of 880 and 856 meters - are the two tallest mountains in the Faroe Islands.

Follow the cairns all the way down to Tjørnuvík. The densely settled village is a very beautiful and

## FACTS

**Duration:** Two and a half to three hours

**Distance:** Six to seven km

**Difficulty:** Moderate. Somewhat difficult from Saksun and up to the first cairn

**Maximum height:** 522 m

**Children:** The route is suitable for children

**Surface:** Grass path. In some places stones and rocks the first leg. Then cairn path, mostly with grass surface

**Map:** 312

charming part of the Faroe Islands. Tjørnuvík is known for its special hymn singing, the Kingo-songs, which is an ancient hymn tradition that originates from the Danish hymn writer Thomas Kingo. The village has a choir that performs Kingo hymns. Tjørnuvík also has a nice sandy beach and striking waves that attract many visitors.

