

CIVIL & ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS OF NORWAY

"Norge er et rike" -- Norway is a kingdom.

et FYLKE Norway is divided into 19 fylker, one of which is the city of Oslo. This corresponds to a state in the United States.

et DISTRIKT Within a fylke there are often found one or more districts, whose names have old historical significance. These districts are often synonymous with judicial and ecclesiastical districts.

en KOMMUNE Each fylke (and distrikt respectively) is divided into kommuner. The number varies from fylke to fylke.

You may want to think of the Norwegian districts as counties and the kommuner as townships, although this belies the weighty administrative responsibilities that Norwegian kommuner have. Since even a kommune has areas of historical significance in addition to several school districts within it, I prefer to think of the kommune as the equivalent (closest) to our county.

et PRESTEGJELD The Norwegian word for parish, this indicates the area/^{of responsibility} described in a pastor's call.

et SOGN/SOKN The individual church within the parish. The main church is the hovedsogn and the others are often called annekskirker, at least when they first organize.

en SOGNEPREST The pastor of the parish (prestegjeld).

et KAPELL A small sideroom in the sognekirke OR a small church^(chapel), often in an outlying area.

en KAPELLAN The assistant pastor in a parish.

et PROSTI Parishes are grouped into prostier, served by en prost.

et BISPEDØMME Norway's prostier group together into several bispedømmer, each served by en biskop.