

Sailing the

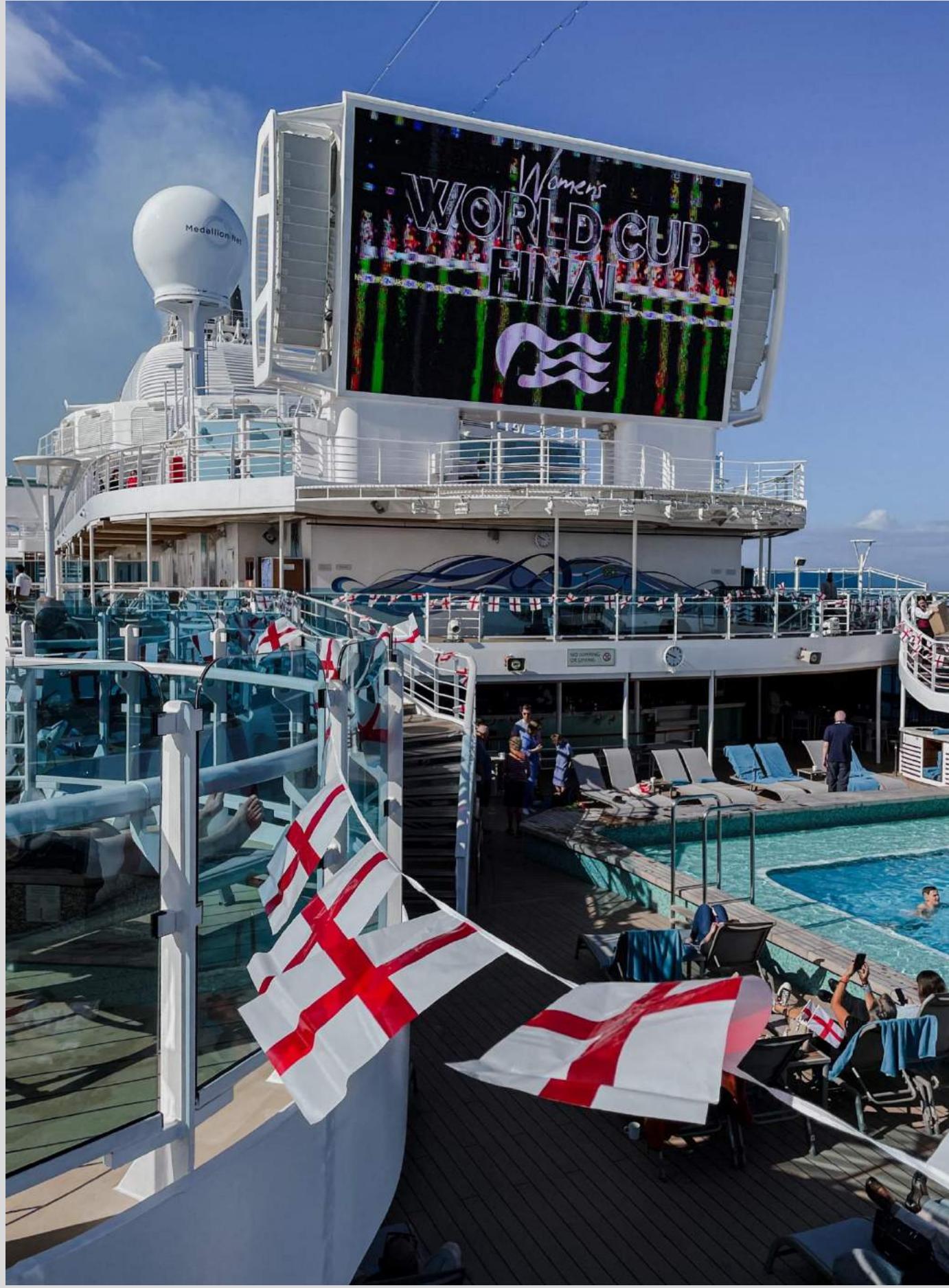
Norwegian Sea





Sailing the Norwegian Sea

<https://youtu.be/Y24B8K3tJhE>



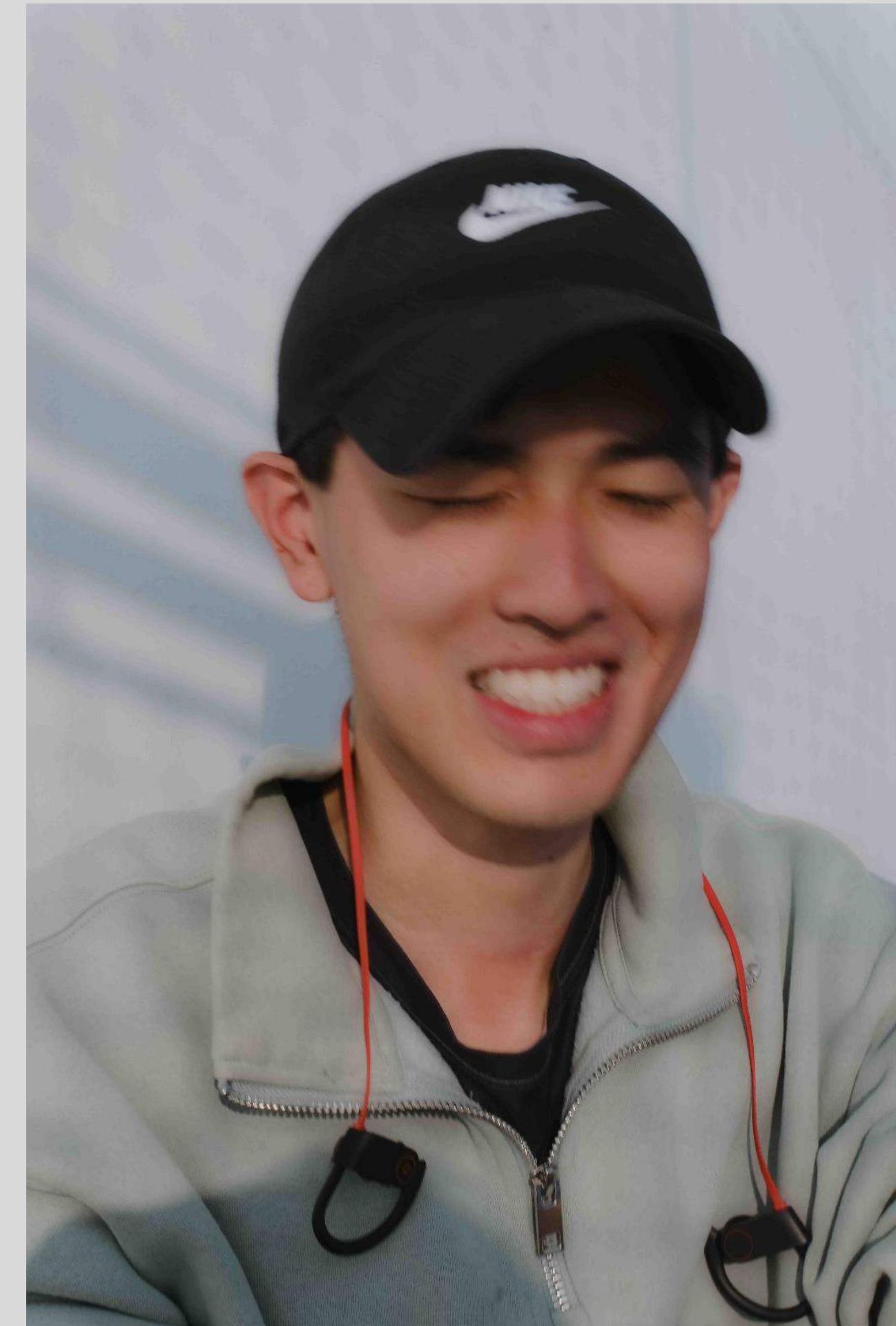
AUGUST 2023

- 18 Aug: JFK > LHR
- 19 Aug: Setting sail from Southampton
- 20 Aug: Sea day
- 21 Aug: Bergen
- 22 Aug: Flam
- 23 Aug: Andalsnes
- 24 Aug: Trondheim
- 25 Aug: Sea day
- 26 Aug: Honnigsvag
- 27 Aug: Tromso
- 28 Aug: Sea day
- 29 Aug: Loen/Olden
- 30 Aug: Skjolden
- 31 Aug: Sea day
- 1 Sept: Bruges
- 2-3 Sept: London

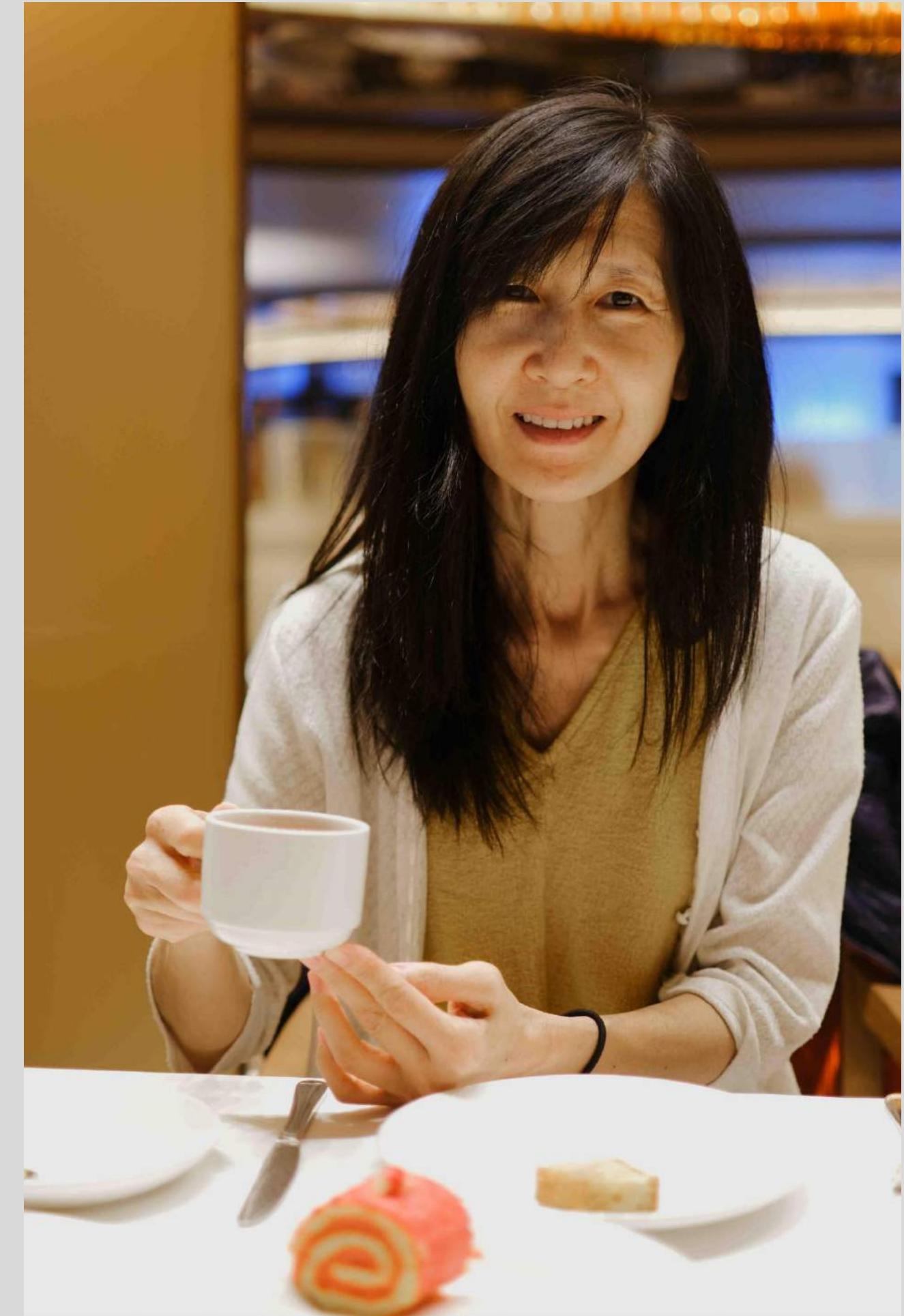
Setting Sail

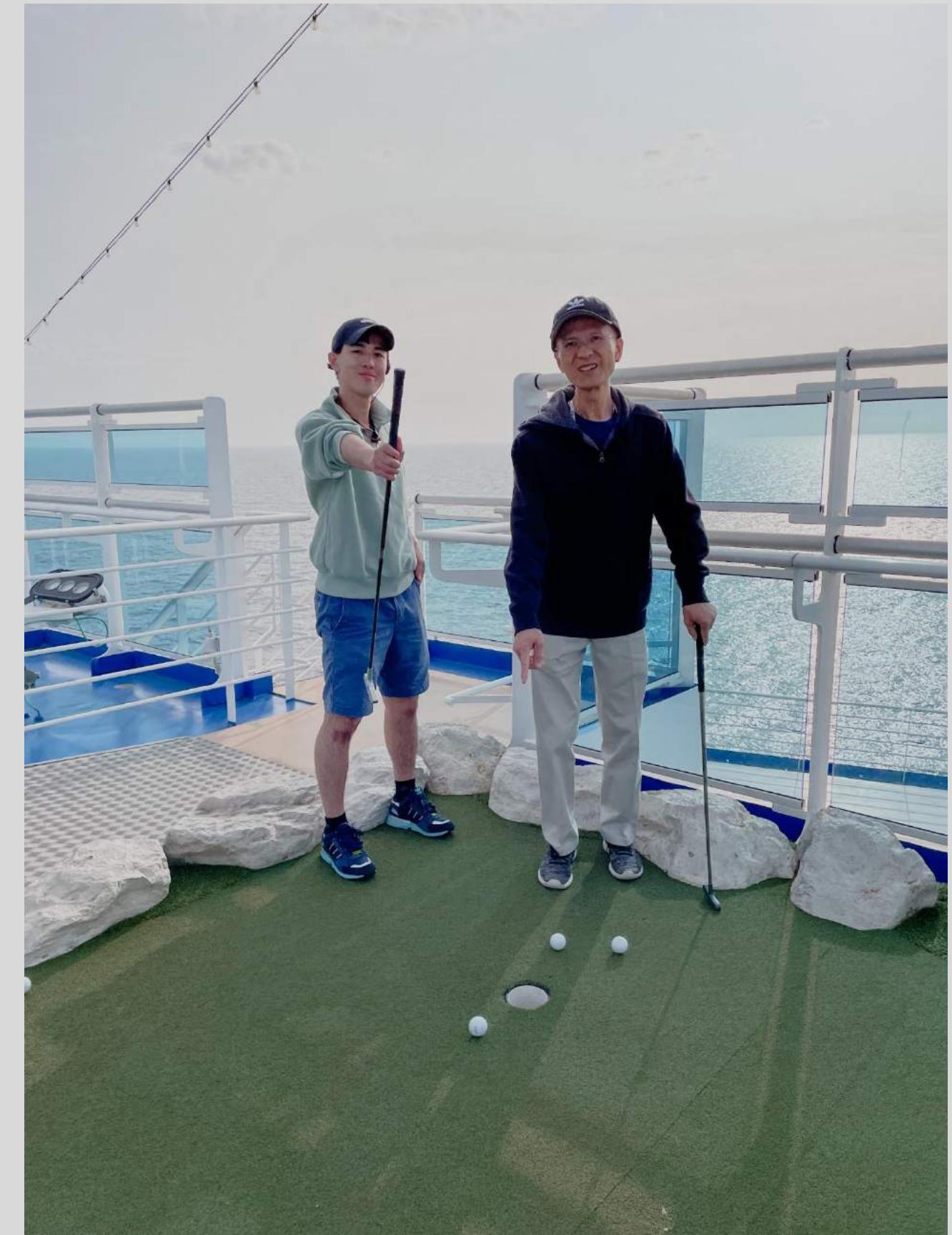


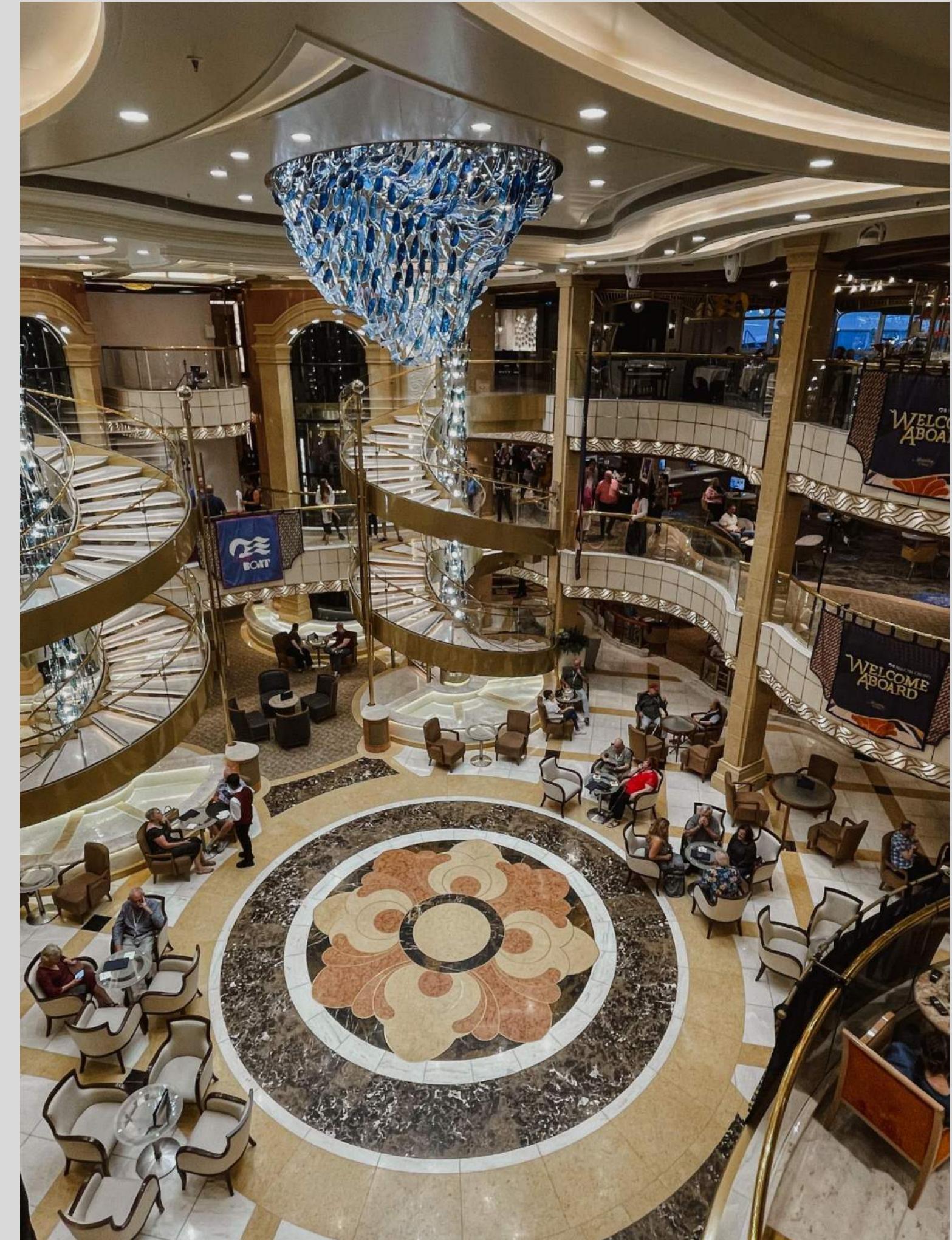






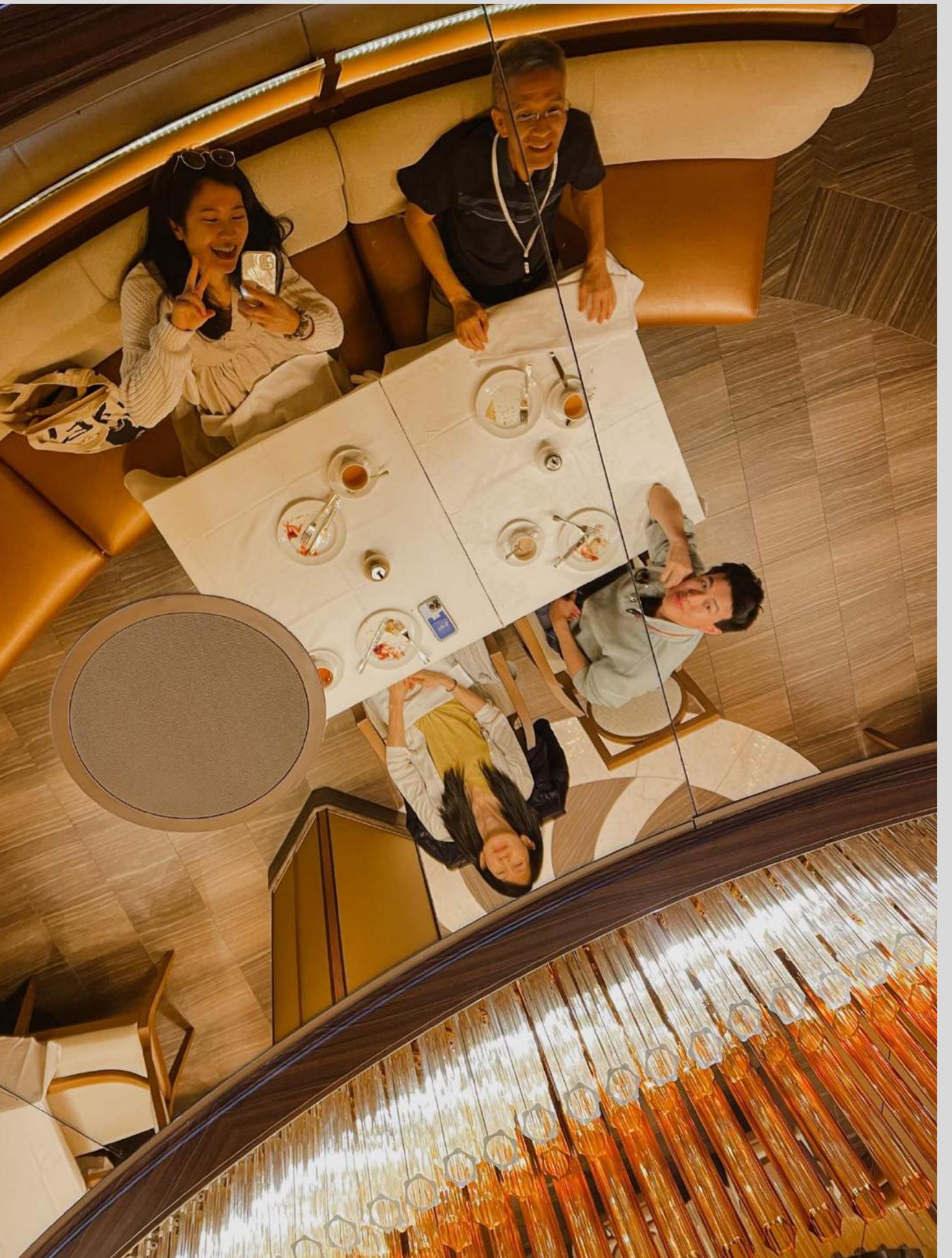




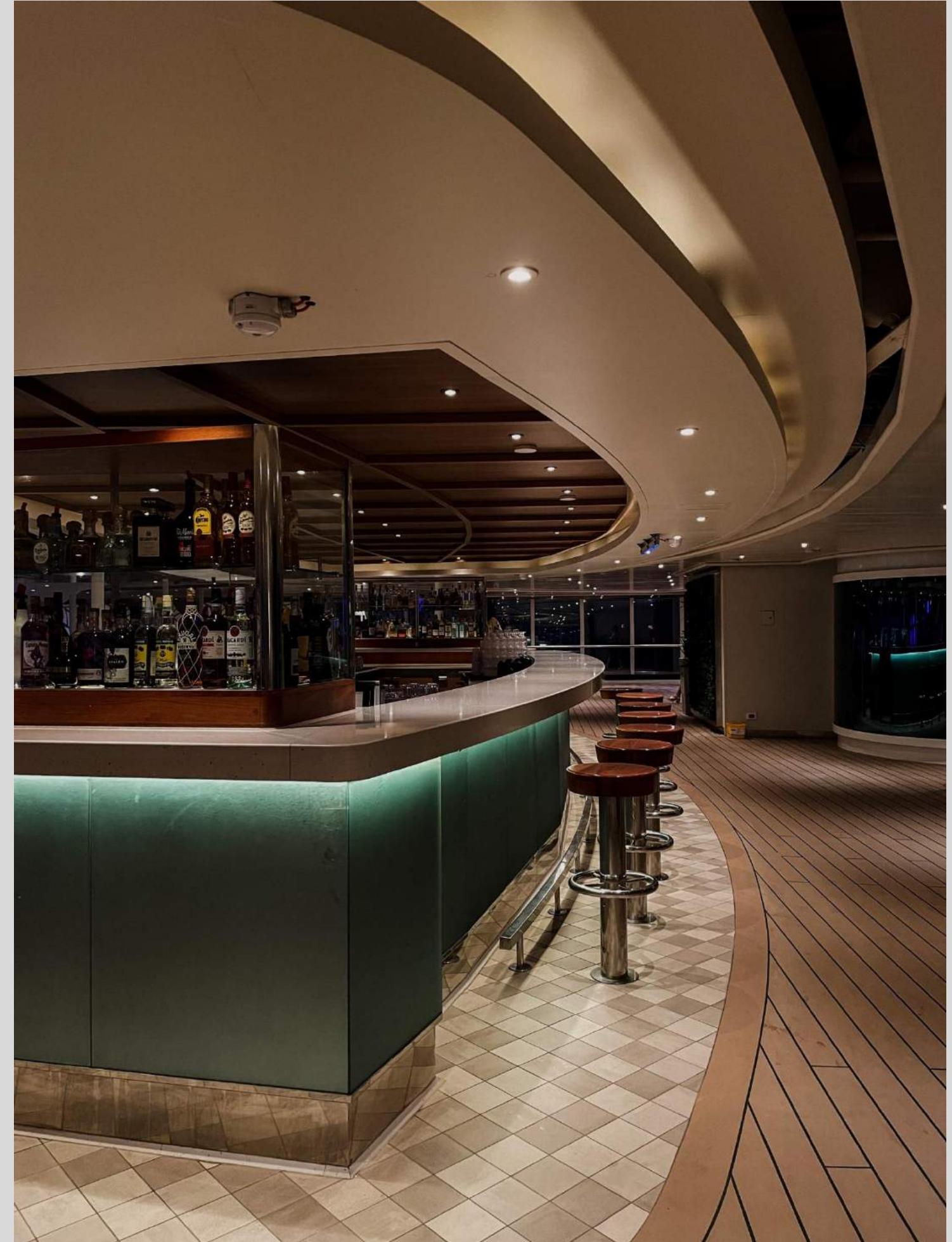


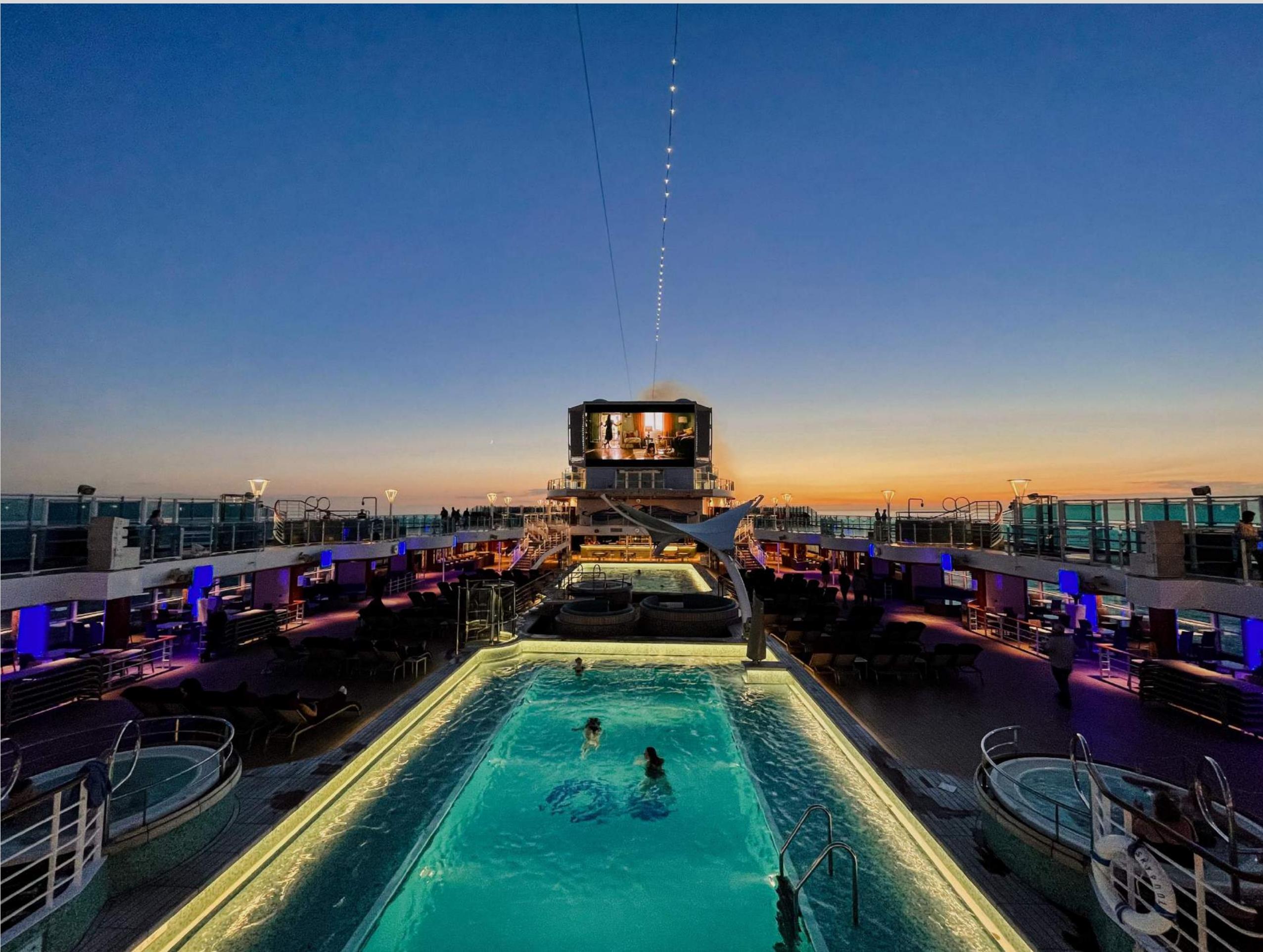


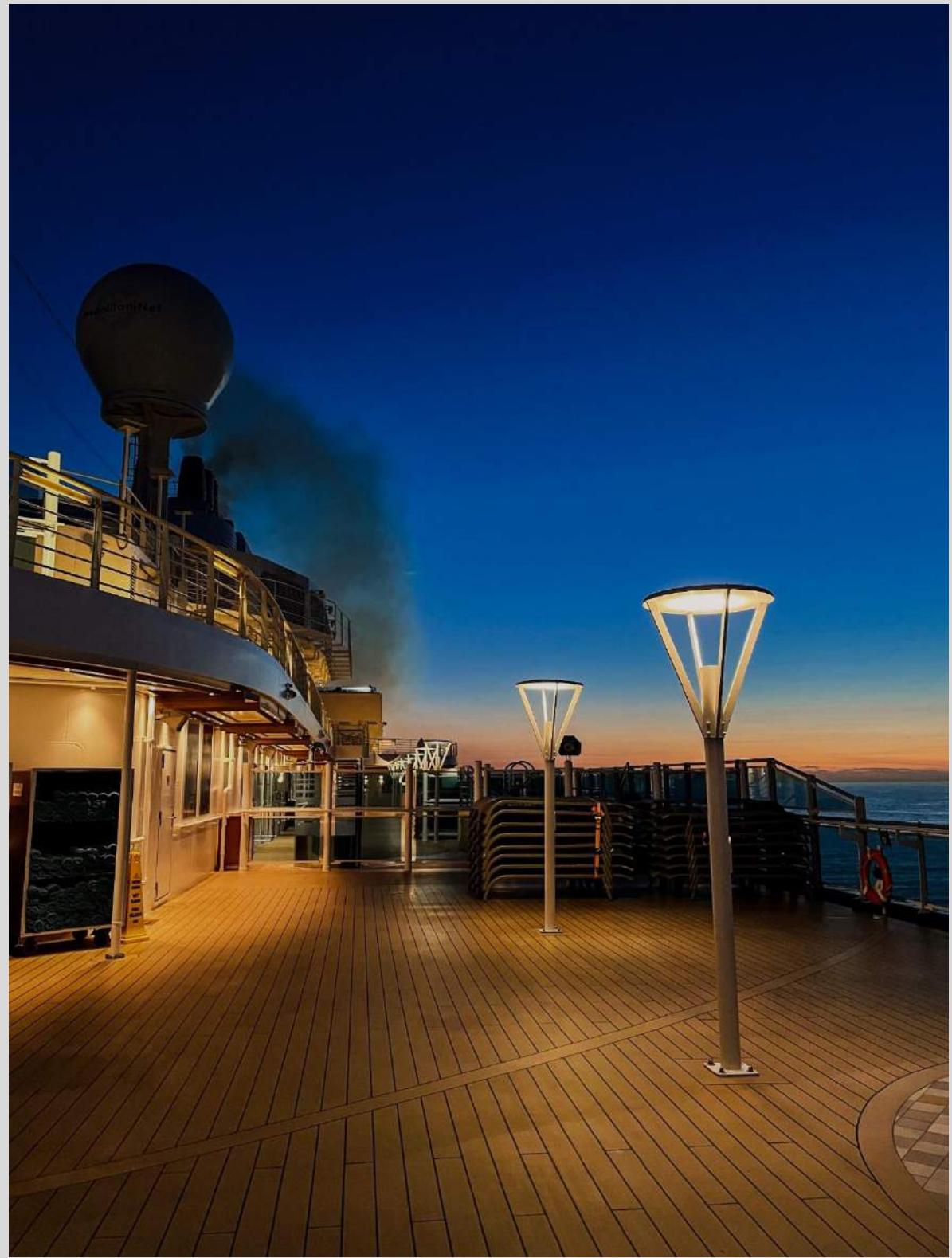












Bergen









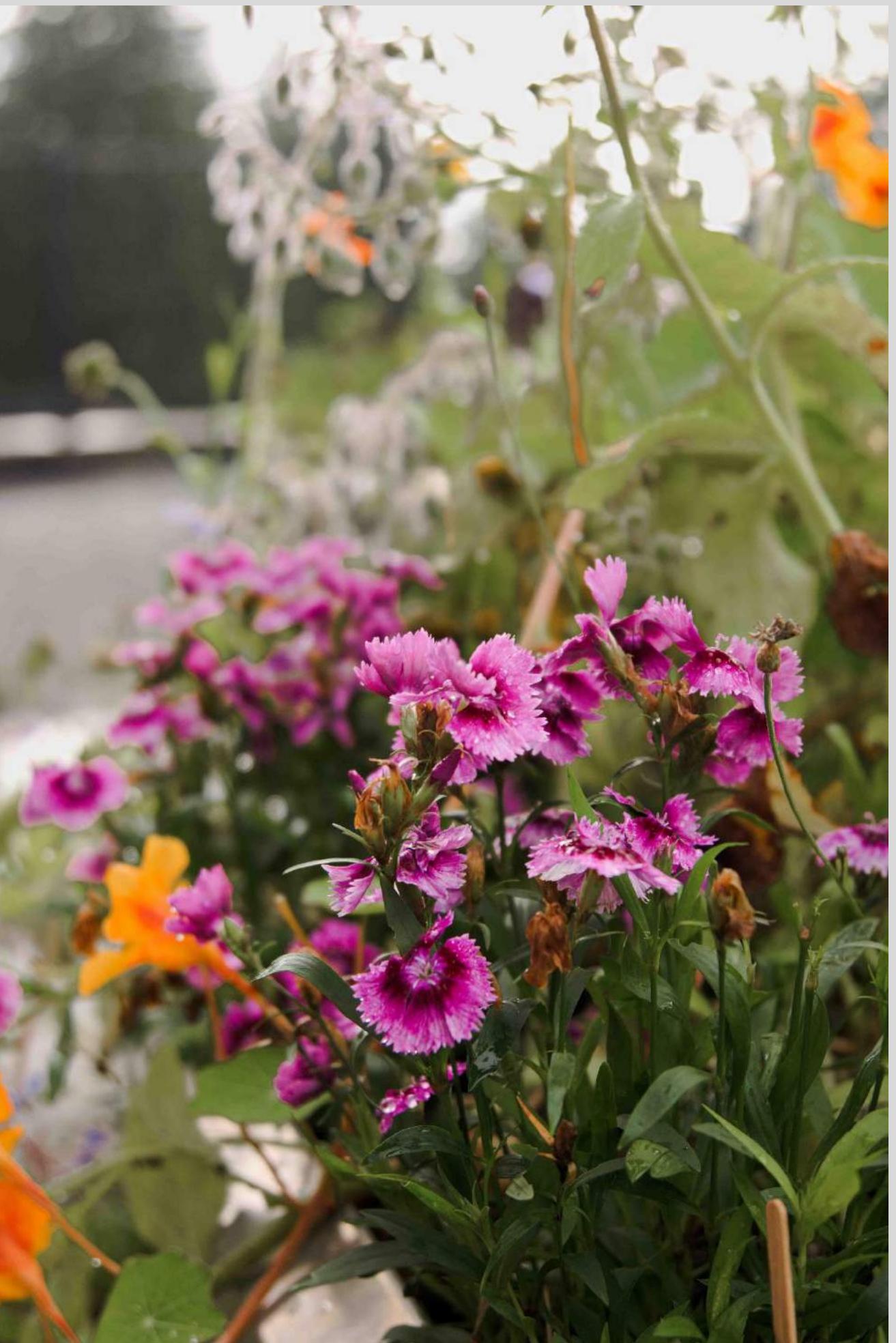


























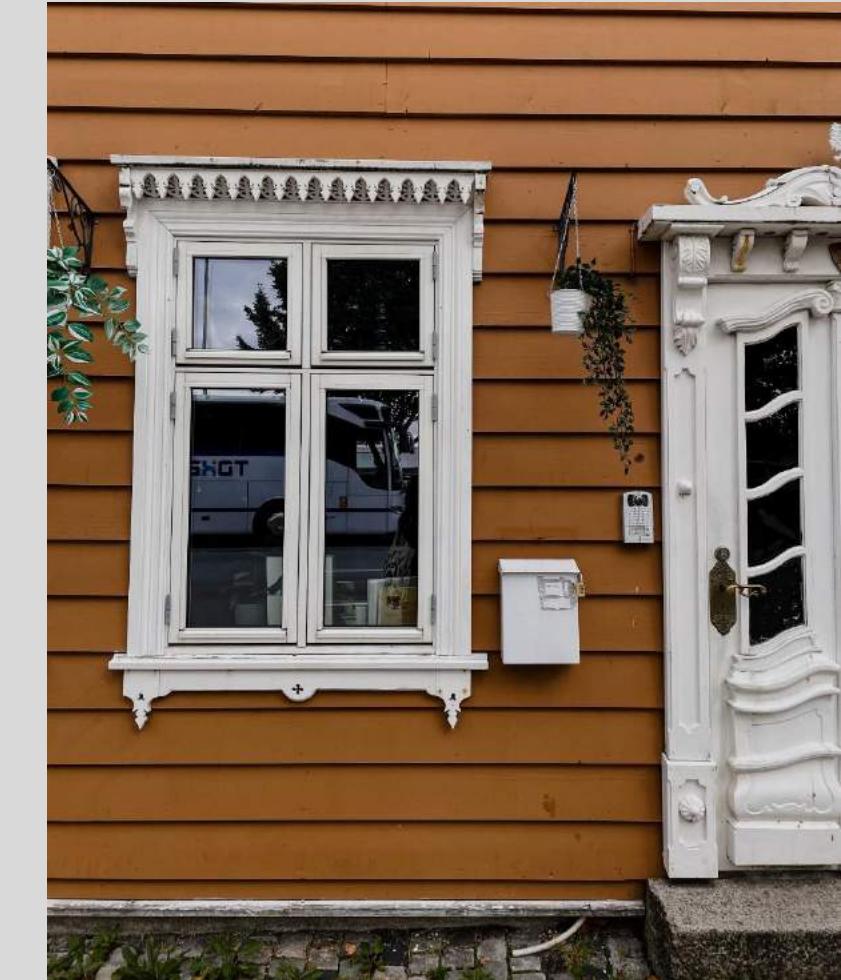








Bergen's facades





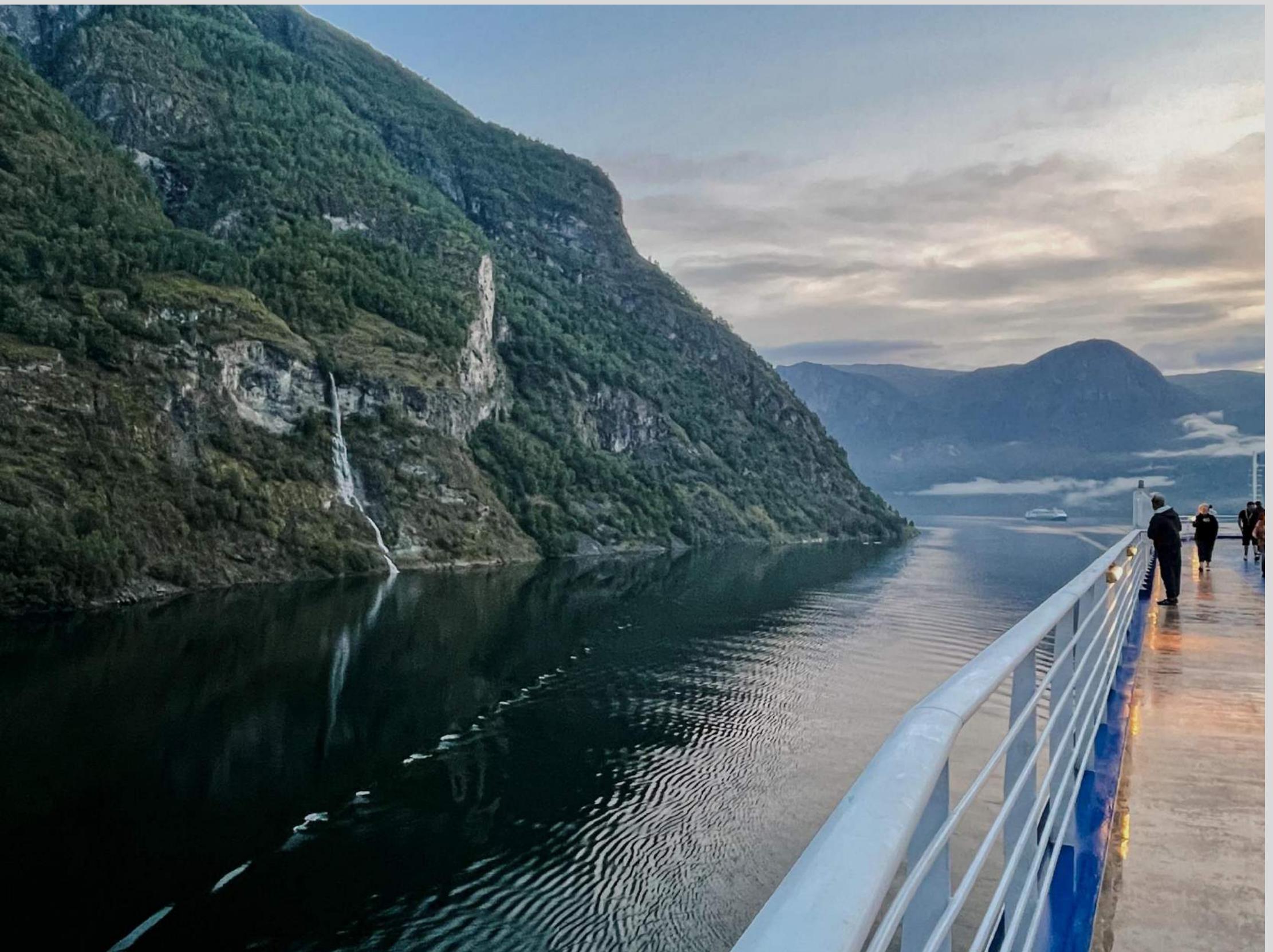
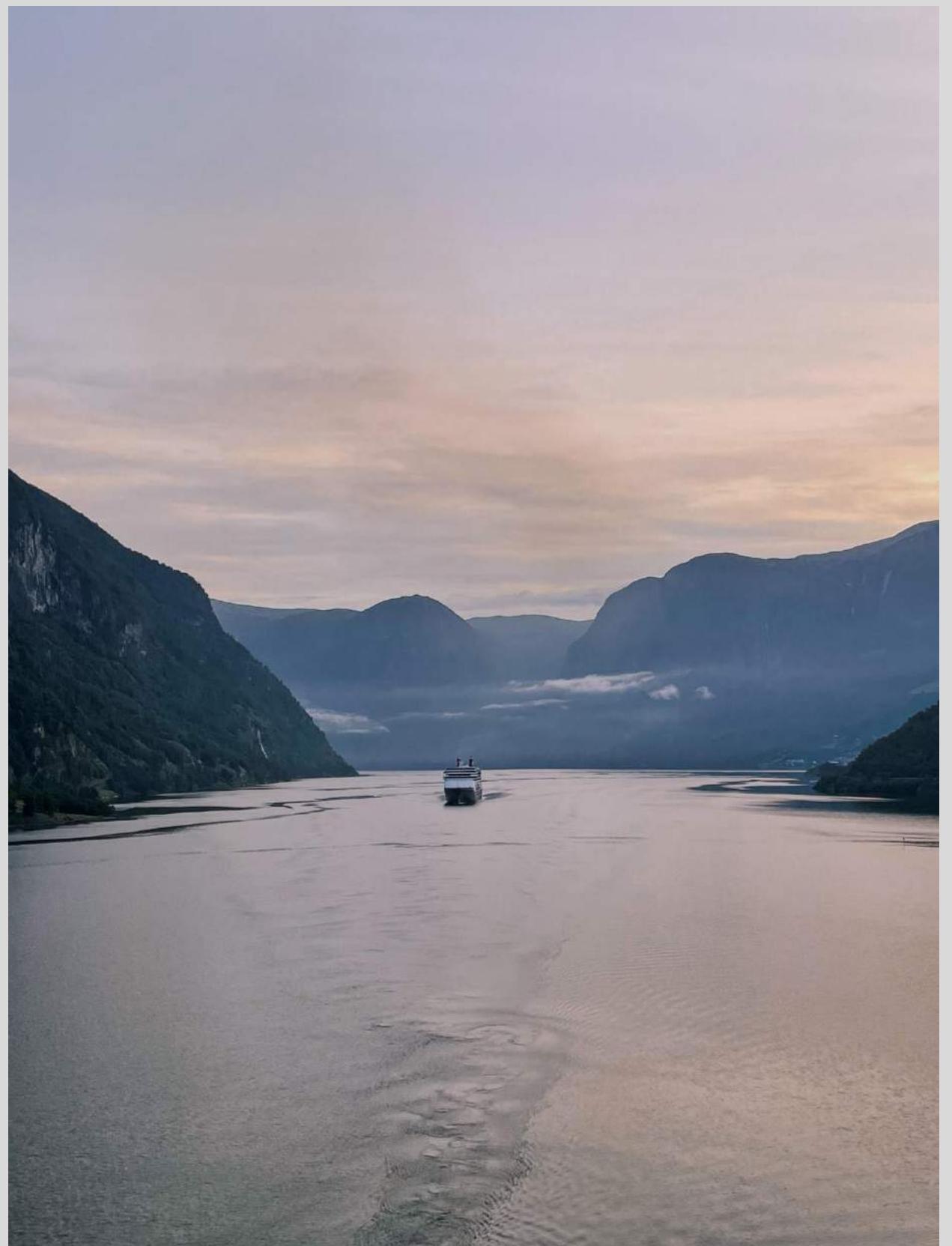
Flåm

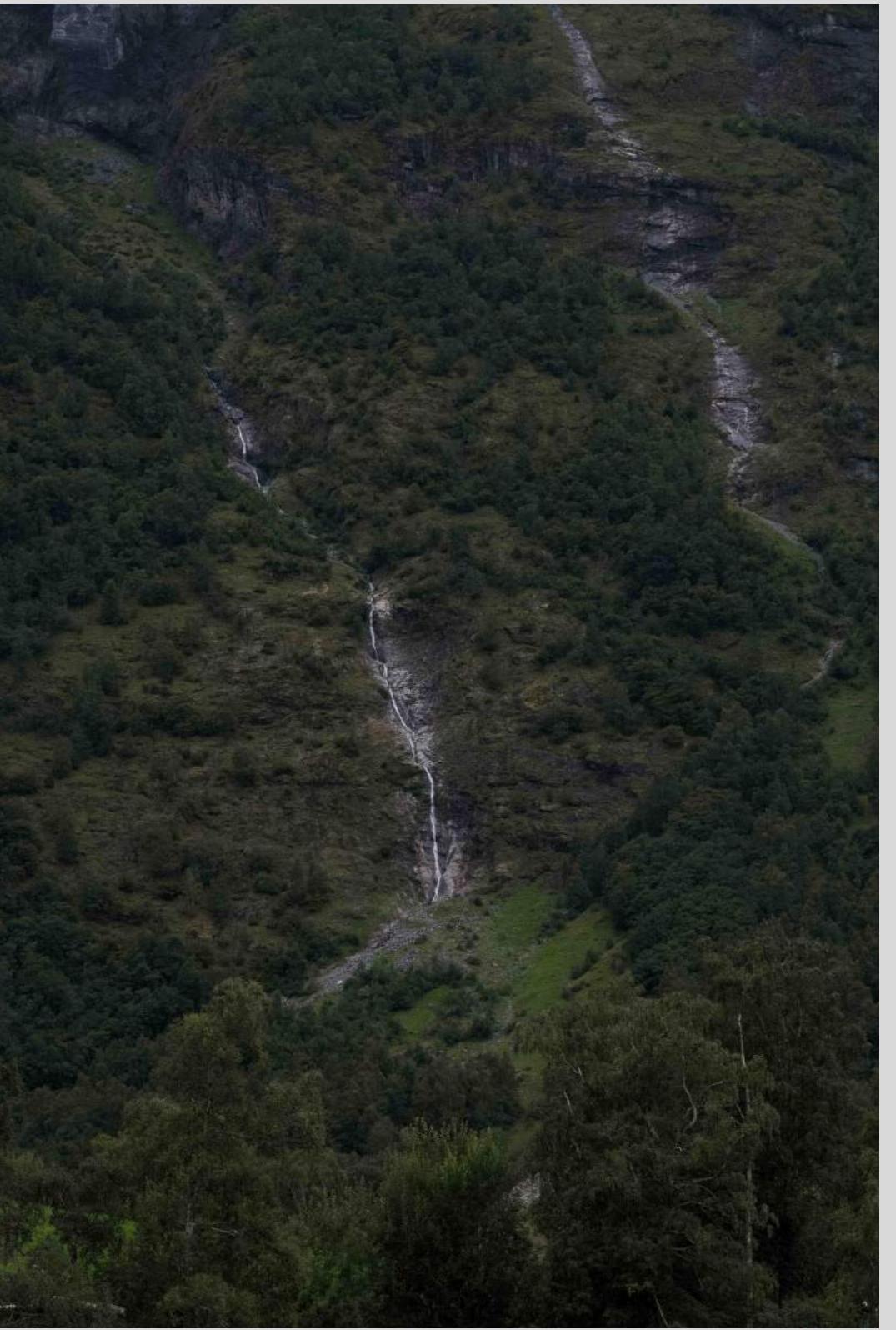


Flåm

Everywhere I looked was a photo I wanted to take. Even now, as I sit on the balcony in 50-some degree weather, slightly shielded from the strong breeze by our balcony partitions, the majestic fjord is begging for more photographs. The air smells clean, the water is a deep aqua with ripples of navy. The fjord is craggy and weather with trickles of melting snow running down and carving its side I hear the low hum of the boat "motor" and the crash of waves against its sides - hushed, natural, and mechanical, all at once.

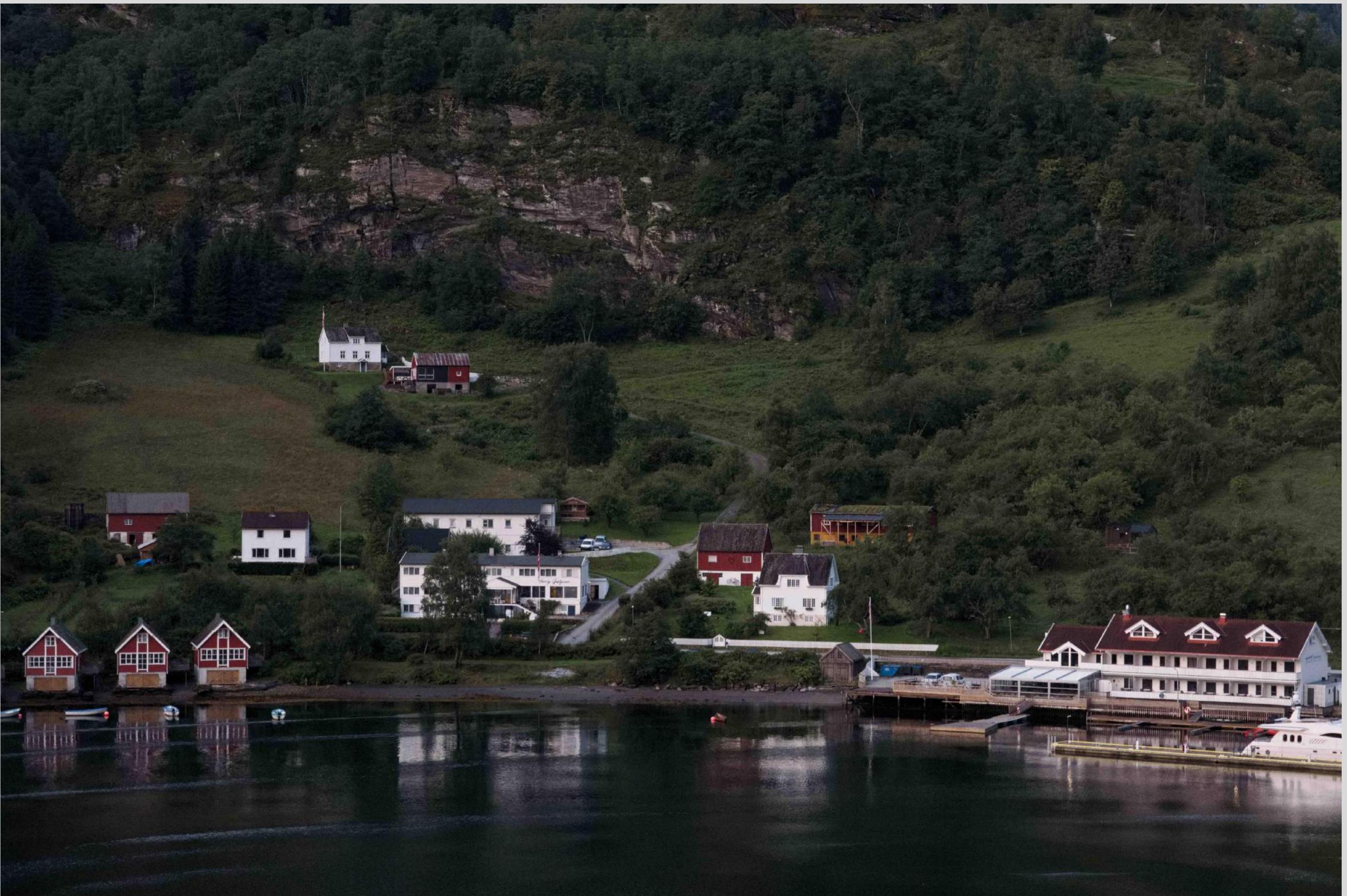
22 Aug 24

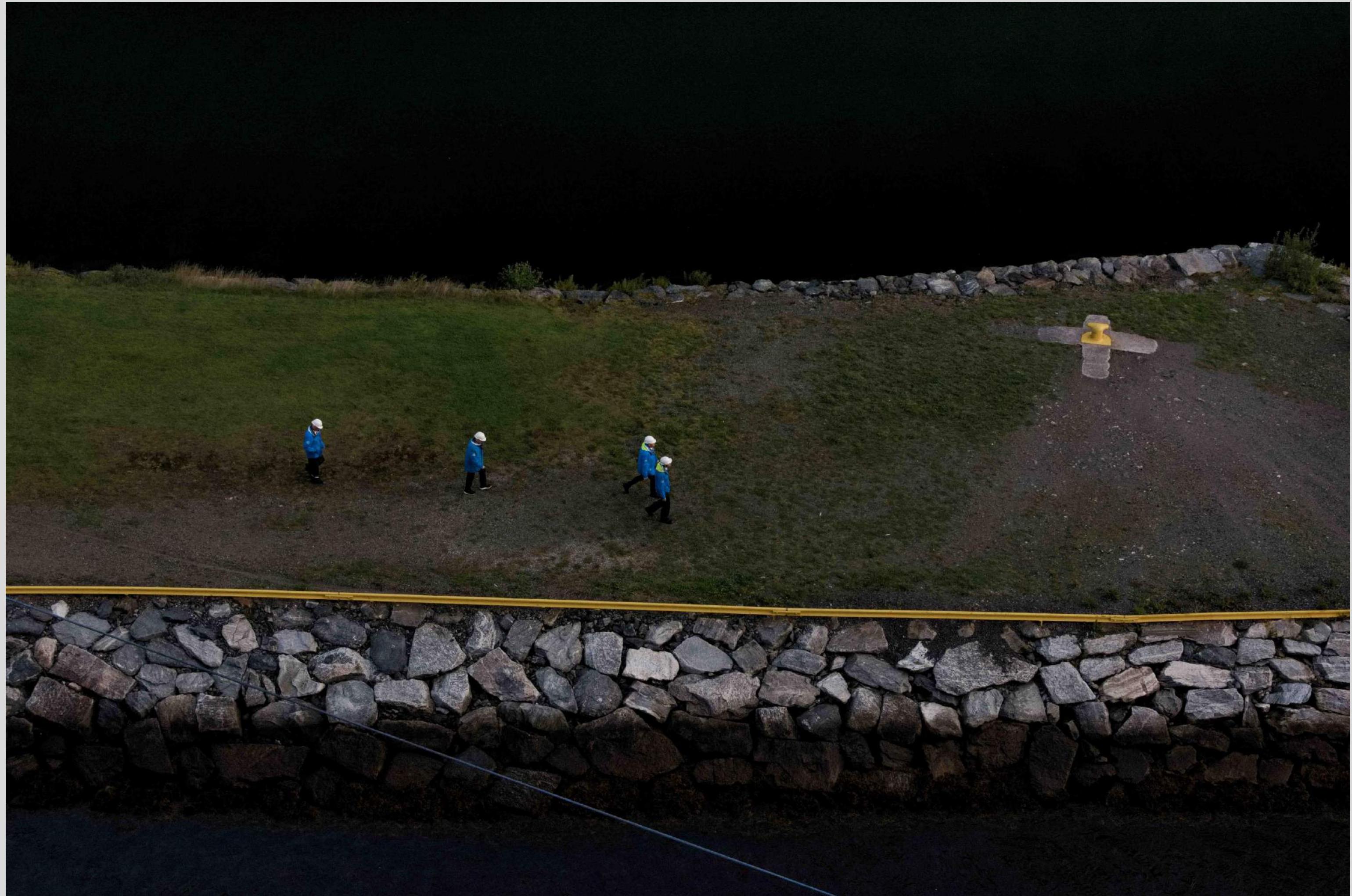


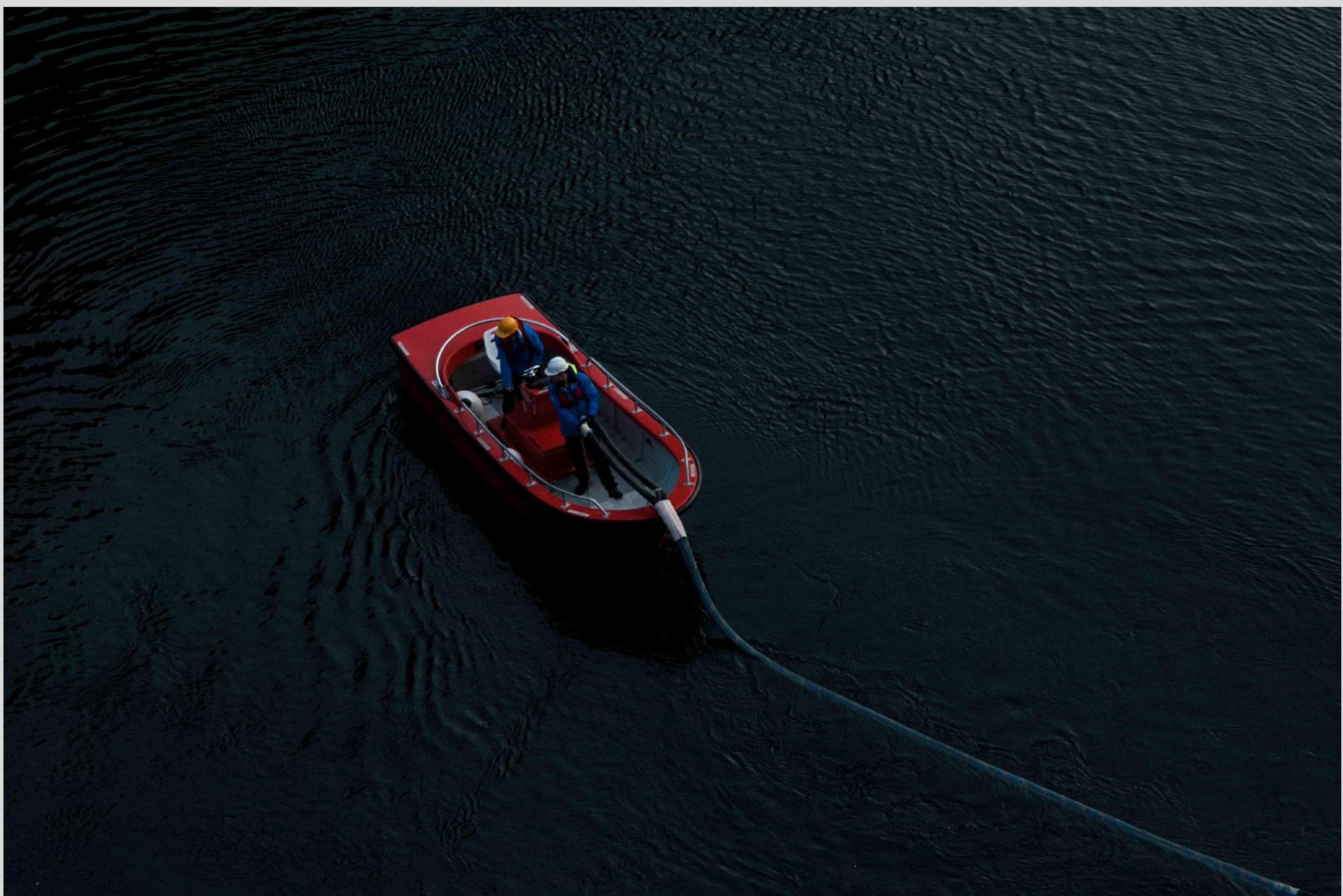


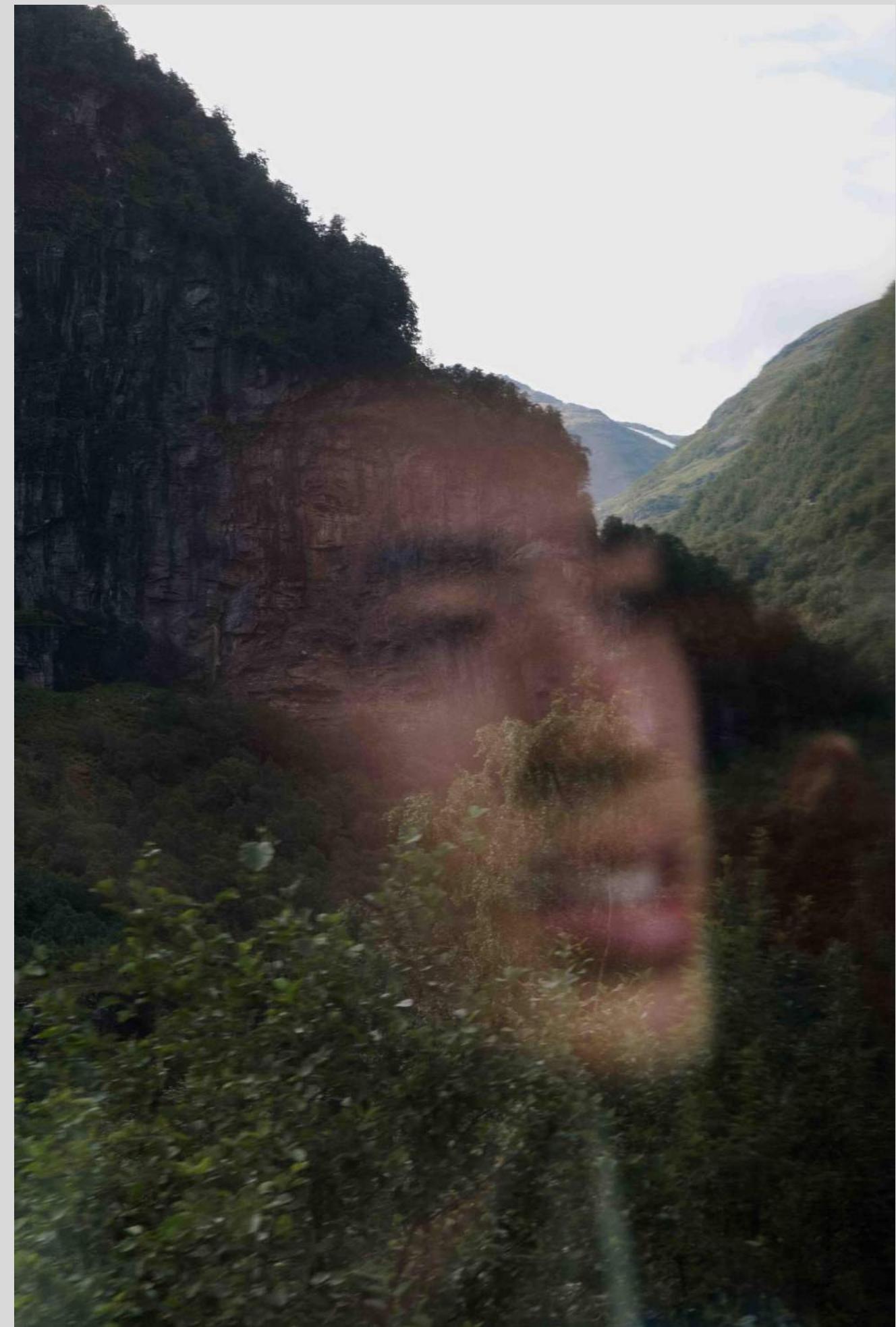


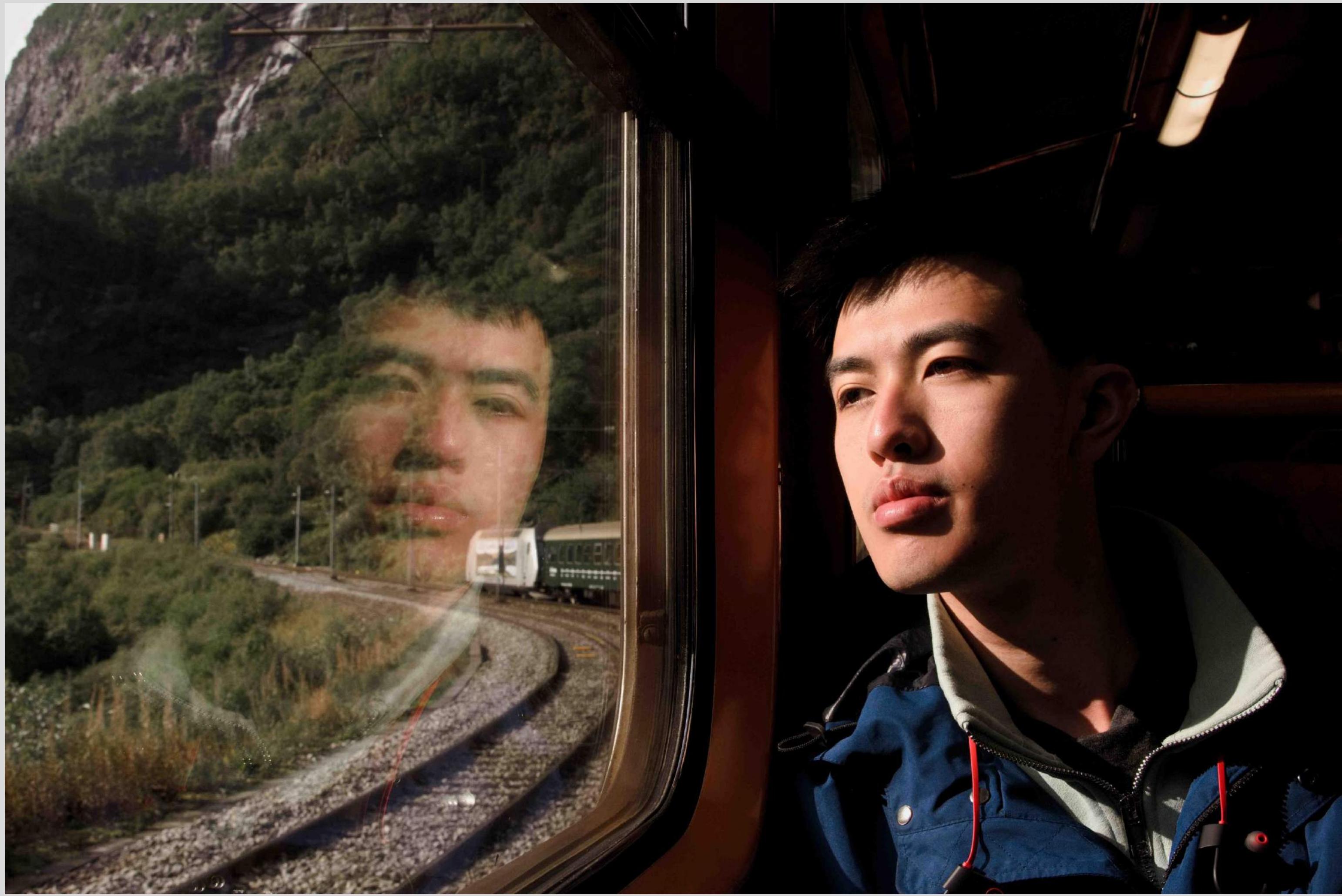




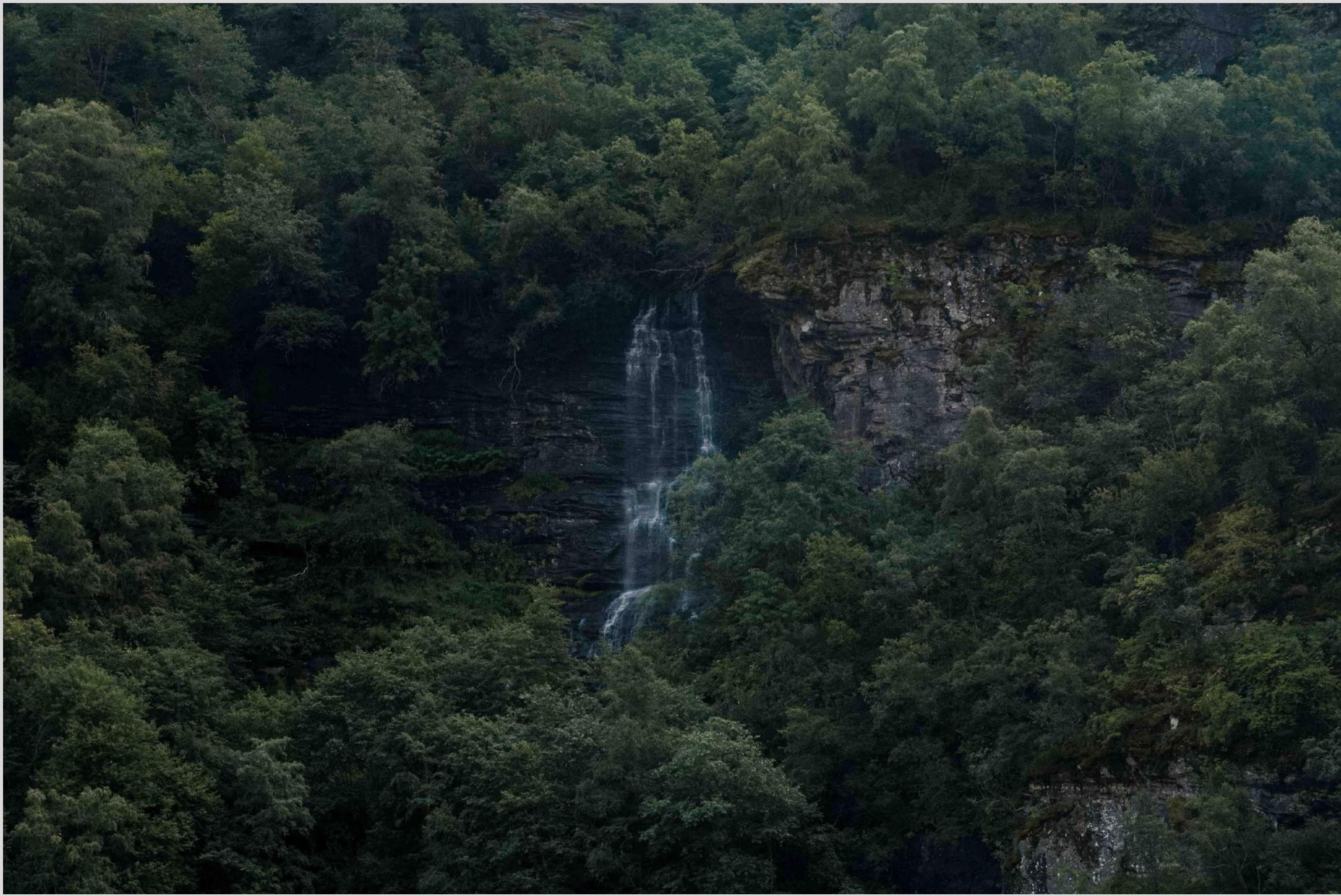




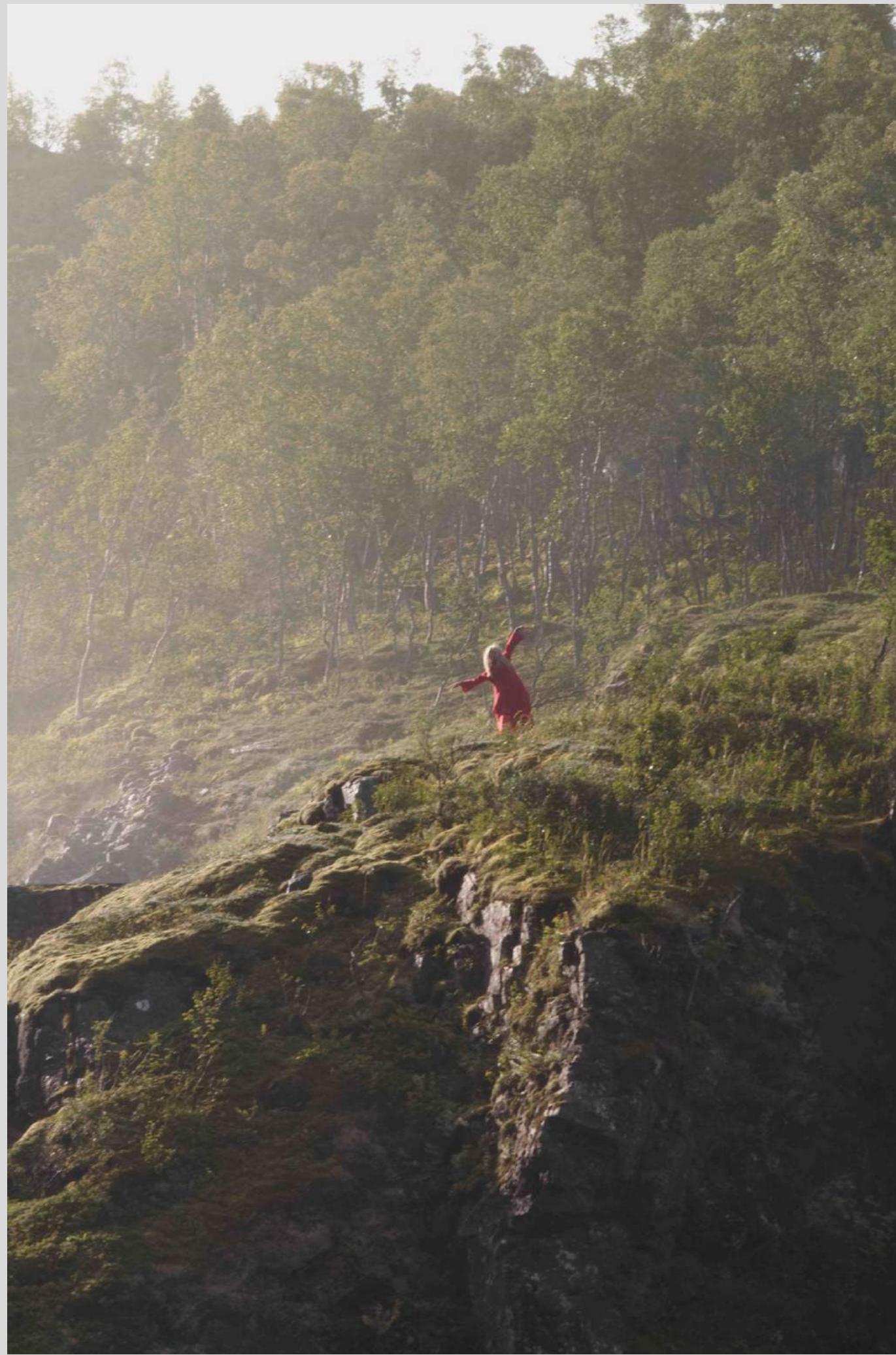








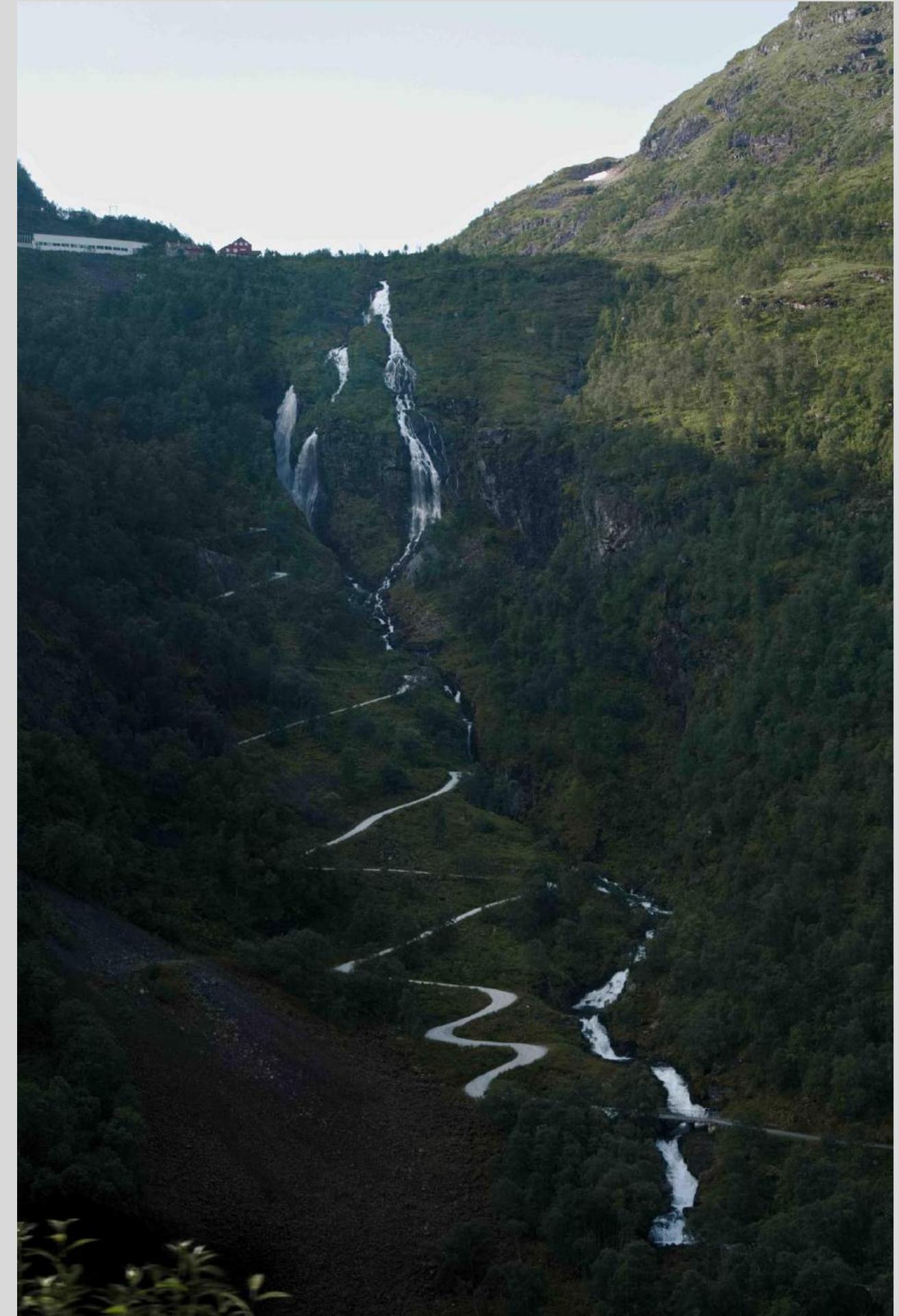




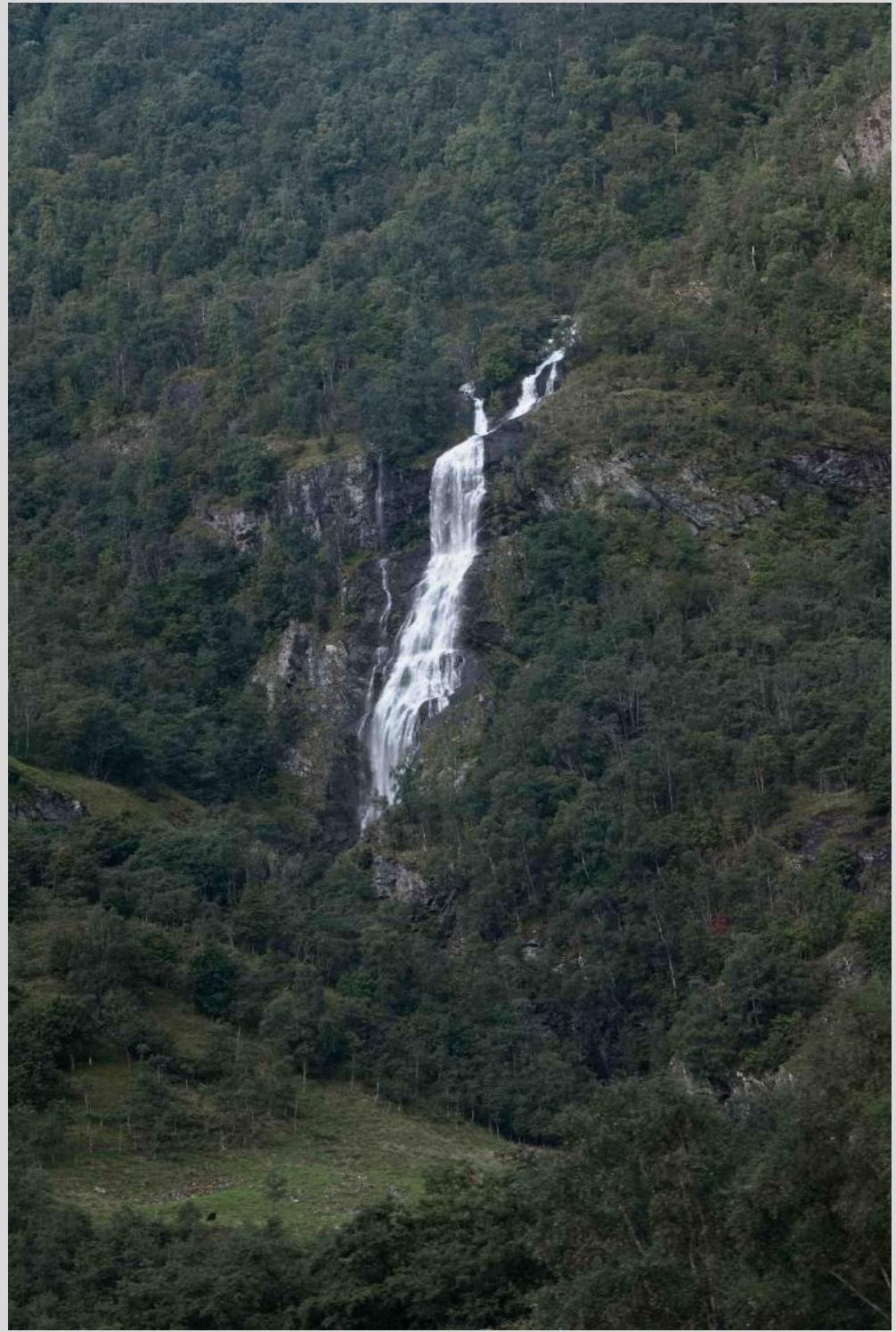
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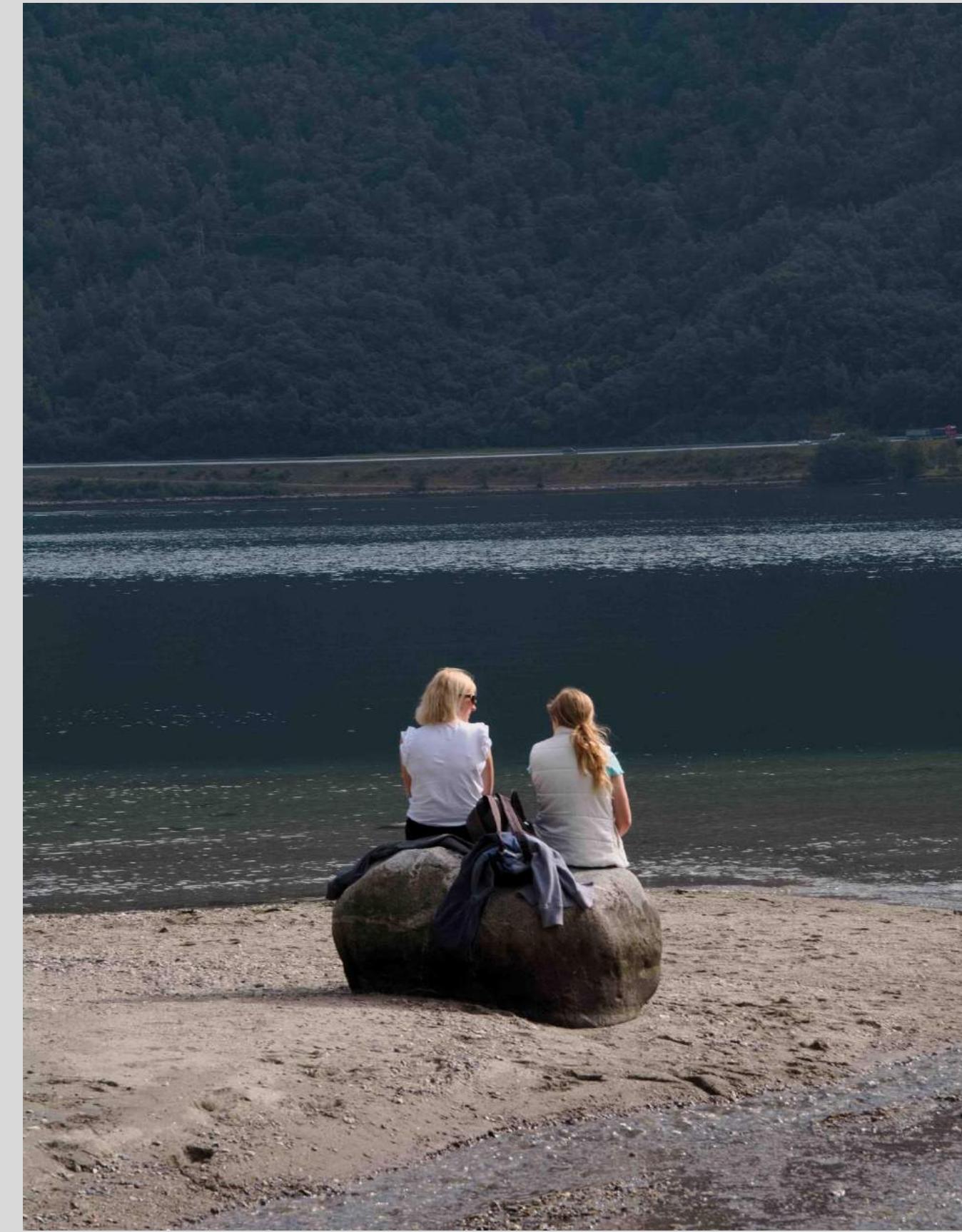




















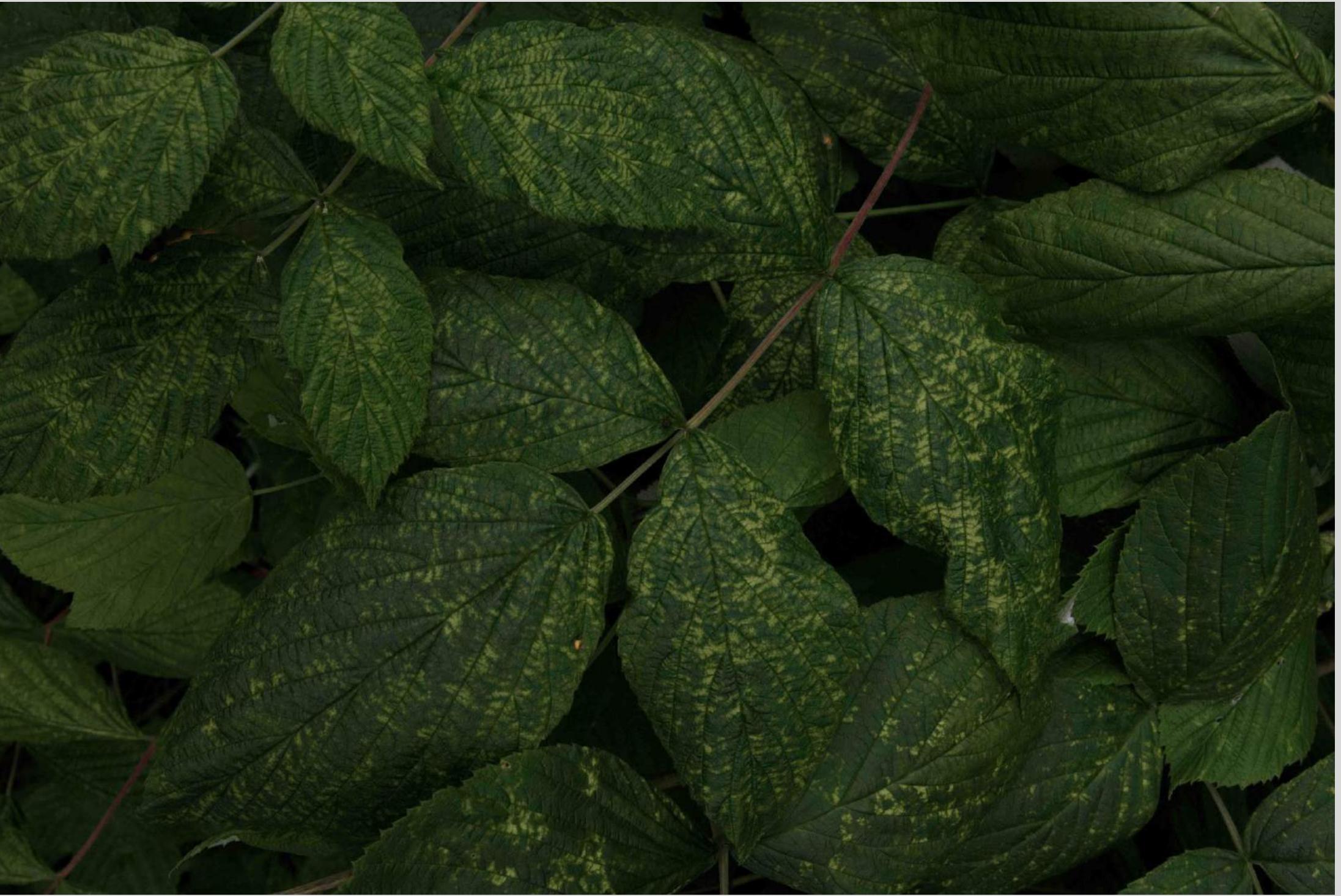
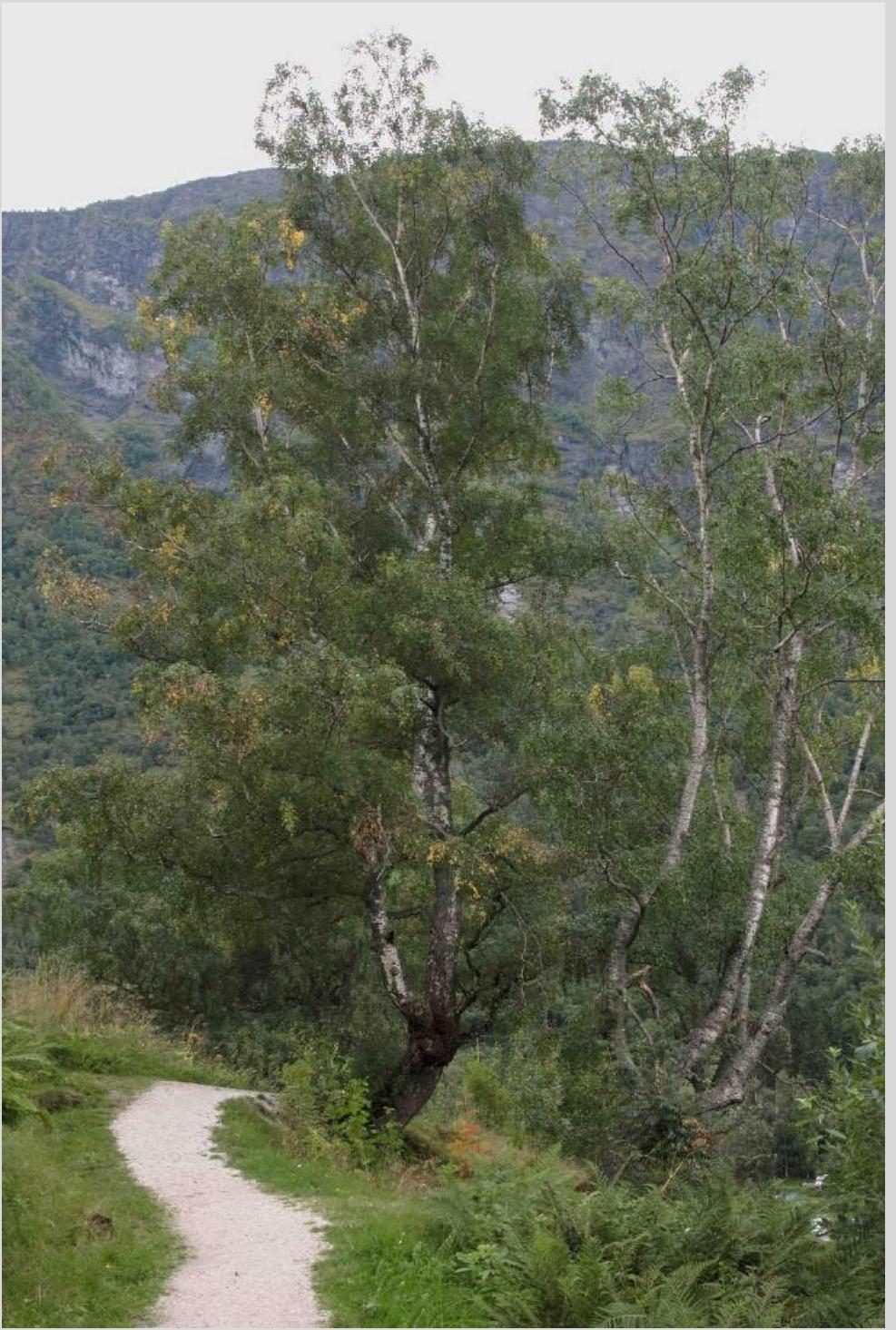














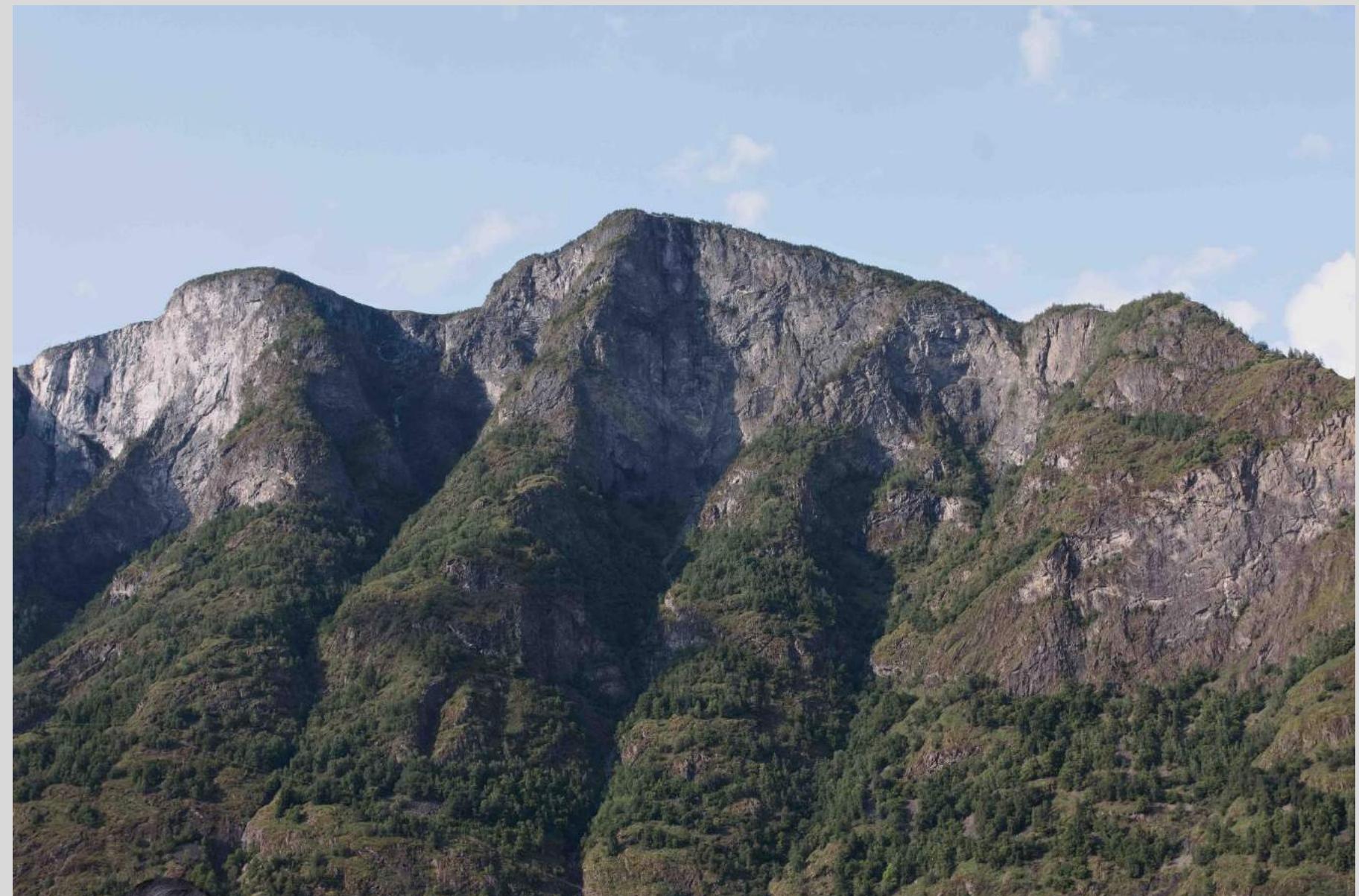


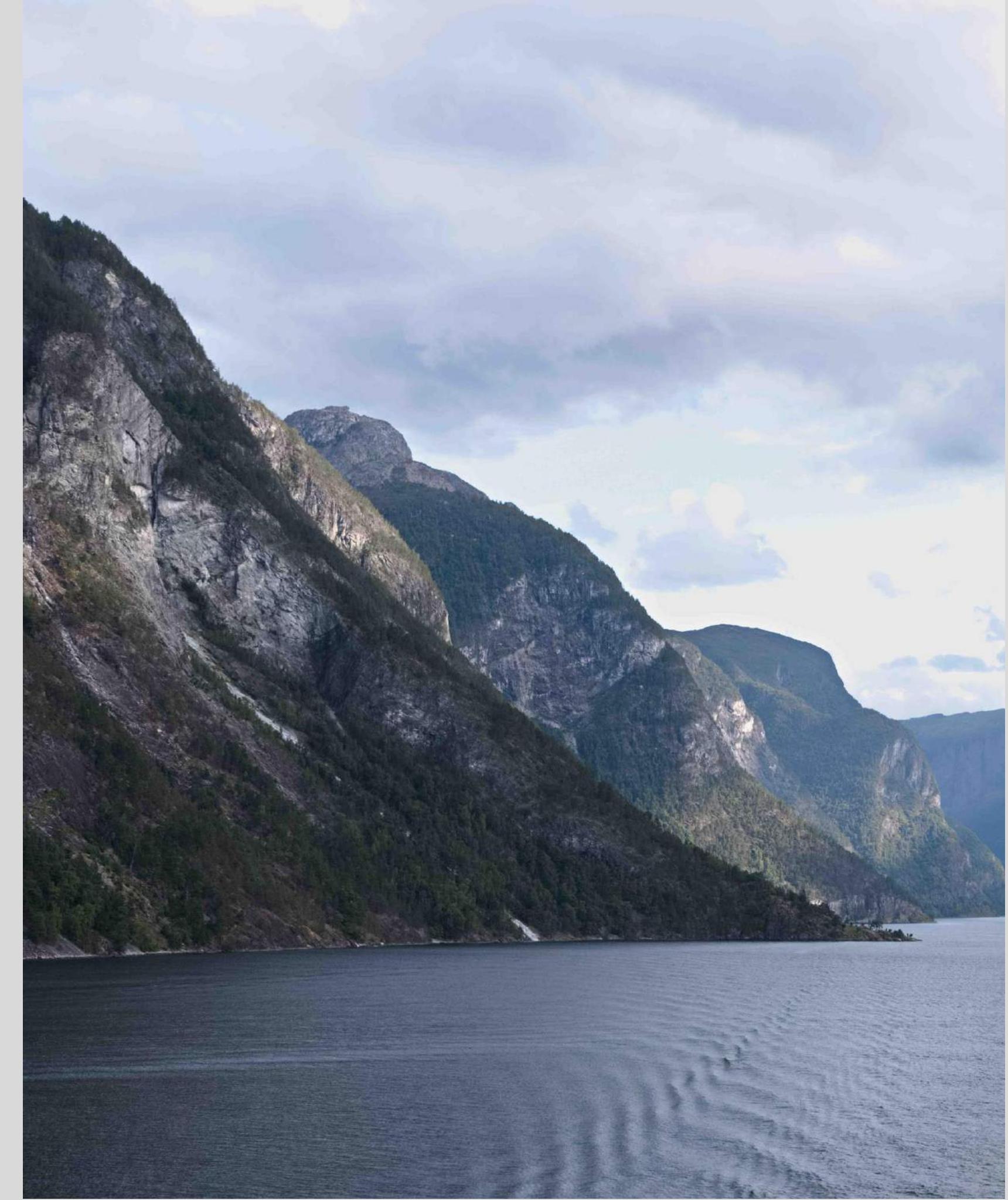
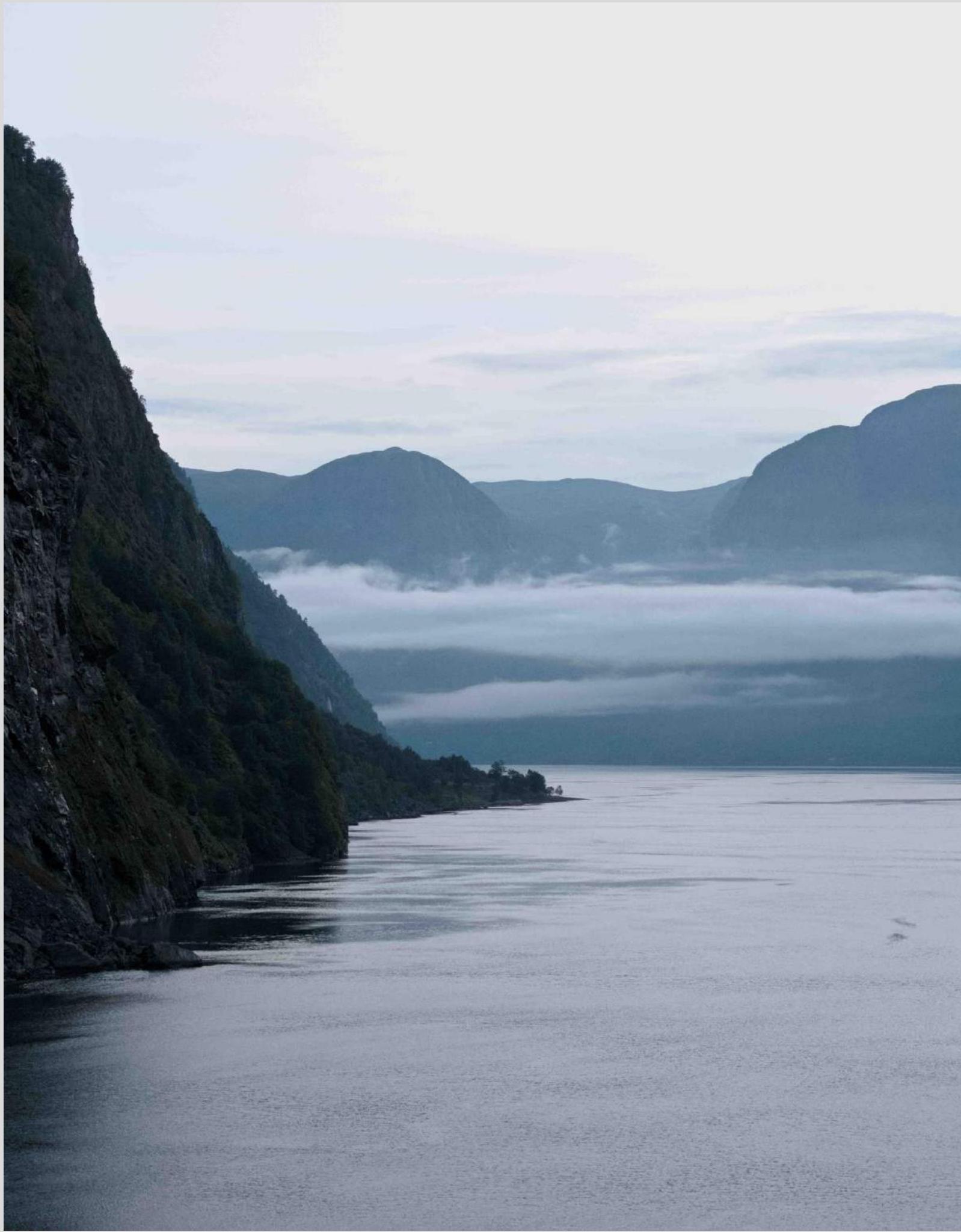














Andalsnes

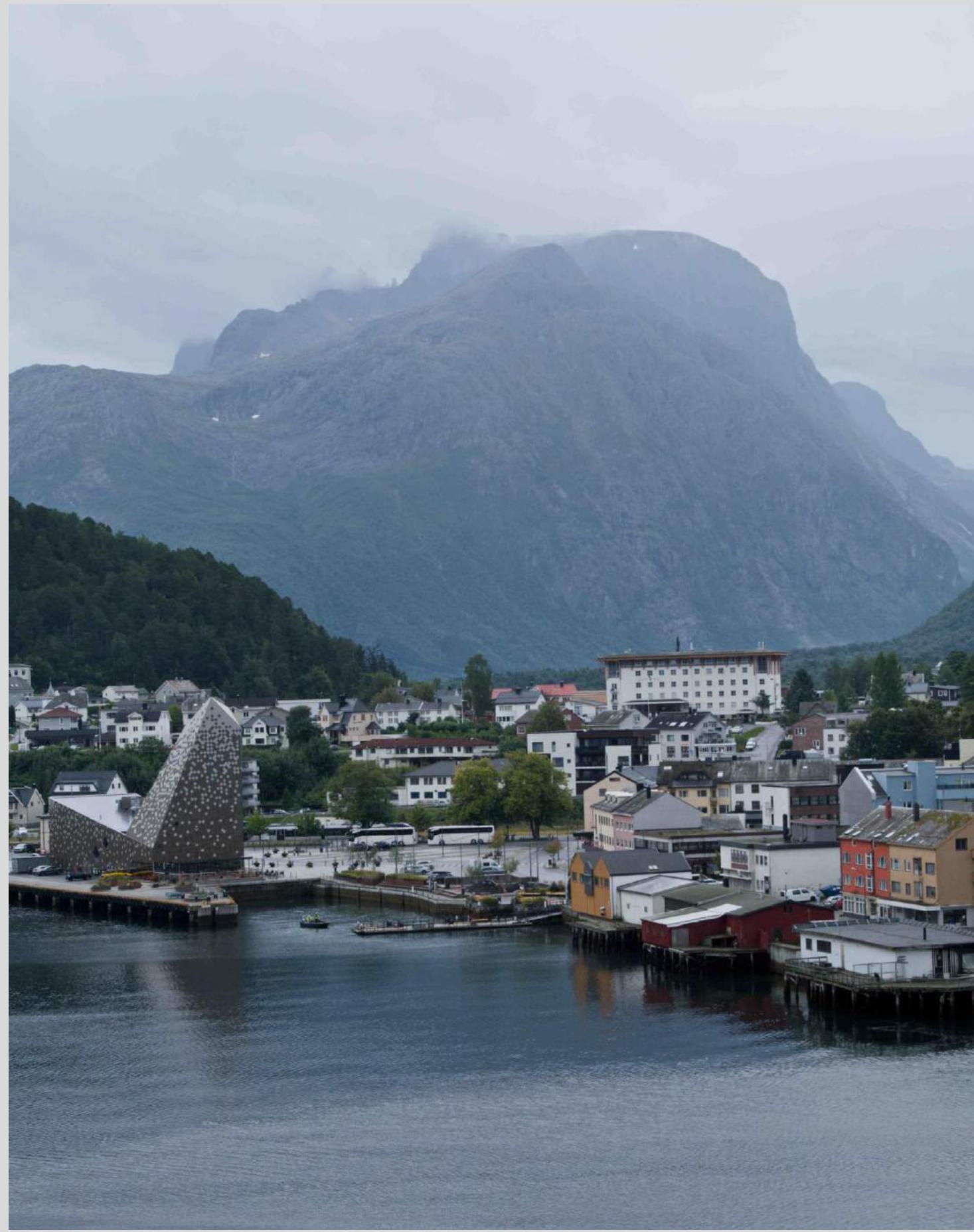


Åndalsnes

The clouds hung low, as if I could reach out and grab a nebulous puff.... Åndalsnes is more colorful - periwinkle blue, red, orange, beige, green, yellow, white... Those views remained novel, breathtaking, thrilling. The air was crisp and clean, the light rain drops and breeze kept us cool, and the tingling of sheep bells and comments from Cantonese tourists kept us amused.

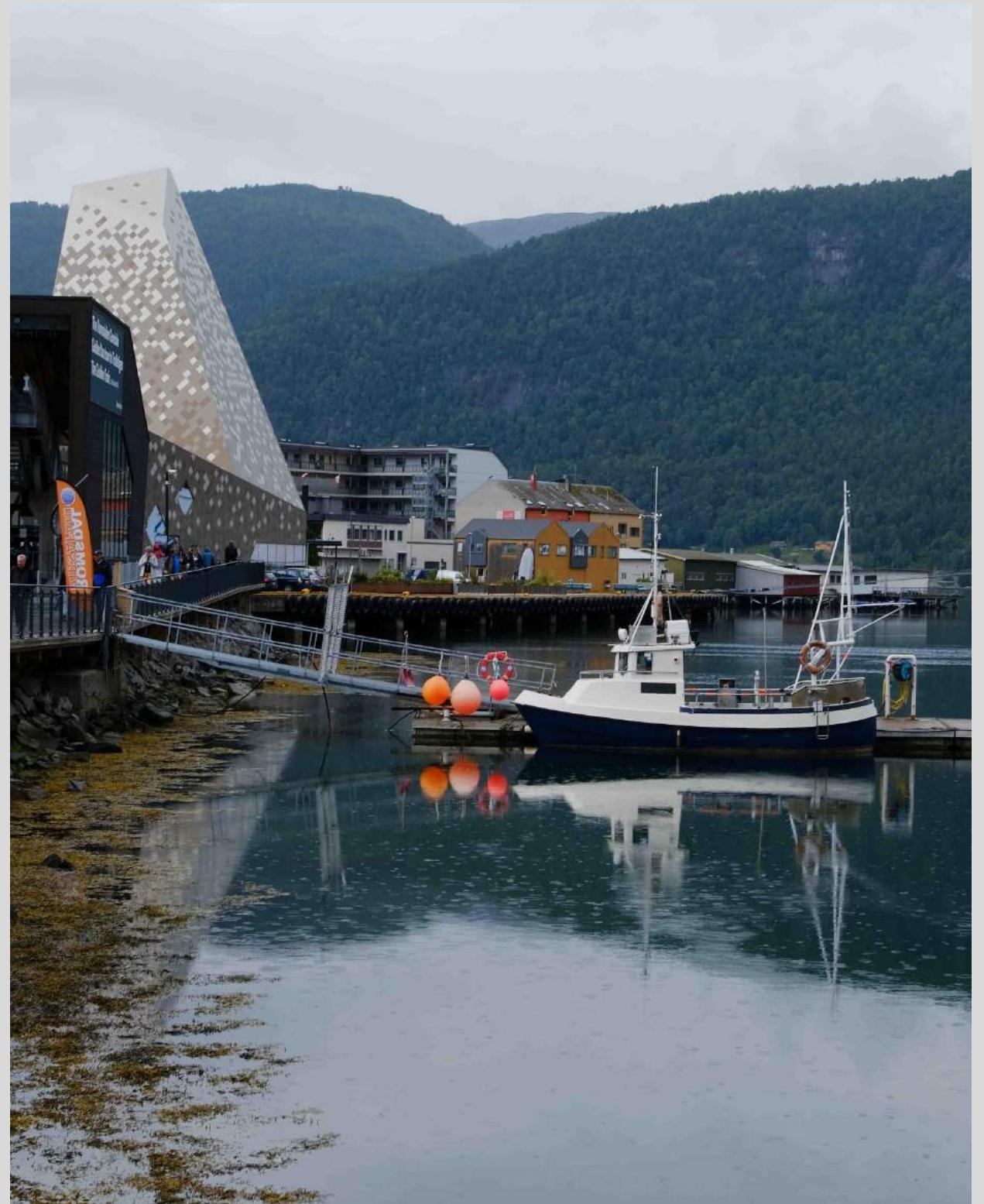
23 Aug 23

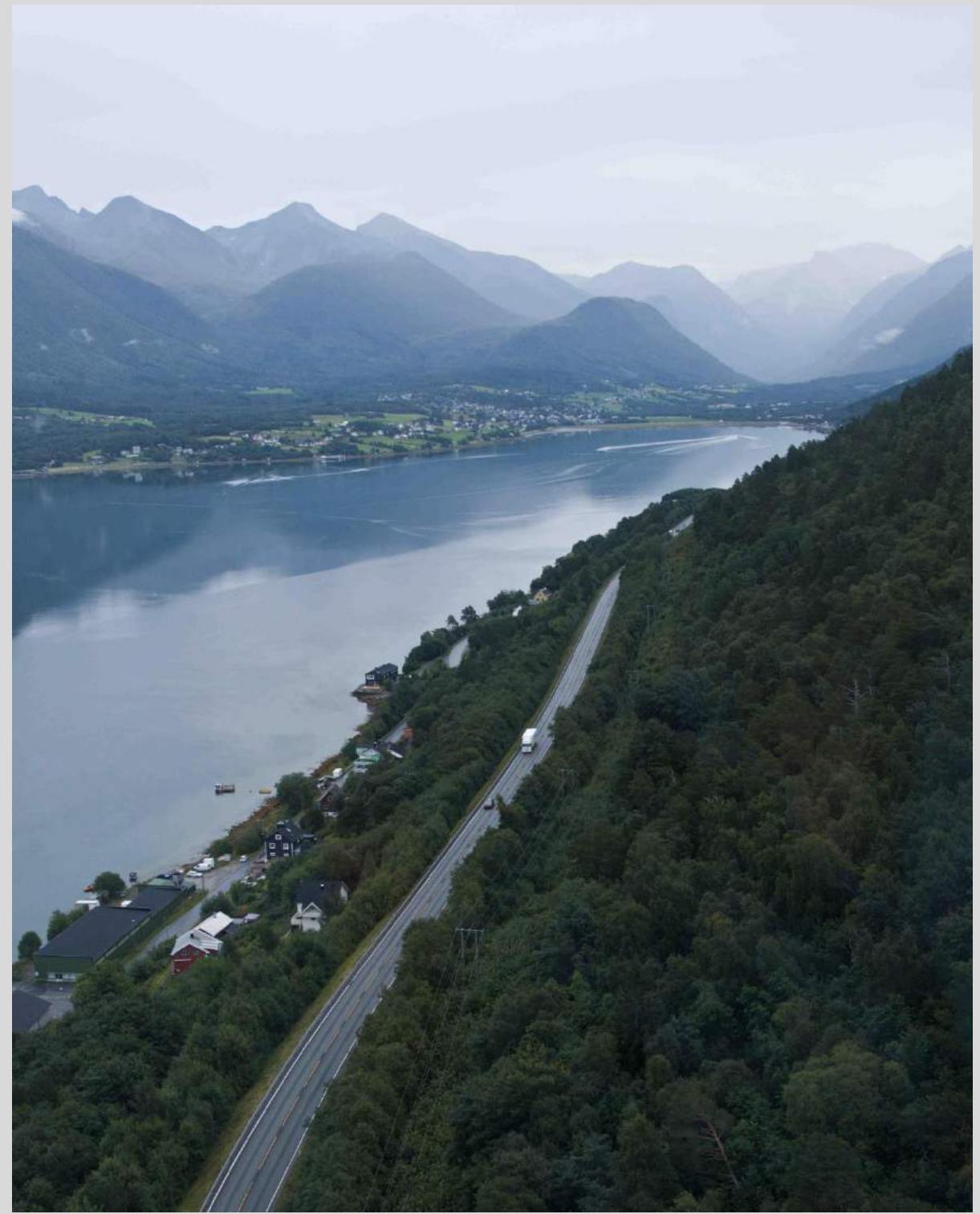












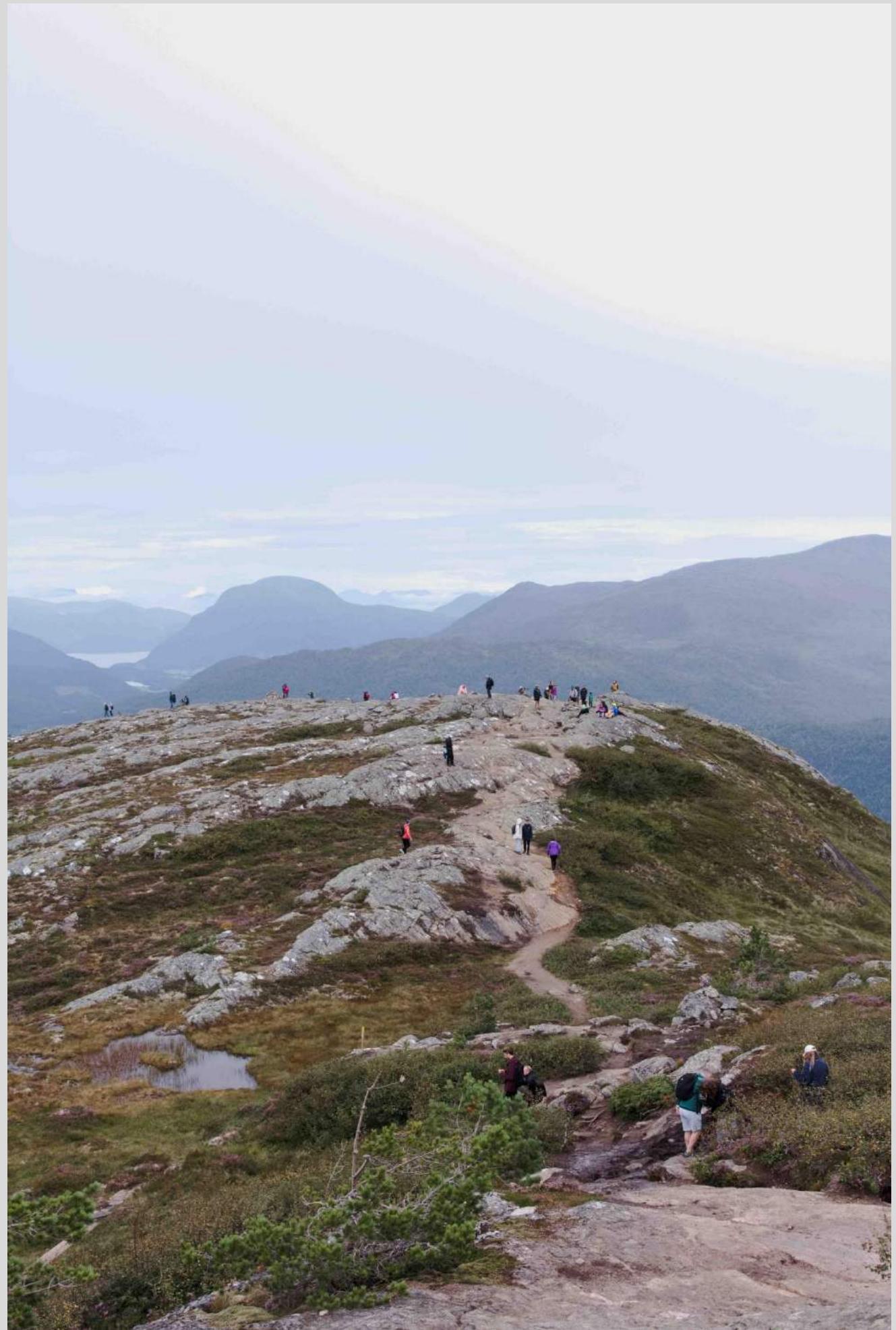




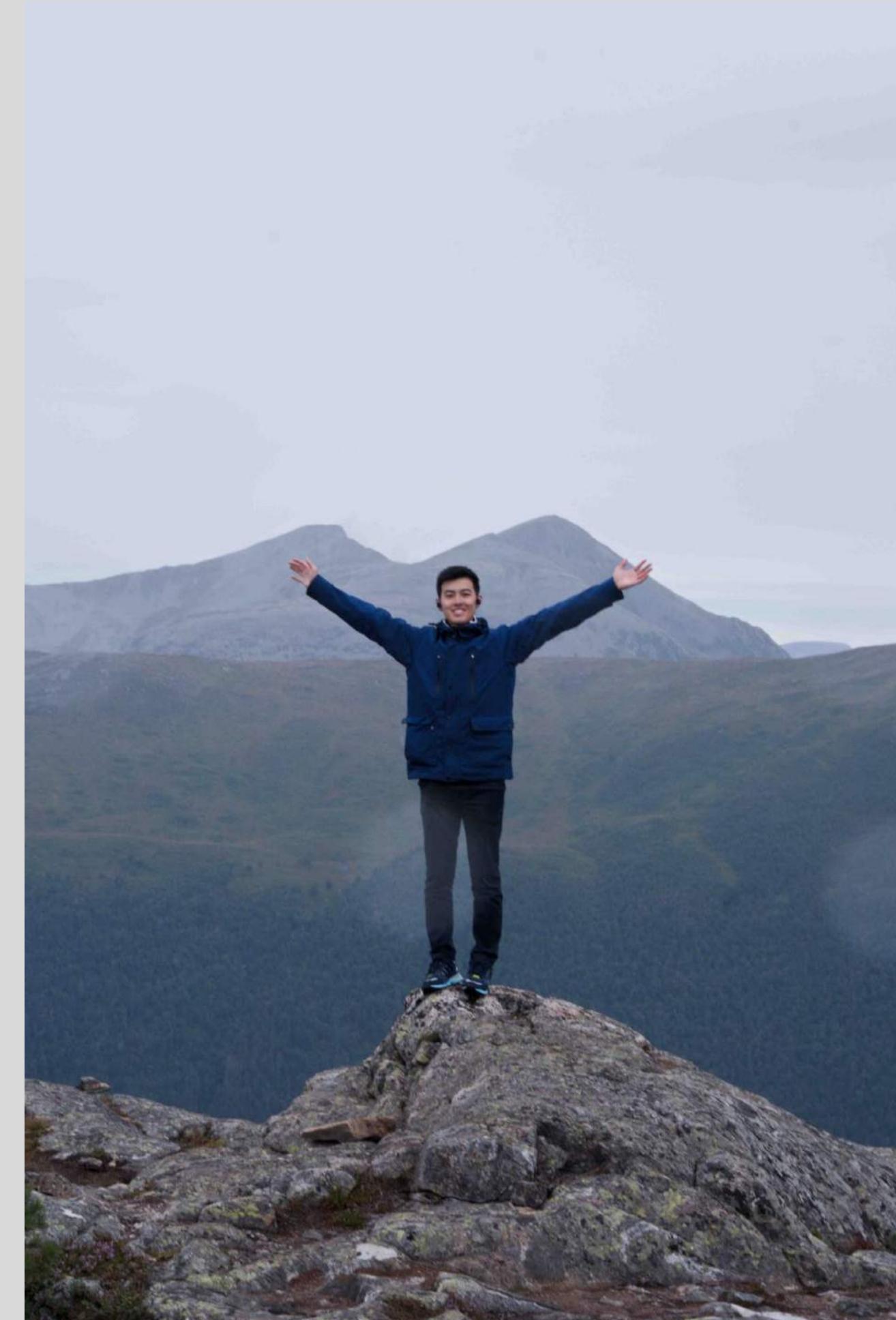






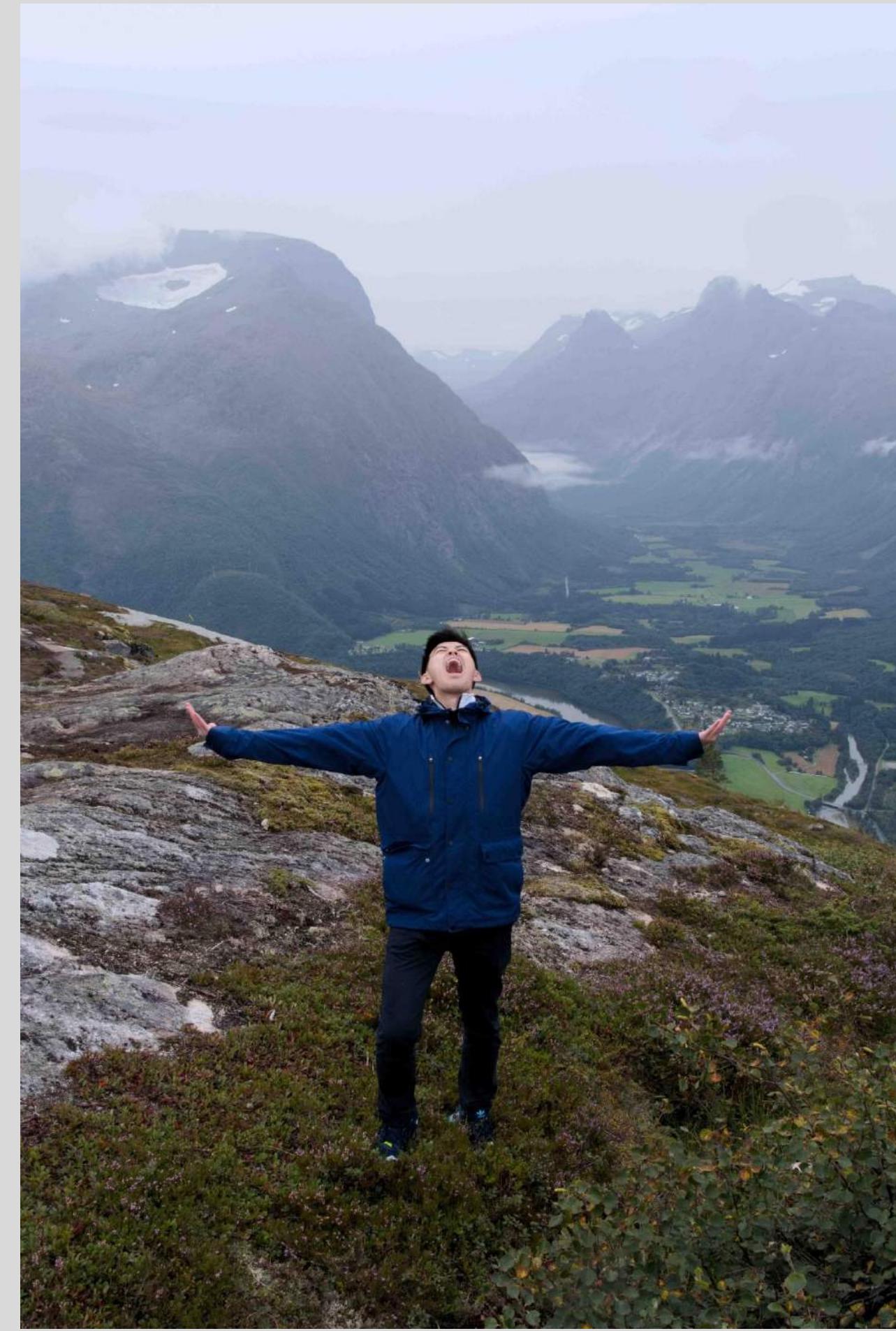




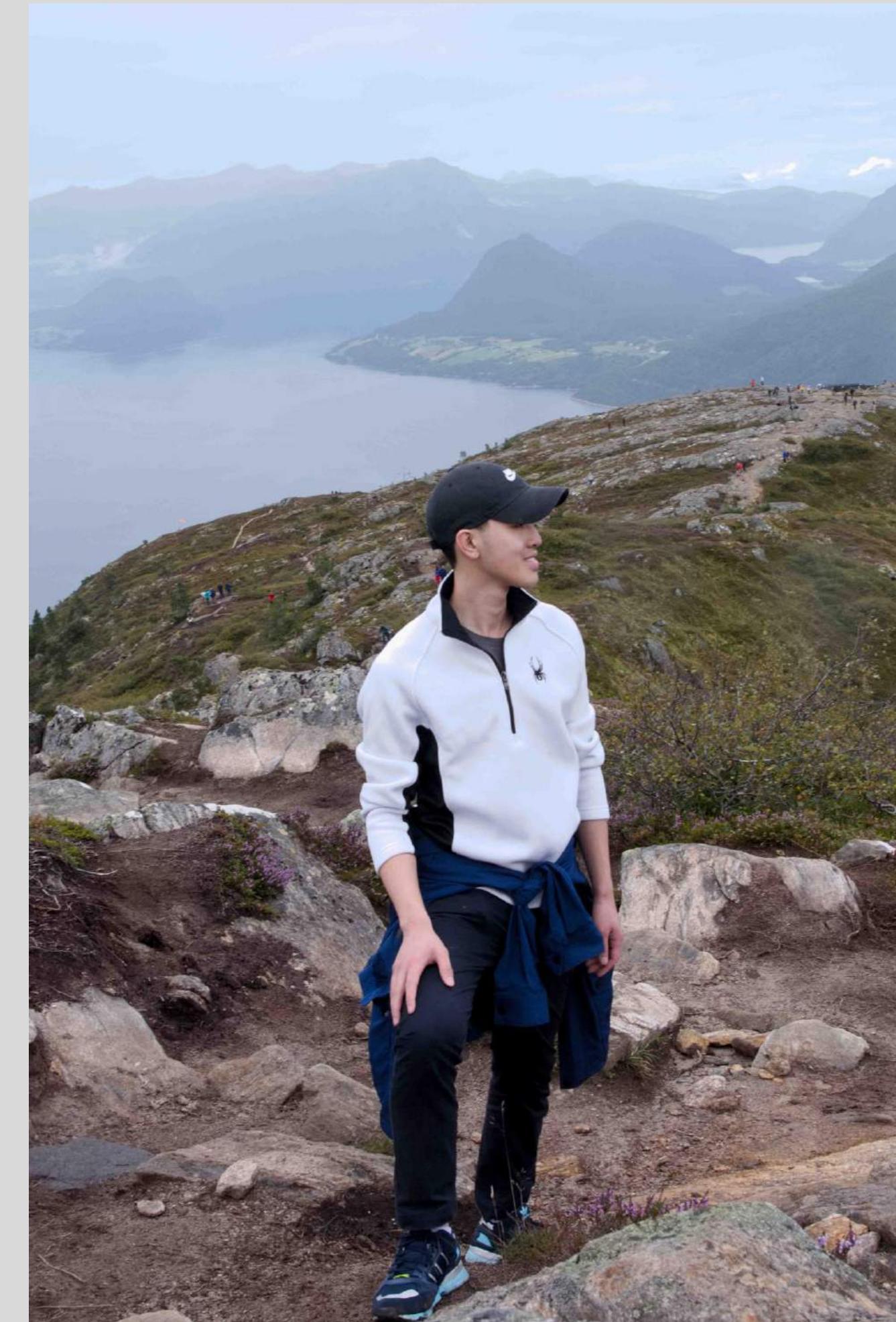


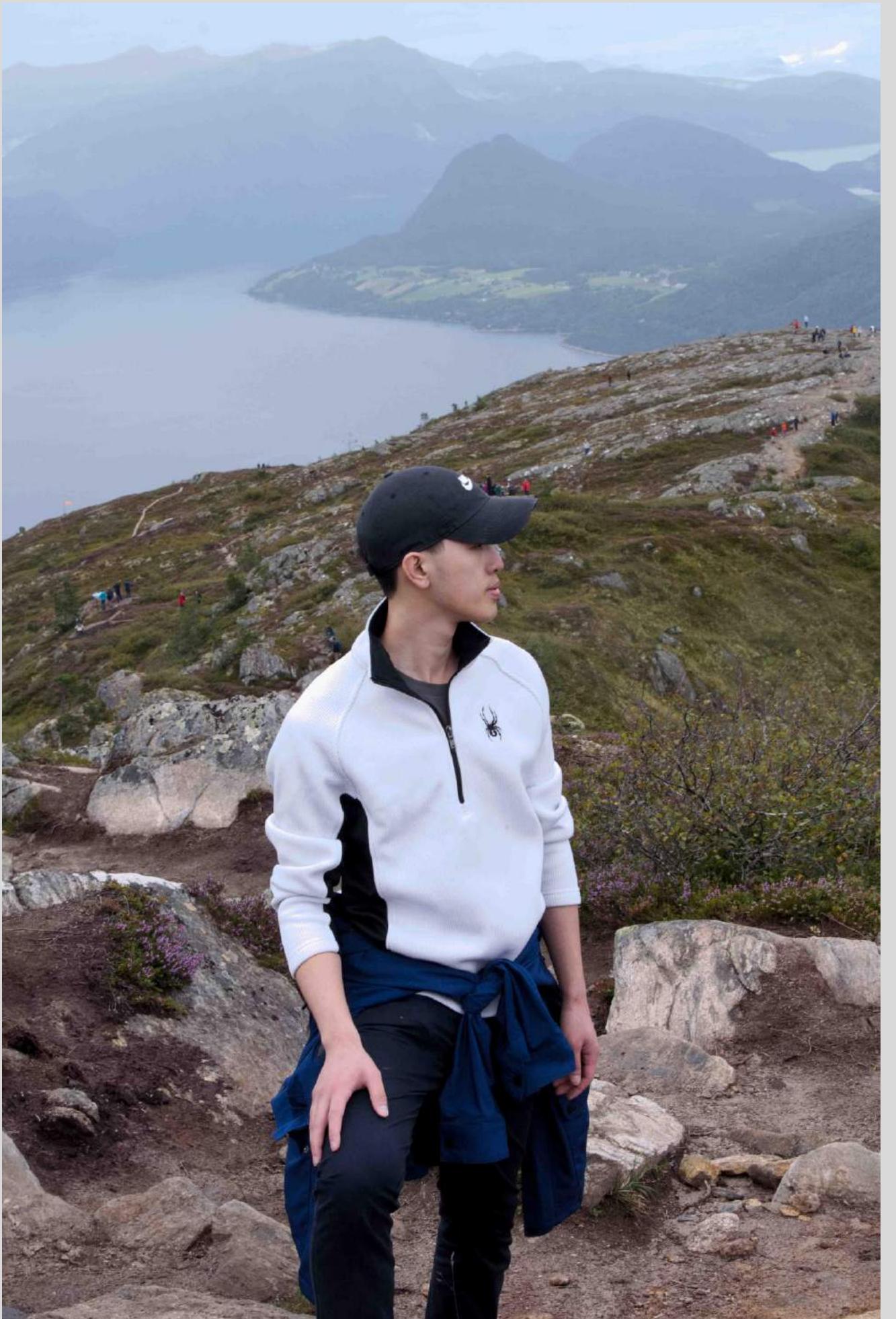


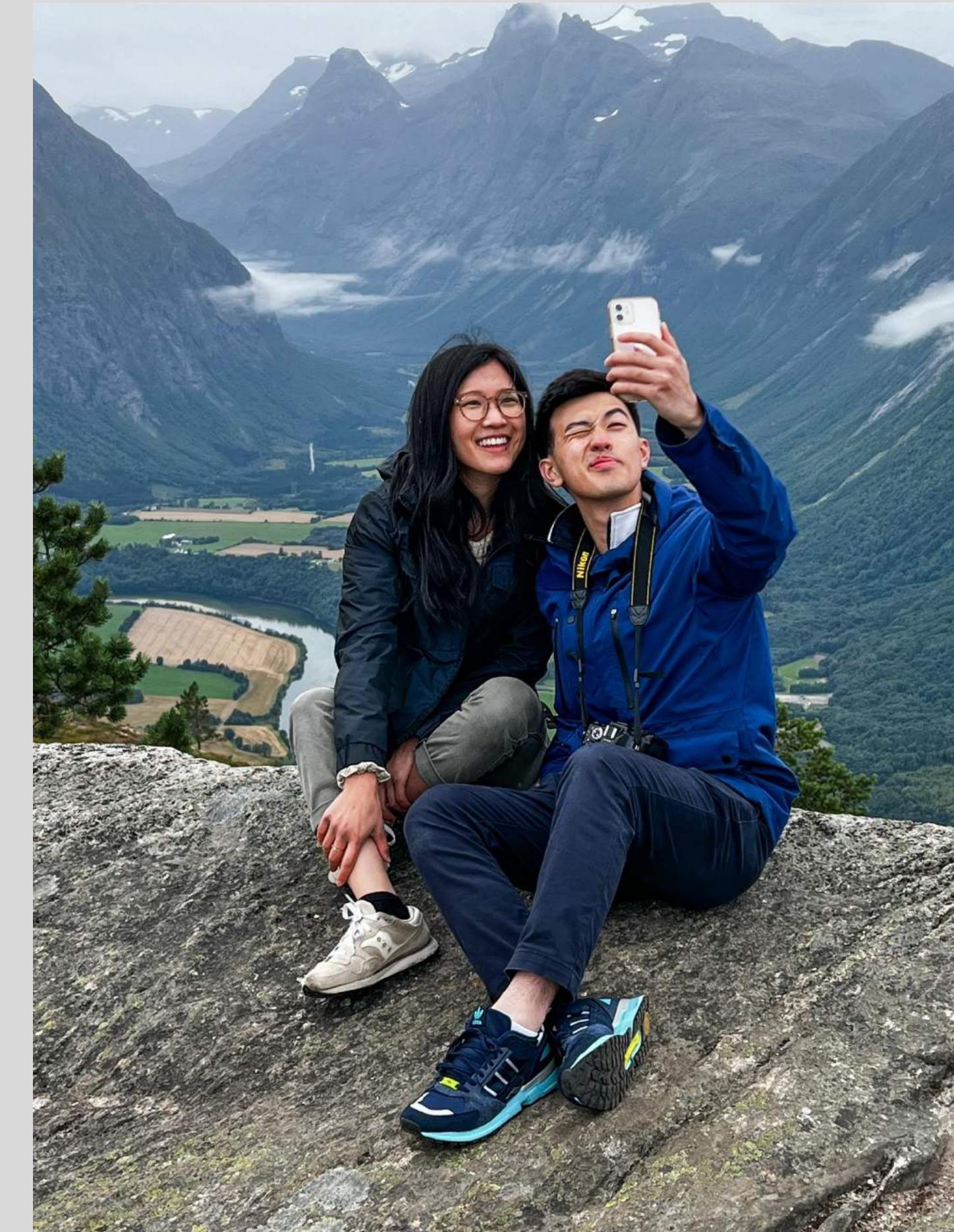










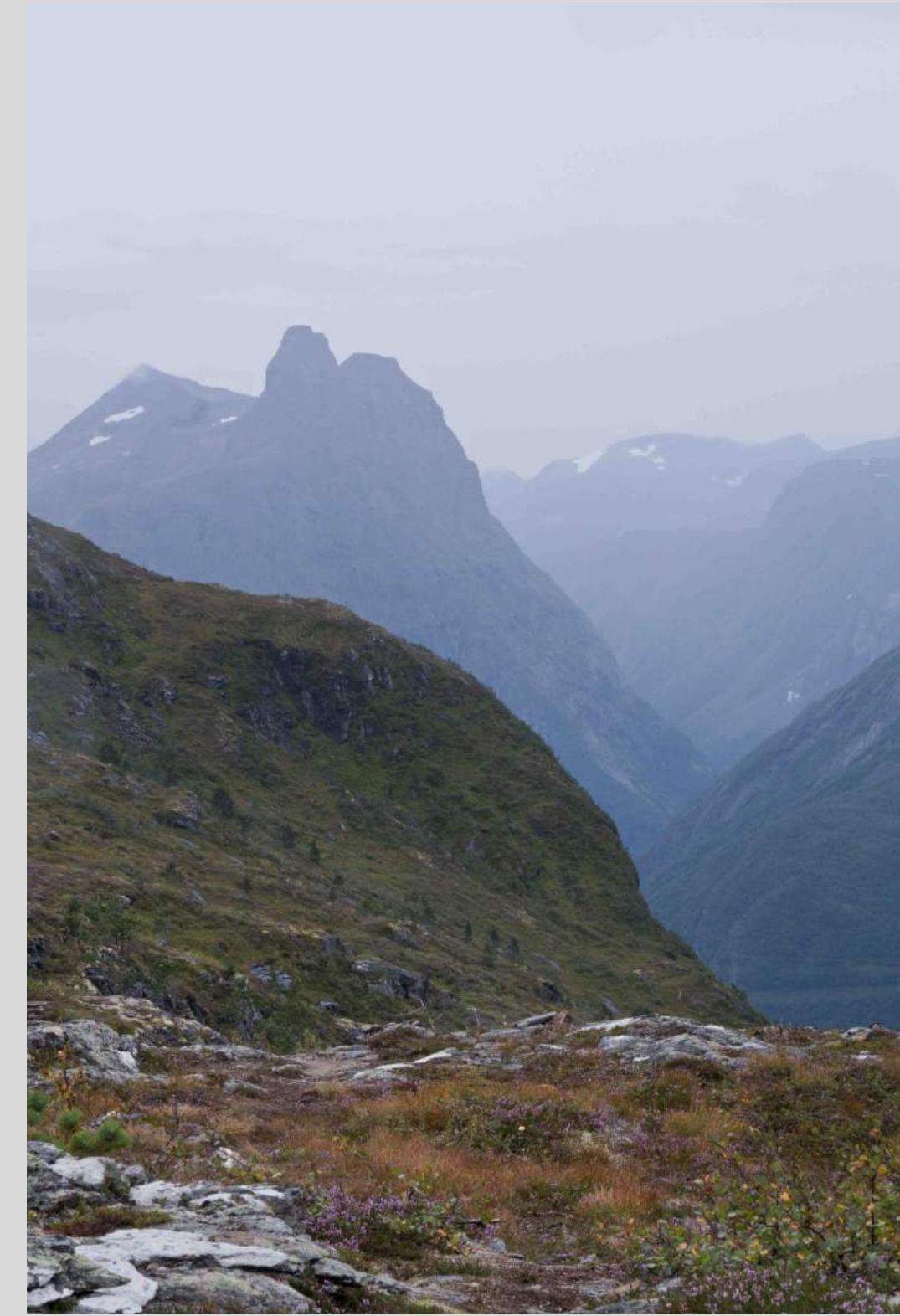
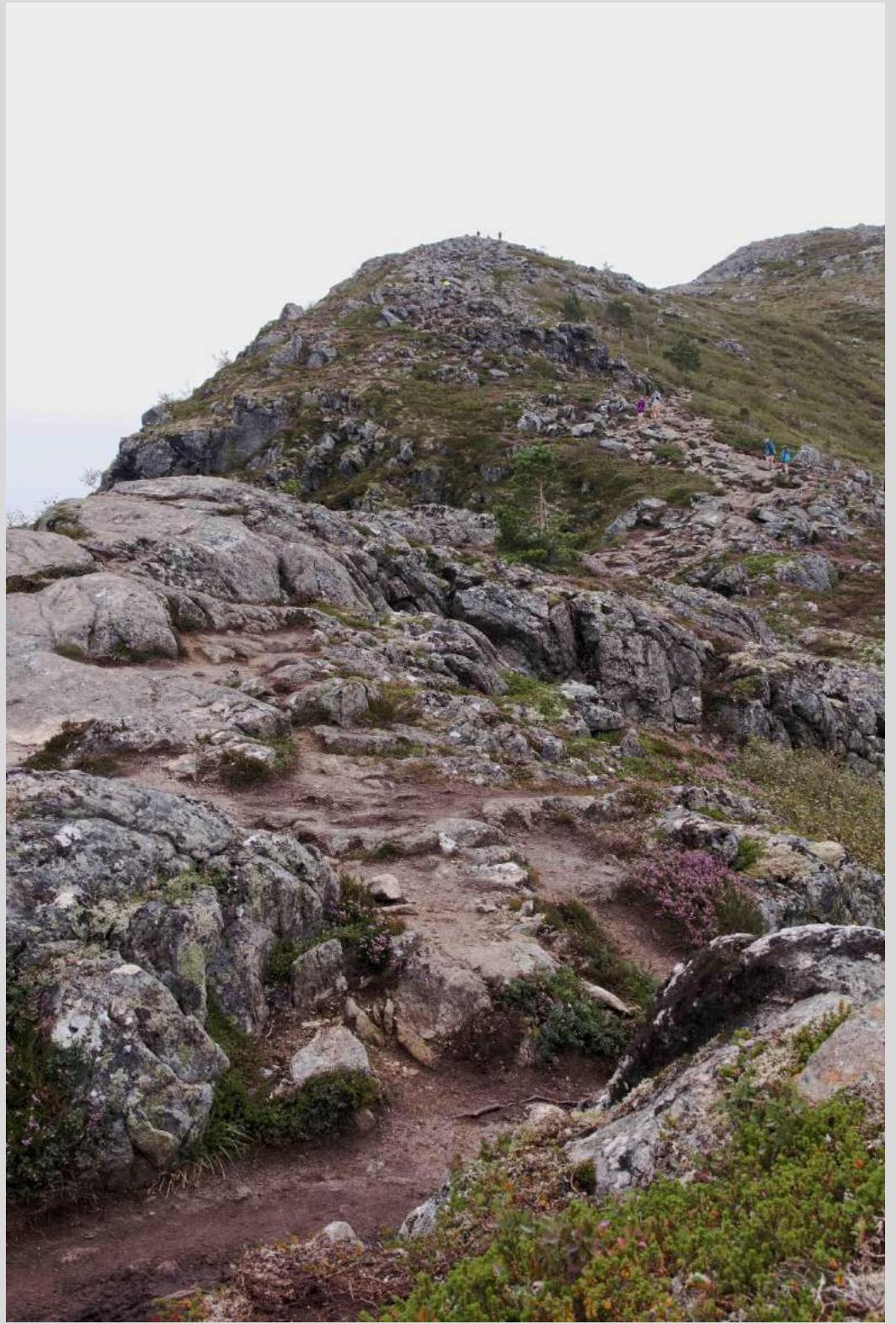










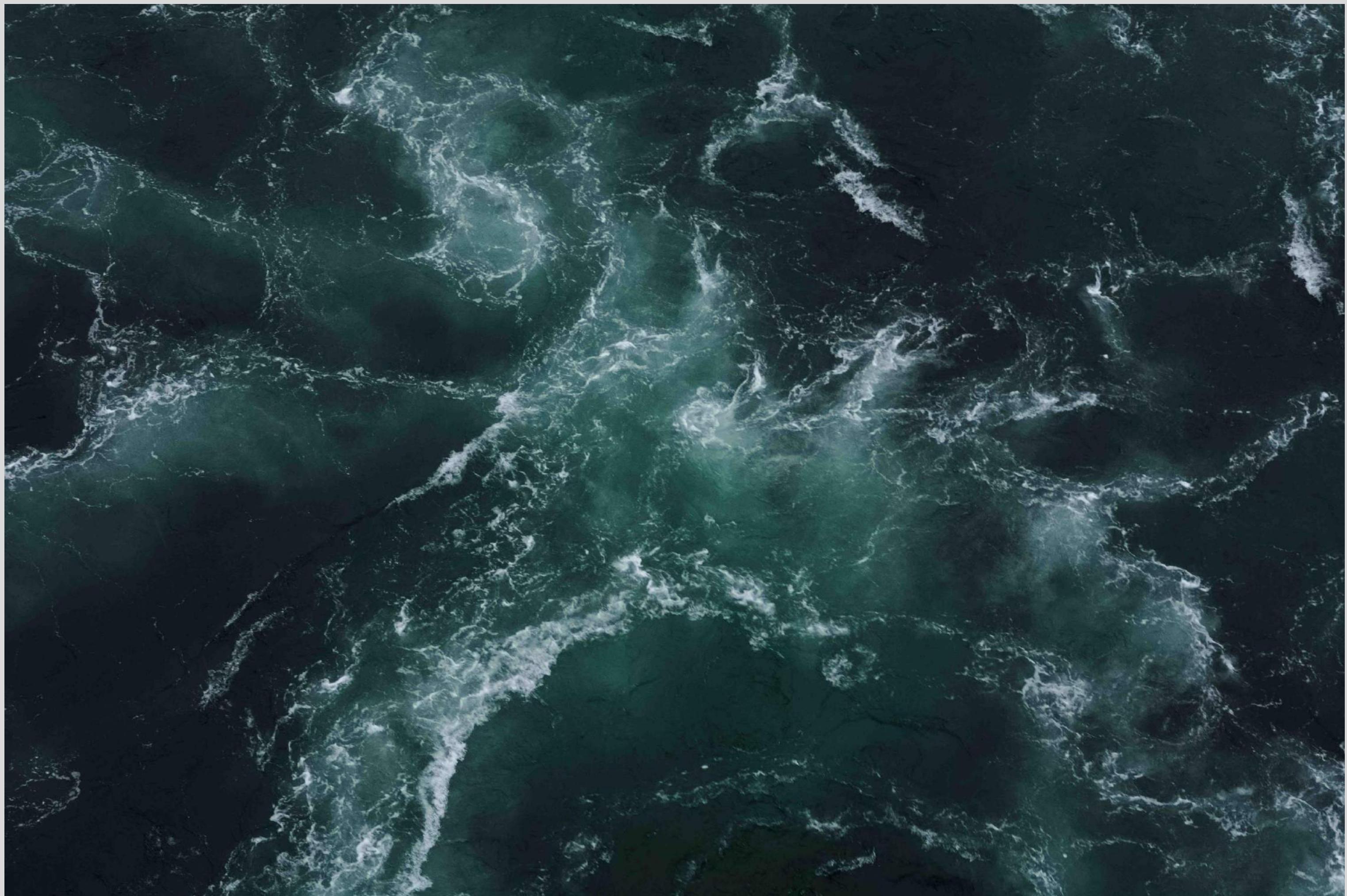


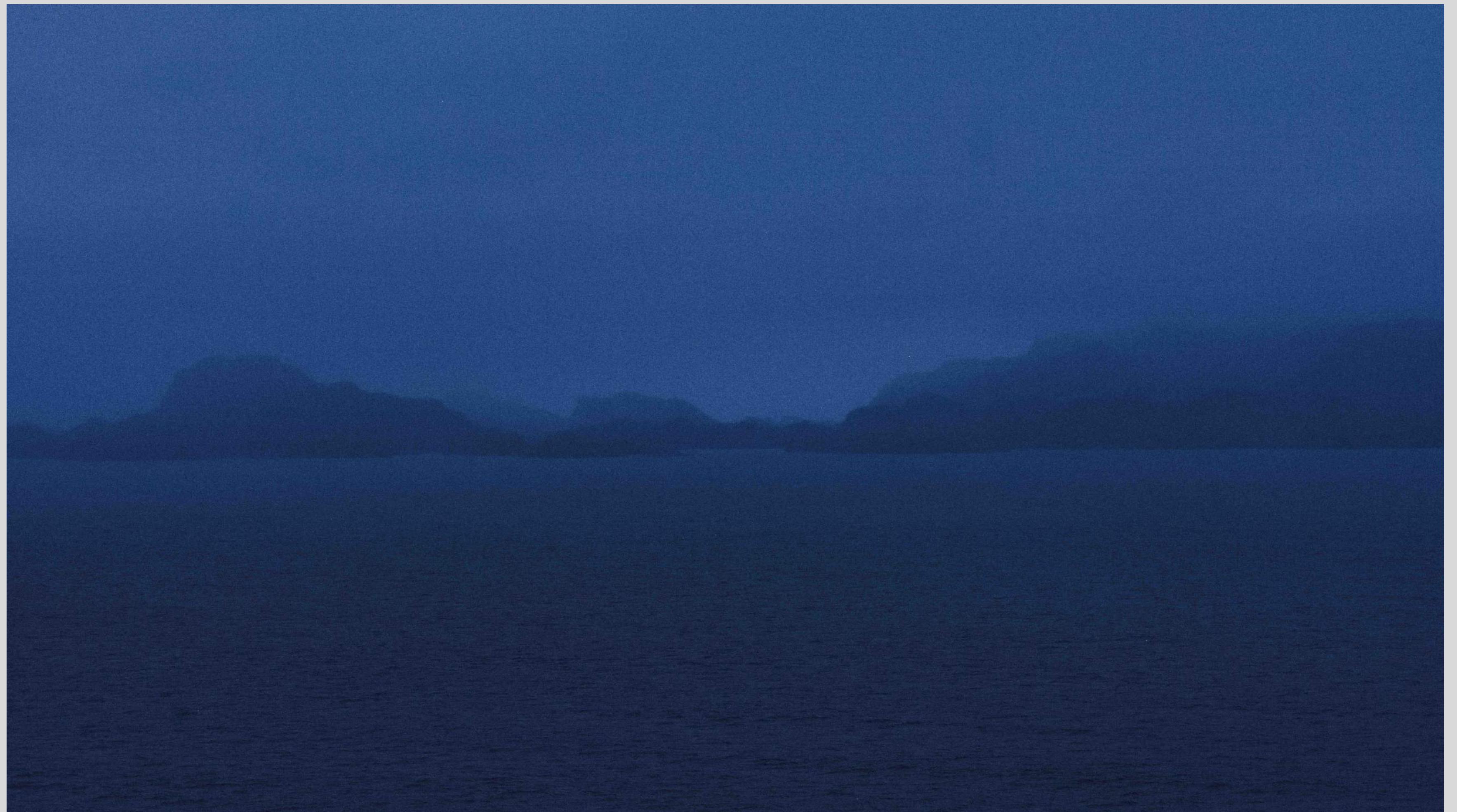


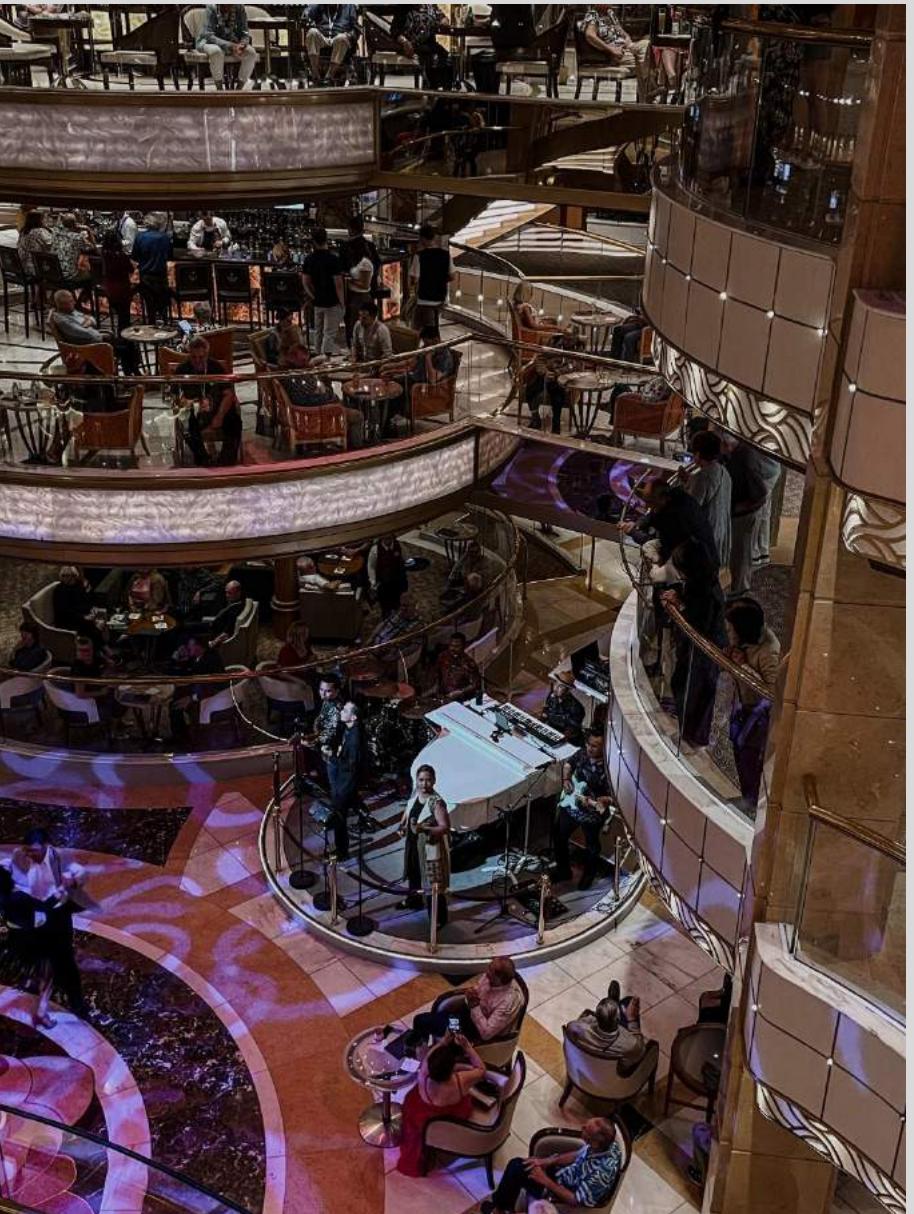
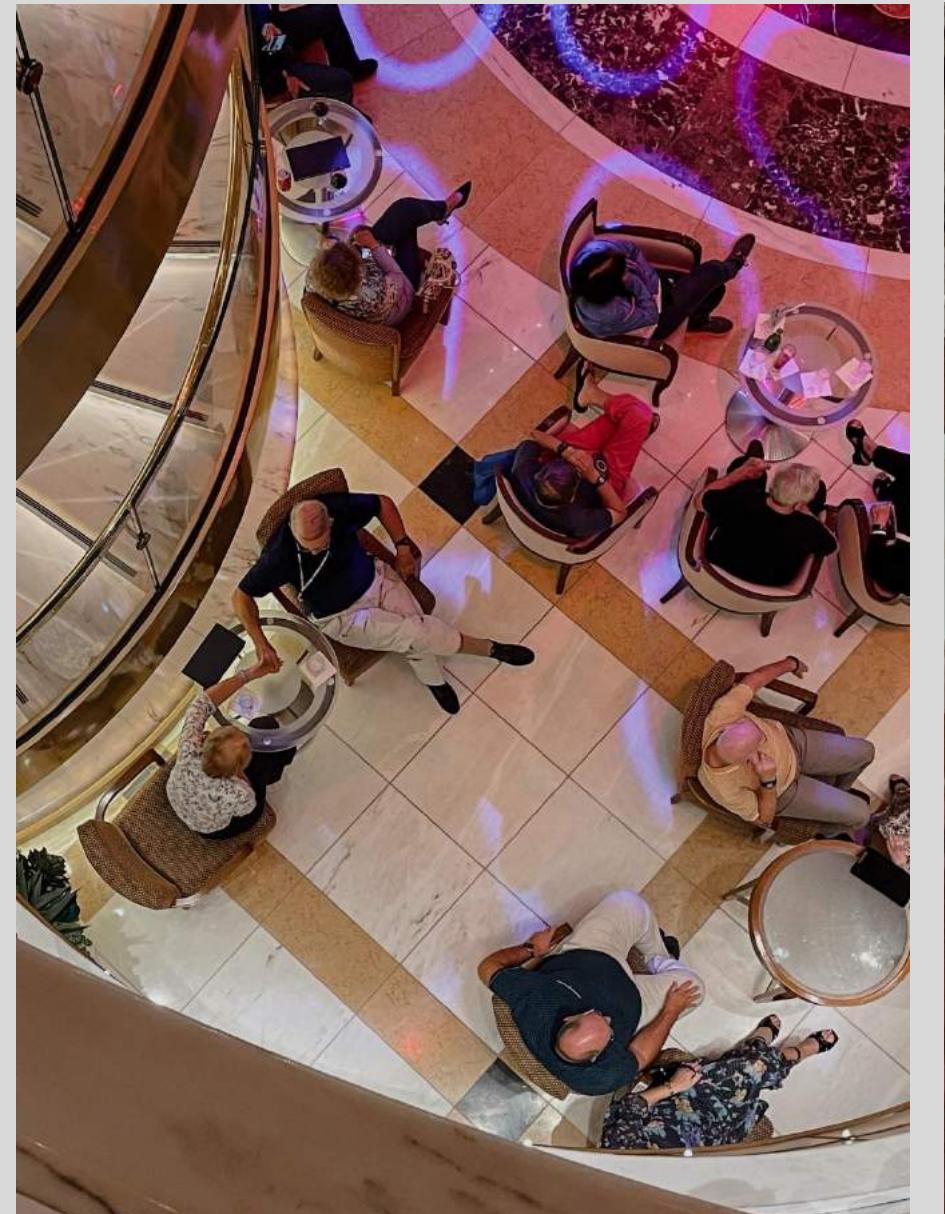


Åndalsnes' facades









Trondheim



Trondheim

We're sailing past swaths of lower laying farmland - patches of dandelion fields with clusters and sprinkles of red and white farmhouses by the sea. Behind stands a massive evergreen covered mountain. A little white lighthouse is perched on a rocky slope... Trondheim's city center was a bit like Dublin with its kebab joints, Burger King, and fast fashion stores, but just a turn around the corner were picturesque, colorful homes with simple yet beautiful facades. We bee-lined it to the Old Town bridge to take lots of photos and were surprised by how un-touristy Norway feels despite the 4000 tourists on our ship. Trondheim wasn't suffocating like Tallinn or Prague. Throughout the day, we saw students and working professionals going to and from... From there, we headed to Kristiansten Fortress and the bicycle lift (trampe) before Nidaros Cathedral and Our Lady's Church (Var Frue Kirke) where I photographed volunteers at a drink station and saw some older folks enjoying a free meal inside... The sun doesn't set until 9 around here and the seascapes are looking more and more ethereal - the ocean is vast, the mountains in the far distance look like mere shadows of purple and navy. It's starting to feel colder and the crew are bundled up in their tan puffer jackets.

24 Aug 23





























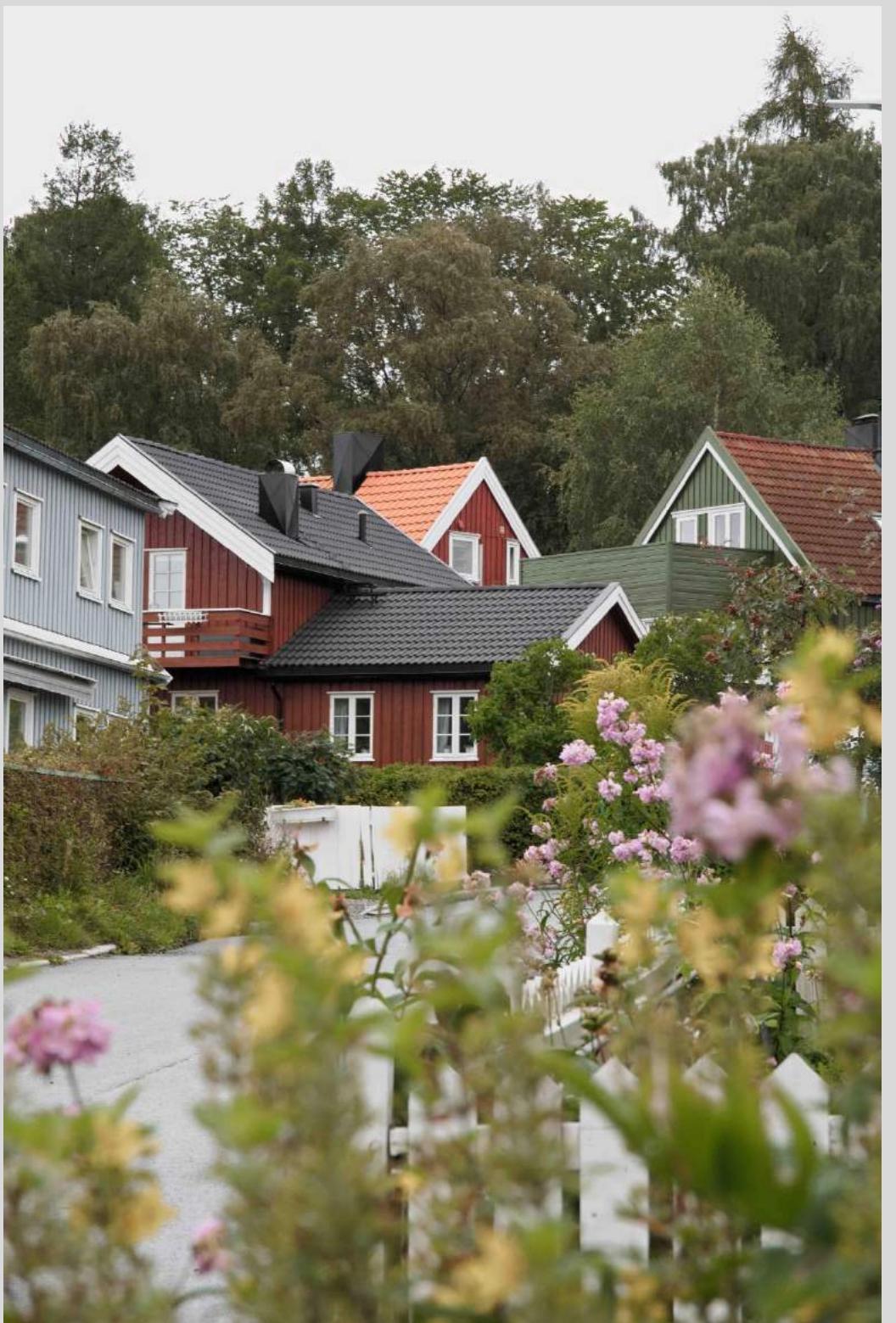














Trondheim's facades





Dad-isms:

- "This buffet is the most popular on the ship!" (it's the only one on the ship)
- "I wonder how the Earth holds all this water"
- "Bibliothek... that means 'Bible study,' right?"
- Slips his phone into his pocket to walk in place (to gain a few steps on his pedometer) after comparing his daily steps to mine.
- "Crown...Krone...Kroner."
- While watching Kung Fu Panda III in our cabin at 5:30pm. "I'm hungry," he said as I walked into the cabin.
- Would not stop talking about Alaska and bears while in Norway...

