

The Forest Finns of Scandinavia



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The Forest Finn settlement Furuberget, Åsnes Finnskog in Norway.

Photo: Seppo Remes

The end of the 16th century saw the start of a westward migration of Finns from eastern Finland to the Scandinavian conifer belt. These so-called Forest Finns settled throughout Scandinavia from Tiveden in southern Sweden to Lapland in the north, from Gästrikland on the east coast to Norwegian Telemark in the west.

Today Forest Finn buildings are still to be found in certain areas, place names recall the Finnish language and the old villages are still called Finn-villages and Finn forests.

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