

Nordic Countries Index

DENMARK Info

Once the seat of Viking raiders and later a major north European power, Denmark has evolved into a modern, prosperous nation that is participating in the general political and economic integration of Europe. (From [The World Factbook](#))

General Info: [The Official Website of Denmark](#)
Travel and Tourist Info: [Visit Denmark](#)
Embassy: [Embassy of Denmark in the US](#)
Royal Family: [The Danish Monarchy](#)
Newspapers and Media: [Copenhagen Post \(Newspaper\)](#)
Miscellaneous: [Denmark Weather](#)

FAROE ISLANDS Info

The population of the Faroe Islands is largely descended from Viking settlers who arrived in the 9th century. The islands have been connected politically to Denmark since the 14th century. A high degree of self-government was granted the Faroese in 1948, who have autonomy over most internal affairs while Denmark is responsible for justice, defense, and foreign affairs. The Faroe Islands are not part of the European Union. (From [The World Factbook](#))

General Info: [The Official Website of the Faroe Islands](#); [Government Website](#)
Travel and Tourist Info: [Visit Faroe Islands](#)
Embassy: [See Danish Embassy](#)
Newspapers and Media: [Faroese Public Broadcasting Network](#)

FINLAND Info

Finland was a province and then a grand duchy under Sweden from the 12th to the 19th centuries, and an autonomous grand duchy of Russia after 1809. It gained complete independence in 1917. During World War II, Finland successfully defended its independence through cooperation with Germany and resisted subsequent invasions by the Soviet Union - albeit with some loss of territory. In the subsequent half century, Finland transformed from a farm/forest economy to a diversified modern industrial economy; per capita income is among the highest in Western Europe. (From [The World Factbook](#))

General Info: [This is Finland](#); [Finnish Government](#)
Travel and Tourist Info: [Visit Finland](#)
Embassy: [Embassy of Finland in the US](#)
Newspapers and Media: [The Finland Times](#)

GREENLAND Info

Greenland, the world's largest island, is about 81% ice-capped. Vikings reached the island in the 10th century from Iceland; Danish colonization began in the 18th century, and Greenland became an integral part of the Danish Realm in 1953. Greenland was granted

self-government in 1979 by the Danish parliament; Greenland voted in favor of increased self-rule in November 2008. Denmark, however, continues to exercise control over several policy areas on behalf of Greenland, including foreign affairs, security, and financial policy. (From [The World Factbook](#))

General Info: [I Love Greenland](#); [Greenlandic Government](#)

Travel and Tourist Info: [Greenland Travel](#); [Air Greenland](#)

Embassy: [See Danish Embassy](#)

Newspapers and Media: [Sermitsiaq AG \(Newspaper\)](#)

Miscellaneous: [Statistics Greenland](#)

ICELAND Info

Settled by Norwegian and Celtic (Scottish and Irish) immigrants during the late 9th and 10th centuries A.D., Iceland boasts the world's oldest functioning legislative assembly, the Althingi, established in 930. Independent for over 300 years, Iceland was subsequently ruled by Norway and Denmark. Fallout from the Askja volcano of 1875 devastated the Icelandic economy and caused widespread famine. Denmark granted limited home rule in 1874 and complete independence in 1944. The second half of the 20th century saw substantial economic growth driven primarily by the fishing industry. The economy diversified greatly after the country joined the European Economic Area in 1994, but Iceland was especially hard hit by the global financial crisis in the years following 2008. Literacy, longevity, and social cohesion are first rate by world standards. (From [The World Factbook](#))

General Info: [Gateway to Iceland](#); [Icelandic Government](#)

Travel and Tourist Info: [Inspired by Iceland](#); [Visit Iceland](#); [Icelandair](#)

Embassy: [Embassy of Iceland in the US](#)

Newspapers and Media: [Reykjavik Grapevine](#); [Iceland Review](#)

Miscellaneous: [Icelandic Weather Condition Webcams](#)

NORWAY Info

Two centuries of Viking raids into Europe tapered off following the adoption of Christianity by King Olav Tryggvason in 994; conversion of the Norwegian kingdom occurred over the next several decades. Rising nationalism throughout the 19th century led to a 1905 referendum granting Norway independence. Although Norway remained neutral in World War I, it suffered heavy losses to its shipping. Norway proclaimed its neutrality at the outset of World War II; in 1949, Norway abandoned neutrality and became a member of NATO. Discovery of oil and gas in adjacent waters in the late 1960s boosted Norway's economic fortunes. (From [The World Factbook](#))

General Info: [Government Website](#)

Travel and Tourist Info: [Visit Norway](#)

Embassy: [Embassy of Norway in the US](#)

Newspapers and Media: [Dagbladet](#)

Royal Family: [The Royal House of Norway](#)

SWEDEN Info

A military power during the 17th century, Sweden has not participated in any war for two centuries. An armed neutrality was preserved in both world wars. Sweden has a long-successful economic formula of a capitalist system intermixed with substantial welfare elements. (From [The World Factbook](#))

General Info: [The Official Website of Sweden](#); [Government Website](#)

Travel and Tourist Info: [Visit Sweden](#); [Scandinavian Airlines](#)

Embassy: [Embassy of Sweden in the US](#); [House of Sweden](#)

Royal Family: [Swedish Royal Court](#)

Newspapers and Media: [Svenska Dagbladet \(Newspaper\)](#)

Miscellaneous: [The Swedish Number](#)

Svalbard Info

The archipelago may have been first discovered by Norse explorers in the 12th century; the islands served as an international whaling base during the 17th and 18th centuries. Norway's sovereignty was internationally recognized by treaty in 1920, and five years later it officially took over the territory. In the 20th century coal mining started and today a Norwegian and a Russian company are still functioning. Travel between the settlements is accomplished with snowmobiles, aircraft, and boats. (From [The World Factbook](#))

General Info: [Visit Svalbard](#); [Governor of Svalbard](#)

Travel and Tourist Info: [Spitsbergen Travel](#)

Embassy: [Visa Conditions](#)

Newspapers and Media: [Svalbardposten](#)

Miscellaneous: [Global Seed Vault](#)

