



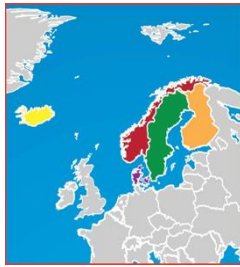
Scandinavia

Year 4

Summer Term

Where is Scandinavia?

Scandinavia is a region in northern Europe which is made up of three countries: Norway, Sweden and Denmark.



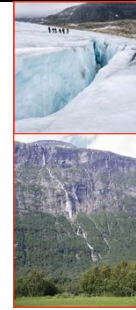
Some people think that Iceland and Finland are part of Scandinavia because they are similar countries geographically and culturally, but this is not the case. Only Norway, Sweden and Denmark form Scandinavia. These five countries are, however, all Nordic countries, meaning they are from the north.

Key Vocabulary

Climate	The weather conditions in an area over a long period.
Fjord	A long, narrow, deep inlet of sea between two cliffs.
Human feature	Man-made features.
Rural	It has the characteristics of the countryside.
Subarctic	The region immediately south of the Arctic Circle.
The Northern Lights	Electrically-charged particles from the sun's atmosphere are blown towards Earth by solar winds
Tundra	a vast, flat, treeless Arctic region of Europe, Asia, and North America in which the subsoil is permanently frozen.
Urban	It has the characteristics of a built-up town or city.

The physical features of Scandinavia

Norway has large rural area and several distinctive physical features, one of the most dramatic being glaciers. Another physical feature typical to Norway are fjords. A fjord is a body of water that is formed when a glacier retreats and carves a U-shaped valley into the landscape. They are surrounded by steep mountain sides and are long, narrow and deep. It is also a very mountainous country. The Scandinavian Mountains run along the length of the country and extend into Sweden. A familiar sight in Norway are waterfalls. Waterfalls are cascades of water that fall from a height.



The west of Sweden has some tall mountains and fjords, like Norway does. However, the rest of the country is mostly flat or slightly hilly. It has huge lakes. Denmark has a very different physical landscape to Norway. Denmark is a low-lying country and has no tall mountains or hills. Much of the land is very low, there is often a risk of flooding.

The Northern Lights can be seen in an oval area above the North Pole. This means that northern areas of Norway and Sweden are good places for seeing the Northern Lights.



The human features of Scandinavia

There are human features all over Scandinavia, but they are particularly found in urban areas like cities and towns. Examples are bridges, building and transport stations. Scandinavian countries are famous for their love of winter sports. They have held the Winter Olympics in Scandinavia. The picture shows a man-made Olympic ski jump.



Key Knowledge

To know how to locate Scandinavian countries, cities and bodies of water on a map.

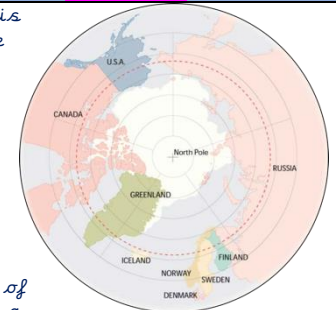
To know the Scandinavia is made up of Norway, Sweden and Denmark.

To know the human and physical features of Scandinavia.

To know what the weather and climate is like in Scandinavia.

Scandinavian Climate

The red dotted line on this diagram shows where the Arctic Circle is. In the centre of the Arctic Circle is the North Pole. Anything above the Arctic Circle is very cold and much of the land is constantly covered in ice.



The most northerly parts of Sweden and Norway have a tundra climate (in purple). The tundra climate is one of the harshest in the world. These regions are very cold and dry and there is a permanent layer of frozen subsoil called permafrost.

Northern parts of Sweden and Norway have a subarctic climate (in green).

This means that they have very long, cold winters and short, cool summers. The rest of Scandinavia has less harsh conditions and a climate similar to other European countries although winters are often colder.



As well as having very cold winters, they also have very short days during the winter and very long days during the summer