

NORDEN STAMP SERIES

1953-2020



Fred Haynes

Rochester Philatelic Society

April 13, 2013

Original Nordic Group Countries

The five major Scandinavian nations initiated a postal service cooperation union in 1869. Some 87 years later, the five nations decided to issue a joint pair of postage stamps to commemorate their long standing cooperation and their shared heritages.

Denmark:

Population 5,580,000
Capital - Copenhagen



Finland:

Population 5,400,000
Capital - Helsinki



Iceland:

Population 320,000
Capital - Reykjavik



Norway:

Population 5,030,000
Capital - Oslo



Sweden:

Population 9,540,000
Capital - Sweden



Total Population:
16,330, 000



Norden Stamp Series

1989 - Common Theme - National Costumes



Lois M. Haynes
(1923-2011)



NORDEN STAMP SERIES

1956



Denmark



Finland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden

In 1956, the five original Scandinavian nations agreed to form a Nordic council to foster kinship and to collaborate in culture, tourism, and mail services. October 30th was declared as Norden Day and the first Norden series stamps were issued. Viggo Bang, a Danish artist, designed the stamp, which was then engraved by Sven Ewert of Sweden. The five Whooper swans were inspired by a 1946 poem entitled "Svanerne fra Norden" by Hans Hartvig Seedorff Pederson. Each country issued a red stamp for mail sent within Scandinavia and a blue stamp for non-airmail foreign mail.



NORDEN STAMP SERIES

1969



Denmark



Finland



Iceland



Norway

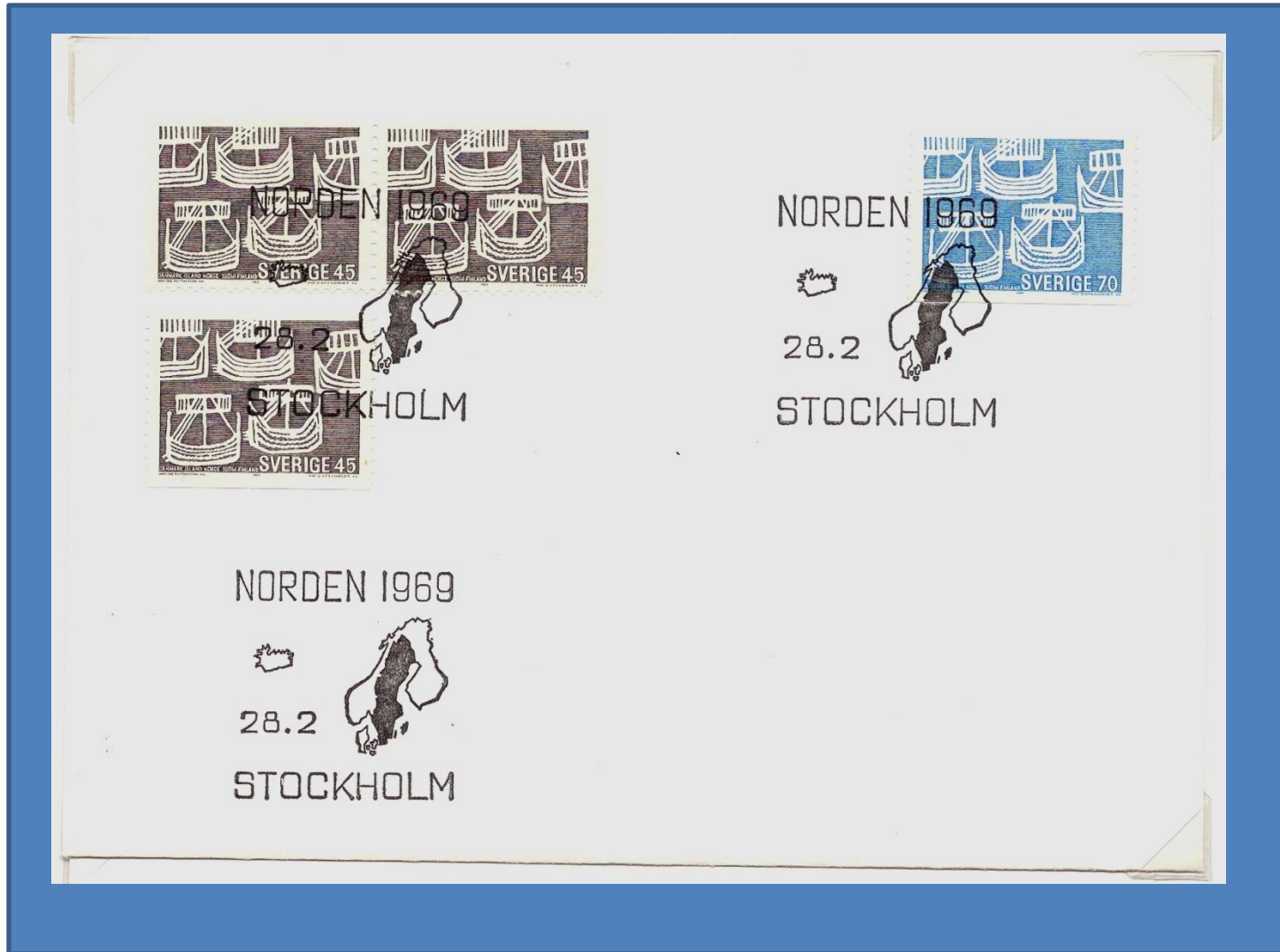


Sweden

Thirteen years after the initial stamps, a true series was born when the five nations released a second Norden issue on February 28th, 1969. The design depicts five merchant Viking ships from five different silver coins (circa 825 a.d.) that were found outside Stockholm Sweden. These joint stamps commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Nordic Postal treaty and the 50th anniversary of the Nordic Association.

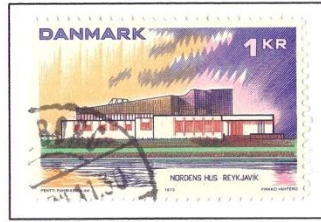


Sweden First Day Cover



NORDEN STAMP SERIES

1973



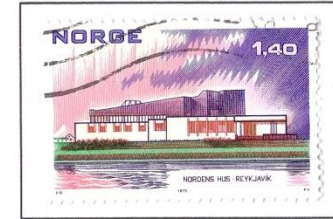
Denmark



Finland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden

A Nordic Conference held in Reykjavik, Iceland in June of 1973 was honored by stamps depicting the Nordic House in the Icelandic Capital. Two stamps were released on June 26th in all 5 countries. The issue and event also commemorated the 100th anniversary of Icelandic stamps and the opening of Iceland's Postal Museum.





Denmark

Finland

Iceland



Norway

Sweden

In 1977, a theme of "Protect the Environment" was reflected in 5 water lilies depicted on green and blue stamps. This year also saw the introduction of a posthorn into the design, the emblem of the Nordic Postal Union.



The Posthorn: A symbol for mail delivery



Sweden



Denmark



Norway



Finland



Iceland



First stamp to include the Posthorn:
Kingdom of Hanover Scott #18, released in 1860



Norwegian postcard depicting a number of posthorns found in the Norway Postal Museum in Oslo



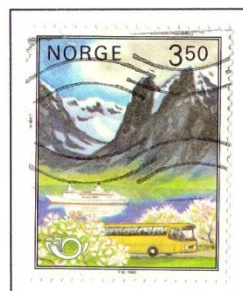
Denmark



Finland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden

The 1983 theme was travel. Iceland and Norway highlighted glaciers and waterfalls. Finland depicted its rivers, known for gold panning and running the rapids. Sweden showed recreation travel with biking and sailing. Denmark included a map while depicting historical Egeskov castle on one stamp and a natural scene from Jutland.



1986 Issue honored sister cities



Stykkisholmur

Seydisfjordur

Iceland



Alesund



Moss

Norway



Thisted

Denmark

Åalborg



Eskilstuna

Uppsala



Jyaskyla



Joensuu





Denmark



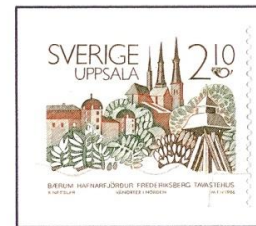
Finland



Iceland



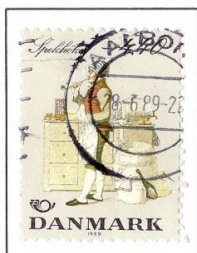
Norway



Sweden

In 1986, the Nordic community decided to honor sister cities in the five nations. Denmark chose Aalborg and Thisted, Finland highlighted Joensuu and Jvaskyla, Iceland showed scenes from the towns of Stykkisholmur and Seydisfjordur, Norway honored the coastal cities of Alesund and Moss, and Sweden picked Uppsala and Eskilstuna.





Denmark



Finland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden

The five Nordic nations chose national or folk costumes as the theme for 1989 and these sets have been very popular for a number of topical collections. The stamps feature traditional costumes of either national or regional significance. For example, the Icelandic stamps feature national costumes, the Upphlutur and the Peysuföt, while Norway selected regional folk costumes from the Setesdal (women) and Kautokeino (men) regions.



Åland Islands, Faroe Islands, and Greenland join in 1991



Greenland:
Population 57,700
Capital - Godthåb
Territory of Denmark



Faroe Islands:
Population 49,500
Capital - Tórshavn
Territory of Denmark



Åland Islands:
Population 28,300
Capital - Mariehamn
Territory of Finland



Åland



Denmark



Faroe Islands



Finland



Greenland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden



Åland, Faroe Islands, and Greenland joined the Nordic Group of Nations in 1991. The 8 member nations chose Tourism as an initial theme for the larger group and a varied set of stamps emerged. From the beaches of Denmark, the glaciers of Greenland, and the geysers of Iceland and to the top of the world at Nordkapp, Norway and to kayaking and biking on the Åland Islands the nations showed off their attractive tourist venues.



NORDEN STAMP SERIES

1993

Åland



Denmark



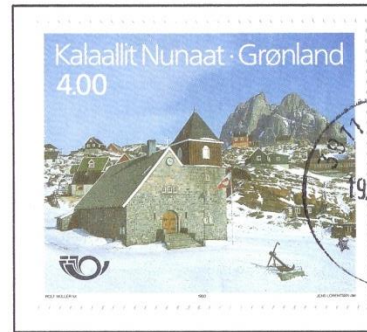
Faroe Islands



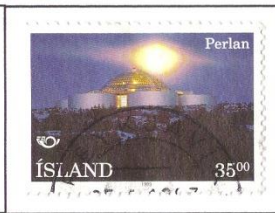
Finland



Greenland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden



The tourism theme was repeated in 1993 as all 8 nations issued a pair of stamps. Theme parks were featured by Denmark (Tivoli) and Sweden (Liseburg). Greenland and Faroe Islands depicted coastal and rural scenery. Norway promoted boating while Iceland recognized the attractions of geothermal bathing.



Global Stamp News, 1994

A Nordic Omnibus



By Christer Brunstrom

This month's column is particularly intended for those who are on a limited stamp budget or who would like to start a sideline collection. With so many new issues each year, it might be a good idea to limit your collecting interest to a particular topic. My suggestion is a collection of Norden stamps. In this way you will be collecting a limited number of stamps from eight different countries. The Norden collection will tell you a lot about Sweden, Finland, Aland, Denmark, Faroes, Greenland, Iceland

and Norway; these eight nations constitute the Nordic community.

It all started back in 1956 when it was decided to issue stamps marking the Nordic Day. The Nordic countries form a group of nations with both linguistic and historical connections.

Viggo Bang, a Danish artist, produced the design which was engraved by Sven Ewert of Sweden. The stamp depicted five flying Whooper Swans intended to symbolize the five Nordic nations of Sweden, Norway, Finland, Denmark and Iceland. All five countries released identical stamps; in fact, most if not all were printed in Stockholm. Shown here in **Figure 1** is the Icelandic 1.50 kr stamp. In my opinion, it is an impressive design of classic beauty.

In 1969, the second Nordic omnibus issue went on sale. This time the stamps depicted five ships from Viking times. The design of the ships was based on silver coins from around 825 a.d. found in Sweden. The engraver of the issue was the now world famous Czeslaw Slania. This issue commemorated two events: the centenary of Nordic postal



cooperation and the 50th anniversary of the Norden societies.

In 1973, a Nordic conference was held in Reykjavik, Iceland. To mark the occasion, all five nations released two identical stamps depicting the Nordic House in the Icelandic capital. In 1977, the fourth Norden stressed the importance to protect the environment. So far, all stamps from all five participating nations had had identical designs.

A major change took place in connection with the fifth Norden issue in 1980. The theme selected was 19th century

applied art. In 1983, the ten stamps featured travel in the Nordic countries. Three years later, the seventh Norden issue depicted sister towns on ten different stamps.

The eighth Norden issue of 1989 is quite attractive as it shows national costumes from the five participating nations.

The Norden issues are released approximately every two years and in 1991 it was time for a new issue. The theme (topic) for the 1991 issue was tourism. However, the major development as far as the Norden issues are concerned was the fact that Greenland, Faroes and Aland issued their first Norden stamps. We have a most interesting group of 16 different stamps featuring a wide variety of tourist attractions.

The first 1956 issue had identical intaglio-printed designs. In 1991, only Sweden issued intaglio-printed stamps; the seven other nations released offset printed stamps. Shown here in **Figure 2** is the 1991 stamp issued by Denmark. It is a delightful 3.50 kr stamp showing a beach scene on the island of Fanø.

Tourism was once again the subject

for the tenth Norden issue released last year. I suppose we can expect the next Norden issue some time in 1995.

So far, slightly more than 110 different Norden stamps have been released and the good thing is that they are all affordable in MNH condition. As the Norden stamps were generally issued in the most used denominations, all of

them are readily available in used condition. A complete collection of Norden stamps constitutes a varied and colorful picture album of the Nordic area.

Illustrated First Day Covers are available for all the years and such a collection would also be quite inexpensive but more time would probably be needed to locate all the different covers.

NORDEN STAMP SERIES

1995

Åland



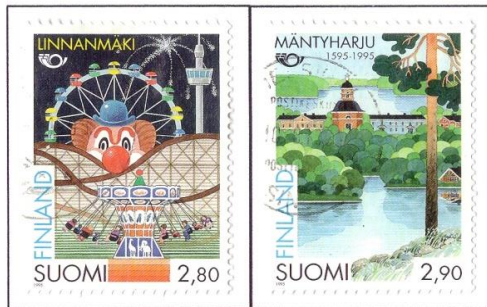
Denmark



Faroe Islands



Finland



Greenland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden



In 1995, The Norden Group repeated the theme of the past two issue years as the 8 countries highlighted tourism within their respective countries.



NORDEN STAMP SERIES

1998

Åland



Denmark



Finland



Greenland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden



Shipping was chosen as the theme for 1998 and a variety of famed schooners and modern ferries adorned the Nordic Group stamps. Only 7 nations participated as the Faroe Islands failed to issue a Norden stamp in 1998. Åland and Sweden opted for just one stamp, while the other 5 nations printed the customary pair of stamps.



Norden series features modern, public art

Eight Nordic postal administrations showcase their contemporary art, including a sculpture made from snow and artwork found in airports, on stamps in the multination, or omnibus, series called Norden.

Like the nations that participate in the Europa

feet] at their disposal. Three days and nights are allowed for the cutting, digging, polishing and smoothing of the dice into a finished work of art...

Greenland's 1kr Norden stamp pictures *Stone and Man*, an outdoor sculpture chiselled

of Kristianstad on its pair of Norden coil stamps released March 23.

Kristianstad has more sculptures than any other city in Sweden — about 200 in and around the municipality. It is nicknamed "The City of Sculptures." Many of the sculptures are created out of diabase, the hard, black rock for which the region is famous.

One stamp depicts Takashi Naraha's sculpture titled *Structure*. This Japanese artist emigrated to Sweden in 1974. The other stamp shows *Spring From*, a sculpture by Swedish artist Pal Svensson.

The stamps are denominated 8kr each to pay the basic letter rate to other European countries.

Norway chose public sculptures from both the northern and southern parts of the country for its two Norden stamps released April 12.

The north is represented by Sivert Donali's *Monument to Whaling* in Tromsø on the 7.50kr stamp, the south by Kåre Groven's *Throw* on the 8.50kr denomination. The latter sculpture is part of Oslo's Gardermoen Airport.

Faeroes features the work of one artist, Trondur Patursson, on its two Norden stamps issued April 8.

Patursson, born in Kirkjubour in the Faeroes in 1944, creates sculptures out of several types of material, including iron, copper, wood,

and sculptor, created *Cosmic Space* as an attempt to express the impressions he formed while on a 106-day journey in a bamboo raft. This 1993 expedition from China to America was led by Tom Severin.

In addition to panes of the stamps, Postverk

World of New Issues

By Denise McCarty

and America-stamp series, the individual Scandinavian postal administrations generally design their own stamps to reflect a central theme.

The Nordic Council selects the themes for the Norden stamps. The council, formed in 1952, is the forum for interparliamentary cooperation. The council has 87 members representing the five countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) and three autonomous territories (Aland, Faeroes and Greenland).

The council selected the topic of contemporary art (art after 1945) for the Norden stamp series of 2002, 2005 and 2008. An additional theme for the 2002 stamp is the decoration of public places. In other words, the 2002 Norden stamps feature modern art found somewhere



This pair of Norden stamps from Denmark depicts front and back views of a sculpture by Hanne Varming at Copenhagen's airport.

in granite by 18 artists during the summers of 1993 and 1994.

Aka Hoegh came up with the concept for the sculpture. She said that the idea started when she was a child and saw faces in the rocks and stones around her town, Qaqortoq.

Hoegh also designed previous stamps for Greenland, including the Christmas stamps for the year 2000 (Scott 378-79) and the 1998 Women's Society of Greenland semipostal (B23).

Denmark issued its two Norden stamps March 13. The stamps show front and back views of a sculpture at the Copenhagen airport.

This sculpture by Hanne Varming is described in *Journal*, the Danish philatelic bureau's publication for collectors: "Like two transitory passengers stopped for a moment to take in the view, *The Girls in the Airport* survey Terminal 3 with its high ceiling and bustle of expectant travellers."

The front view of the sculpture is reproduced on the 5kr denomination, and the back view on the 4kr.



A monument to composer Jean Sibelius is illustrated on Finland's stamp in the 2002 Norden series with the theme contemporary art. Eila Hiltunen created the sculpture in 1967.

Foeroya also issued a booklet with four stamps of each denomination.

All of the aforementioned Norden stamps include the symbolic posthorn emblem of the Nordic Postal Union. Iceland includes this emblem on one of its two Norden stamps issued April 18, and the logo of the Nordic Council on the other.

The Nordic Council emblem appears on a nondenominated stamp inscribed "bref 20g," indicating that it pays the rate for letters weighing up to 20 grams. The stamp shows *Fyssa* (waterfall) by Ruri.

The other Icelandic stamp is denominated 60kr and depicts *Spenna* (tension) by Hafsteinn Austmann.

Finland pictures *Passio Musicae* on its 0.60-euro Norden stamp issued May 3. This large structure of steel pipes welded together symbolizes the life work of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius (1865-1957).



This Norden stamp from Greenland shows a sculpture created at the Nuuk Snow Festival.



Faeroes honors the work of artist and sailor Trondur Patursson on this Norden stamp.

whale bones and stones.

The two pieces, *Asyltet* at the airport

NORDEN STAMP SERIES

2002

Åland



Denmark



Faroe Islands



Finland



Greenland



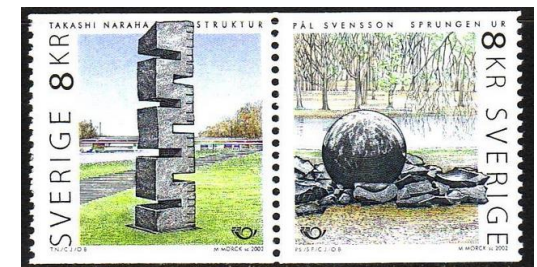
Iceland



Norway



Sweden



The official theme for 2002 was "Ornamentation of the Public Space", the unofficial translation (public art). And the nations sure showed their diversity in their use of sculptures and other art work. The Faroe Islands rejoined the group after missing the previous issue.



2004-2008 NORDEN STAMPS : "TOP OF THE WORLD"

Three series featuring mythology and legends

		 
		 
<p>NORDISK MYTOLOGI NORDISK MYTOLOGI NORRØN MYTOLOGI MYTTINEN POHJOLLA NUNAT AVANNARLIT NORRÆN GÖÐAFRÆÐI NORÐURLENSK GUDALÆRA</p>	<p>NORDISK MYTOLOGI NORDISK MYTOLOGI NORRØN MYTOLOGI MYTTINEN POHJOLLA NUNAT AVANNARLIT NORRÆN GÖÐAFRÆÐI NORÐURLENSK GUDALÆRA</p>	<p>NORDISK MYTOLOGI · Mytiska platser NORDISK MYTOLOGI · Mytiske steder NORRØN MYTOLOGI · Mytiske stader MYTTINEN POHJOLA · Myyttiset paikat NUNAT AVANNARLIT UPPERISAAT PILLUGIT NASSUIAATIT · Nunap ilai uperisarsiorfiit NORRÆN GÖÐAFRÆÐI · Þjóðsögulegir staðir NORÐURLENSK GUDALÆRA · lbygd stöð</p> <p>2004 2006 2008</p> <p>3/3</p>

NORDISK MYTOLOGI – FENJA & MENJA

Nordisk mytologi - Heimdal og Gefion

Stamp: Heimdal og Gefion

NUNAF AVANNARLIT LIPPERISAAT PILLUGIT NASSUAATIT: QAMMATIP INUA & ARSARNERIT
NORDISK MYTOLOGI: MÅNEMANDEN & NORDLYSET

Stamp: MÅNEMANDEN & NORDLYSET

Norræn goðafræði

Norræn mytologi: Njörd og Balder

Stamp: Njörd og Balder (750)

Ísland

Stamp: 6000

Norræn gudalæra - Tóru og Rán

Myttinen Pohjola Nordisk mytologi

KALEVALA
Luonnotar * Naturens dotter

Stamp: Luonnotar (0.65€)

Suomi - FINLAND

Stamp: Luonnotar (Suomi - Finland)

Barcode: 4 816982 003829

NORDISK MYTOLOGI – MÖTE I VALHALL

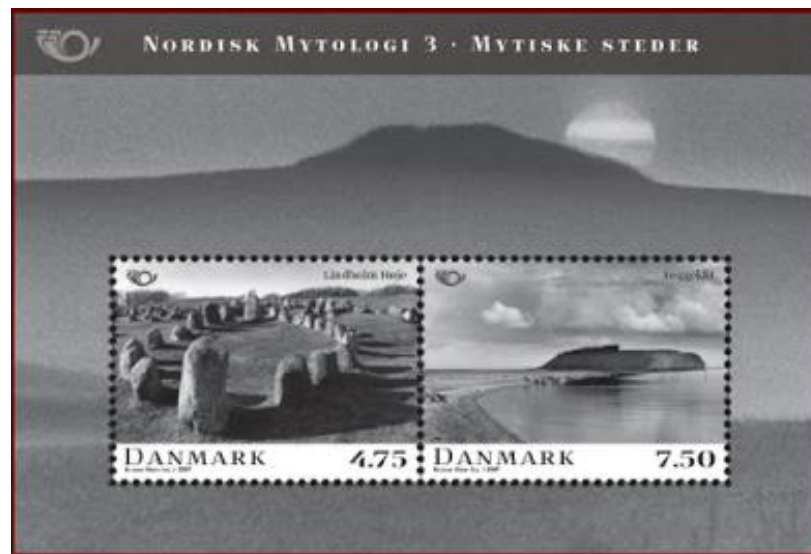
Stamp: SVERIGE SVERIGE 10 KR (Two stamps: one with a swastika-like symbol, one with a figure and a bear)

NORDEN STAMP SERIES 2006





Aland Islands



Denmark



Faroe Islands



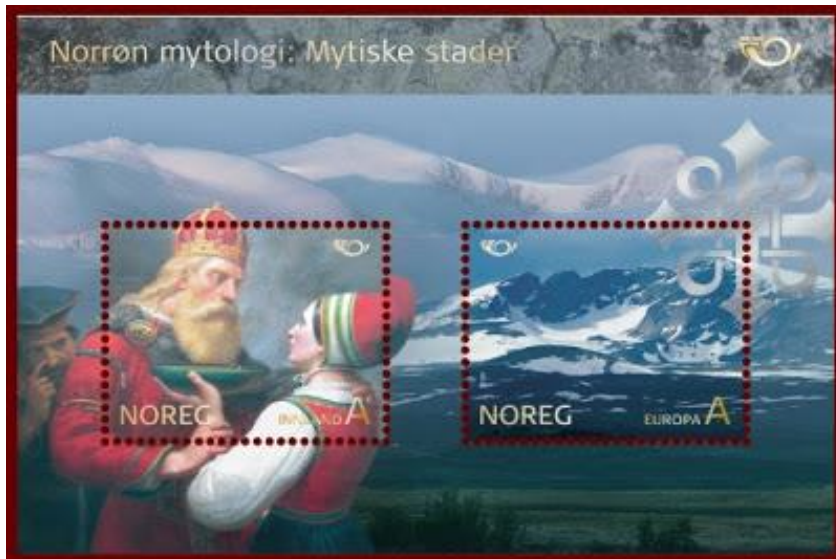
Finland



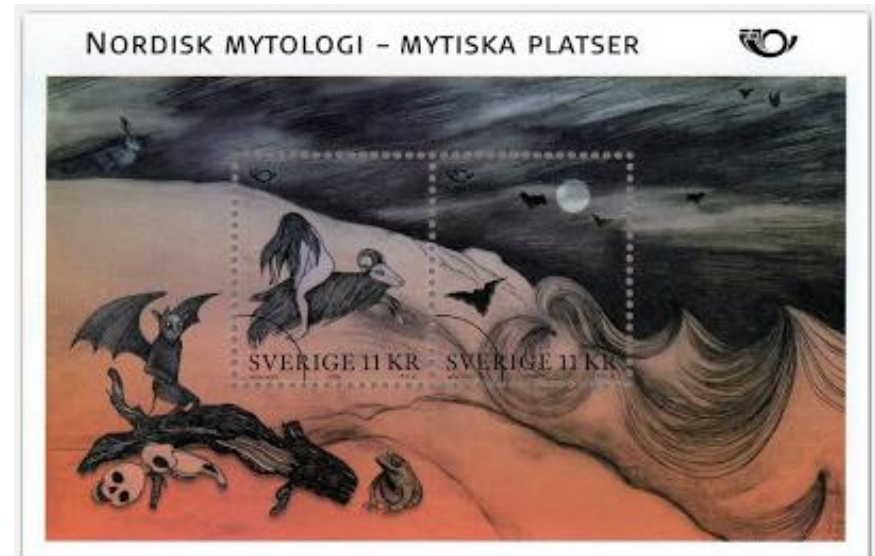
Greenland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden

NORDEN STAMP SERIES – LIFE BY THE COAST 2010

Aland: 24/03/2010



Danmark: 24/03/2010



Finland: 24/03/2010



Foroyar: 26/04/2010



NORDEN STAMP SERIES – LIFE BY THE COAST 2010

Greenland: 24/03/2010



Island: 18/03/2010



Norway: 24/03/2010



Sweden: 24/03/2010





Denmark

- 6 Kr stamp depicts one of three Air Force rescue helicopters at work in the North Sea.
- 11 Kr stamp shows the helicopter landing atop the Copenhagen hospital.

both issued March 21, 2013

2012 Sweden – First Day Cover



Sweden

Pair of 12 kroner stamps:

- Dash Q-300 surveillance aircrafts. One of 3 that patrols the Swedish coastline and is available for environmental and rescue assistance at sea.
- Pilot boat Arko 833 is used to maintain/repair lighthouses such as the Häradskär lighthouse near Östergötland.



Norway

A single “Europe” denomination (A) stamp depicts a Sea King rescue helicopter.

The souvenir sheet depicts a rescue boat addressing a boat fire in the North Sea.

The Norwegian Search and Rescue Service was established after a several serious accidents in the late 1960’s. Centers were established and staffed in the north (Bodø and in the south (Stavanger).



Iceland

This single Icelandic offering is based on an award winning photograph by Jonas Erlendsson. On March 9th, 2004 the TF Lif Coast Guard helicopter successfully rescued 16 crew members from the fishing vessel Baldwin Thorsteinsson which was grounded when it’s capelin net was caught in the ship’s propeller.

both issued March 21, 2013

Aland: 21/03/2012



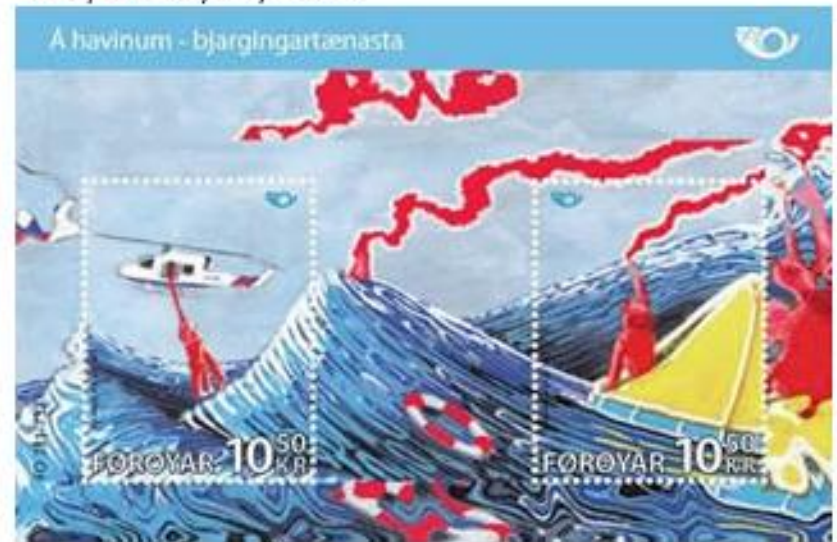
Greenland: 21/03/2012



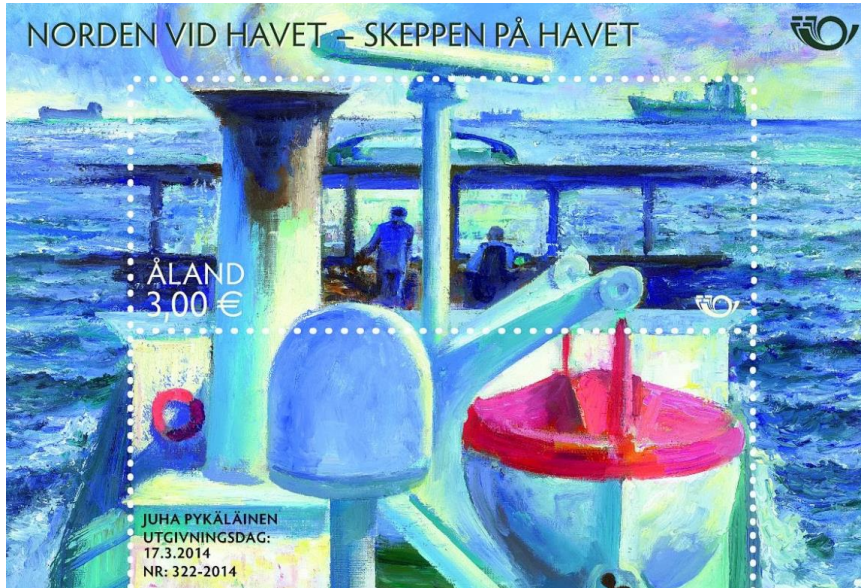
Finland: 21/03/2012



Føroyar: 21/03/2012



Åland



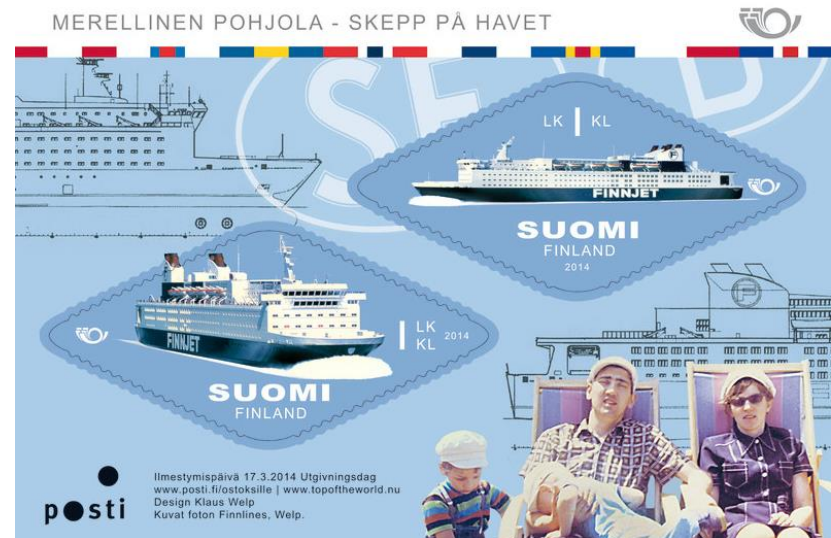
Denmark



Faroe Islands



Finland



Greenland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden



Åland



Denmark



Faroe Islands



Finland



Greenland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden



Åland



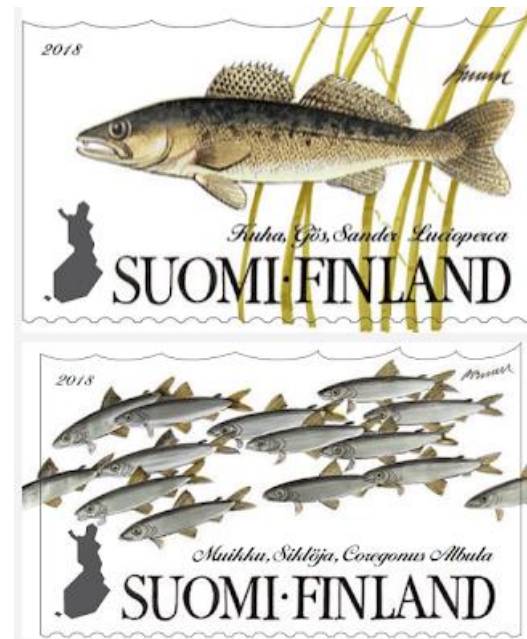
Denmark



Faroe Islands



Finland



NORDEN STAMP SERIES - 2018 Nordic Fishes

Greenland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden



Åland



Denmark



Faroe Islands



Finland



Greenland



Iceland



Norway



Sweden



Iceland Post has announced that it will cease issuing stamps after 2020.^[4] The postal service plans to continue to sell its stamps in stock to customers and may reprint older stamps if necessary to replenish its stock.^{[4][5]}

100 years of baseball in Finland !!

Norway – Europa (2022)



Troll



Forest Nymph

Thank You !!

