**Shape, logo

Description automatically generatedSweden – Välkommen till Sverige!**

Sweden is a familiar country to many Finns and people living in Finland. It is a popular country to travel to and many have relatives living there.

**Sweden is the largest of the Nordic countries in area.** Sweden is situated in the Scandinavian peninsula on the coast of the Baltic Sea. The neighbouring countries are Finland and Norway and Sweden shares also a sea border with Denmark. There are also two large islands in the Baltic Sea that belong to Sweden. The islands are called Gotland and Öland. Map

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**Different from North to South**

**Sweden is a long country and its natural conditions vary a lot from north to south**. **Northern Sweden is largely highland** where forests and rivers are part of the highland scenery. Swedish Lapland starts from the Artic Circle and northern Sweden has fells that reach over 2000 metres. Large rivers in the area originate from the mountainsides and hydroelectric power plants produce electricity from the water flow.

**Over half of land area in Sweden is covered with forests. Forests and iron ore are important natural resource for the country.** Iron ore is mined from the mines in the central and northern parts of the country. Iron ore is a rock that can be used to make iron. Central Sweden has industrial areas which have factories that make e.g. machinery and cars from iron and different products from wood.

**Southern Sweden is mostly flat lowland.** The summers are long and warm in Southern Sweden, which, with rich soil and flat lowland, make the area good for farming. There are plenty of large farms in Southern Sweden.

**Sweden is also the largest Nordic country by population, nearly 10 million people live in the country.** Sweden is also a multicultural country and has over a million people from different countries living in Sweden. Sweden is a constitutional monarchy and the king of Sweden, Carl XVI Gustaf has been the king since 1973. The Swedish parliament also known as Sveriges riksdagen makes decisions on laws and other important matters. The currency is called Swedish krona.

There are many important cities in the country. The capital city is called **Stockholm**, other important cities being Malmö and Gothenburg.

Stockholm is situated by the Baltic Sea.

A picture containing sky, city, town, several

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