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## SCANDINAVIA COUNTRIES: TRAVEL GUIDE AND TOUR INFORMATION (PAPERBACK)



Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, 2018. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. Scandinavia History. Travel guide and Tour Information. Travelers from Scandinavia first set foot in the Western Hemisphere more than a thousand years ago, and may even have been the first Europeans in North America. Beginning in the 7th century, the Vikings, a seagoing people from Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, roamed widely over much of the planet, founding settlements in far-off lands and trading with, or raiding, the local inhabitants. Some of the Vikings surviving sagas mention the birth of a baby boy in a distant settlement named Vinland. Today, a few scholars have suggested that Vinland might have been an island off the coast of present-day New York, but no one knows for sure. Regardless, every October 9 many Scandinavian Americans still celebrate the birthday of Leif Erickson, the Viking captain who founded the settlement of Vinland and thus, they maintain, discovered America. By the 17th and 18th centuries, the Vikings were a dim memory, and the people of Scandinavia began to look to North America as a possible colonial destination. As was the case with other European elites of the time, wealthy Scandinavians considered the eastern seaboard of the Americas a promising site for investment and sought to launch colonial enterprises there. At the same time, many ordinary Scandinavians, chafing at the limited religious and political freedom in their homelands, saw the New World as a land of liberty, and traveled there to found new communities where they might practice their conscience in peace.



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