
III. NORWAY

The Country

Norway forms the western and northern part of the Scandinavian peninsula and is bordered by Sweden, Finland, and the U.S.S.R. It has a total of 323,886 square kilometres (125,000 square miles) excluding Svalbard (Spitzbergen) and Jan Mayen. About half of the country's north-east length lies above the Arctic Circle. Along its 2,750 kilometres (1,700 miles) of coastline (with approximately 17,000 indentations) are numerous small islands.

Distribution of area:	Percentage
cities	0.04
glaciers	1.40
cultivated agricultural land	3.10
islands	6.90
forests	25.00
	(only 21.3 per cent productive)
mountains, etc.	62.10

Government

Norway is a constitutional monarchy with executive power nominally vested in the King. Legislative power lies with Parliament (Storting) which is elected for a four-year term by universal suffrage.

The Norwegian flag is red with a white bordered blue upright cross.

The People

At the end of 1980 the population of Norway totalled 4,100,000 and of this number approximately 66 per cent of inhabitants live in urban areas with the balance residing in sparsely populated areas. The population density is 13 persons per square kilometre.

Evangelical Lutheran is the national church, endowed by the State, but there is complete freedom of worship.

Oslo, the capital, has a population of 450,000. It is the seat of the King, the Government, the Parliament