

# Sweden - a great country

Sweden is a small nation in a large country - just over nine million inhabitants in an area larger than California and nearly as large as France and Spain.

The Swedish people have lived in peace since 1814, which has been the most important prerequisite for the build-up of the modern welfare state.

During the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Sweden evolved quickly from a poor agrarian country to one of the world's strongest industrial nations. The point of departure for the "Swedish industrial miracle" was the country's natural wealth of forests and ore, as well as a long series of inventions and entrepreneurial traditions.

In Sweden, the fruit of this success has been distributed more evenly among the population than in perhaps any other country. Sweden has become known worldwide for its high general standard of living, with publicly financed systems of financial security for all people in all phases of life.

## Facts:

Area 450 000 km<sup>2</sup>

Forest: 53%

Mountains: 11%

Cultivated land: 8%

Lakes and rivers: 9%

Capital: Stockholm

Population: 9 113 000

Language: Swedish

Form of government: Constitutional monarchy,  
parliamentary democracy

Parliament: The Riksdag, with 349 members in one chamber

Religion: 77 % belong to the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sweden

Average life expectancy: Men 78 years. Women 83 years.

## About the Prison and Probation Service in Sweden

The Prison and Probation Service is a part of the legal system.

The main tasks of the Prison and Probation Service are to implement prisons and probation sentences, to supervise conditionally released persons, to implement instructions for community service, and to carry out pre-sentence investigations in criminal cases.

The Prison and Probation Service is also responsible for activities at remand prisons and the transport service. Our vision is that spending time in the prison and probation system will bring about change, not simply provide secure custody. We want to encourage our clients to live a better life after serving their sentence.

The Prison and Probation Service is organised into a Headquarter (HK), six regional offices, Prisons and Remand Prisons, Probation Offices and a Transport Service (TPT), who all co-operate to help clients adjust to a life without crime.

## Facts:

52 prisons

31 remand prisons

34 probation offices

1 Transport Service(TPT)

Staff: 9 000

Cost: 7 billion SEK/year

