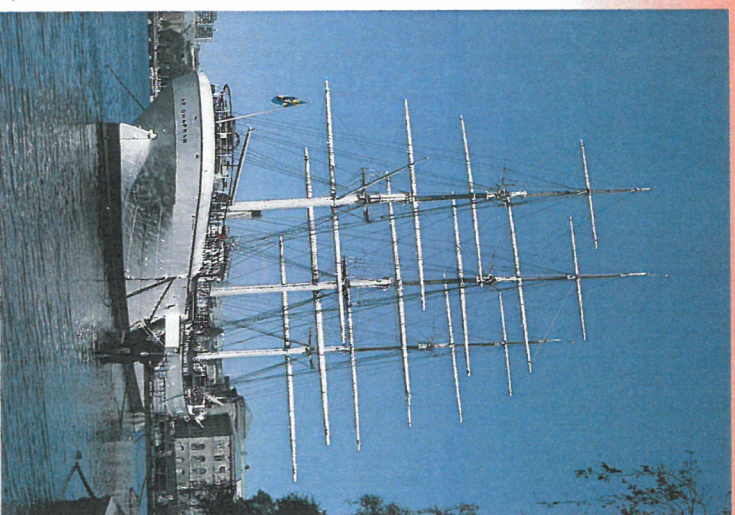


Denmark, Finland and southern Sweden are low-lying. The soil is formed from sand, gravel and clay brought by ice-sheets in the Ice Age. There are large lakes in Sweden. Some people have holiday homes on their shores.

The islands of Denmark are now linked by big bridges. Since 2000, Denmark and Sweden have been connected by road and rail through a tunnel 4 km long and over a bridge nearly 8 km long.



▲ **Stockholm harbour, Sweden:** this fine nineteenth-century sailing ship is now a Youth Hostel for visitors to the capital city of Sweden. Stockholm is a seaport with a large harbour. It is built on lots of islands and the nearby mainland, so there are many bridges.

LAND OF ICE AND FIRE



The volcanoes of Iceland are mostly quiet and peaceful (above left). But sometimes a great volcanic eruption lights up the night sky and the light is reflected in the sea (above right). Ash can shoot high in the sky.

Only 311,000 people live in Iceland. It is near the Arctic Circle and there is ice on the mountains, in glaciers and ice-sheets. A warm Atlantic current keeps the sea ice-free and it is full of fish. Iceland has an important fishing fleet.

