

6920

DNK

DENMARK

3

The first postage stamp of Denmark was issued on April 1, 1851. This was a 4 skilling brown stamp of a square design inscribed Kongeligt Post Frimaerke, or Royal Mail Stamp. Subsequent issues (1854-1870) were shortened to Kgl. Post Frm., until the change to the country name with the 1879 issue.

In keeping with the theme of this collection, Military stamps (1917) and Official stamps (1871-1924) are considered as separate postal authorities. The SF military overprint of 1917 indicates Soldater Frimaerke (Soldier's Stamp).



Denmark

Denmark Independent  
1851 - Present  
#4



Denmark, Military

Denmark Military  
1917 -  
M1



Denmark, Official

Denmark Official  
1871 - 1924

6920

DNK-C

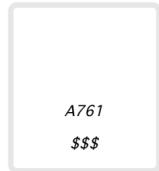
DENMARK - FAROE ISLANDS

3

The Faroe Islands are a self-governing territory within the Kingdom of Denmark, situated between Iceland and Scotland in the North Atlantic. The first Danish post office was established in the capital, Torshavn, in 1870. The first postage stamp attributable to the Faroe Islands are Danish stamps that were provisionally surcharged in 1919, due to a change of postal rates and a delay in shipping of the new stamps. Under local authority, existing stamps were overprinted 2 Øre, to help make up the rate change from 5-7 Øre.

During WWII, the British occupied the Faroes, with mainland Denmark being under German occupation. Existing stocks of Danish stamps were once again overprinted in new denominations to make up for the stamp shortage.

In 1974, the Danish postal system acceded to the demand of the philatelic market and began a program of high-quality stamps for the Faroe Islands "Føroyar" which continue to this day.



1. Faeroe Islands

Denmark Control Mark  
1919 -



2. Faeroe Islands, British Occ.

Great Britain Territory  
1940 - 1941  
#4



3. Faeroe Islands

Denmark Territory  
1975 - Present  
first series

6920

DNK-D

DENMARK, LOCAL POSTS

24

The Royal Danish Post Office did not assert a legal monopoly on mail services until about 1888. Prior to this time, local delivery of mail was somewhat unreliable, and in 1866 an enterprising individual, G. Jessen, proposed the establishment of a local letter service called the Holte Landpost. Holte is a northern suburb of Copenhagen, serviced by rail. Following the success of the landpost, a royal decree was issued in 1879 authorizing private local letter delivery, called the Byposts, throughout Denmark. This service was suppressed in 1888, with the last byposts ceasing letter delivery by 1890s. Parcel delivery services however continued into the 20th century.

The definitive references for the Danish byposts are the The Private Local Posts of Denmark by Christensen and Ringström (1974) and the Daka 1996 Bypost catalog. The following 24 postal entities are taken from these two works.



Aalborg Bypost

Denmark Bypost  
1884 - 1896



Aalborg Kiosk Selskab

Denmark Bypost  
19xx -  
1 stamp about which not much is known.



Aalborg, Dansk Circulaire Expedition

Denmark Bypost  
1889 - 1922



Aarhus Bypost

Denmark Bypost  
1884 - 1892



Aarhus Kiosk Selskab

Denmark Bypost  
1900 - 1948



Copenhagen Bypost

Copenhagen Bystation

Copenhagen Expres-Compagni

Copenhagen Pakke Expedition

Copenhagen Telefon Kiosker

Denmark Bypost

Denmark Bypost

Denmark Bypost

Denmark Bypost

Denmark Bypost



Copenhagen, Adams Expres

Expres Expeditionen (Copenhagen)

Fredericia Bypost

Frederiksberg Telefon Kiosker

Holte landpost

Denmark Bypost

Denmark Bypost

Denmark Bypost  
1888 - 1891

Denmark Bypost

Denmark Bypost  
1866 - 1887  
#2



Horsens Bypost

Kolding Bypost

Odense Bypost

Randers Bypost

Svendborg Bypost

Denmark Bypost  
1883 - 1890

Denmark Bypost  
1887 - 1900

Denmark Bypost

Denmark Bypost

Denmark Bypost



Universal Expres

Veile Bypost

Vester-Nørre- Østerbroes Pak-Vogn

Viborg Bypost

Denmark Bypost  
1880 -

Denmark Bypost

Denmark Bypost

Denmark Bypost

6920

DNK-E

DENMARK, INTERNMENT CAMP

1

These stamps were issued by the Camp authorities for Austrians prisoners-of-war interned at Tarp, near Esbjerg. The Danish Postal Authorities granted internees free postage within Denmark during the period from 28 March to 8th May, 1946. The letters were canceled at Esbjerg.



Tarp Camp Post

Denmark Camp  
1946 - 1946

6920 DNK-H DENMARK, NUCLEAR WAR STAMP

1

This is perhaps the most unique postal authority in my entire collection.

In 1963 at the height of the cold war, the Danish post office, working with civil defense authorities secretly printed an emergency stamp for use in the aftermath of a nuclear war. Approximately 200 million stamps were printed and placed in sealed packages at 8 post offices and in various civil defense bunkers, unbeknownst even to the local postmasters. In 1991, the existence of these stamps became known and the secret caches were destroyed, however about 150,000 stamps were made available to the public through the Danish Philatelic Federation.

My hat goes off to the civil servant who worried about how the post office could possibly function after a nuclear war without the proper postage stamps, and took decisive action. This is my only futurist postal authority, but it was very real.

Ref. cit. Jay Smith website.



Denmark, Cold War Emergency Stamp

Denmark Emergency  
1963 -

6920 DNK-W DENMARK - GREENLAND

4

Greenland is a Danish colony that became an integral part of the Kingdom of Denmark in 1953. In 1979 Home Rule was established and the official name changed to Kalaallit Nunaat.

The first stamps for Greenland were the privately issued "Pakke-Porto" stamps, issued by the Kongelige Grølandske Handel (Royal Trading Company) for use as parcel stamps between Greenland and Denmark. They are listed in Scott as Parcel Post Stamps. At this time, letters were transported to and from Denmark using Danish stamps with no surcharge. This service was discontinued in 1938 with the establishment of the Greenland post office.

With the German occupation of Denmark in 1940, Greenland was essentially orphaned as a self-governing colony. In 1941 it became a de facto United States protectorate, and joined the war effort after the U.S. declaration of war on Germany. The issue of 1945 (Sc. 10-27) were printed by the American Banknote Co. for use in Greenland. At the close of the war this stamp set was overprinted Danmark Befriet 5 Maj 1945, to celebrate the liberation of Denmark. Since 1969 Greenland stamps have been inscribed with both the names Grønland/Kalaallit Nunaat, although a few issues have been issued with just the local name Kalaallit Nunaat, and are included here separately.



1. Greenland, Pakke-Porto

Denmark Colony  
1905 - 1937



2. Greenland

Denmark Colony  
1938 - 1969  
*first issue*



3. Greenland, U.S. Administration

Denmark Colony  
1945 - 1946



4. Kalaallit Nunaat / Greenland

Denmark Colony  
1969 - Present

6920 DNK-WA DENMARK - GREENLAND, LOCALS

2

Prior to 1938, letters were transported from Greenland to Copenhagen free of charge. Nonetheless there are a few examples of "private posts" printed during this time.

In 1922, the town of Ivigtût, the largest mining camp in Greenland, supposedly issued a local bypost stamp with an inscription that translates to "Ivigtut Cryolite Mining Bypost 1922" for local mail. There is however no evidence of this mail service, and it has been alleged that this is a fantasy stamp that was privately printed in the U.S. in the 1960s.

An attractive set of local issues for the settlement of Thule in Greenland were printed in significant quantity in 1935, valid for mail between Thule and Copenhagen. Though there are examples of local use, they are not recognized in Scott.



Ivigtût

Denmark Fantasy  
1922 -



Thule

Denmark Local  
1935 -

6930 ISL ICELAND

2

Iceland was under direct Danish rule from 1380-1918. The first stamps for Iceland were produced on January 1, 1873. They were of a similar design to the Danish stamps and inscribed Island with values in Danish skillings. In 1876, Iceland switched to a new local currency.

Iceland gained its independence but stayed united with the Danish monarchy from 1918-1944. It became an independent republic on June 17, 1944. Iceland has ceased the issuance of new stamps as of 2020.



1. Iceland

Danish Colony  
1873 - 1918



2. Iceland

Independent  
1920 - Present



Iceland, official

Iceland Official  
1873 - 1936  
Air Post Official

6940 NOR NORWAY

4

Norway was under the sovereignty of Sweden from 1814-1905, but always maintained its own postal service. The first postage stamps were issued in 1855 depicting the Norwegian coat of arms and King Oscar I of Sweden. The union of Norway and Sweden was peaceably dissolved in 1905, and the first stamp series issued in 1906 featured the newly installed King Haakon VII.

Germany quickly occupied Norway in 1940, banning all stamps that featured the King and printing new stamps with the national arms, many overprinted with a black V to indicate (German) Victory, followed by the regular issues and semi-postals of the Quisling (occupation) government. In the meanwhile, the Norwegian government-in-exile, based in London issued its own set of eight stamps in January 1943, featuring Allied war themes and King Haakon VII. These stamps saw some use on Allied ships, in Jan Mayen and on the mainland toward the end of the war, and reverted to regular issues after the Allied victory.



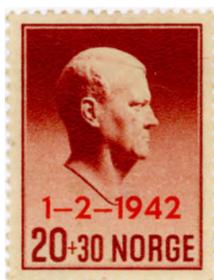
Norway

Sweden Dependency  
1855 - 1905



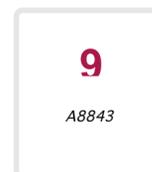
Norway

Norway Independent  
1905 - Present



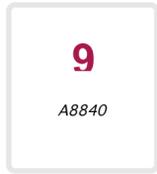
Norway, German Occupation

Germany Occupation  
1940 - 1944



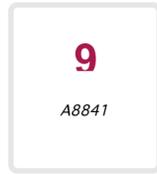
Norway, Government-in-exile

Norway Exile  
1943 - 1945



Norway, Official

Norway Official  
1926 - 1986



Norway, Official German Occupation

Norway Official  
1942 - 1944

My list of Norwegian byposts was taken from Hurt & Williams, which is obviously dated. The Christiana bypost was evidently only a hand-stamp and has thus been removed from the list.

The Tyrifjord Steamship stamp operated for a short time on Lake Tyrifjord in 1887-88, transporting mail to the Drammen local post. (Sold for CHF 650 on cover at auction.)



Aalesund

Norway Bypost  
-



Arendal

Norway Bypost  
-



Bergen

Norway Bypost  
1869 -



Christiansund

Norway Bypost  
-



Drammen

Norway Bypost  
-



Grimstad

Norway Bypost  
-



Hammerfest

Norway Bypost  
-



Holmestrand

Norway Bypost  
-



Horten

Norway Bypost  
-



Kragerø

Norway Bypost  
-



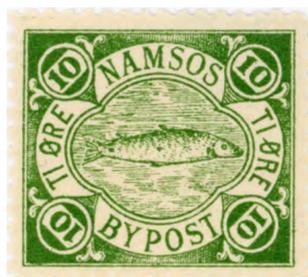
Levanger

Norway Bypost  
-



Mandal

Norway Bypost  
-



Namsos

Norway Bypost  
-



Spitzbergen

Norway Bypost  
-



Stenkjaer

Norway Bypost  
-



Tonsberg

Norway Bypost

-



Tromsø

Norway Bypost

-



Trondheim, Braekstad & Co.

Norway Bypost

-

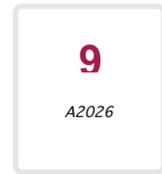


A2025

Tyrvifjord Steamship Co.

Norway Bypost

-



9

A2026

Vadsø

Norway Bypost

-



Vardø

Norway Bypost

-

6940

NOR-O

NORWAY, PRIVATE STAMPS

1

The Bjorn Oya stamp is likely a speculative (fraudulent) overprint, according to P. Valdner, produced by American B. J. Arch in the 1960s. I paid \$45 for it, and don't know much about it. There are also a fanciful set of decorative Bjorn Oya stamps from the same time period. Bjorn Oya (Bear Island) is an uninhabited island administered by Svalbard, about halfway between Svalbard and the mainland.

For Bouvet Oya, please see 9800 - Antarctica Expedition Stamps.



Bjorn Oya

Norway Private Issue

-

6940

NOR-P

NORWAY, MODERN LOCALS

1

An assortment of late 20th century private issues.



A2027

Hustadvika

Norway Bypost

-



Spitzbergen - Lloyd's Post

Norway Private

-

6940 NOR-R NORWAY, RAILWAY PARCEL STAMPS

1



Thronhjem-Stören-Jernbane

Norway Railway  
1870 -

6940 NOR-T NORWAY, PARCEL STAMPS

2

ref cit Jay Smith



Kristiania - Adams Express

Norway Parcel  
192x -

Tönsberg og Omegns  
Automobil-Kompani

Norway Parcel  
1911 -

6950 SWE SWEDEN

1

Sweden issued its first stamps on July 1, 1855. A color error in the first printing resulted in a singular Treskilling Yellow stamp, perhaps the most valuable stamp in the world, last sold in 2013 for \$2.3 million. Issuance of postage stamps has been uninterrupted since that time.

From 1856-1862, the postal service had a unique stamp for local delivery only, non-denominated and inscribed Frimarke Lokalbref.



Sweden

Sweden Independent  
1855 - Present



Sweden, Local Delivery

Sweden Independent  
1856 - 1862



Sweden, Official

Sweden Official  
1874 - 1920

6950

SWE-M

SWEDEN, TOURIST STAMP

1

Tourist Stamps were a unique stamp idea, valid for mail coming from foreign holiday destinations into the Swedish, as well as Norwegian, Danish, Finnish and Åland postal systems. Initially used for vacationers in the Canary Islands, the service was expanded to other Mediterranean holiday destinations. The idea was to bypass the unreliable national postage systems, and allow vacationers to send mail via courier on flights to Scandinavia where the mail would then be placed into the local system. The only analogous postal arrangement that I can think of are the WWI-era Special Delivery stamps issued by the Canadian post for ex-pats sending mail to Canada from the Bahamas, but in that case the letters went through the Bahamas mail system. The Swedish stamps were designed to bypass the national postal authorities entirely.

Ref cit. Jay Smith.



Scandinavia Tourist Stamp

Sweden Special Delivery  
1994 - 1998

6950

SWE-S

SWEDEN, LOCAL POSTS

41

Local postal services from 1945-46 in the aftermath of the war. 41 entities were described in Lister catalog.



Alingsås

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Borås

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Borlänge

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Centrala

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Eksjö

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Eskiltuna

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Falköping

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Gävle

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Göteborg

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1888 - 1945



Halmstad

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Halsingborg

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1926 - 1947



Huskvarna

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Jönköping

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Kalmar

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Karlskrona

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Karlstad

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Katrineholm

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Kristianstad

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Kumla

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1946 -



Landskrona

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Lidköping

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Linköping

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Lund

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Malmö

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Malmö Gamla Expedition

Sweden Local Post  
1888 -



Motala

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Nässjö

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Norrköping

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Örebro

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Östersund

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Skara

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Skövde

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Södertälje

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1944 - 1945



Stockholm

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1856 - 1945



Stockholm

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Stockholm Lokalforsandelser

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Sundsvall

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Tranås

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Trollhättan

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Umeå

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Uppsala

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 - 1961



Vänersborg

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



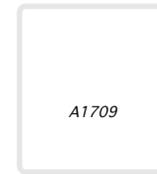
Värnamo

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Västerås

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -



Västervik

Sweden Local Post WWII  
1945 -

6960

FIN

FINLAND

3

Finland was a Grand Duchy within Russian Empire from 1809-1899, when it was subsumed into Russia. The first postage stamps were handstamped Finnish coat of arms stamps in 1856, followed by pre-printed stamps in 1860. Finland moved from the ruble to a local currency in 1866. Finland declared independence in 1917 and joined the UPU, fighting a war for independence from 1917-1919.

Stamps from Finnish territories gained in Karelia and during the Finnish war of independence can be found in the Russia section.



Finland

Russia Colony  
1856 - 1916



Finland

Finland Independent  
1917 - Present



Finland, Military

Finland Military  
1941 - 1983  
M1 (1941)

6960

FIN-A

FINLAND - ÅLAND ISLANDS

3

The Åland Islands are a self-governing territory within Finland that have issued their own postage stamps since 1984. The stamps may be used for postage both on the island and within Finland interchangeably with Finnish stamps.



Åland Islands

Finland Province  
1984 - Present

6960

FIN-F

FINLAND, LOCAL POSTS

13

Following are a selection of local city posts (Helsinki, Tampere) and Steamship posts from the late 19th century, mostly as described in Hurt & Williams.



Granö Angslups Aktiebolaget

Finland Local  
1895 - 1895



Helsingfors Angfartygs Aktiebolag

Finland Local  
1895 - 1895



Helsinki (Helsingfors)

Finland Local  
1866 - 1891



Nadendal S.S.

Finland Local  
1900 - 1900



Nylandska Skargards A. B.

Finland Local  
1895 - 1895



A2538

**Ostra Skargarden**

Finland Local  
1880 - 1880



A2539

**Sibbo M.B.**

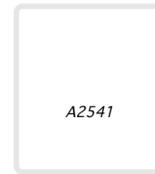
Finland Local  
1875 - 1875



A2540

**Skargards Trafik Aktiebolaget**

Finland Local  
1874 - 1887



A2541

**Sommaroana S. S. Co.**

Finland Local  
1895 - 1895



A1261

**Tampere (Tammerfors)**

Finland Local  
1866 - 1881



A2542

**Thor S.S.**

Finland Local  
1882 -



A2543

**Thyra S.S. Co.**

Finland Local  
1882 -



A2544

**Wanajavesi S.S. Co.**

Finland Local  
1867 -

6960

FIN-R

**FINLAND, RAILWAYS**

3



**Finland, Railway**

Finland Railway  
-



**Jokioisten Rautatie**

Finland Railway  
-



A7624

**Rauman Rautatie**

Finland Railway  
-