

Who Were the Vikings?

The Vikings were a remarkable people who lived more than a thousand years ago, between around AD 793 and 1066. They came from the Scandinavian countries of Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, where the land was cold, rocky, and difficult to farm.

The Vikings are best known for their incredible longships. These wooden boats were cleverly designed to sail across deep oceans as well as shallow rivers. Using these ships, Viking explorers travelled to Britain, France, Iceland, Greenland, and even North America — long before most people knew it existed!

Not all Vikings were raiders. Many were skilled traders, farmers, and craftspeople. They made beautiful jewellery, carved wood, and wove colourful cloth. Viking traders travelled as far as Russia and the Middle East, exchanging goods like fur and amber for silver and spices.

Vikings had a rich culture. They told exciting stories called sagas, and they worshipped gods such as Odin, Thor, and Freya. Family and community were extremely important to them.

Questions

1. When did the Viking Age begin and end?
2. Name the three Scandinavian countries the Vikings came from.
3. What made Viking longships special compared to other boats?
4. Name three places that Viking explorers travelled to.
5. Which continent did Vikings reach long before most people knew it existed?
6. Name two things Vikings made as craftspeople.
7. Name two goods that Viking traders took with them to sell or swap.
8. What are Viking stories called?
9. Name two gods that the Vikings worshipped.
10. Why do you think the Vikings became such good sailors and explorers?



Text B Quiz



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