

Vikings: Raiders, Traders, and Settlers

Learning objective: To recall key facts about the Viking Age, their society, and their impact on Britain.

Read the front of each flashcard to test your knowledge about the Vikings. Try to answer before checking the 'Answer' section on the back.

Where did the Vikings originate from?

Scandinavia (the modern-day countries of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden).

What was the name of the specialised Viking boat that allowed them to travel across shallow rivers and deep oceans?

Longship.

In 793 AD, which important monastery in Northumbria was famously raided by Vikings?

Lindisfarne.

What type of alphabet did the Vikings use, consisting of characters carved into wood or stone?

Runes.

Describe a Viking longhouse.

A large, rectangular building with a curved roof, made of timber, wattle and daub, where families and livestock often lived together.

Who was a Jarl in Viking society?

A nobleman or chieftain who held land and power.

What was the 'Danelaw'?

An area of Northern and Eastern England where Viking laws and customs were followed instead of English ones.

Explain why Vikings were often called 'Norsemen'.

The word means 'Northmen', referring to the people who came from the northern lands of Scandinavia.

Besides raiding, what were two peaceful ways Vikings earned a living?

Farming and trading (selling goods like furs, amber, and walrus ivory).

What does the word 'Viking' actually mean?

It is thought to come from the Old Norse word 'víkingr', meaning a pirate raid or an expedition overseas.