

Voyagers of the North: The Viking Age

Set sail into history and uncover the secrets of the seafaring warriors who changed Britain forever!

- The Vikings originated from Scandinavia—modern-day Denmark, Norway, and Sweden—and travelled across the treacherous North Sea in their iconic longships.
- Whilst often remembered as fierce raiders, many Vikings were peaceful farmers, skilled blacksmiths, and clever traders who settled across Britain.
- The Vikings were expert navigators who used the position of the sun and the migration patterns of whales to find their way across the open ocean.
- In 866 AD, the Vikings captured the city of Eoforwic (modern-day York), which they renamed Jorvik, turning it into a bustling centre for international trade.
- Vikings used a special alphabet called Runes, which were carved into wood, bone, or stone rather than written on paper.

Did you know? Did you know? Vikings did not wear helmets with horns! This was a myth created by costume designers in the 19th century for opera performers. Real Viking warriors wore simple iron or leather helmets to protect their heads during battle.

Key vocabulary: Longship · Norse · Danelaw · Sagas · Raider · Settlement · Runes