

Vikings Knowledge Organiser

The Vikings arrived in Britain in the 8th Century (793CE) and remained here until the Battle of Hastings in 1066AD.

793: Norsemen attack the monks at Lindisfarne

878: Vikings settled permanently in Britain and force King Alfred into hiding

886: Treaty with King Alfred, land given to the Vikings (Danelaw)

900: Vikings establish rule over Scotland

1014: Cnut (of Denmark) becomes King of the Danes and King of England

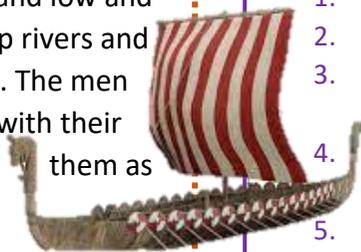
1066: Battle of Hastings
The last Anglo-Saxon king is defeated and Norman Britain begins.

Attack on Lindisfarne

- June 8th, 793CE, some 'Men of the North' or 'Norsemen' arrived off the coast of Lindisfarne.
- Monks living on this tiny island welcomed the travellers on the beach.
- The Norsemen attacked and killed the monks in the monastery, looting their treasure and destroying everything there.

Longships

One of the most powerful instruments they had was the longship, which were narrow and low and could travel up rivers and across oceans. The men sat on chests with their belongings in them as they rowed.



Who were the Vikings?

These were tribes from **Norway, Sweden and Denmark**, all known as **Norsemen**. They brought raiding parties to northern and eastern Britain every summer, on the hunt for treasures and eventually looking for fertile, flat land for farming and a warmer temperature in a place they could settle.

Vocabulary

Priest	A man who is in charge of a church
Destroy	To end something's existence by damaging it
Culture	Social ideas and customs of a particular group
Terror	Extreme fear
Heathens	People who do not believe in God
Debris	Scattered pieces of something that has been broken
Longships	The battle ships of the Norsemen
Uprooted	Move from your home or a familiar location
Despoiled	Steal or violently remove possessions
Desecrated	Treat something holy with violence and disrespect

To 'viking' meant to go on a raid. The Vikings were given their name after they left Britain. They called themselves 'Norsemen'.

Alfred 'the Great'

1. Reigned from 871 -899CE as the King of Wessex.
2. Defeated the Viking King Guthrum in 878 at the battle of Eddington.
3. King Alfred persuaded King Guthrum to become a Christian and to worship one God, rather than the many Norse gods.
4. Negotiated peace with the Vikings by giving them their own land to occupy, provided they become Christians. This was known as the Danelaw.
5. Rebuilt his Kingdom of Wessex after 40 years of attacks.

Viking Helmets



In 1876, a costume designer called Carl Emil Doepler designed a helmet to be worn by the Vikings in a play. It had horns on it so that the audience could identify the Vikings. No Viking helmets found by archaeologists have had horns or wings on them.

