

Viking Timeline



Who Were the Vikings?

The vikings were seafarers from the part of Europe known as Scandinavia, which today includes Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. During the Viking Ages, from about 800 to 1050, they spread through Europe and the North Atlantic and conquered or colonized many territories. Although they are primarily thought of as warriors or raiders, the Vikings were also traders, explorers, and settlers. In much of northern Europe they left behind an influence on family names, place names, language, customs, folk tales, and oral traditions.

- 789 Vikings begin their attacks on England.
- 840 Viking settlers found the city of Dublin in Ireland.
- 844 A Viking raid on Seville (Spain) is unsuccessful.
- 853 Norse Vikings establish settlements in Dublin and elsewhere in Ireland.
- 860 Vikings attack Constantinople (Istanbul).
- 866 Danish Vikings establish a kingdom in York, England.
- 871 Alfred the Great halts the Danish advance in England.
- 886 Alfred divides the English territory with the Danes.
- 900 The Vikings raid along the Mediterranean coast.
- 911 The Viking chief Rollo is granted land by the Franks and founds Normandy in France.
- 941 Vikings attack Constantinople (Istanbul).
- 981 Viking leader Erik the Red discovers Greenland.
- 986 Viking ships sail in Newfoundland waters.
- 995 Olav I becomes king of Norway and declares it a Christian kingdom.
- 1000 Christianity reaches Greenland and Iceland.
- 1000 Leif Eriksson, son of Erik the Red, explores the coast of North America.
- 1000 Norway is ruled by the Danes.
- 1010 Viking explorers attempt to found a settlement in North America.
- 1013 The Danes conquer England.
- 1015 Vikings abandon the Vinland settlement on the coast of North America.
- 1016 The Danes under King Knut (Canute) rule England.
- 1028 King Knut (Canute), king of England and Denmark, conquers Norway.
- 1042 Edward the Confessor rules England with the support of the Danes.

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<<http://viking.no/e/etimeline.htm>>