

Invasion, Invasion, Invasion

Important information

Who were the Anglo-Saxons?

The Anglo-Saxons were a group of farmer-warriors who lived in Britain thousands of years ago. Made up of three tribes who came over from Europe, they were called the Angle, Saxon, and Jute tribes. The two largest were the Angle and Saxon, which is how we've come to know them as the Anglo-Saxons today.

Who were the Vikings?

The Vikings were famous for sailing huge distances from their home in Scandinavia between AD 800 and 1066 to raid and plunder, but they also traded with people from other countries.

Why did the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons invade?

They left their homeland because they were looking for better places to farm than the kind of terrain that Scandinavia had.

Rune Alphabet

(by SonsOfVikings.com)

Rune	English	Rune	English	Rune	English
ᚠ	A	ᚷ	J	ᚱ	R
ᚢ	B	ᚨ	C/K/Q	ᚵ	S
ᚦ	C/K/Q	ᚠ	L	ᚹ	T
ᚩ	D	ᚱ	M	ᚰ	U
ᚱ	E	ᚠ	N	ᚱ	V/W
ᚴ	F	ᚸ	N	ᚷ	X
ᚷ	G	ᚨ	O	ᚵ	Y
ᚨᚨ	H	ᚠ	P	ᚹ	Z
ᚠ	I	ᚨ	C/K/Q		

Lindisfarne

When the quiet monks on the Holy Island of Lindisfarne saw the dragon ships approaching, they didn't know what was coming. They were fully unprepared for the ferocity of the warriors, armed with sword, axe and shield. The attack and plunder of Lindisfarne, a rich and unprotected monastery, echoed throughout the next 300 years of European history. The Viking Age had begun

Stone age
8700BC

Romans
55BC

Vikings
793AD

Egyptians
3100BC

Anglo Saxons
449AD

Battle of
Hastings
1066AD

Key Figures:

King Alfred the Great (AD 849-899): Alfred did a lot of great things for England including defeating the Vikings in several battles and keeping part of England under Anglo-Saxon rule.

Athelstan (AD 927-939) – First King to unite English kingdoms

Guthrum (AD 879-890) – King of the Vikings in Danelaw at the time of the treaty with the Saxons

King Canute (AD 995-1035): Viking King of England, Denmark and Norway.

Edward the Confessor (AD 1042-1065) – penultimate Saxon King of England (before Harold II who lost at Hastings)

William the Conqueror (AD 1028-1087): Became King of England in 1066 after winning in the Battle of Hastings.

Key Vocabulary:

Anglo-Saxons: The main group of people living in Britain when the Vikings invaded.

Danelaw: The area in Britain that the Danish Vikings ruled over.

Longship: A Viking ship used for fighting and carrying out raids.

Monastery: A place where people who have dedicated their lives to religion, such as monks or nuns live.

Pagan: A person who believes in many gods.

Rune: A letter from the alphabet used by Vikings.

Chieftain: The leader of a village or small group of people

Danelaw: The area of England ruled by the Vikings

Freeman: A person who is not a slave and free to choose who he or she worked for

Longship: A Viking ship with a sail and oars, also called a dragon-ship

Monastery: The building where monks live

Pagan: A person who believed in many gods

Runes: The name given to the Viking alphabet

Thatched: A roof covered in straw

Trader: A person who sells goods

