

What were the effects of the Anglo-Saxons, Scots and Vikings settling in Britain?



King Alfred the Great
(849-899)

Alfred was the ruler of Wessex, he united many of the Anglo Saxon Kingdoms against the Vikings and was able to bring peace. He built ships and fortified towns, introduced new laws and was known for his love of education. Alfred was the first person to be known as 'King of the English'.

Golden Threads

Migration	
Settlement	
Monarchy	
Rebellion	
Trade	

Vocabulary

Angles = People from Germany who invaded Britain around AD 410.
Anglo-Saxon = The name given to the people who travelled from Germany and South Denmark and settled in Britain around AD 410.
Invasion = To try to take over a place by force.
Jutes = People from the Jutland peninsula (Germany and Southern Denmark) who invaded Britain around AD 410.
Migration = Movement from one place to another in order to settle there.
Picts = Ancient tribes who lived in northern Scotland.
Pagan = A person who follows a religion that is not a major religion.
Saxons = People from northern Germany who invaded Britain around AD 410.
Scots = People from Ireland who eventually settled in Scotland.
Settler/ Settlement = People who migrate to a new place. When people start a community, this is a settlement.

Important People

Bede = A monk who wrote about life in Anglo-Saxon Britain.
Gildas = A monk who wrote about the leaders of Britain offering land and food in exchange for protection against the Picts and Scots.
Hengist and Horsa = The Jute leaders who were invited to Britain by Vortigen to help defend them from the Picts and Scots in exchange for land.
King Alfred the Great = The King of Wessex who eventually became the first king of England.
King Ethelbert = The King of Kent who converted to Christianity.
St Augustine = A monk who helped spread the word about Christianity.
Vortigen = A king in Britain who offered Hengist and Horsa land and food in exchange for protection.

Key Questions

1. What was life like in England at the end of the 4th century?
2. How did life change in England after the fall of the Roman Empire?
3. Why did the Angles, Saxons and Jutes settle in Britain?
4. How was Anglo-Saxon Britain ruled?
5. How did the Anglo-Saxons keep control of their kingdoms?
6. What shifts in religion and power were there and how do we know this?
7. Who were the Vikings and why did they carry out raids?
8. Where did the Vikings settle and how do we know?

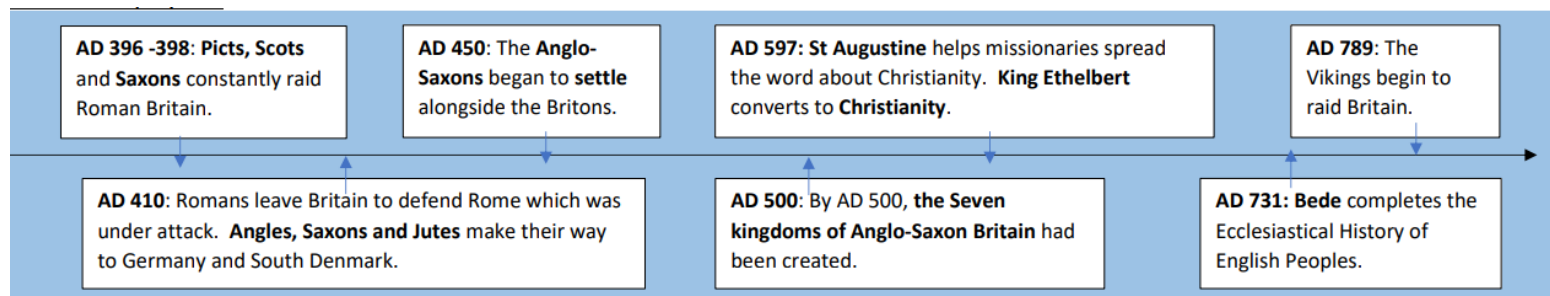


Sutton Hoo

The grave of an Anglo-Saxon King was discovered in Suffolk in 1939. It is one of the largest and best-preserved archaeological finds of the Saxon period.



The 7 Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms



The Anglo-Saxons vs The Vikings

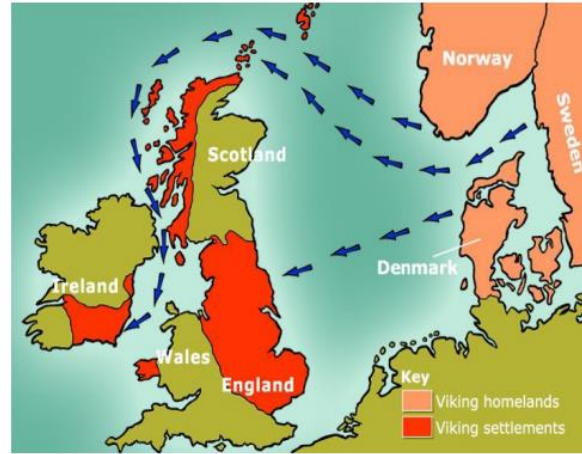
In AD865 an army of Vikings sailed across the North Sea. This time they wanted to conquer land rather than just raid it. Over several years the army battled through northern England, taking control of the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms of Northumbria, East Anglia and most of Mercia.

By AD874, almost all the kingdoms had fallen to the Vikings. All except for Wessex, which was ruled by Alfred the Great. Although King Alfred beat the Viking army in battle he wasn't able to drive them out of Britain

After years of fighting the Vikings and Alfred made a peace agreement. But even after this agreement, fighting went on for many more years.

An imaginary dividing line was agreed to run across England, from London in the south towards Chester in the northwest. The Anglo-Saxon lands were to the west and the Viking lands, known as the Danelaw, were roughly to the east.

Viking Homelands and Settlements



1. Vikings did not wear horned helmets. They wore plain helmets and the horns were drinking vessels.

2. Vikings sailed across much of the known world, raiding, trading and settling.

3. Vikings were generally from Scandinavia and left their homes because farmland was poorer.

4. The word 'Viking' is an old Norse term meaning 'pirate raid.'

Lindisfarne

In AD793 the Vikings famously attacked a monastery at Lindisfarne in Northumbria, north-east England.

The Vikings were pagans, not Christians like most people living in Britain at the time. They did not think twice about raiding a monastery.

Christian monasteries in Britain were easy targets for the Vikings. The monks had no weapons and the buildings were filled with valuable treasures, like gold, jewels and books.

Lindisfarne



A Viking Longship

Timeline

AD 700: The Vikings begin to venture out of Scandinavia.

AD 850: After many raids, Vikings begin to settle. Picts defend the north.

AD 901: King Alfred of Wessex fought the Vikings - peace was made and Danelaw was created.

AD 789: First recorded raids of British monasteries from the Vikings.

AD 866: The Vikings, led by Ivar the Boneless, capture York, which becomes the Viking capital of England, and then other large parts of Britain.

AD 991: King Cnut takes control of Britain.

AD 1066: England's King, Edward the Confessor, dies and Harold Godwinson is crowned king. His throne is challenged by King Harald Hardrada of Norway and Duke William of Normandy. His army is eventually his army is defeated by that of William of Normandy, during the Battle of Hastings. King Harold is killed and the Vikings eventually stop raiding.