

## Scandinavia

- Denmark
- Sweden
- Norway

## Great Warriors:

### 1. Weapons

- a. Spears, swords, axes
  - weapons were also symbols of status and wealth
- b. **“Long Ships”**
  - also called **“Dragonships”**
    1. emblem of dragon on front of ships
  - shallow “draughts”
    1. allowed them to sail up rivers and streams
      - increased areas to attack
      - allowed for surprise attacks
    2. sail up to shore
      - allowed for surprise attacks

### 2. Tactics

- a. **“Berserkers”**
  - wore bear or wolf pelts
  - fought in an uncontrollable, “possessed”
    1. biting their shields
    2. gnawing at their skin
  - fought with such intensity that they did not feel pain
- b. **“Bloody Eagle”**
  - Open torso...pull lungs outside ribs

783 attacked **LINDISFARNE** in England

- monastery
  - wealth
  - monks put up little resistance

871-899 **Alfred “the Great”** (England) successfully defended his kingdom against the [Vikings](#)

- only English king called “the Great”

**879 Battle Edington**

- English defeated Vikings

911 – King Charles the Simple (France) gave Viking leader, **ROLLO**, land in **Normandy** to stop invasions

- helped, but did not end the threats

**VIKING EXPLORATION**

982 **ERIC the RED** founded **GREENLAND**

- father was a convicted murderer
- “like father, like son”...Eric later killed 2 men and was banished from Iceland for 3 years
  - while banished, explored area later called “Greenland”, but it was covered with ice
  - after 3 years, Eric returned to Iceland and convinced people to move to his discovered land by calling it “Greenland”
  - due to conditions...many returned to Iceland, but some disappeared possibly due to attacks by Inuit and/or disease and starvation

1000 **LEIF ERICSON** reached **NORTH AMERICA**

**VIKING RELIGION****Asgard**

- “Home of the gods”

**Valhalla**

- “Home of Fallen Vikings”
  - honor those that died in battle

**Odin**

- god of war

**Thor**

- god of thunder
- protect against evil

a Viking’s death is determined by **FATE** and nothing can change the time of death

- make the very best of every moment because the worst thing that can happen is death
- you have nothing to lose and everything to gain by being bold and adventurous

**“Ship Graves”**

- buried in a ship, provided a safe, comfortable journey to the afterlife

**“London Bridge is falling down...”**

- refers to the destruction of London bridge by Olaf II

**Gradually the “Viking” threat came to an end****1) conversion to CHRISTIANITY**

- **“Peace of God”**
  - issued to protect clergy and others that were unarmed from being attacked
- **“Truce of God”**
  - prohibited fighting certain times during the week
    - Saturday - Monday

**2) warmer temps****3) FEUDALISM**