



# The Vikings: Raiders, Explorers and Seafaring Warriors

*Lance Hightower*

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## **The Vikings: Raiders, Explorers and Seafaring Warriors** Lance Hightower

The world of the Vikings is larger than life, filled with sagas of warriors who made fighting a career, but there's a lot more to Viking history than blood-letting and piracy. Their achievements, rich culture and craftsmanship contributed greatly to our world today, and their explorations helped make up the boundaries of nations.

*The Vikings: Raiders, Explorers, and Seafaring Warriors* by author Lance Hightower will give you a glimpse of the battles that raged for more than 300 years, sparked by the cultural and religious differences that were the trigger for warring with the Franks, England and Ireland, and for trade and exploration into the Muslim empire, the Byzantine Empire, as far as Russia, Spain and North America.

They came from Sweden, Norway and Denmark, not as one army, but as separate tribes who assaulted their way through Christendom as retaliation for the destruction of their holy icon. They came from the sea in a way that ingeniously allowed them to go where no conventional ship dared, and they were able to navigate waters without benefit of the sun to guide them. They used boats that made ship-building history - light, fast, and equally efficient in shallow rivers and mighty oceans.

They terrorized, traded, bartered, took slaves, colonized, fought and died all in the name of Odin, god of the battle-slain. Perhaps in the end, they fought more for territory and riches than principle, but the history of the Vikings will always remain as one of the most enthralling of all Ages, where honor was crucial, death on the battlefield was preferred to idleness, and the stormy pantheon of their gods still held the greatest influence in their lives.

The brilliant sagas come to life with snippets of modern translations, told like tales of old should be told, with dread, heroics and excitement. The author combines his own expertise with the latest archeological findings and information given to us from ancient text to present a first-rate portrayal of the Vikings.

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