

A Viking in the Sun

Harald Hardrada
and the Mediterranean
on the eve of the crusades

On the right a
Swedish runestone
commemorating a
Varangian who died
in the Mediterranean
in Harald's time



Harald's chronology

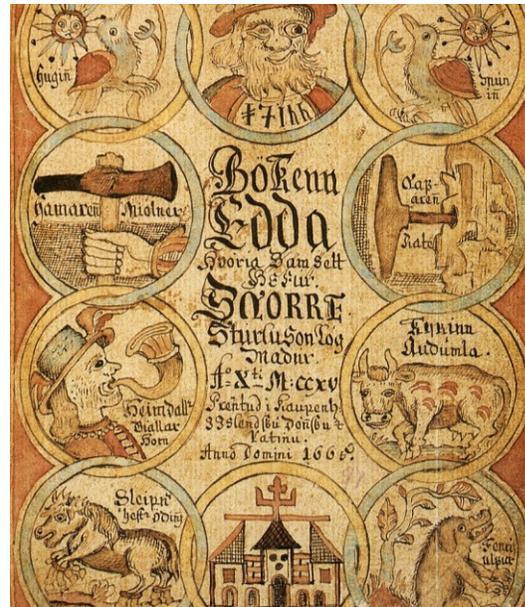
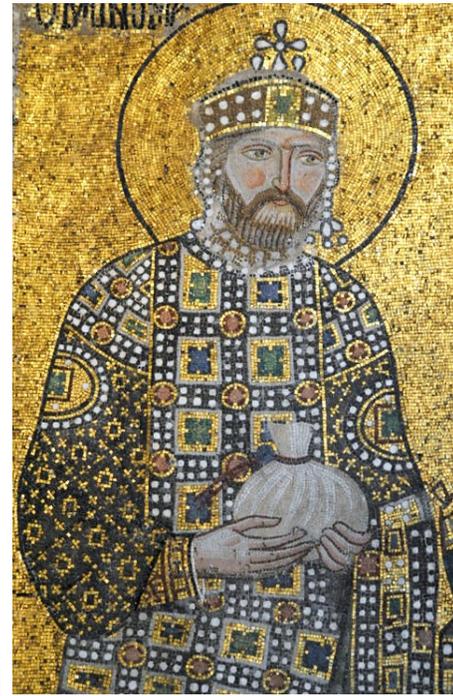


- Exiled in 1030 from Norway after the battle of Stiklestad
- 1030-33 in Kievan Rus
- 1033-1042 in the Byzantine Varangian Guard
 - Upper Mesopotamia
 - Jerusalem
 - Aegean
 - Sicily
 - Apulia
 - Balkans
 - Coronation crisis in Constantinople
- 1042-45 Kievan Rus
- 1047 King of Norway
- 1047-66 Attempts to gain Denmark and travels in the North Sea
- 1066 invasion of England and death at the Battle of Stamford Bridge



Locations visited by
Harald in the
Mediterranean from
top left:
Aegean Sea,
Jerusalem,
Judean Desert
Constantinople
Sicily
River Jordan

Artifacts related to the project



Research questions

- Case study for the Mediterranean before the crusades
- Links between the Mediterranean world and northern Europe/Atlantic
- Harald as a cultural frontier crosser

NORWEGIAN EMPIRE
 JOINS THE WORLD STAGE

What is the worth of a Viking lord? At your command are seafaring warriors who would follow you across the oceans of the known world. Your longships cast shadows in the hearts of those who would keep their wealth within sight of the coast, but pillage for its own sake is simple banditry. You, my lords, are neither simple nor a bandit. Teach them the hard truth of the wealth they flaunt—if they can't protect it, then it was never theirs to keep.

HARALD HARDRADA
 FEATURES & ABILITIES

THUNDERBOLT OF THE NORTH
 Naval units have +2 movement. Can build the Settler, Viking Longship, Missionaries, and the Harbor District.

VIKING
 Units ignore additional movement costs from embarking and disembarking.

 SETTLER A unique land unit	 MISSIONARY A unique land unit
 VIKING LONGSHIP A unique naval unit	 BERSERKER A unique land unit
 HARBOR A unique district	 STAVE CHURCH A unique building

LOADING. PLEASE WAIT...




THE UNIVERSITY
 of EDINBURGH

History & Games Lab



Collaboration with Museums

- Royal Armouries
- Snorrastofa
- Israel Museum
- More?





A Viking in the Sun

The Wargame

The Mediterranean Adventures
of Harald Hardrada

Contents

Historical Introduction

New Upgrades

Army Lists

- Varangians
- Normans
- Saracens
- Byzantines
- Lombard and Byzantine principalities of southern Italy

Three Mini Campaigns

- From the Fjords to the Desert: The Jerusalem Quest
- The Sicilian Campaign
- Against the Normans in Southern Italy

Embedding outreach from the start of the designing process inspired unexpected angles of research and really helped me to think outside the box and to network



The History and Games Lab can help you to gamify your project



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