



COVID 19

Please read the statement on COVID Security Information for Hirers

Handling Box Contents List

The Saxons and Vikings

V=Viking Object - S=Saxon Object

(some objects could be attributed to both and are therefore marked as both)

Pottery

2 x Ceramic pots – Pottery was used for different purposes including food storage drinking. It often featured simple patterns on the surface (replica) S,V

Pottery Stamps (wooden, five on a string) in a drawstring leather pouch – Wooden stamps were sometimes used to decorate pottery (replica) S

Coins

6 x Coins (3 x Cnut Penny, 3 x Vikings at York St. Peter Coinage, 1 x Sithric Penny - A reproduction Viking penny of Sithric with draped bust on the obverse and a long cross on the reverse) (replica) V

5 x Coins (replica) S

Clothing and hair related objects

Rabbit fur pelt – Clothing was made from a variety of materials, including wool, fur, leather and flax (real fur - produced in the UK as a by-product of the meat industry, purchased from an ethically minded source) S,V

Bone comb made from cow bone – Both Saxons and Vikings took care of their appearance and were known to braid their hair (replica made from real bone) S,V

Bone weaving tablet - sets of these would be used to weave braids for clothing (called tablet weaving). A set of wool strands would be lined up and passed through the holes. The tablets could then be rotated in a set way to form patterns (replica made from real bone) S,V

Games

Set of Hnefatafl (Viking game similar to chess) – Board games were played by both the Saxons and Vikings. This game is also known as Tafl. A popular Saxon game was 3 Men's Morris or 9 Men's Morris (replica) V

Pair of bone dice – dice games were very popular with both the Saxons and the Vikings (replica) S,V

Fighting objects

Metal axe head – Axes were a favoured Viking weapon and a skilled warrior could wield an axe with amazing accuracy (replica) V

Sword Hilt – A sword hilt is the handle section of a sword, these were sometimes highly decorated, even being inlaid with gemstones (replica) S

Miniature Staffordshire Hoard helmet – the Staffordshire hoard was an amazing set of finds that included beautifully made weapons that feature gold and garnets (replica/historically inspired) S

2 x Wooden Shields (Play objects - one circular blue and red and one kite in green with dragon design) S, V

Jewellery

2 x Pendants (Dragon head, man on cross) (replicas/historically inspired) V

Bracelet (replicas/historically inspired) V

Pendant (golden cross with ruby) (Staffordshire Hoard replicas/historically inspired) S

Ring (twisted ring with heads) (Staffordshire Hoard, replica/historically inspired) S

Runes – Mix of Elder and Younger Futhark

Runes were symbols that were used as an alphabet. The Vikings and the Saxons used slightly different versions and these versions changed over time, meaning that there are a variety of different sets of runic symbols from this era. Two of the most common are called either the Elder or the Younger Futhark. Runes were also sometimes used as a means of foretelling the future.

Set of rune description cards (24 cards) V

Set of small amethyst runes (23) (replicas/historically inspired) and booklet V

Leather pouch containing set of runes (32) on small branch segments (replicas/historically inspired) V

Miscellaneous

Blowing Horn made from animal horn – horns were used as drinking vessels or as instruments with the end removed (replica made from real horn) S,V

Carving of Thor's head – Depictions of the gods were used for many purposes including on boats prows or buildings (replica made from resin) V

Images and Activities

2 x Colouring books to photocopy pages from - 'Viking designs' book and 'The Viking colouring book' V

Pack of photo-cards and teacher's booklet V

Assorted laminated images, A4 and A3 S,V

Flip-It card pack of Viking facts (56 cards) V

4 x Anglo-Saxons and Vikings timeline S,V

Books

'Viking (Eyewitness)' book (+wallchart) V

'Beliefs and myths of Viking Britain' book V

2 x 'Saxons and Vikings' book S,V

'The Anglo Saxons Activity Book' S

'Anglo Saxon Invaders and Settlers' book S

2 x 'The Saxons' book S

Artefacts are not to be handled without adult supervision

All breakages and losses will have to be charged for.

Museum contacts - **Tel:** 01934 621028, **Email:** Museum@wsm-tc.gov.uk