

They came, they fought, they conquered – and they were rather keen on building castles too!

The Normans were descended from Vikings who settled in Normandy in **France.** In 1066 a few thousand Normans sailed over to England and changed the course of British history.

When the English king, Edward the Confessor, died without an heir, three men claimed the throne as theirs. Two of them, Harold of the Anglo-Saxons and Harald of the Norwegians, fought a battle in northern England, while the Normans, under Duke William, landed in the south. Harold and the Anglo-Saxons won the first battle but, after a long march to meet William's army, they were defeated by the Normans at the famous Battle of Hastings (see page 6), which made William the new king of England.

KINGS OF THE CASTLES

Over the next few decades this small army of Normans took control of the whole country by building lots of motte-andbailey castles (page 13). These were built of wood and earth but eventually became the huge stone buildings that still stand all over the country today (page II). From their castles the Normans ruled

> I'M A VERY **IMPORTANT** PARSON!

England, building churches (page 12), changing the laws, language and everyday life of people in **England. Ordinary**



to see a Harold vs William video!

people now had to live and work under William's knights and barons (page 4) who owned all the land, demanded food and taxes from them and also spoke French instead of English. In fact, we still speak many Norman words in everyday English today (page 15).

After centuries of battling with invaders from Scandanavia, England was

now linked with Europe, and it was the Norman influence that helped to turn England into one of the richest, most powerful kingdoms.



Norman Conquest timeline

The key dates following the Battle of Hastings

1066

Edward the Confessor dies. Harold named king

Harald Hardrada claims the throne but is defeated by King Harold at Stamford Bridge

The Battle of Hastings. beat Harold's **Anglo-Saxons**

William is crowned on Christmas Day, which was his best present that year

A day at Rochester Castle Meet a young kitchen boy

Let's go to Battle Abbey Visit the scene of the Battle of Hastings

Norman settlement poster The next part of your mega timeline!

Norman knight quiz See if you could be hero on horseback!

Look inside... Discover life within Richmond Castle

Castle Acre guide Explore this Norman castle and priory

Spotter's guide Motte-and-bailey castles explained

What's for dinner? A festive feast at Sherborne Old Castle

Norman know-how More fun, games and quizzes

Dress-up time King Harold and William selfie kit

This magazine is published on behalf of English Heritage by Immediate Media Co.

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ENGLISH

PSSST! SEE IF YOU CAN SPOT ME ON PAGE 8!

Following a few William begins building castles to enforce his power 1069

Terms and conditions The closing date and time for entries is midnight on Wednesday 28 February 2018. The promoter is English Heritage. If you are under 13 you need permission from your parent/guardian before entering the competition. One winner will receive an English Heritage

goody bag worth £100. For full terms and conditions go to www.english-h

A COOL GOODY BAG!

Make a mini Norman castle and send us a photo for your chance to win!

We've got a goody bag worth £100 to give away to the reader

who makes the best mini motte-and-bailey castle (see page 13 for inspiration). This can be out of cake, clay, papier mâché –

anything you want! Go to www.english-heritage.org.uk/kids to find out how to enter

north and ends the final pockets of resistance against him

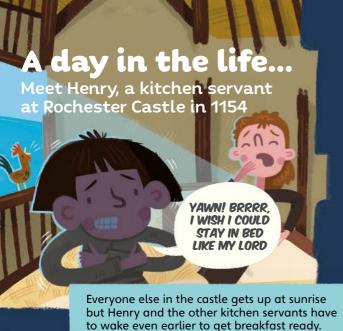
What was the knight's favourite game?

Work begins on the which tells the tale of the Norman Conquest

1086

William has a survey taken about the people who live the Domesday Book

William dies and is succeeded by his son William II, having changed



NO MORE ALE, I'VE HAD ENOUGH

YES MY LORD. (WHISPERS) IT'S PROBABLY FOR THE BEST!

Henry helps serve the lord constable, Reginald,

and his family a breakfast of bread, meat, fish

and ale, which is a lot safer to drink than water.

Henry needs to light the fire under the oven. A lot of bread needs to be baked so the fire is big and extremely hot.



It's a big day in the kitchen as there's a feast tonight for the lord's birthday. His wife, the lady of the castle, goes to the kitchen to check on preparations.





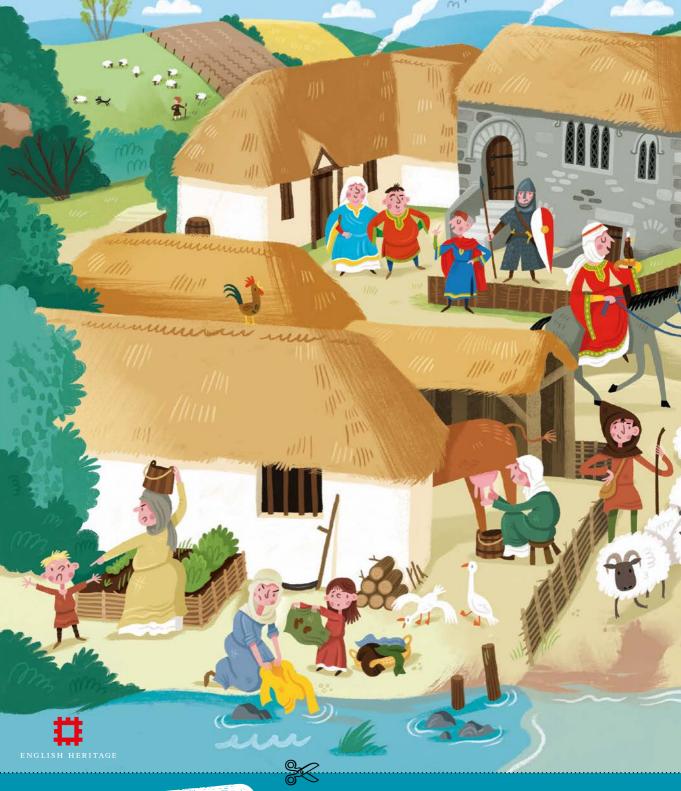


Oliver has just been on a hunt and has some rabbits the falcon caught for the feast.











The king has given this land to a lord, who has built a castle to control the area. He rents the land to knights who defend the village. Peasants are granted pockets of land in return for work or goods.



Over to you!

- What work are the peasants and children doing?
 What job would you enjoy most?
 Can you see a relic of Saxon rule?
 Where is the lord's castle?

Collect them all!

This is the fourth of 12 posters you can collect to make a mega timeline of English history. You can get the first three at www.



You've been a squire learning how to be a knight for several years.

Today is your final exam. Will you get knighted? Good luck!

- How do you take on your enemy in battle?
- A) On horseback with your lance
- B) Stay back with the archers and shoot
- C) Challenge your opponent to a boxing match
- D) Dismount and use your sword
- The battle is going well but William orders your cavalry to retreat. Do you...
- A) Run away as fast as you can to the nearest pub
- B) Ignore William, carry on fighting against the Saxons
- C) Call William a plonker and demand he lets you take charge
- D) Retreat halfway down the hill and wait for the next command
- Jousting is a crucial skill for tournaments and battle. Who do you practise against?
- A) Your defenceless squire
- B) A mannequin holding a shield
- C) Another knight in full armour
- D) A chicken riding a pig

- What do you do with the knight you've defeated?
- A) Strip him of his armour
- B) Accept his surrender
- C) Finish him off for good
- D) Get him to give you a piggyback home
- What's the best way to attack an enemy's castle?
 - A) Scale the walls with ladders
 - B) Batter the gates and walls with rams and catapults
 - C) Tunnel under the walls
- D) Surround the castle and wait for the defenders to starve

HOW DID

Not bad but practise your jousting



5 You will be a great Norman knight

chivalryometer

GOOD KNIGHT CHALLENGES

Put your knightly skills to the test to see if you are truly up to the task

Do the maths
The Saxons are 889m
away. Your horse will be
too tired if it gallops more than
232m. How far will you have
to trot before you can ride
full speed at the Saxons?

Sword swinging
Grab a pillow from your bed and make sure you have lots and lots of room.
Swing the pillow as if it was a sword, using all your strength. How long before you're panting for breath?

Design a shield
Norman knights used oval-shaped shields and decorated them with animals, crosses and other patterns.
Can you design your own?

Carry the load
You have a sword, shield, lance, mace, knife, helmet, chain mail, boots and saddle. How do you transport it around and get changed into it before battle? Can you do it on your own?

Answers: I A) Scare the enemy with a cavalry charge, 2 D) Turn back and ride down the enemy when they follow. 3 B) It's safest to train against a dummy. 4 B) Knights treated enemies with honour, 5 D) It's boring but the least dangerous option.



Look inside... Richmond Castle

Discover what life was like within this Norman castle's walls

Walking the walls

High stone walls topped with crenellations meant that Richmond Castle had formidable defences. This was an important landmark feature, and it is likely nobles would stroll along it too.

great feast This large open hall is where the lord feasted with his family and quests. The most important people sat at a table at one end of the room. Heating was provided by a fire in the centre.

Luxury living

This room provided private sleeping accommodation for the lord. His comfortable bed had mattresses, pillows and blankets, and a roaring fire ensured the room was cozy.

Mind that fire!

A large kitchen was needed to prepare the massive quantities of food consumed in the castle's hall. It was located away from other buildings to reduce the risk of fire.

Down below

Cellars provided ample and secure storage for the provisions consumed in the hall. Wine in vats was imported from France and beer would have been brewed at the castle.

How the other half lived

The castle was also home to servants and craftsmen. They lived in simple wooden-framed buildings. But at Christmas, everyone enjoyed food, drink and the warmth of a fire.

Discover more about Richmond Castle at www.english-heritage.org.uk/richmond



Soldier standing guard



Monk on his wav to prayers



A domestic servant on duty



MILLAGE. DEOPLE

Discover more about life at Castle Acre, a well-preserved Norman village in Norfolk that dates from the 11th century

NORFOLK VILLAGE

Castle Acre is a remote village in Norfolk. It's special because it's a rare surviving example of a Norman settlement. You can still see the castle, church and priory, as well as the gateways into the village.

BIG CASTLE

A Norman knight called William de Warenne built the castle soon after he fought for William the Conqueror at the Battle of Hastings. It's one of the most impressive earthwork enclosure castles in the country.

SPECIAL PRIORY

The priory dates from 1090 and was founded by William de Warenne's son. For nearly 450 years, it was home to an order of monks called Cluniac monks. It was also a stopping point for royalty and nobility.

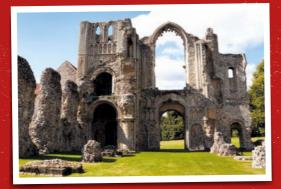
EARLY START

Up to 36 monks lived here, along with a lot of servants. The monks had a strict routine that included worshipping in church eight times a day. The first service started at two o'clock in the morning!

To learn more or to plan a visit to Castle Acre, go to www.english-heritage.org. uk/castleacrepriory

Spot the difference

Find the five differences between these two photos of Castle Acre Priory







NORMAN CASTLES

The Normans left lots of castles across England but do you know what makes them different from other castles? Here are some of the clues to look out for...

After winning the Battle of Hastings, William the Conqueror started building lots of castles throughout England to defend his troops as they advanced across the country. To begin with, they built motte-and-bailey castles using earth and timber. It is believed that the Normans built as many as 1,000 castles like this in England. Later, once William had firmly established his rule, the Normans built huge stone keep castles. Many of these can still be seen across England. Here are things to look out for to know if a castle is Norman or not...



NOW

Many castles have been changed over time or are ruins, so you might not be able to spot everything!

The motte

The earth mound the castle was built on. It has steep sides to make it difficult for enemies to attack.

2 Moat and drawbridge

A moat would have surrounded both the motte and bailey to protect them, with a single drawbridge used to enter. This could be lifted up if the castle was under attack.

The keep

Most Norman castles had a big stone keep, which provided the main accommodation and a lookout tower, topped by a wall that archers could shoot arrows from.

4 The bailey

This is the area at the bottom of the motte, where workers would have lived in Norman times.



Arched doorways

Curved doorways were very fashionable in Norman times!



Small windows

Norman windows tended to have round arches and were small – they let smoke out, but let a little light in, and rarely had glass.



Winding staircases

Some people say these were designed to make attackers climb clockwise and fight with their left (and often weaker) hand.

13

What's for dinner?

A festive Norman feast is taking place at Sherborne Old Castle.
But can you guess what's on the Christmas lunch menu?

Feasts were important events for the Normans and they were used to celebrate special occasions such as Christmas or the completion of the harvest. The food given to people and where they were seated depended on their status. Let's join the Norman bishop Roger of Salisbury as he hosts a Christmas feast...

LOL!

What sort of fish did Norman knights eat?

Fish and seafood

People would eat tench (a type of carp) and eels, which would often be used to make a broth.
Nobles sometimes ate whales and seals.

Bread

In Norman times, instead of using plates, people ate their food off stale bread, which was known as a 'trencher'.

Meat

Lavish feasts would include meat such as roasted wild boar (served with an apple in its mouth), roasted peacock or roast venison (deer).

Potage

This was a really thick soup made up of meat and vegetables that had been boiled together. It was eaten by everyone, even peasants.

Jellies and custards

These were dyed a variety of bright colours, using sandalwood for red, saffron for yellow and boiled animal blood for black!

Chees

Cheese was one of the Normans' favourite types of food. In fact, Wensleydale cheese dates from Norman times.

Make a tasty Norman treat!

The Normans loved to eat sweet food, including a type of sweetmeat that was like a date loaf. Go to our website at www.english-heritage.org.uk/kids to find out how you can make it yourself!

More Normanthemed fun, games and silliness

Who did the Normans marry? lorwomans

NORMAN OR 'NO WAY MAN!'?

As the Normans won the Battle of Hastings, they became the ruling class in England for centuries and drastically changed the language. See if you can spot the eight everyday words that were introduced by the Normans and the two imposters – try putting on a French accent as you do it to see if that helps!

SOLDIER

POULTRY

FAVOURITE

SWEAT

MILITARY

KENNEL



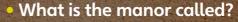
PHEW, THIS PROPERTY

NOBLE DIRT

CUSTARD

losy Normans

Once the Normans had invaded England they conducted a huge survey to see who lived where and what they owned. This survey was called the Domesday Book and included all sorts of useful information to help the Normans rule. Which four of these questions do you think they asked?



- Who owns it?
- What's your favourite song?
- How many people live there?
- How much woodland is there?

TRUEOR FALSE?

Now you know a bit more about the Normans, see if you can guess whether the following statements are fact or fiction

- I. William the Conqueror invented the game of conkers
- 2. The Normans got their name from the Vikings
- 3. They covered their houses in grass so they could play football on the roof
- 4. The Normans won at Hastings because the Anglo-Saxons were too drunk
- 5. The Normans were better builders than the Anglo-Saxons

MAKE YOUR OWN BAYEUX TAPESTRY

The Bayeux Tapestry was the comic of its day, telling the story of how William defeated his enemy Harold. Now it's your turn! You can make your own Bayeux Tapestry based on anything you like. Your summer holiday? Your favourite bit of history? How about a story you've made up on your own? Whatever



vou do, decide on three or four important scenes. Write a sentence describing each as a guide and write them across the top of a sheet of paper. Then on the rest of the paper draw the scenes as they unfolded to tell your story. For real authenticity try and make the people look like those pictured in the Bayeux Tapestry.

ANSWERS: Norman or No Way Man?! Sweat is on Anglo-Saxon word and the word dirt was introduced by the Vikings. True or False? I. False — Conkers was first recorded in the 1800s. 2. True — Norman S. False — However, they did use grass to keep their houses a good femperature, 4. False — It was common for soldiers to drink before battle though! 5. True — Many Norman buildings still stand. Not many Anglo-Saxon ones do.

