The Viking Language Series

The Viking Language Series is a two-volume introduction to Old Norse language, Viking runes, Icelandic sagas, Norse poetry, and the culture and geography of the Viking World.

Viking Language 1: Learn Old Norse, Runes, and Icelandic Sagas, the first volume, is an introductory textbook with 15 lessons, 35 readings, 45 illustrations, 25 cultural sections, 15 maps, 180 exercises, and vocabulary.

Viking Language 2: The Old Norse Reader, the second volume in the series, includes complete sagas, Norse mythic and heroic poetry, selected reading passages, reference grammar, maps, vocabulary, and answer key to exercises in Viking Language 1.

Two audio downloads for Viking Language 1: Lessons 1-8 and 9-15
Pronounce Old Norse, Runes, and Icelandic Sagas

The Author

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More information and samples of Old Norse pronunciation at vikinglanguage.com
The Volumes

**Viking Language 1** is an innovative method for learning Old Norse, the language of Vikings, runes, and the Icelandic sagas. Vikings were the first northern Europeans to harness the technology of long-distance seafaring, and they sailed over 1/3 of the globe. Their Scandinavian language, Old Norse, is the parent of modern Icelandic, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, and Faroese.

**Viking Language 1** is a comprehensive entry into the Norse world. Readings tell of gods, heroes, sacral kingship, blood feuds, and daily life. The learner journeys through Viking Age Denmark, Iceland, Greenland, Norway, Sweden, Britain, Russia, and Byzantium.

**Viking Language 2: The Old Norse Reader** is the second volume in the Viking Language series. It complements the lessons in Viking Language 1 and offers
- Complete Icelandic sagas, *The Saga of the People of Weapon’s Fjord* and *Hrafnkel’s Saga*. Introductions, maps, and extensive notes accompany these tales of blood feud.
- Old Norse mythic and heroic verse. Students learn eddic and skaldic poetry including poems in runes.
- A broad selection of Old Norse prose.
- A comprehensive Old Norse reference grammar and an extensive vocabulary.

A special feature is the ample information about Iceland, where sagas were written and Norse history and myth preserved.

Examples from Viking Language 1 & 2

**Cultural Section**

**Sailing west to Iceland, Greenland and North America**

**The Norse Cross the Atlantic.** Routes taken by settlers to Iceland, Greenland and North America (*Vínland*) from the ninth to the eleventh centuries.

**Reading Runes** Inscription from Uppland, Sweden describing a Viking commander in the armies of the Byzantine Empire.

**Transliteration:**
- *runa · rista · lit · ra·nhualtr · huar a gri·klandi · uas · lis · forunik ·
- *Prí·nim·ní þ· runu* ·

**Vocabulary:**
- *forungi* m captain, commander, leader
- *Grikland* n Greece, Byzantine Empire (place name)
- *hverr* rel pron who
- *láta* <lætr, lét, létu, látinn> vb allow, permit; have something done
- *liðr* n band of men, troop
- *Ragnvaldr* <-s> m Ragnvald (personal name)
- *rísta* <rístr, reist, reistu, rístin> vb carve, engrave;
- *rána* past of *rísta* runa, a letter in the runic *futhark*
- *vas* (older form of *var*) 3sg past of *vera*