



THE VIKINGS

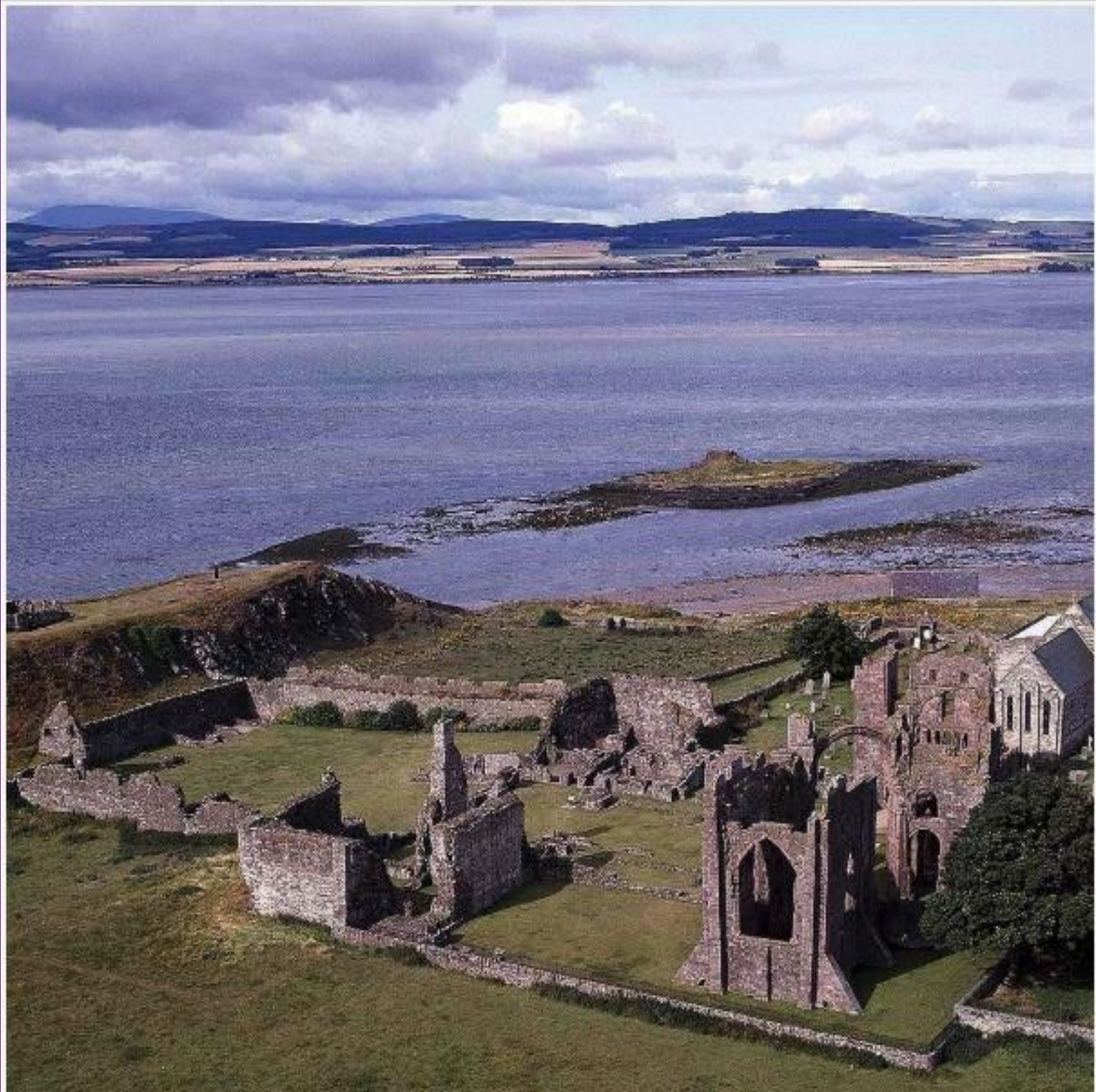
LO: TO USE MY KNOWLEDGE TO WRITE INFORMATION ABOUT THE VIKINGS



WHEN WERE THE VIKINGS IN BRITAIN?

The Vikings first invaded Britain in AD 793 and last invaded in 1066 when William the Conqueror became King of England after the Battle of Hastings.

The first place the Vikings raided in Britain was Lindisfarne, a small holy island located off the northeast coast of England. The raid on Lindisfarne marks the start of the Viking migration from Scandinavia in 793.





WHERE DID VIKINGS COME FROM?



Vikings were from Scandinavia and were searching for better land for their farms. Their land was not very good for growing crops or rearing animals: Norway was very hilly, Sweden was covered in forests, and Denmark had a lot of sandy soil. The Vikings only had small settlements and they didn't have their own coinage. Britain was particularly a good place to raid, as there was a lot of rich resources to steal (which included women) and could easily be reached from sea.

HOW DID THE VIKINGS GET TO BRITAIN?

The Vikings invaded Britain by sea using Viking longships. Viking longships were made from planks of timber, usually oak, overlapped and nailed together. The ships were made watertight by filling the spaces between the planks with; whale baleen, wool, moss or animal hair, mixed with tar or animal fat. The ships were all the same long narrow shape, with shallow bottoms. This meant that they were suitable to be used in shallow water.

