



Ohthere's Voyages

A late 9th-century account of voyages along the coasts of Norway and Denmark and its cultural context

Edited by Janet Bately & Anton Englert

Published 2007 by the Viking Ship Museum in Roskilde. 216 pages, illustrated, hard cover, ISBN 978-87-85180-47-6 Price: DKK 299/€ 40

At some time in the late 9th century, a Norwegian seafarer by the name of Ohthere [Oht-her-e] told the West Saxon king Alfred of his voyages along the coasts of Norway and Denmark. Ohthere's report made such an impression at the court of King Alfred that it was recorded and subsequently inserted into the Old English version of the late Roman world history by Orosius, accompanied by Wulfstan's account of a voyage across the Baltic Sea.

Ohthere's account is the earliest known description of the North by a Scandinavian and gives a fascinating and highly trustworthy glimpse of the early Viking Age. Since the 16th century, Ohthere's voyages have been debated by an ever growing number of scholars, such as linguists, historians and archaeologists. In this book, a panel of experts presents the original source in its geographical, cultural, nautical and economic context:

THE SOURCE

Ohthere and Wulfstan in the Old English *Orosius* by Janet Bately, with a note by E.G. Stanley

Text and translation edited by Janet Bately
Translation notes by Janet Bately, with two notes by E.G. Stanley

GEOGRAPHY

Early medieval accounts of the North before the Old English *Orosius* by Ian Wood

Geography, toponymy and political organisation in early Scandinavia by Stefan Brink

AT HOME

Ohthere and his world – a contemporary perspective by Inger Storli, with a note by Else Roesdahl

Borg in Lofoten. A chieftain's farm in north Norway by Gerd Stamsø Munch

Who were the Finnas? by Irmeli Valtonen
Who were the Cwenas? by Irmeli Valtonen

AT SEA

Ohthere's vessel by Arne Emil Christensen
Ohthere's voyages seen from a nautical angle by Anton Englert

The fifth day. Ohthere's route through the Schlei fjord by Andres Siegfried Dobat

DESTINATIONS

Ohthere's destinations: Norway, Denmark and England by Peter Sawyer

The land of the Beormas by Nikolaj A. Makarov

The Sciringes heal of Ohthere's time by Dagfinn Skre

Hedeby in Ohthere's time by Michael Müller-Wille, with a note by Sven Kalmring

TRADE AND EXCHANGE

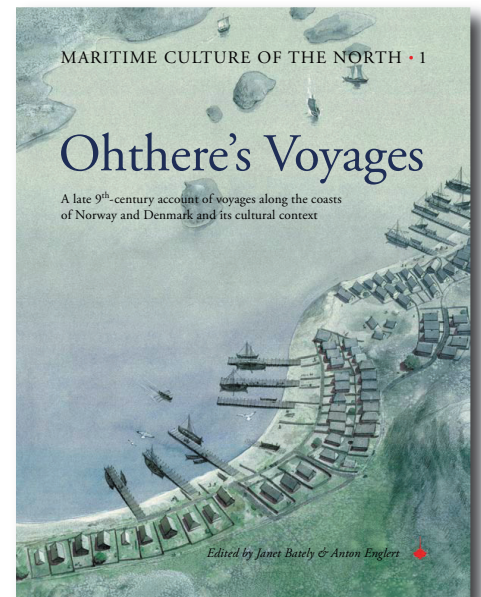
Communication and exchange in North-

West Europe by Stéphane Lebecq
Economic policy, prosperity and professional traders by Carsten Müller-Boysen

From the Foreword:

"The new series may include topics as varied as analyses of coastal sites from the Mesolithic period, fisheries from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, and the development of ports and harbours in pre-modern times, as well as historical accounts of individual voyages."

Jan Bill & Tinna Damgård-Sørensen
The Viking Ship Museum



The new monograph series Maritime Culture of the North

Published volumes:

Vol.1: Ohthere's Voyages

A late 9th-century account of voyages along the coasts of Norway and Denmark and its cultural context.

Edited by Janet Bately & Anton Englert, Roskilde 2007. 216 pages, hard cover. DKK 299/€ 40 + postage

Forthcoming volumes:

Vol.2: Wulfstan's Voyage

The Baltic Sea region in the early Viking Age as seen from shipboard.

Edited by Anton Englert & Athena Trakadas, Roskilde 2008. Hard cover.

Publications by
the Viking Ship Museum
Vindeboder 12
DK-4000 Roskilde

Viking Ship Museum books
can be ordered online via
www.vikingshipmuseum.dk
or via www.oxbowbooks.com

