



# Cluaran – Historical Interpretation, hands on!

[www.cluaranhaven.org.uk](http://www.cluaranhaven.org.uk)

## Cluaran (*Thistle in Gaelic*) – School Visit Options 2021- 2022

Please customise your school visit by choosing from these options. Timings are approximate and can be adapted to fit your school day and room availability. The boat visit needs to take place outside, combat display and shield wall training can be either indoor or outdoor.

If you have any suggestions for an activity you would like to try, then please get in touch. We are able to set up and camp for week long displays using our equipment – and want to make this visit the best possible experience for your pupils. All these ratios are based on a teacher/ usual classroom assistants being available and remaining ultimately responsible for behaviour and discipline in the class.

Era	Size of Visit level	Activity	Description	Pupil/ Interp ratio	Approximate Duration
<b>Interactive Stories – large group sessions (<i>a good introduction to the theme of the day</i>)</b>					
Viking	All	"Thrall, Carl, Jarl" (social structure) story:	A walk through Early mediaeval society, with volunteer pupils dressing as different social classes	Hall capacity	30 mins
All	All	"Helmet Timeline" of Scottish history:	Pupils wear replica helmets and form a line showing key moments from Iron age to present day	Hall capacity	30 mins
Viking	All	Sail Round the Viking World Story	A story of a trip round the Viking world, where pupils move to form "trees", "a longship", and collect trade goods.	Hall capacity	30 mins
Viking, Iron Age/Roman Mediaeval	Knarr, Drakkar	Weapons Display	A run through the arms and armour of a warrior, and display of their use. (This can be a good thing to leave until last, as a finale) (Requires a space separated from pupils by at least 2m)	Hall capacity	30 mins
<b>Object Handling - Small groups, pupil led enquiry</b>					





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All	All	Small Group Camp Visit:	Pupils visit a general trade camp. They will see a wide range of props and can ask questions, pass round objects and use all of their senses to explore early medieval life ( – except the sense of taste ... that would be unwise.)	1 to 15 (combine this with Specialist sessions)	40 mins
All	All	Specialist Session e.g. Trader, Textiles	Each Interpreter you hire has their own area of specialist knowledge – Clothing, Hearth and Home, Specific Crafts, Music, Trading etc.	1 to 15	15 min or 30 min versions
<b>Imagine being a person who has contributed to the shaping of Scottish culture we live in Activities</b>					
Viking	Knarr, Drakkar	Shieldwall training	Learn to move in units and follow shield wall commands.	1 to 25	20 mins
Viking	All	Settler to Seaking Game	The pupils are split into groups, Each group must work together to collect resources (cards) and build a settlement. This works like a relay race and requires a hall or GP area	Max 7 teams of 3 - 5	40 mins
Viking	Knarr, Drakkar	Summer Wanderer Trading Game	Each group of pupils becomes a trading settlement. They move round a map of the Viking world marked out on the floor and swap resources (cards) to learn about bartering and try to become the wealthiest settlement. Parent helpers are useful! P4 and up – or mixed level teams.	9 teams, with up to 10 in each team.	1 hr
Iron Age/ Roman	All	Chariot race in the Circus	Using classroom resources and props we bring, we set out the room to imagine being in the Circus for a chariot race. The class is split into teams who ‘race’ round the track – by taking it in turns to roll a dice. This links to a Roman board games and Dates/ Calendar activity	1/ ~32 or Room capacity	30 mins





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	<b>Crafts</b>				
All	All	Craft Activity Resource sheet	These resources are designed to assist teachers in providing workshops to combine with camp visit and specialist sessions. Pupils then rotate round activities.	School policy	
All	<i>Extra Materials cost, must be booked 3 weeks in advance</i>	Wordsmithcrafts Led Craft Activity	We will run a craft activity session using primary school friendly materials to make replicas of early medieval objects. I'll also have examples of similar things I have made using authentic materials and techniques.	1 to 25 or as resource sheet	
	For example		(subject to staff availability)		
All	All	Drop Spinning	An introduction to spinning yarn using a drop spindle		
All	All	Rope making	Learning to twist cords to make ropes		
Iron Age/ Roman/Viking	All	Bead making	Using air drying clay or fimo to explore the technology of making beads from Glass		
All	All	Curragh building	Working in groups pupils can make replica models of skin boats from wet strength tissue paper and willow.	1/15	60 minutes
Medieval/ Iron Age/Roman	All	Shield making	Depending on the era being studied, this activity would involve choosing a totem animal or working out a coat of arms as personal development. This is then applied to a cardboard shield	class	60 minutes
Viking	All	Shield making	Make an early medieval round shield, selection of Viking designs provided to copy	class	60 minutes





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All	All	Pewter casting	Secondary school level only, using white metal and delft sand to cast small objects	1/15	2 hours
			Many more options available – or we can work out a way for you!		
All	All	Slinger	Braiding a cord using skittles in pairs, to make a bracelet for each person in the pair.	10 pupils max (at once)	40 minutes
	<b>Boats</b>				
Viking/ Medieval	Drakkar only  <i>Boat hire is additional to visit cost</i>	Clinker Boat Visit and Rowing/Fishing activity	We bring a clinker built 6 M long Ness Yole. The pupils can examine it to work out how it is designed and held together, and think about how it is used. We also bring fishing gear. We tell an interactive story where they imagine going on a fishing trip and use the oars on dry land.	~30	40 mins
All		Curragh	We have a 5m long curragh. This is a skin boat made from willow and covered with linen which has been waterproofed using a tar equivalent. It demonstrates the principles of skin boat design used in Britain and Ireland (like a coracle – but bigger and not round!)	~30	40 mins

