



## The Westward Viking Festival: a Real Taste of Vinland Celebrate with us! July 21-31, 2013

Join us for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual *Westward Viking Festival: a Real Taste of Vinland* in enchanting L'Anse aux Meadows, Newfoundland and Labrador. Held each year for the ten days of July 21-31<sup>st</sup>, we invite you to join in the celebrations and experience the cultural and natural wonders of the Northern Peninsula:

Walk back in time along the Birchy Nuddick trail at L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic site and experience a living Viking encampment at three reconstructed sod huts. Forge iron nails with Ragnar the blacksmith or learn single-needle knitting from the Chief's wife, Thora.

At Norstead, join costumed interpreters in the dim light of the Viking-style Chieftain's Hall. Step aboard the full-scale replica Viking ship "Snorri". Enjoy a campfire complete with stories, mussel boil and musical entertainment.

Introduce yourself to a pair of loyal and affable Newfoundland dogs.

Tour the bogs of St. Lunaire-Griquet, soon to be resplendent with berries, and taste some of The Dark Tickle Company's delicious products.

Dance the night away to traditional Irish/Newfoundland music and become an honorary Newfoundlander at one of the island's famous activities for come-from-aways – a Screech-in – at Skipper Hot's Lounge in Straitsview.

Experience the old-fashioned Newfoundland tradition of mummering at Northern Delight Restaurant in Gunners Cove, and taste their wonderful cloudberry (bakeapple) desserts.

Enjoy tapas and martinis made with local berries and iceberg ice (the purest ice on the planet!) at the Norseman Restaurant.

Let our Viking interpreters take you back to far away and long ago as they regale you with tales from the Viking Sagas at the Daily Catch and L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site.

Set sail from Vinland with Northland Discovery Boat Tours with *Viking on Board*, and take in the salt air and sea creatures around you as you experience live music and stories of discovery and adventure.

Come celebrate at the Parks Canada-hosted weekend of events on July 27-28, featuring the launch of a book by Anne Stine Ingstad, a lecture from a Viking historian from Trondheim, Norway, A Taste of Vinland gala showcase, and a Leif Eriksson statue unveiling, as described below...

A truly regional showcase, everyone is invited to join us in celebrating the arrival of the Norse at Vinland during the exciting and activity-packed Westward Viking Festival!





## Book Launch: *The New Land with the Green Meadows*, by Anne Stine Ingstad

Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 1 – 3 pm  
Visitor Centre, L'Anse aux Meadows NHS  
Free



Benedicte Ingstad, daughter of Helge and Anne Stine Ingstad, is joining us from Norway for the English publication of *The New Land with the Green Meadows*, a book of selected entries from her mother's personal diaries. Anne Stine was archaeologist in charge of the excavation of the remains of the Viking settlement uncovered at L'Anse aux Meadows in the 1960s. Her observations of life in a remote rural community and the Ingstad's interactions with local people are recollected in this work, previously

published in Norwegian in 1976. Colour photographs of the rugged landscape and its local residents, taken nearly 50 years ago, complete the book.

Please join us for a reception as we celebrate the publication of this historical memoir, with light refreshments and live music by Icelandic-Canadian folksinger Lindy Vopnfjörð. Following the reception, stay for a lecture presentation by Rolf Grandkvist, Viking historian from Trondheim, Norway.

## A Taste of Vinland Gala Showcase

Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 7 – 10 pm  
Visitor Centre, L'Anse aux Meadows NHS  
Tickets \$45; please call 623-2608 for information

Celebrate with us at this exciting evening of culinary collaboration and cultural celebration! This showcase of regional and international entertainment, music, storytelling, food and laughter will highlight the many wonderful cultural experiences offered by local businesses and organisations in the L'Anse aux Meadows region. Those sharing this special evening with us will receive a small handmade keepsake souvenir.





With an ice carving by Chef Steve Watson standing sentry nearby, a feast of traditional Newfoundland, Icelandic, Norwegian, and Viking fare will be available for sampling, as prepared in cooperation with local restaurants, Chef Watson, and Chef Arden Jackson from the Icelandic Canadian Club of Toronto. Be enthralled by our masterful Viking storytellers of L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site and enjoy live musical performances. Performers include folksinger Lindy Vopnþjörð, a trio of female voices from the Norwegian Ladies Chorus of Seattle, Viking re-enactor and musician Wade Hillier and other local musicians from the Great Northern Peninsula.

Following the A Taste of Vinland Gala Showcase, please join us for an evening beach bonfire and fireworks display on the shores of the community of L'Anse aux Meadows.

Representatives from Parks Canada, the Royal Norwegian Embassy, Icelandic Canadian Club of Toronto, Leif Eriksson International Foundation of Seattle, Icelandic Club of Greater Seattle, and the Historic Sites Association of Newfoundland and Labrador will in attendance at this unique event.

### Leif Eriksson Statue Unveiling

Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 1 – 3 pm

Dockside in the community of L'Anse aux Meadows

Free



One thousand and thirty years ago, Erik the Red sailed away from the west coast of Norway. He settled in Iceland and married Thodhildjur, who gave birth to their first son, Leifur Eiriksson (Leif Eriksson). Their family then ventured to Brattahlid, Greenland, where they remained except for Leif's journeys: first to Norway where he served under the Nordic King Olaf Tryggvason, and then his famous sojourn to Vinland, on the shores of North America.

The Leif Erikson International Foundation has gifted the community of L'Anse aux Meadows with a replica of August Werner's original Seattle statue. Statues of Leif have also been placed in Trondheim, Norway, where the Sagas say Leif overwintered with King Olaf Trygvasson, and to Brattahlid, Greenland, where Erik the Red established his farm. On July 28<sup>th</sup>, this final statue will be unveiled on the very shore where Leif and his crew may have first set foot. All are welcome to join us for the unveiling ceremony.

