

Medieval Europe Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Medieval Europe trivia explores a thousand years of change, from feudal societies and crusades to castles, cathedrals, and the growth of towns and trade. This page offers a concise, family-friendly way to revisit the people, ideas, and events that defined the Middle Ages, with questions ranging from accessible to challenging.

HARD MEDIEVAL EUROPE TRIVIA

1. Which imperial legal compilation was ordered by Emperor Justinian?

Answer: Corpus Juris Civilis

2. The 1204 capture of Constantinople was carried out by which crusade?

Answer: The Fourth Crusade

3. What was the name of the struggle between Pope Gregory VII and Emperor Henry IV?

Answer: The Investiture Controversy

4. Which agreement was concluded in 1122 to settle a major church-imperial dispute?

Answer: The Concordat of Worms

5. In what year did the Great Schism in the Western Church begin?

Answer: 1378

6. Which decree set the rules for electing the Holy Roman Emperor in 1356?

Answer: The Golden Bull

7. Name the battle fought in 1071 that became one of the landmark clashes of medieval eastern warfare.?

Answer: The Battle of Manzikert

8. Which 1396 battle ended with an Ottoman victory over a crusading army?

Answer: The Battle of Nicopolis

9. What was the name of the German military order founded during the Crusades?

Answer: The Teutonic Order

10. Which crusade specifically targeted Cathars in southern France?

Answer: The Albigensian Crusade

11. In which region did the Cathars have a particularly strong presence?

Answer: Languedoc

12. The Peace of God movement began in which country?

Answer: France

13. What movement sought to limit fighting on certain days and seasons?

Answer: The Truce of God

14. Which medieval law book was written in Middle Low German?

Answer: The Sachsenspiegel

FUNNY MEDIEVAL EUROPE TRIVIA

1. Who was the medieval court professional whose job description was basically 'keep the ruler laughing'?

Answer: Jesters were professional entertainers at some medieval courts.

2. Which medieval celebration often involved masks and role reversals, as if society briefly tried on someone else's shoes?

Answer: Carnival often featured masks and role reversals in medieval Europe.

3. What was the name of the medieval festival known for comic inversion in parts of Europe?

Answer: The Feast of Fools.

4. Which medieval writer became memorable for describing her own loud public weeping, turning personal drama into source material?

Answer: Margery Kempe.

5. If you opened the Luttrell Psalter hoping only for solemn devotion, what lively surprise might jump out at you?

Answer: Hybrid monsters and comic scenes.

6. Those whimsical doodles scampering around the edges of medieval manuscripts are known by what name?

Answer: Marginalia.

7. Which famous manuscript is celebrated for elaborate decorated initials, proving even the alphabet could dress up for the occasion?

Answer: The Book of Kells.

8. On a chessboard shaped by medieval society, which piece reflects church influence on the game?

Answer: The bishop.

9. The famous Lewis Chessmen were found on which Scottish island?

Answer: The Isle of Lewis in Scotland.

10. Who were the medieval court performers who mixed poetry and music rather than just shouting 'Free Bird' at the dais?

Answer: Troubadours.

11. Which group were the German medieval lyric poets and singers?

Answer: Minnesingers.

12. In medieval French literature, what were the short comic tales called—the sort of thing you might call a quick laugh with parchment?

Answer: Fabliaux.

13. The Roman de Renart centers on which famously tricky animal character?

Answer: A fox named Reynard.

FUN MEDIEVAL EUROPE TRIVIA

1. Which city was a leading star of the Hanseatic League?

Answer: Lübeck was a leading city of the Hanseatic League.

2. If a merchant ship in medieval Norway was heading for a major Hanseatic trading center, which city might be on the cargo list?

Answer: Bergen was an important Hanseatic trading center in Norway.

3. What medieval Rus' city was famous as a major commercial center?

Answer: Novgorod was a major commercial center in medieval Rus'.

4. Which city was the powerful maritime republic that basically made the sea its business card in the Middle Ages?

Answer: Venice was a powerful maritime republic in the Middle Ages.

5. In medieval Venice, where was the city's commercial heart beating fastest?

Answer: The Rialto area was the commercial heart of medieval Venice.

6. Who was the elected head of the Republic of Venice?

Answer: The Doge was the elected head of the Republic of Venice.

7. Which medieval city was a major Mediterranean trading power and Venice's big commercial rival in spirit?

Answer: Genoa was a major Mediterranean trading power in medieval Europe.

8. Which family climbed to power in Florence through banking rather than battlefield glory?

Answer: The Medici family rose to power in Florence through banking.

9. What famous medieval trade fairs in France drew merchants like a giant commercial magnet?

Answer: The Champagne fairs were major trade fairs in medieval France.

10. In medieval Europe, what was a self-governing town or city called?

Answer: A commune was a self-governing medieval town or city.

11. Who kept many medieval crafts and trades from turning into total free-for-all chaos?

Answer: Guilds regulated many crafts and trades in medieval towns.

12. True or false: The pound sterling was used in medieval England.?

Answer: True

13. Which famous gold coin of Florence first appeared in 1252?

Answer: The florin became a famous gold coin of Florence in 1252.

MEDIEVAL EUROPE FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Which religious order was founded by Francis of Assisi?

Answer: The Franciscan Order.

2. Who served as Archbishop of Canterbury in medieval England?

Answer: Thomas Becket served as Archbishop of Canterbury.

3. Which medieval figure was both an abbess and a composer?

Answer: Hildegard of Bingen.

4. In which city was Dante Alighieri born?

Answer: Florence.

5. Who wrote The Divine Comedy?

Answer: Dante Alighieri wrote The Divine Comedy.

6. Which author wrote The Canterbury Tales?

Answer: Geoffrey Chaucer.

7. True or false: Piers Plowman is written in Middle English.?

Answer: True

8. Which scholar was both a Dominican friar and a theologian?

Answer: Thomas Aquinas.

9. What is the title of the major work written by Thomas Aquinas?

Answer: Summa Theologiae.

10. Which Italian city is home to one of Europe's oldest universities?

Answer: Bologna.

11. Which university was active by the late 11th century?

Answer: The University of Oxford.

12. Pilgrims traveled to which city that became a major Christian destination?

Answer: Santiago de Compostela.

EASY MEDIEVAL EUROPE TRIVIA

1. Who was crowned emperor in Rome in the year 800?

Answer: Charlemagne

2. What famous charter was sealed by King John in 1215?

Answer: The Magna Carta

3. Who won the Battle of Hastings in 1066?

Answer: William the Conqueror

4. What was the capital of the Byzantine Empire?

Answer: Constantinople

5. Which devastating disease reached Europe in the mid-14th century?

Answer: The Black Death

6. Joan of Arc is most closely associated with which country during the Hundred Years' War?

Answer: France

7. In what year was the First Crusade launched?

Answer: 1095

8. Feudal knights commonly fought on what kind of mount?

Answer: Horseback

9. In medieval society, what was a fief?

Answer: Land held in exchange for service

10. A vassal owed loyalty and service to whom?

Answer: A lord

11. The Middle Ages in Europe are often dated from about 500 to about what later year?

Answer: 1500

12. Which raid in 793 is often used to mark the start of the Viking Age?

Answer: The raid on Lindisfarne

13. In what year was the Battle of Agincourt fought?

Answer: 1415

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/medieval-europe>