



INVASIONS OR MIGRATIONS?

Were the Middle Ages a long series of conflicts and invasions? Archeology brings nuances, and shows that, indeed, large migratory movements have punctuated its history, much more than sudden invasions. The spotlight is on the blends and the cohabitation of cultural practices, as well as on the know-how and innovations issued from these migratory fluxes.



EVERYDAY LIFE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

What was the daily life of people living in the countryside like? How did they get dressed? What did they eat? How did they manage their hygiene, health, care of the sick and the deceased? What were the trades and leisurely pursuits of women and men in the Middle Ages? Archeology gives a totally new picture of this rural lifestyle.



MEN, LANDSCAPE AND RESOURCES

With amazing dynamism, the medieval populations have shaped most of today's landscapes and developed the exploitation of energy and resources (water, wind, coal etc.). While some developments and activities have led to deforestation and pollution, especially from the 12th century onwards, these societies have also proved to be inventive, with a reasoned and sustainable management of resource, as shown by the discoveries made on the sites of the early Middle Ages.



THE ELITE IN THE MIDDLE AGES

The medieval aristocracy devoted itself to war according to very precise rules, governed territories and peasants, prided itself on courteous love and challenged each other in other forms of battle, thus adapting various games to its taste, such as chess or tournaments. Archeology highlights the great diversity of the elite habitats and the complexity of social hierarchy. Forget about the cliché of lords all alone in their fiefs! Castles first built with wood in the 10th and 11th centuries, were subsequently built with stone especially from the 12th century onward. More modest or rustic settlements can also be living places and places of authority for the elites. We see here a new vision of these elites and their practices, far removed from the usual stereotypes.



TRAVEL AND EXCHANGES

A 15-minute film illustrates the movement of men, goods, ideas and knowledge between the 12th and 15th centuries. Three fabliaux (humorous tales) evoke a meeting between travelers: an African king, a student, a trader and a false pilgrim. Three poetic, funny and believable scenes to show the importance of mobility in the 12th century.



TOWNS IN THE MIDDLE AGES

Throughout the 1,000 years that make up the medieval period, towns and their organization have evolved. Trade and the economy took an increasingly prominent place. Between the 12th and the 16th century, networks of small and medium agglomerations were born and developed. The Church was omnipresent, but town halls, belfries and universities appear, giving towns the face that we know today.



LAYOUT PLAN OF THE EXHIBITION



USEFUL FACTS

AUDIENCE
Families and school children from age 9.

SURFACE AREA
400 m²

COMPOSITION
• 6 multimédias
• 16 interactive manipulations
• 12 audiovisuels

LANGUAGES
Trilingual exhibition (French, English, Italian).
Adaptation possible into another language.

ACCESSIBILITY
Accessible to all types of handicap.

RENTAL FEES
Please contact us. Option to acquire technical documents.

CONTACTS

contactpro@universcience.fr
Tel : 00 33 (0) 1 40 05 73 53

BROWSE OUR CATALOG
<http://www.universcience.fr/exhibitionservices/>



© EPPDCSI - COM 05/2012 - Photos: CSI/N. BRETON, PH. LEVY

TRAVELLING
EXHIBITION

WHAT IS NEW IN THE MIDDLE AGES?



WHAT ARCHAEOLOGY REVEALS

1,000 YEARS OF HISTORY TOLD DIFFERENTLY
THANKS TO ARCHAEOLOGY: INNOVATIONS,
LIVING SPACES, FASHION, LEISURE ACTIVITIES,
DAILY LIFE, TERRITORIES AND BELIEFS...

WHAT'S NEW IN THE MIDDLE AGES?

WHAT ARCHAEOLOGY REVEALS



Issued from a collaboration with Inrap, the exhibition paints an innovative portrait of an era that covers over 1,000 years. We will learn that the eyeglasses and compass were invented in the Middle Ages and that we owe industry, the term banlieue (suburbs) and town and country planning to that period. A complete review of the Medieval era that still has many hidden treasures!

WHAT IS NEW IN THE MIDDLE AGES? presents a review of the knowledge recently acquired by researchers and historians thanks to the preventive archaeology findings. It depicts the technical and social innovations techniques that punctuated this period and their impact on the life of the population. The exhibition is made of 6 thematic sections which offer landmarks timeline, models, maps, objects to manipulate, games, videos and multimedia.

DISCOVER THE MIDDLE AGES
LIKE THEY HAVE NEVER BEEN
SEEN BEFORE!

Coproduced with:

Inrap + Institut national de recherches archéologiques préventives