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Dear Viking friends

We get a lot of requests and questions about the Viking market in the beginning of May. Many more Vikings want to participate than we can handle.

From 1991 the market was organized by the Museum in Ribe and took place in Ribe Town. To be able to control the number of Vikings, they were invited from a list of European re-enactors from that period.

When Ribe VikingeCenter took over in 1994, we continued with that procedure, because it was a success and we had a very good atmosphere among the Vikings. We have slowly developed the market into what it is today and one of the key notes in that process is the procedure with an invitation send out to the Vikings.

It means that the Vikings, who get an invitation are the Vikings belonging to the group of Vikings who have participated before. This procedure, of course, makes it very difficult as a "new" Viking to participate at the May market. To solve that challenge we started to invite re-enactors to participate in our activities in 1996 and the number of participants have slowly developed. In 2013 a thousand people took part as voluntary Vikings during the summer ☺

If a group or person has a reasonable cause to cancel their stay at the Viking market in May, we sometimes invite other Vikings. They will normally be chosen from the Vikings, who already have been participating during the summer as voluntary Vikings. In rare occasions, completely new people will come in if they represent something very special, which we do not already show at the market. In both cases the invitation to them will not be send until after the deadline of the first enrolment. But you have to notice that the Vikings who cancelled get an invitation next year and the new ones maybe not. We do not just quit old friendships if there is no reason to do so.

If you would like to participate during the season, you have to apply on our website:

<http://www.ribevikingecenter.dk/en/volunteers/volunteer-vikings.aspx>

If you bring your own tent, we normally have a place for you. If you want a house, we will try to sort it out but we cannot guarantee to fulfill your request.

If you haven't been here before we need to have pictures of you, your equipment and craftwork. If you are a trader, we will need pictures of items that you sell as well. It has to be **Viking articles, which have not been produced in the far east**. We prefer traders who produce their goods themselves. We also want to know where you have participated before and for how long you have been doing re-enactment.

Summary

- Participating in the Viking market in May is only possible by invitation from Ribe VikingCenter. Invitations are sent out in February.
- Participating during the season is only possible by application via our website and not before it has been confirmed.
- Our questions to new voluntary Vikings and request for documentation must be answered. Remember to fill out the blank "comment" along with the rest of the application form.
- At the end of April, the contact of the re-enactment group will receive the first plan for the season stating all participants who have applied for the season. This plan will be renewed every time there are changes.

Kind regards,

Karen Nørgaard
Magager

Bjarne Clement
Manager