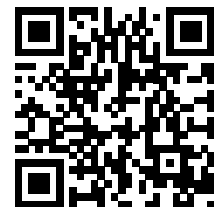


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# Exploring the Picts



The \_\_\_\_\_ were a group of people who lived in what is now Scotland during the \_\_\_\_\_ period. They are famous for their mysterious \_\_\_\_\_ carved into stones. These carvings remain one of the few ways we know about their \_\_\_\_\_, as they left no written records. The Picts were skilled \_\_\_\_\_ and often fought against the \_\_\_\_\_, who tried to invade their lands. Despite the Roman efforts, the Picts managed to keep their \_\_\_\_\_ for centuries. They lived in small, scattered \_\_\_\_\_, relying on farming, hunting, and fishing for survival. Their society was likely \_\_\_\_\_, with both men and women having roles in leadership and \_\_\_\_\_. Around the 9th century, the Picts merged with the \_\_\_\_\_, another group in Scotland, forming the basis of modern Scottish \_\_\_\_\_. This union was partly due to the influence of \_\_\_\_\_, which spread throughout their territories, merging their cultures. The exact reasons behind the disappearance of the Pictish \_\_\_\_\_ and identity remain a mystery. Today, the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Picts lives on through their stone carvings and the \_\_\_\_\_ passed down through generations, sparking curiosity and \_\_\_\_\_ about this ancient people.

- stories
- fascination
- symbols
- Gaels
- language
- warriors
- independence
- legacy
- communities
- warfare
- Christianity
- identity
- egalitarian
- Romans
- culture
- Ancient
- Picts