

## 862 A.D.

According to the Primary Chronicle (12th century), written by a certain Nestor, the Chuds, Eastern Slavs, Merias, Veses, and Krivichs drove the Varangians (Vikings) back beyond the sea, refusing to pay them tribute, and they set out to govern themselves.

Afterwards, the tribes started fighting among themselves and then it was decided to invite the Varangians, led by Rurik (also: Riurik), to reestablish order. Rurik came in 860–862 along with his brothers Sineus and Truvor.



Riurik of Hroerekr

Rurik was one of the *Rus'*, a Varangian tribe, compared by Nestor to Swedes and Gotlanders. The scholarly consensus is that the *Rus'* people originated in what is now the east coast of Sweden, around the eighth century and that their name has the same origin as Roslagen in Sweden (with the older name being Roden).

The name *Rus'* – like the Proto-Finnic name for Sweden, *Ruotsi* – is derived from an Old Norse term for “the men who row”, as rowing was the main method of navigating the waters of Eastern Europe. Also, it could be linked to the Swedish coastal area of Roslagen (*Rus-law*) or *Roden*, as it was known in earlier times.

Sineus established himself at Beloozero on the shores of lake Belye, and Truvor at Izborsk. Truvor and Sineus died shortly after, and Rurik consolidated these lands into his own territory.

(source: Wikipedia)

