

Rollo

Rollo on the Six Dukes statue in Falaise town square.



Rollo, occasionally known as **Rollo the Viking**, (c. [860](#) - c. [932](#)) was the founder and first ruler of the [Viking](#) principality in what soon became known as [Normandy](#). He is also in some sources known as *Robert of Normandy*, using his baptismal name.

[Norwegian](#) and [Icelandic](#) historians identified this Rollo with a son of [Rognvald Eysteinnsson](#), Earl of [Møre](#), in [Western Norway](#), based on medieval Norwegian and Icelandic sagas that mention a [Ganger Hrolf](#) (Hrolf, the Walker). The oldest source of this version is the Latin [Historia Norvegiae](#), written in Norway at the end of the 12th century. This Hrolf fell foul of the Norwegian king [Harald Fairhair](#), and became a [Jarl](#) in Normandy. The nickname of that character came from being so big that no horse (or at least not the Norwegian ponies of that era) could carry him.

Invasion of France

In [885](#), Rollo was one of the lesser leaders of the Viking fleet which [besieged Paris](#) under [Sigfred](#). Legend has it that an emissary was sent by the king to find the chieftain and negotiate terms. When he asked for this information, the Vikings replied that they were all chieftains in their own right. In [886](#), when Sigfred retreated in return for tribute, Rollo stayed behind and was eventually bought off and sent to harry [Burgundy](#).

Later, he returned to the [Seine](#) with his followers (known as Danes, or Norsemen). He invaded the area of northern [France](#) now known as [Normandy](#).

In 911 Rollo's forces were defeated at the [Battle of Chartres](#) by the troops of King [Charles the Simple](#). In the aftermath of the battle, rather than pay Rollo to leave, as was customary, [Charles the Simple](#) understood that he could no longer hold back their onslaught, and decided to give Rollo the coastal lands they occupied under the condition that he defend against other raiding Vikings. In the [Treaty of Saint-Clair-sur-Epte \(911\)](#) with King Charles, Rollo pledged [feudal](#) allegiance to the king, changed his name to the Frankish version, and converted to [Christianity](#), probably with the [baptismal](#) name Robert. In return, King Charles granted Rollo the lower [Seine](#) area (today's upper Normandy) and the titular rulership of Normandy, centred around the city of [Rouen](#). There exists some argument among historians as to whether Rollo was a "[duke](#)" (*dux*) or whether his position was equivalent to that of a "[count](#)" under [Charlemagne](#). According to

legend, when required to kiss the foot of King Charles, as a condition of the treaty, he refused to perform so great a humiliation, and when Charles extended his foot to Rollo, Rollo ordered one of his warriors to do so in his place. His warrior then lifted Charles' foot up to his mouth causing him to fall to the ground.

Rollo and Poppa, captured daughter of Berenger Count of Bayeaux became his wife



Settlement

Initially, Rollo stayed true to his word of defending the shores of the Seine river in accordance to the [Treaty of Saint-Clair-sur-Epte](#), but in time he and his followers had very different ideas. Rollo began to divide the land between the Epte and Risle rivers among his chieftains and settled there with a *de facto* capital in Rouen. With these settlements, Rollo began to further raid other Frankish lands,

now from the security of a settled homeland, rather than a mobile fleet. Eventually, however, Rollo's men intermarried with the local women, and became more settled as Frenchmen. At the time of his death, Rollo's expansion of his territory had extended as far west as the [Vire River](#).

Death

Rollo's grave at the cathedral of Rouen



Sometime around [927](#), Rollo passed the [fief in Normandy](#) to his son, [William Longsword](#). Rollo may have lived for a few years after that, but certainly died before [933](#). According to the historian [Adhemar](#), 'As Rollo's death drew near, he went mad and had a hundred Christian prisoners beheaded in front of him in honour of the [gods whom he had worshipped](#), and in the end distributed a hundred pounds of gold around the churches in honour of the true God in whose name he had accepted baptism.' Even though Rollo had converted to [Christianity](#), some of his [pagan](#) roots surfaced at the end.

Rollo is a direct ancestor of [William the Conqueror](#). Through William, he is a [direct ancestor and predecessor of the present-day British royal family](#).

Descendants of: Rollo Gånge-Rolf Duke of Normandy As Related to: Lars Erik Granholm

- 1 **Rollo Gånge-Rolf Duke of Normandy** b. 860 Norway, Trøndelag d. 931 Normandy (34th great grand father)
m. **Poppa de Bayeux Duchess of Normandy**
[daughter of Berenger Count of Bayeaux and Senlis and Daughter of Gurvand Count of Rennes]
- 2 **William I Longsword Duke of Normandy** b. 893 Bayeux or Rouen d. 17 December 942 (33rd great grand father)
m. **Sprota**
- 3 **Richard the Fearless Duke of Normandy** b. 28 August 933 Fécamp Normandy d. Nov 20, 996 (32nd great grand father)
m. **Gunnora Duchess of Normandy** b. 936 d. 1031
- 4 **Richard II the Good Duke of Normandy** b. 963 Normandy d. 28 August 1027 Normandy (31st great grand father)
m. **Judith Countess of Brittany** b. 982 d. 1017
[daughter of Conan I of Rennes and Ermengarde of Anjou]
- 5 **Robert the Magnificent Duke of Normandy** b. June 22, 1000 d. 3 July 1035 (30th great grand father)
m. **Herleva of Falaise** b. 1003 d. 1050
[daughter of Fulbert De Falaise and Duxia]
- 6 **Felicia Princess of Normandy** b. 1017 Normandy, France (29th great grand mother)
m. **Ragnvald II Bruesson Earl of Orkney** b. 1011 Orkney, Scotland d. Dec 1048 Dræbt, Papa Stronsay, Orkney
- 7 **Thora Ragnvaldsdotter Queen of Norway** b. 1030 Godoy, More og Romesdal, Norway (28th great grand mother)
m. **Olaf III Kyrre King of Norway** b. ABT 1050 Norway d. 22 Sep 1093 Hakeby, Tanum, Bohuslän
[son of Harald III "Hårdråde" King of Norway and Tora Torbergsdatter]
- 8 **Magnus III Barfot King of Norway** b. ABT 1073 Norway d. 24 Aug 1103 Connaugt, Ireland (27th great grand father)
m. **Margrete Fredkulla Princess of Sweden** b. 1085 Sweden d. 4 Nov 1130
[daughter of Inge I Stenkilsson King of Sweden and Helena Torildsdatter Queen of Sweden]
- 9 **Ragnhild Magnusdotter Princess of Norway** (26th great grand mother)
m. **Harald "Kesja" Eriksson Prince of Denmark** b. 1083 Denmark d. 1135 Skibet, Vejle, Denmark
[son of Erik I Ejegod King of Denmark and Bothild Thorgatsdotter Queen of Denmark]
- 10 **Björn Haraldsson "Jernside" Prince of Denmark** b. 1105 Denmark d. 1134 (25th great grand father)
m. **Katarina Ingesdotter Princess of Sweden** b. 1107 Uppsala
[daughter of Inge I Stenkilsson King of Sweden and Helena Torildsdatter Queen of Sweden]
- 11 **Christine Björnsdotter Queen of Sweden** b. 1124 (24th great grand mother)
m. **Erik IX the Saint King of Sweden**
[son of Jedward and Cecilia Svensdotter]
- 12 **Knut I Eriksson King of Sweden** b. ABT 1145 Uppsala d. 8 Apr 1196 Eriksberg kungsgård (23rd great grand father)
m. **Cecilia Johansdotter Queen of Sweden** b. ABT 1149 d. 8 Apr 1196
[daughter of Johann Sverkersson Prince of Sweden]
- 13 **Erik X Knutsson King of Sweden** b. 1180 Stockholm, Sweden d. 10 Apr 1216 Visingsö, Sweden (22nd great grand father)
m. **Richiza Valdemarsdotter Princess of Denmark** b. ABT 1178 d. 8 May 1220
[daughter of Valdemar I the Great King of Denmark and Sofiya Vladimirovna Princess of Russia]
- 14 **Märtha Eriksdotter Princess of Sweden** b. ABT 1213 (21st great grand mother)
m. **Nils Sixtensson Sparre av Tofta** b. ABT 1188 Tofta, Uppsala, Sweden
[son of Sixten Sixtensson Sparre of Tofta]
- 15 **Sixten Nilsson Sparre av Tofta** d. 1310 (20th great grand father)
m. **Ingrid Abjörnsdotter** b. Abt 1220 Adelso, Uppsala
- 16 **Abjörn Sixtensson Sparre av Tofta** b. ABT 1240 d. 1310 (19th great grand father)
m. **Ingeborg Ulfdotter Ulf** b. ABT 1258 d. AFT 1307
[daughter of Ulf Karlsson Ulv and Karlsdotter Lejonbalk]

17 **Ulf Abjörnsson Sparre** b. 1348 (18th great grand father)
m. **Kristina Sigmundsdotter Tre Klöverblad** m. 1330 b. 1295
[daughter of Sigmund Keldorsson Tre Klöverblad]

18 **Karl Ulfsson Sparre av Tofta** (17th great grand father)
m. **Helena Israelsdotter** b. 1340 d. 1410
[daughter of Israel Birgersson and Bengta Färla Karlsdotter]

19 **Margareta Karlsdotter Sparre av Tofta** d. 1429 (16th great grand mother)
m. **Knut Tordsson Bonde** b. ABT 1377 Vadstena, Sweden d. 1413
[son of Tord Röríksson Bonde and Ramborg Cecilia Nilsdotter Vasa]

20 **Karl VIII Knutsson Bonde King of Sweden** b. 1409 Uppsala d. 15 May 1470 Stockholm (15th great grand father)
m. **Birgitta Turesdotter Bielke** m. 1428 d. 1436
[daughter of Ture Stensson Bielke and Birgitta Abrahamsdotter Tjurhuvud]

21 **Karin Karlsdotter Bonde** (14th great grand mother)
m. **Erengisle Björnsson Djäkn** d. bef 1447
[son of Björn Pedersson Djäkn]

22 **Märta Erengisledotter Djäkn** (13th great grand mother)
m. **Johan Henriksson Fleming** b. 1465 Rada, Sverige d. AFT 1514
[son of Henrik Klausson Fleming and Valborg Jönsdotter Tawast]

23 **Anna Johansdotter Fleming** b. 1435 d. 1505 (12th great grand mother)
m. **Olof Pedersson (Wildeman) Lille** d. 1535

24 **Karin Olofsdotter Wildeman** b. 1465 d. 1535 (11th great grand mother)
m. **Ludolf Boose** b. 1465 Holstein d. 1535

25 **Johan Ludolfsson Boose** b. 1526 d. 1596 Karuna (10th great grand father)
m. **Ingeborg Henriksdotter**

26 **Kirstin Johansdotter Boose** b. 1576 d. 1646 Karuna (9th great grand mother)
m. **Bertil von Nieroht** b. 1582 d. 1652

27 **Maria Bertilsdotter von Nieroht** b. 1612 d. 1682 (8th great grand mother)
m. **Carl Henriksson Lindelöf**
[son of Henrik Hansson Lindelöf and Anna Bengtsdotter Gyllenlood]

28 **Carl Carlsson von Lindelöf** b. 1642 d. 1712 (7th great grand father)
m. **N.N. Laurisdotter Laurentz**

29 **Anna Maria Carlsdotter von Lindelöf** b. 1670 d. 1 Feb 1747 Suomusjärvi (6th great grand mother)
m. **Ericus Christierni Orenius** b. ABT 1658 d. 2 Mar 1740 Suomusjärvi
[son of Krister (Christiernus) Matthiae Orenius and Ingeborg]

31 **Christina Margareta Urnovia** (4th great grand mother)
m. **Johan Flinck** m. 20 Dec 1781 Turku

32 **Johan (Flinck) Årenius** b. 12 Jan 1787 Pemar Vista d. 6 Nov 1823 Eckois Tyrvää (great-great-great-grand father)
m. **Ulrika Abrahamsdotter Sevon** m. 15 Mar 1810 b. 9 Jun 1784
[daughter of Abraham Abrahamsson Sevon and Juliana Ulrika Hallonblad]

33 **Johan Gustaf Johansson Årenius** b. 5 Jun 1810 Eckois Tyrvaa (great-great-grand father)
m. **Johanna Carolina Röring** b. 24 Jun 1802 d. ABT 1839
[daughter of N.N. Röring and Maria Jakobsdotter Tägtström]

34 **Charlotta Constantia Renlund** b. 4 Jun 1830 d. 28 Jan 1905 (great-grand mother)
m. **Erik Eriksson Kåll** m. 19 Mar 1854 b. 24 Jun 1829 d. 23 Jan 1905
[son of Erik Persson Lillkåll and Maria Johansdotter Lillkåll]

35 **Johanna Karolina Eriksdotter Kåll** b. 9 Jan 1863 d. 8 Nov 1934 (grand mother)
m. **Karl-Johan Granholm** m. 24 Mar 1887 b. 14 Mar 1866 d. 22 Jun 1920
[son of Anders Gustaf Johansson Granholm and Brita Andersdotter Djupsjö]

36 **Erik Anton Granholm** b. 28 May 1906 d. 29 Jan 1959 (father)
m. **Karin Hildegard Kasén** m. 20 Aug 1933 b. 3 Jul 1914
[daughter of Alfred Jakobsson Kasén and Wera Ingeborg Björk]

37 **Lars Erik Granholm** b. 28 Jul 1934 (myself)
m. **Leena Elisabeth Kentala**
[daughter of Anders Artur Kentala and Anna Heleena Reuter]

37 **Karl-Johan Granholm** b. 29 May 1936 d. 1 Aug 2001 (brother)
m. **Irma Hakala** b. 2 Jul 1934

37 **Alf Göran Granholm** b. 15 Aug 1939 d. 14 Jul 2003 (brother)
m. **Anja Harmaala**
m. **Marilyn Schmall**

37 **Kaj Håkan Granholm** b. 11 Jun 1946 (brother)
m. **Evelyn Margaret Peterson** b. 31 Jan 1949
[daughter of John Gustav Tage Peterson and Karin Helga Maria Esselström]
m. **Judy Ann McCarthy** b. Feb 16 1949