

9. Journey by fire

The way people were buried tell a lot about how they thought about life, death and the Afterlife. In the Iron Age and Viking times, the dead were either buried or cremated, but cremation was most common. Burning the body on a funeral pyre may have been a way of releasing the dead person's spirit from the body, thus helping them on their way to the Afterlife. The burnt remains of both human and animal bones were buried in this soapstone bowl; their souls had travelled onward together to the Afterlife.

In the case

1. Burned bones. Drognes, Årnes, Viken (Akershus). C60102/29

