Coming Of Middle Age: A Journey

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It's a common misconception about the Middle Ages that people were stuck in their villages or towns and were unaware of what was going on elsewhere, but that was not the case. It's true that some people never travelled further than the local market and others didn't have the opportunity to travel. Villeins, for example, were tied to their lord's manor and could not leave it without his permission, but freemen could go, more or less, wherever they wanted. Travelling was not something to be undertaken lightly. A long-distance journey needed preparation and companions. It was not safe to travel alone. The roads were beset by bandits. If you followed a major river you were bound to come to a market town. The main roads mostly followed the Roman roads.