



**Map 4.1 The Carolingian Empire, c. 800** Historians often describe Charlemagne’s empire as “the first Europe,” and this map shows why. Charlemagne’s power did not extend very far into Spain nor did it reach into the British Isles. But it encompassed much of modern-day Italy, Austria, and Germany and all of modern-day France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Switzerland.