

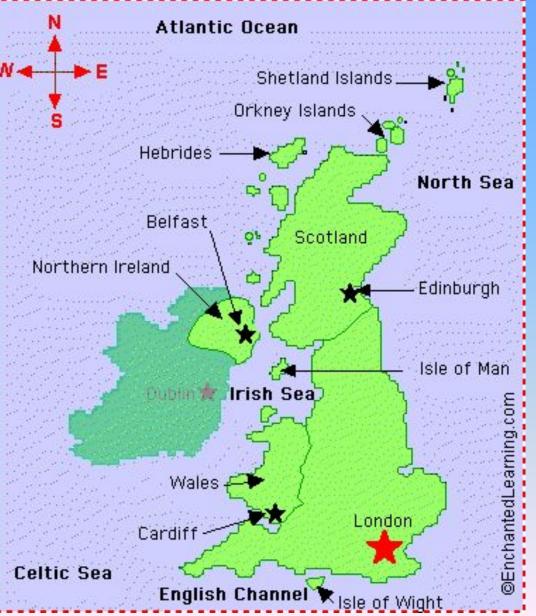
### HISTORY OF GREAT BRITAIN

## The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

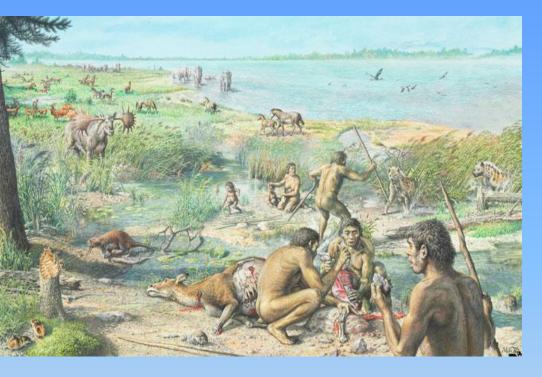


- England (London)
- Wales (Cardiff)
- Scotland (Edinburg)
- Northern Ireland (Belfast)

#### Geographical position



- <u>Total area</u> is 244 square kilometers
- Consist of Great Britain and Ireland, small main islands: Isle of Wight, Isle of Man, the Hebrides, the Orkney Islands, the Shetland Islands.



Around 10,000 BC Britain was peopled by small groups of hunters and fishers. They followed herds of deer, which provided them with food and clothing.

• In the course of time, different groups of people kept arriving in Britain, bringing their customs and skills. The Romans, who occupied Britain in the 1<sup>st</sup> century, brought the skills of reading and writing. The written word was important for spreading ideas and culture.



#### **Ancient BRITONS**

- They lived in case, hunted animals for food, learned to grow corn and breed domestic animals
- Britons were religious.

#### The Celts

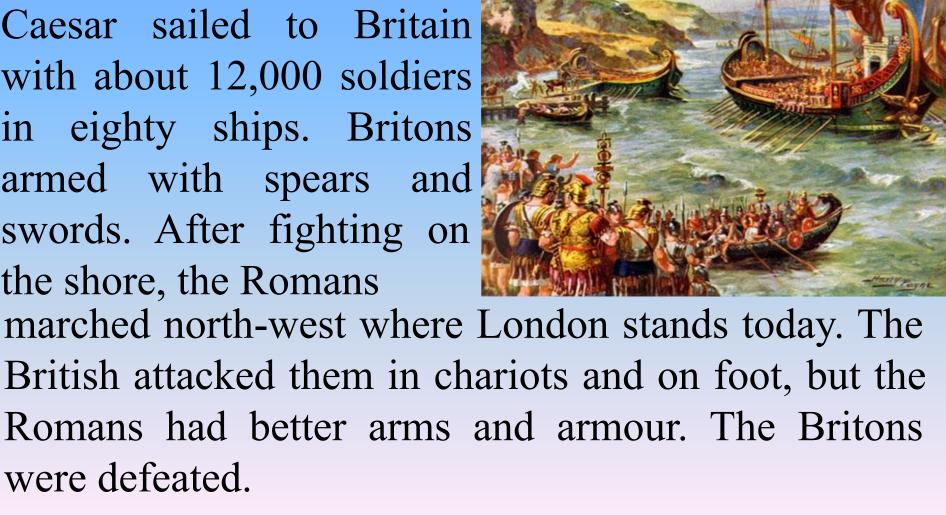
• They were tall, strong people with long red or sandy hair. The Romans called them Britons and the island – Brittania.



#### The ROMANS

In the year 55 BC the

great Roman general Julius Caesar sailed to Britain with about 12,000 soldiers in eighty ships. Britons armed with spears and swords. After fighting on the shore, the Romans



British attacked them in chariots and on foot, but the Romans had better arms and armour. The Britons were defeated.



#### Hadrian's wall

In the year 122 the Roman Emperor Hadrian came to Britain. Some years before there had been a serious rebellion in the north Britain.

It was crushed but Hadrian decided to build a great wall running right across the country from Newcastle to Carlisle. It was 73 miles long, 7-10 feet thick, and 16-20 feet high.

#### Anglo-Saxons

• Towards the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> century Europe was invaded by barbaric tribes. The Romans had to leave Britain because they were needed to defend their own country. So, Germanic tribes called Angles, Saxons and

Jutes came to Britain
The Britons fought
many battles, but at
last they were forced
to retreat to the west





#### The Norman conquest

The conquest of England by the Normans began in 1066 with the battle of Hastings, where the English fought against the Normans. They were Vikings or 'Norsemen', men from the North. Some 150 years before the conquest of England they came to a part of France, opposite England, a part which we now call Normandy.



The Normans brought with them the French language. After the Norman Conquest there were three languages in England.

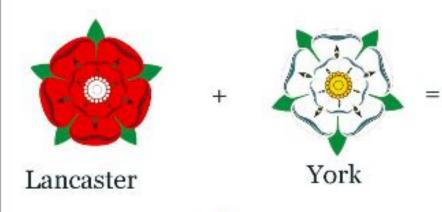
- •<u>Latin</u>, the language of the church and the language in which all learned men wrote and spoke; the kings wrote their laws in Latin for some time after the Conquest.
- •<u>French</u>, the language which the kings and nobles spoke and which many people wrote.
- English which remained the language of the masses of the people.



# The War of Roses

• The War of the Roses was a terribly destructive, long-lasting, civil war in England between two families with rival claims to the throne, the Yorks and the Lancasters. Its net result was to kill off almost all the direct claimants to the throne on either side of the royal family.

• The White Rose was the symbol of Yorkist supporters the rival House of Lancaster, whose symbol was the Red Rose of Lancaster. The Wars of the Roses ended with King





Henry VII who started the Tudor dynasty and symbolically united the White and Red Roses to create the Tudor Rose. He was the head of the House of Landcaster and married the Yorkist heiress Princess Elizabeth of York.