

# KEY DATES IN BRITISH HISTORY

**About 4,000 years ago – the Iberians came to the British Isles.**

**About 2,600 years ago – the Celts invaded the Isles. They built Stonehenge.**

**43 A.D. – 410 – the Roman invasion under Julius Caesar. They built forts, baths, Hadrian Wall.**

**449 A.D. – the Angles and Saxons invaded Britain. Christianity was established.**

**790 A.D. – the Viking invasion. They sailed to the American continent (Newfoundland, New England).**

**1066 A.D. – the Norman invasion. Magna Carta (a political agreement between a king and nobles.**

**1200-ies – Cambridge and Oxford were founded.**

**1258 – the first Parliament was elected.**

**1455-1485 – The War of the Roses (Red – Lancasters, white – Yorks)**

**1476 – William Caxton invented the printing press.**

**1485-1603 – Tudor dynasty**

**1534 – England breaks away from the Catholic church. The Reformation under Henry VIII.**

**1558-1603 – Elizabeth I. Spanish Armada was defeated. The first American colonies. The East Indian Company was founded (spice and tea trade).**

**1564-1616 – William Shakespeare.**

**1620 – some religious nonconformists left Britain for America (Mayflower)**

**1645 – Oliver Cromwell, the leader of English revolution, executed the King and declared a Republic.**

**Coffeehouses for the rich and alehouses (pubs) for the poor appeared.**

**1665 – Great Plague in London**

**1666 – the Great Fire of London. Sir Isaac Newton began to study gravity.**

**1730-ies – the beginning of the Industrial Revolution.**

**1773 – the loss of the American colonies.**

**1805 – the battle of Trafalgar. Admiral Nelson defeated French Fleet.**

**1819-1901 – Queen Victoria (63 years on the throne). The British Empire took control of much of the world.**

**1845-1847 – the Irish Potato Famine, a great wave of Irish immigration to the USA**

