

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

