

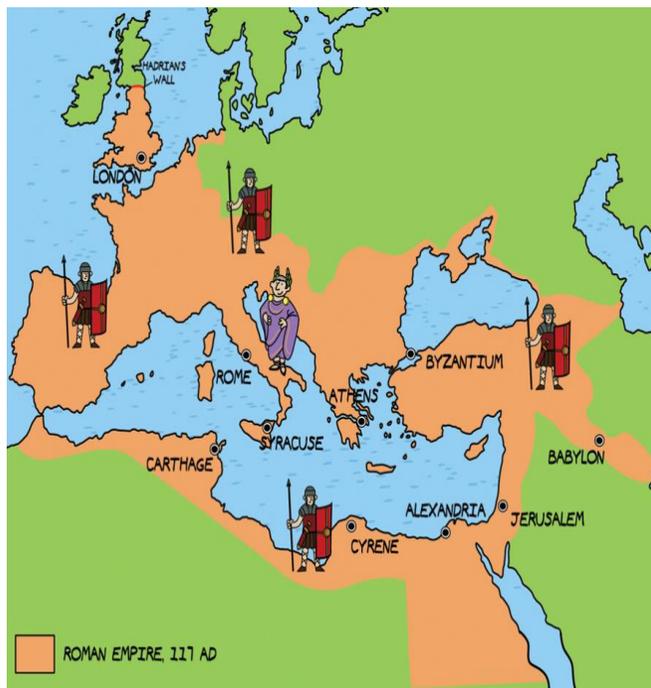
## Key Dates

55-54 BC	Julius Caesar leads two Roman military expeditions to Britain, but was driven back by the Celts on both occasions
43 AD	Romans invade and Britain becomes part of the Roman Empire
47 AD	The Romans force their allies, the Iceni tribe of East Anglia, to give up all of their weapons. The Iceni resist but their revolt is short lived.
49 AD	The Romans make Colchester the capital of Roman Britain.
60-61 AD	Boadicea leads the Iceni in revolt against the Romans
100 AD	Most of the 8,000 miles of Roman roads in Britain are completed, allowing troops and goods to travel easily across the country.
122-128 AD	Emperor Hadrian builds a wall on the Scottish Border
250 AD onwards	The Picts from Scotland, as well as the Angles, Saxon and Jutes from Germany and Scandinavia, start threatening Roman lands
401-410	The Romans withdraw from Britain: Anglo Saxons migrants begin to settle

## Roman Empire

Around 2,000 years ago, Britain was ruled by tribes of people called the Celts. But this was about to change. For around a century, the Roman army had been building an **Empire** across Europe. Now it was coming for Britain! In AD43, the full might of the Roman army landed on the beaches in Kent. Over the next year it battled inland, storming through hillforts and chopping down anyone who stood in their way.

The Romans wanted Britain's precious metals. However, they weren't just a destructive force - they built new forts, new settlements and roads. They spread their culture, language and laws.



## Key Vocab

<b>Evidence</b>	Anything that can be used to prove something. For example, a coin from ancient Rome can be used as evidence.
<b>Civilisation</b>	A particular society at a particular time and place. For example, the ancient Roman civilization.
<b>BC</b>	Before Christ. A way of dating years before the birth of Jesus. The bigger the number BC, the longer ago in history it was.
<b>Empire</b>	A group of different countries with one leader
<b>AD</b>	Anno Domini - "in the year of our Lord". AD is used to show dates after the birth of Jesus.
<b>Capital</b>	A city where a region's government is located
<b>Conflict</b>	A disagreement about something important.
<b>Conquer</b>	To get or gain by force : win by fighting
<b>Archaeology</b>	The study of the buildings, graves, tools and other objects that belonged to people who lived in the past, in order to learn about their culture and society
<b>Invasion</b>	One country attacking another to take it over
<b>Emperor</b>	The ruler (person in charge of an empire)

## How did the Celts fight back?

When the Romans **invaded**, the Celtic tribes had to decide whether or not to fight back. If they made peace, they agreed to obey Roman laws and pay taxes. In return, they could keep their kingdoms. However, some Celtic leaders chose to fight.

After years of heavy taxes and the Romans taking their land, some Celtic tribes were desperate for revenge. In AD60, one leader who chose to fight was **Queen Boudica** of the **Iceni tribe**. She raised a huge army and went on a rampage, burning the Roman towns of Colchester and London, before heading north to St Albans.

When the Roman army heard about this, they turned back from their campaign in Wales to face **Boudica**. Even though the Romans were outnumbered by **Boudica's** 200,000 warriors, they were better trained and had better armour. Both sides clashed in a fierce battle, but the Romans won.

Vindolanda, a fort just south of **Hadrian's Wall**



Artillery soldiers fired giant catapults called 'onagers'. These machines fired rocks or balls of burning tar.

## What was Life Like as a Roman Soldier?

The Roman army was the largest and meanest fighting force in the ancient world. One of the main reasons Rome became so powerful was because of the strength of its army. It **conquered** a vast **empire** that stretched from Britain all the way to the Middle East. The army was very advanced for its time. The soldiers were the best trained, they had the best weapons and the best armour. When the Romans invaded Britain, their army was so good that it took on armies 10 times its size and won!

A Roman soldier was a well-trained fighting machine. He could march 20 miles a day, wearing all his armour and equipment. He could swim or cross rivers in boats, build bridges and smash his way into forts.

A Roman soldier almost always followed orders. Anyone who didn't faced tough punishments. If you fell asleep on duty, you could be **sentenced to death**.

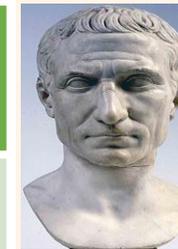
## Important People

### Emperor Claudius



First Roman emperor to successfully **invade** Britain. Claudius launched the military campaign consisting of 40,000 troops and several war elephants which would lead to the conquest of Britain in 43 AD

### Julius Caesar



Famous Roman leader who attempted to **invade** Britain. He won many battles for Rome and helped the Roman **Empire** grow. He was **assassinated** by a large group of Roman Senators in 44 BC, on the Ides of March (15 March).

### Queen Boudica



Celtic Queen of the Iceni tribe of modern-day East Anglia, Britain, who led a revolt against Rome in 60/61 AD

### Emperor Hadrian



The Roman emperor from 117 to 138 A.D. He is known for building Hadrian's Wall, which marked the northern limit of Britannia.



Hadrian's Wall