



The Romans are Coming

Who were the Romans?

The Romans originated in the city of Rome in modern-day Italy. However, the Romans ruled countries across the globe - including Great Britain - which was called the Roman Empire.

The Empire had a huge effect on the language, culture and history of countries in Europe, the Middle East and even Northern Africa. Ancient Rome had a huge impact on many areas of contemporary life, such as engineering and government, and they ruled for nearly 1000 years.

They acquired lots of land by fighting battles with various groups, such as the Celts in Britain and the Greeks.

Useful Vocabulary

emperor - the ruler of the empire

gladiator - a man trained to fight with weapons against men or wild animals, for entertainment

barbarian - a person who was not part of the Roman civilisation

century - a period of 100 years **ALSO** a group of 100 (later 80) Roman soldiers commanded by a **centurion**

consul - the title of one of the two chief magistrates of the Roman Republic

Iceni tribe - a Brittonic tribe of eastern Britain during the Iron Age and early Roman era. With their Queen, Boudica, they revolted against the Romans in 60CE

legion - a division of 3,000–6,000 men, including a complement of cavalry, in the ancient Roman army

senate - the state council of the ancient Roman republic and empire

Celts - a modern name which is used to describe many tribes of people who lived during the Iron Age

What is the legacy of the Romans in Britain?

Much of our way of life now is due to the legacy of the Romans. Many place names, particularly those ending in 'chester', 'cester' or 'caster', such as Colchester, Lancaster or Leicester were originally Roman settlements. Baths were also introduced by the Romans.

The road system we use today is based on the Roman road network. Our calendar comes from the Romans, as does much of our language. Christianity was brought to Britain from the Romans, and they even gave Britain its name—Britannia! They brought animals to Britain too, including peacocks, pheasants and cats.

Why did the Romans leave Britain?

The Romans had invaded England and ruled over England for 400 years but in 410, the Romans left England because their homes in Italy were being attacked by fierce tribes and every soldier was needed back in Rome.



amphitheatre	villa	aqueduct	bath house	mosaic
an open-air venue used for entertainment, performances, and sports. The Colosseum in Rome (built 72-80CE) is an example of a Roman amphitheatre used for gladiatorial battles and other sporting events	in Roman times, a villa was a large country house, with an estate and farm and residential buildings arranged around a courtyard	an artificial channel for conveying water, typically in the form of a bridge across a valley or other gap	communal bathing areas built by the Romans for bathing and relaxing. The city of Bath was named after its Roman baths which can still be seen today	a picture or pattern produced by arranging together small pieces of stone, tile, glass, etc
				