

Roman Britain

Enquiry Question: What happened when the Romans came to Britain?

Key Vocabulary		Sticky Knowledge
Invasion		Before the Romans arrived, Britain was divided into many tribal kingdoms.
Conquer		Caesar failed twice to conquer Britain in 55 BC and 54 BC, before Claudius succeeded in 43 AD.
Empire		Claudius wanted to take the British resources (land, gold, silver, iron, slaves). He also needed a victory to strengthen his position at home.
Emperor		The Romans were able to defeat the Celts as they had better weapons, training and tactics.
Monarchy		Boudicca was a warrior queen, of the Iceni people, who fought against the Romans when they took her land.
Centurion		Hadrian's Wall was built to help control the Picts who lived in the north of England.
Fort		The Romans built their roads as straight as possible for speed of travel, and to avoid bends where ambushes could occur. Some of our roads today still follow the pattern of the old Roman roads.
Legion		The army was divided into groups called legions, each led by a centurion.
Celts		The Roman style of architecture (arches/columns) is still evident on some of our buildings.
Picts		Britain inherited some new foods from the Romans which are still popular today (carrots, apples, onions and grapes/wine).
Villa		Many of our words are derived from Latin (for example circus, diary, victory, school, lavatory, genius).
Architecture		Some months of the year have their origins in Rome, for example July (Julius) and August (Augustus).
		The Roman calendar is similar to ours as it had 365 days and 12 months a year.
		Underfloor heating is a Roman invention, and was used in their villas.
		The Romans also introduced the postal service.
		The Romans left Britain in 410 AD, as they were called back to defend Rome against attacks.