

The Bronze Age and the Iron Age

- 3000-2500 BC** Stone henges start to appear. Silbury Hill, the largest prehistoric, man-made hill in Britain is built. During the next 1,000 years most of the stone circles in the British Isles are built, including Avebury, the largest in 2300 BC.
- 2500BC** First evidence of copper working in the British Isles
- 2300 BC** The first examples of Bronze grave goods are found in Europe
- 2000 BC** Metal objects are begun to be widely made in southern Britain and simple jewelry for use in pinning cloth appears. Defensive enclosures appear in Southern Britain. Stonehenge is erected.
- 2000 BC** The White Horse at Uffington in Oxfordshire is carved into the chalk hillside
- 1850 BC** Carts are first pulled by horses on the Western Steppes of Asia
- 1800 BC** Scandinavian bronze artifacts indicate that people worshipped the sun. In Egypt the horse is introduced.
- 1800-1200 BC** The priest who have controlled society for so long lose their grip on power.
- 1750 BC** Use of linear script first appears in Crete
- 1570 BC** Egyptian Kings buried in rock face tombs in the Valley of the Kings
- 1500 BC** Farming, as opposed to hunting, takes on a new importance and the use of henges seem to lessen in importance. In Peru there is the first evidence of metalworking, in the Sahara region copper is worked.
- 1200 BC** Warriors and the warrior class become the real power
- 1166 BC** Death of Ramses III, the last great Egyptian Pharaoh
- 1100 BC** Hill forts began to appear as well as more sophisticated jewelry and crafts.
- 1000 BC** Ironworking arrives in central Europe from the Near East
- 850 BC** First settlement on Rome's Palatine Hill
- 800 BC** First iron is worked south of the Sahara
- 776 BC** The traditional date for the inaugural Olympic games in Greece
- 753 BC** The traditional date for the founding of Rome
- 750 BC** First examples of the Greek alphabet being written down, including Homer's Iliad.
- c. 700 BC** The first European coins were made in Anatolia but they were not used in Europe for trade for another 200 years
- 600 BC** Iron takes over from Bronze in Britain, the Iron Age begins.
- C 600 BC** The first coins specifically for use in trade were minted in China. First Greek coins appeared.
- 505 BC** Greek democracy is established
- 500 BC** The Hebrews establish the concept of the seven-day week
- 483 BC** Death of Buddha
- 479 BC** Death of Confucius
- 450 BC** The power of Athens is at its peak. The Celtic 'invasion' begins in the British Isles
- 390 BC** Celts sack Rome
- 360 BC** In China it's the Crossbow that dominates warfare
- 336 BC** Alexander begins his conquest of the Persian Empire
- 323 BC** Alexander arrives in Babylon where he dies.
- 312 BC** The Appian Way was built between Rome and Capua in the south. The road ran for 132 miles.
- 300 BC** First Celtic coinage appears in Europe
- 264 BC** The first Gladiatorial contests take place in Rome.
- 150 BC** Coinage first used in Britain as widespread contact with continent takes place.
- 4 BC-43 AD** The influence of Rome is felt in Britain through trade and cultural links with the Continent.
- 5 AD** The Romans acknowledge Cymbeline, King of the Catuvellauni, as King of Britain



Bronze Age axe blade 700BC