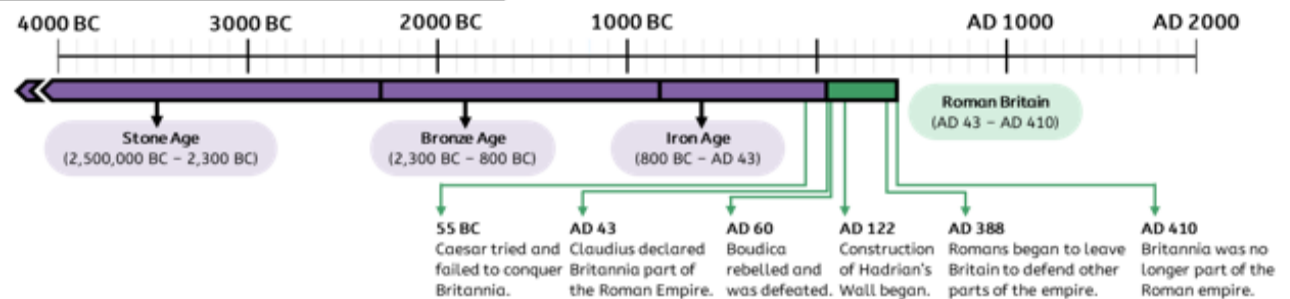


# Roman Empire in Britain

## Vocabulary

- **Britannia:** (Noun) the Roman name for its territories in Britain.
- **conquer** (verb) to take control of a place by force.
- **delegate:** (verb) to give someone more junior the responsibility for something.
- **economic:** (adjective) relating to money.
- **fortress:** (noun) a defensive and fortified structure, usually housing legionaries.
- **informal:** (adjective) casual or unofficial.
- **institutional:** (adjective) relating to an organisation or official structure.
- **intellectual:** (adjective) relating to the mind, knowledge or intelligence.
- **governor:** (noun) a person appointed to govern a province.
- **literate:** (adjective) able to read and write.
- **province:** (noun) a smaller part of the Roman empire, which was ruled by the governor who also collected taxes.
- **tax:** (noun) money that is collected by governments to pay for the things that the government does.

## Timeline



## Roman conquest

- Caesar tried to conquer Britain in 55 BC. His ships did not land at Britain and, to save face, he tried again the next year (54 BC). This was more successful, but his victory was quickly forgotten by Britons because he had to leave to fight elsewhere in the empire.
- Claudius successfully invaded in AD 43. He and his soldiers stayed in Britannia for longer and so kept control where Caesar had failed.

## Keeping control

- Britannia was hard to control because it was far away from Rome, one of many borders that Romans had to control, and because lots of tribes of Britons did not want to be controlled!
- The Romans kept control using different types of power:
  - **Physical** – the Romans stationed auxiliary soldiers like the Aurelian Moors in Britannia and built fortresses and Hadrian's Wall to defend it.
  - **Institutional** – the Roman governor in Britannia delegated power to local leaders who were British tribe chiefs. This made some Britons less likely to rebel.
  - **Economic** – the Roman governor and local leaders collected taxes to send to the emperor. This could pay for the soldiers, fortresses and wall.
  - **Informal** – The Romans brought some new things to Britain, and this combined with what Britons were doing to create a shared culture between some Romans and Britons.
  - **Intellectual** – more Romans could read and write, which meant they controlled what was said, shared and left behind about the Romans and Britons.

