

Medieval England (1250 – 1500)

- 1250** – Henry III raises taxes on all Jews living in England
- 1255** – Lincoln Blood Libel; false accusations against Jews of murder and sacrifices
- 1260** – Italian Bankers were now allowed to charge interest on loans
- 1265** – Instability caused by the Second Barons' War leads to a massacre of the Jews of London
- 1266** – Charter given to the Hansa Merchants for the export of English wool
- 1270** – First invitation issued to Flemish Weavers by King Henry III
- 1271** – The Ninth Crusade begins led by Edward Longshanks (later Edward I)
- 1275** – Statute of Jewry; Jews no longer allowed to be moneylenders, all debts cancelled
- 1283** – Edward I uses loans from Italian Bankers to conquer Wales and construct many castles
- 1290** – Edward I expels the Jews from England under pain of death
- 1314** – Edward II is defeated by Robert the Bruce of Scotland at the Battle of Bannockburn
- 1330** – Second invitation issued to Flemish Weavers; now under royal protection by Edward III
- 1337** – Start of the Hundred Years' War between England and France leads to
- 1348** – The Black Death pandemic reaches England
- 1352** – The Black Death ends in England; historians estimate a death toll of 40-60% of the population
- 1363** – Flemish Weavers arrive in Manchester and start to develop the textile industry there
- 1370** – Letters of Denization are offered to migrants in England by Edward III
- 1381** – Peasants' Revolt ('Bread and Cheese'; 150 foreigners murdered)
- 1415** – Battle of Agincourt; most famous English victory in Hundred Years' War against the French
- 1420** – By this point, about 60% of France was under complete English control
- 1429** – A teenage girl, Joan of Arc, leads the French to victory-after-victory against the English
- 1436** – All Flemish migrants in England are now forced to buy special licence or leave
- 1439** – All migrants are required by law to live in the homes of English people
- 1440** – Aliens Subsidy; tax on all migrants by King Henry VI
- 1453** – End of the Hundred Years' War between England and France; complete English defeat
- 1455** – 1485 – Wars of the Roses; time of civil war and non-existent government control in England
- 1485** – Battle of Bosworth; throne seized from Richard III by the House of Tudor's first monarch: King Henry VII
- 1492** – Christopher Columbus 'discovers' the New World (the Americas)

Early Modern England / Britain (1500 – 1750)

- 1503** – Hansa Merchants Act; traders of the Hanseatic League at the Steelyard are given special royal privileges
- 1509** – John Blanke plays as state trumpeter at the funeral of Henry VII
- 1521** – Protestant Reformation begins in Europe led by Martin Luther; Henry VIII initially support the Pope
- 1500s** – Beginning of the exploration and conquest of the Americas by Spanish, English and French
- 1500s** – Gypsies arrive in England from Eastern Europe (but originally from Persia / India)
- 1511** – John Blanke plays as state trumpeter at the Westminster Tournament for Henry VIII
- 1534** – Henry VIII makes himself – not the Pope – Supreme Head of the Church *in* England
- 1530s** – Anti-Gypsy Laws (Henry VIII: all to leave within 16 days)
- 1537** – Hans Holbein the Younger's portrait of Henry VIII unveiled
- 1552** – The Steelyard's royal privileges are revoked by King Edward VI
- 1553** – Mary I becomes monarch and makes England into a Catholic nation again
- 1558** – Elizabeth I becomes Queen and Governor of the Church *of* England and fully Protestant
- 1560s** – Anti-Gypsy Laws (Elizabeth I: could become subjects but had to stop nomadic lifestyle)
- 1562** – England first starts trading slaves from Africa to work in the American Colonies
- 1572** – St Bartholomew's Day Massacre in Paris
- 1596** – Elizabeth I tries but fails to expel all black people from England
- 1598** – Hansa merchants are expelled from the Steelyard by Elizabeth I
- 1603** – Elizabeth I dies and is succeeded by her cousin, James Stuart VI, King of Scots
- 1605** – The Gunpowder Plot; Catholic plot exposed to assassinate King James I & IV
- 1612** – East India Company (EIC) establishes a 'factory' at Surat in India
- 1642** – Beginning of the English Civil War between Charles I and Parliament
- 1649** – Charles I is defeated and England now led by Oliver Cromwell; economy ruined and country devastated
- 1650s** – England becomes major player in Transatlantic Slave Trade; racism toward Black people more common
- 1656** – Sephardic Jews invited back to England; choose to assimilate but there are many restrictions
- 1660** – Restoration of the Monarchy under Charles II brings back prosperity to England
- 1681** – French Huguenots are offered denizen status by Charles II
- 1685** – Protestantism made illegal in France leading to mass exodus of Huguenots
- 1707** – Act of Union; England and Scotland are united into the United Kingdom of Great Britain
- 1709** – Palatines leave Germany; seek refuge in England; negative response so returned home
- 1714** – Queen Anne dies heirless so the throne passes to the German prince: George I of the House of Hanover
- 1720s** – Travel and connections between Britain and Hanover in Germany more established
- 1730** – United Kingdom of Great Britain is by now is the world's largest slave trader
- 1740** – Start of the Carnatic Wars which would ultimately lead to the EIC conquering Mughal India

Industrial and Imperial Britain (1750 – 1900)

- 1756** – Outbreak of the Seven Years' War: widespread global conflict between Britain and France
- 1757** – East India Company takes full control over all Mughal India after the Battle of Plassey
- 1772** – Somerset Case ruling by Lord Mansfield says that a slave is free once they are in Britain
- 1783** – Britain is defeated in the American War of Independence; many Black soldiers flee to London
- 1787** – First attempt to settle Sierra Leone as a British colony for the Black Poor of London
- 1789** – French Revolution begins causing much instability, poverty and war Western Europe
- 1800** – Around 15,000 Africans are working in London as servants
- 1801** – Act of Union; Ireland is united with the United Kingdom of Great Britain
- 1803** – Outbreak of the Napoleonic Wars between Britain and France
- 1807** – Britain abolishes the slave trade and begins policing the oceans to stop slavery
- 1808** – Second successful attempt to settle Sierra Leone as a British colony for Black Africans
- 1815** – Britain is victorious in the Napoleonic Wars ushering in the period of *Pax Britannica*
- 1829** – Catholic Emancipation Act in Britain ensures equal rights between Protestants and Catholics
- 1830s** – New laws allow Jews to trade, go to university, join the army, and be lawyers
- 1833** – Slavery fully abolished across the British Empire
- 1837** – Princess Alexandrina Victoria of Kent succeeds her uncle William IV as Queen Victoria
- 1845** – Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels (German founders of Marxism) spend time in Manchester
- 1846** – Outbreak of the Great Famine (*An Gorta Mór*) in Ireland; 1 million dead, 3 million emigrate
- 1848** – Various anti-Irish riots including along Manchester Road in Bradford
- 1855** – Germans develop an area of Bradford with large textile warehouses ('Little Germany')
- 1855** – First Jewish Lord Mayor of London is elected
- 1857** – Britain takes full control of India from the East India Company
- 1858** – Jews are now allowed to stand in elections to be voted in as MPs
- 1860** – Britain defeats China in the Opium Wars and seizes key ports (e.g. Hong Kong) leading to Chinese migration
- 1865** – Charles Semon is elected as the first Jewish Mayor of Bradford
- 1871** – Italy is unified after years of conflict creating many refugees who flee to Britain
- 1871** – Germany is unified after years of conflict creating many refugees who flee to Britain
- 1870s** – Germans are by this point easily the largest migrant group in Britain
- 1870s** – Many Italians in Britain now working to lay asphalt on the roads
- 1880s** – Ice cream cone developed and refined by Italian migrants in Britain
- 1881** – Pogroms against Ashkenazi Jewish communities in the Russian Empire begin
- 1880s** – Many Ashkenazi Jews flee to Britain hoping to move to America; choose not to assimilate
- 1882** – Jacob Behrens, Jewish Bradford merchant, is knighted by Queen Victoria
- 1889** – Jews in Whitechapel, London are wrongly blamed for the Jack the Ripper murders
- 1892** – Dadabhai Naoroji becomes the first British Asian Member of Parliament

Modern Britain (1900 - Present)

- 1901** – Queen Victoria dies after reigning over the British Empire for 63 years
- 1905** – Aliens Act limits migration to Britain to those with a money and job (end of ‘Asylum of Nations’)
- 1921** – British Empire at greatest extent (ruled the world’s oceans, 25% of the land, 25% of the people)
- 1914** – First World War begins as Germany expands through Europe, East Africa and the Middle East
- 1914** – Germany invades and occupies Belgium; many flee to Britain as refugees
- 1915** – Sinking of the RMS *Lusitania* leads to many British Germans removed to internment camps
- 1918** – First World War ends leaving British society changed (e.g. greater gender equality)
- 1919** – Riots in Cardiff between returning British soldiers and Lascars who had settled and intermarried
- 1933** – Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party come to power in Germany and begin persecuting Jews
- 1936** – Battle of Cable Street in London between Oswald Mosley’s BUF and anti-Fascists
- 1938** – Nazi persecution of Jews turns violent during Kristallnacht increasing Jewish migration
- 1939** – Kindertransport organised by Nicholas Winton rescues nearly 10,000 children
- 1939** – Second World War begins with the Nazi invasion and occupation of Poland
- 1940** – German refugees and British Germans interned again for a short time at Knockaloe
- 1945** – Second World War ends leaving Britain hugely damaged by bombing and a broken economy
- 1947** – Polish Resettlement Act allows Poles to stay in Britain if they feared Communist persecution
- 1947** – Partition of British India creates millions of refugees and starts process of decolonisation
- 1948** – British Nationality Act gives British citizenship to the Commonwealth (the former Empire)
- 1948** – First West Indian migrants arrive on the HMT *Empire Windrush*
- 1951** – Britain signs the UN Convention on Refugees; asylum seekers had to be let into Britain
- 1958** – Notting Hill Riot by Fascist and Racist groups against West Indian migrants
- 1963** – Bristol Bus Boycott successfully challenges the colour bar against Black and Asian people
- 1962** – Commonwealth Immigrants Act; British passport no longer guaranteed ability to live in Britain
- 1963** – Economic growth in Britain leads to need for more workers from India and Pakistan
- 1965** – Race Relations Act; illegal to refuse to serve people in shops on grounds of race
- 1967** – Africanisation policies leads to Kenya expelling Kenyan Asians, many seek refuge in Britain
- 1968** – Race Relations Act; stopped all ‘colour bar’ discrimination in housing and employment
- 1968** – Commonwealth Immigrants Act; no entry without father or grandfather born in Britain
- 1971** – Immigration Act; work permits now required to stay and work in Britain
- 1972** – Africanisation policies under dictator Idi Amin leads to expulsion of Ugandan Asians
- 1973** – Britain joins the European Economic Community; later known as the European Union (EU)
- 1976** – Grunwick Strike begins and showed one example of white acceptance of Asian co-workers
- 1976** – Commission for Racial Equality set up to encourage better race relations and raise awareness
- 1979** – Economy tanks and unemployment sky-high; racist attacks by the National Front across Britain
- 1997** – Britain hands Hong Kong back to China; seen to signal the complete end of the British Empire
- 2004** – Expansion of the EU to Eastern Europe; huge increase in economic migrants to Britain
- 2010** – Equality Act makes it illegal to discriminate against someone based on race, religion or belief
- 2016** – Referendum on the EU; narrow majority votes to leave and end freedom of movement (Brexit)
- 2020** – Black Lives Matter protest in Bristol leads to the destruction of the statue of slave trader Edward Colston
- 2026** – 90 Members of Parliament in the House of Commons are from ethnic minority backgrounds