

A Brief Celtic History

This section could easily take volumes. What follows is a basic history intended to help you locate the people and places we will visit within the broader sweep of history.

○ **TIMELINE**

- 8,500 BCE — Earliest recorded evidence of humans in Scotland.
- 4,000 BCE — Farming arrives in Scotland. (Much later than in Asia Minor.)
- 3,300 BCE — Arrival of the Beaker peoples from Northern & Central Europe.
- 500 BCE — The Celts arrive in Britain. Celts originally from region of Spain/France.
- 43-84 CE — Arrival of first Roman invasions.
- 90-145 CE — Age of Expansion of the Roman empire.
- 122 CE — Construction of Hadrian's wall begun.
- 160 CE — Peak of Roman Empire's ascendancy.
- 354 CE — St. Augustine of Hippo & Pelagius born.
- 387 CE — Battle of Allia. First invasion of the Gauls (Celts). Defeat of Roman army by river Allia opens the way to eventual sack of Rome.
- 397 CE — Ninian (362-432) builds Candida Casa at Whithorn
- 400 CE — Pelagius arrives in Rome.
- 409 CE — Rome losing control of Britain. Britons told to defend themselves.
- 410 CE — Sack of Rome by the Visigoths (Alaric).
- 418 CE — Death of Pelagius.
- 430 CE — St. Augustine of Hippo dies.
- 432 CE — St. Patrick in Armagh, Ireland.
- 449 CE — Anglo-Saxon invasions begin.
- 455 CE — Rome sacked by the Vandals (Geiseric).
- 461 CE — Saint Patrick dies.
- 563 CE — Columba is exiled from Ireland and sets sail with 12 companions, landing at Columba's bay on Iona.
- 614 CE — St. Hilda born

- 635 CE — Aidan arrives in Northumbria and establishes a monastery at Lindisfarne.
Birth of Cuthbert.
- 651CE — Aidan dies. Cuthbert has vision of angels taking Aidan to heaven.
- 657CE — Witby Monastery, Britain: Hilda
- 680 CE — Hilda dies.
- 685 CE — Cuthbert made bishop of Lindisfarne at York on Easter day.
- 687 CE — Death of Cuthbert.
- 800 CE — Book of Kells started at Iona, finished at Kells.
- c. 1045 CE — St. Margaret, Queen of Scots born.
- 1093 CE — Durham Cathedral begins construction — completed in 1133.