GUERNSEY & THE WORLD TIMELINE

by **Dominic Vernon** © Approximately **BC** Before Christ **AD** After Christ

begin

2,600,000,000 years ago
Guernsey's earliest rocks were formed

65,000,000 years ago
Dinosaurs became extinct

We don't have any dinosaur bones or earlier fossils in Guernsey because the rocks of this time have completely eroded away.

2,500,000 years ago to 10,000 BC
Ice Ages

The world cooled down and warmed up several times. Sea levels fell then rose again.

10,000 BC
First people live in Guernsey

They are hunters who use stone to make weapons and tools (Upper Palaeolithic).

9,000 BC
Guernsey becomes an island

Guernsey was once connected to France. Rising sea levels rose and flooded the land in between.

c. 5,500 BC - 2,300 BC
Farming begins in Guernsey

Guernsey people use Fine stone tools (Neolithic).

c. 4,500 BC - 2,000 BC
Dolmens are built in Guernsey

The earliest dolmen (tomb) in Guernsey is Les Fouaillages which was started in about 4,500BC.

c. 3,100 BC - 2,000 BC
Stonehenge built

2,600 BC
First Pyramids built in Egypt

c. 2,300 BC
Bronze Age begins in Guernsey

People discover bronze, which is a mixture of copper and tin. It is hard and strong. Bronze used to make tools, weapons and jewellery.

c. 750 BC
Iron Age begins in Guernsey

Iron replaces bronze as the most useful metal. The Celts were the people who had to fight in tribes during the Iron Age.

220 BC
Great Wall of China built

The wall is so long it could stretch from Guernsey to New York.

56 BC
Romans conquer France

France becomes part of the Roman Empire and is known as Gaul.

c. 56 BC - c. 450
Guernsey is in the Roman Empire

AD 43
Romans invade Britain

Britain becomes part of the Roman Empire.

410 - 486
Roman rule ends

Saxons and Angles leave their homes in Denmark, Holland and Germany and invade England in wooden ships.

c. 450 - 933
Franks or Bretons rule Guernsey

Franks invade France from Germany. Bretons invade France from South-West Britain.

525 - 560
St Sampson

St Sampson arrives in Guernsey and builds a church.

793 - 1066
Vikings invade

Vikings sail from Norway, Sweden & Denmark in deep long ships. They settle in northern France to become the Normans.

c. 933
Normans rule Guernsey

Normans rule Guernsey

1048
Town Church is built

1066
Battle of Hastings

The Duke of Normandy becomes King of England.

1204
King John loses Normandy to French

The Channel Islands are the only part of Normandy not lost to the French. Since then Guernsey has been a 'dependency' of the English Crown but not part of England.

1485 - 1603
Tudors

The Tudor Royal family ruled England at the most famous rulers in world history.

1492
Columbus reaches America

1690 - 1815
Merchants & Privateers

Guernsey merchants sailed all over the world to trade. Some local ships are armed as privateers to plunder enemy vessels.

1789 - 1815
French Revolution & Napoleonic Wars

Britain is at war with France. Guernsey is fortified against invasion. Guernsey man Admiral James de Saumarez is second in command to Lord Nelson at the Battle of the Nile, 1798.

1806
Braye du Valle reclaimed

The tidal channel known as Braye du Valle is reclaimed from the sea.

1837 - 1901
Victorians

Britain became the most powerful and richest country in the world. One in four people were ruled by the British Empire.

c.1800 - c.1920
Guernsey Fig & Flop Building

1914 - 1918
First World War

One in twenty of Guernsey's men are killed in the war.

1939 - 1945
Second World War

1940 - 1945
German Forces occupy the Channel Islands

Islanders are evacuated in May 1940 and the dog is collected on Liberation Day.

1950 - 1990
Tomato growing & tourism

1963 - present
Finance Industry

Guernsey now depends on the Finance Industry for its prosperity.

end

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