

Boudicca, the Queen of the Celts



Useful words

Verbs

AFFECT

ANNEX

FIGURE
OUT

MASSACRE

PREDICT

PLUNDER

RAISE

REGAIN

SET UP

SPLIT

Nouns

BELT

BRANCHES

CAPE

CHIEF

HEIR

JUDGE

LOSS

POISON

SEER

SHIELD

SPEAR

SET UP

SWORDS

UPRISING

WEAPON



Welcome
back!
Hungry for
more?

Today we are going to
talk about the Celts and a
famous warrior Queen:
Boudicca



The ‘Celts’ were all of the people who lived in Britain and Northwest Europe during the Iron Age – from 600 BC to 43 AD, which is when the Romans arrived.

The Celts were a very advanced society:

They knew how to make **weapons** from iron, which is why we call the time they lived in the “Iron Age”..

In Britain, the Celts settled in areas such as Cornwall and Wales



Top 10 Facts

- The Celts lived during the Iron Age, from about 600 BC to 43 AD. This is the time when iron was discovered and used.
- The Iron Age ended when the Romans invaded Britain and **set up** their own civilisation and government.
- The people who lived in Britain during the Iron Age weren't called 'Celts' until the 1700s. The name is used to describe all the different tribes that lived in Britain then.
- There were three main **branches** of Celts in Europe – Brythonic, Gaulic and Gaelic. Brythonic Celts (Britons) settled in England.
- The Celts who settled in England were **split** into many different tribes, each ruled by a king or queen.



- The Celts believed in many different gods who **affected** every part of everyday life. Druids, who were priests in Celtic society, tried **to figure out** what the gods wanted.
- Men and women in Celtic times usually wore long tunics with different accessories, such as coats, **cap**es or **bel**ts.
- Most Celts were farmers, and they lived in houses that were round instead of square.
- In battle, Celts mainly fought with **swords** and **spears**, and they used long **shields** to protect themselves.
- Some people can still speak Celtic languages such as Welsh and Gaelic.



Celtic priests were called Druids, and the Celts believed that they understood nature and the world around them so well that they predict the future from it.

Druids also acted as **judges** in Celtic society, and even doctors.

The Celts believed that there were gods for every part of life, and that the Druids were the ones who understood how to speak to them and interpret what they wanted.



If there was a battle
in Celtic times,
anyone could be
asked to fight –
women as well as
men.

Some Celtic
tribes would use
blue paint to
tattoo their skin
before going to
battle.

A famous Celt is
Warrior Queen
Boudicca, who led an
uprising against the
Romans when they
invaded Britain in 60
B.C. .



The Warrior Queen

- Boudicca's husband, Prasutagus, was king of the Iceni (in what is now Norfolk) .
- Prasutagus died in 60 B.C. with no male **heir**.
- The Romans **annexed** his kingdom, humiliated his family, and **plundered** the **chief** tribesmen.
- While the provincial governor Suetonius Paulinus was absent in 60 or 61, Boudicca **raised** a rebellion throughout East Anglia.
- According to the Roman historian Tacitus, Boudicca's rebels **massacred** 70,000 Romans
- Paulinus met the Britons and **regained** the province in a desperate battle.
- Upon her **loss**, Boudicca either took **poison** or died of shock or illness.





The statue of
Boudicca and her
daughters is located
at end of
Westminster Bridge
near the Big Ben.



This is all for today,
but if you want to
have a glimpse of
the oncoming
episode, check the
next slide, bye.



▶ Next Episode



The Roman Invasion

