

Some important dates in English history

1066	Oct.14	The Norman conquest under William the Conqueror
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1215	June 15	The Magna Carta was signed.
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1415	Oct. 25	Battle of Agincourt was a major English victory in the Hundred Years' War occurring on Saint Crispin's Day, near modern-day Agincourt, in northern France.
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1455	22 May	The start of the Wars of the Roses a civil war for control of the throne of England between the House of York in Yorkshire and House of Lancaster in Lancashire.
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1485	22 August	Battle of Bosworth Field (Battle of Bosworth): the last significant battle of the Wars of the Roses, the civil war between the Houses of Lancaster and York. Richard III, the last Plantagenet king was killed, succeeded by Henry VII.
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1531	Feb. 11	Henry VIII declares self head of Church of England
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1564	April 26	William Shakespeare baptised
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1588	8 August	The Spanish Armada was destroyed.
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1605	5 Nov.	Gunpowder Plot: A plot in which Guy Fawkes and other Catholic associates conspired to blow up King James VI and the Parliament of England was uncovered.
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1607	14 May	Jamestown was founded in the Virginia Colony and was the first permanent English colony in the Americas.
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1642	Aug. 22	The English Civil War began.
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1666	Sept. 2	Great Fire of London
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1694	27 July	The Bank of England is founded.
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1704	Aug. 4	Gibraltar was captured by a combined Dutch and English fleet.
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1707	May 1	The Acts of Union 1707 were passed in the Parliament of England and Parliament of Scotland, ratifying the Treaty of Union.
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1755	April 15	Samuel Johnson publishes his <i>“Dictionary of the English Language”</i>
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1788	Jan. 1	First publication of <i>“The Times”</i> newspaper in London.
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1912	13 Aug.	Harry Brearley invents Stainless Steel in Sheffield, Yorkshire.
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1922	18 Oct.	The British Broadcasting Company (forerunner of the BBC) was formed
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1940	10 July	Battle of Britain: Royal Air Force defend the United Kingdom against attack from Nazi Germany air force during the Second World War.
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1979	4 May	Margaret Thatcher becomes UK's first woman prime minister; she becomes the longest-serving PM of the 20th century.
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2016	June 23	Voters of the United Kingdom vote to leave the European Union (aka Brexit)
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