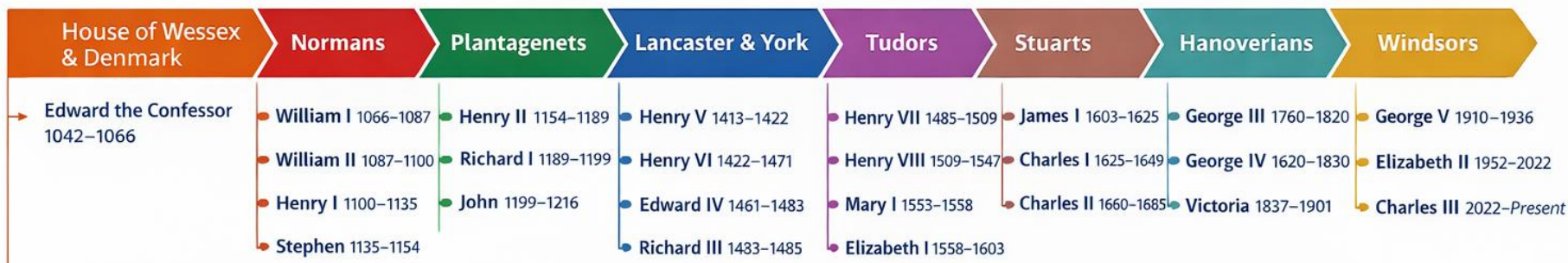




Marvelous Monarchs



Timeline of British Monarchs



The Tower of London

The Tower of London was a royal residence until the 17th century. It still guards the Crown Jewels to this day.

The Tower of London was built by William the Conqueror after his conquest at the Battle of Hastings nearly 1000 years ago. The Tower was a prison as well as a royal palace.

Ravens live in the grounds of the Tower, there is a legend that says if the ravens leave, the kingdom will fall.

Beefeaters (Yeoman Warders) guard the Tower and direct visitors.

The Princes in the Tower

In the 1400s, two Princes were imprisoned in the Tower of London and mysteriously disappeared during the reign of Richard III.

There are lots of different stories about their deaths, but it is not known for certain what happened to them.

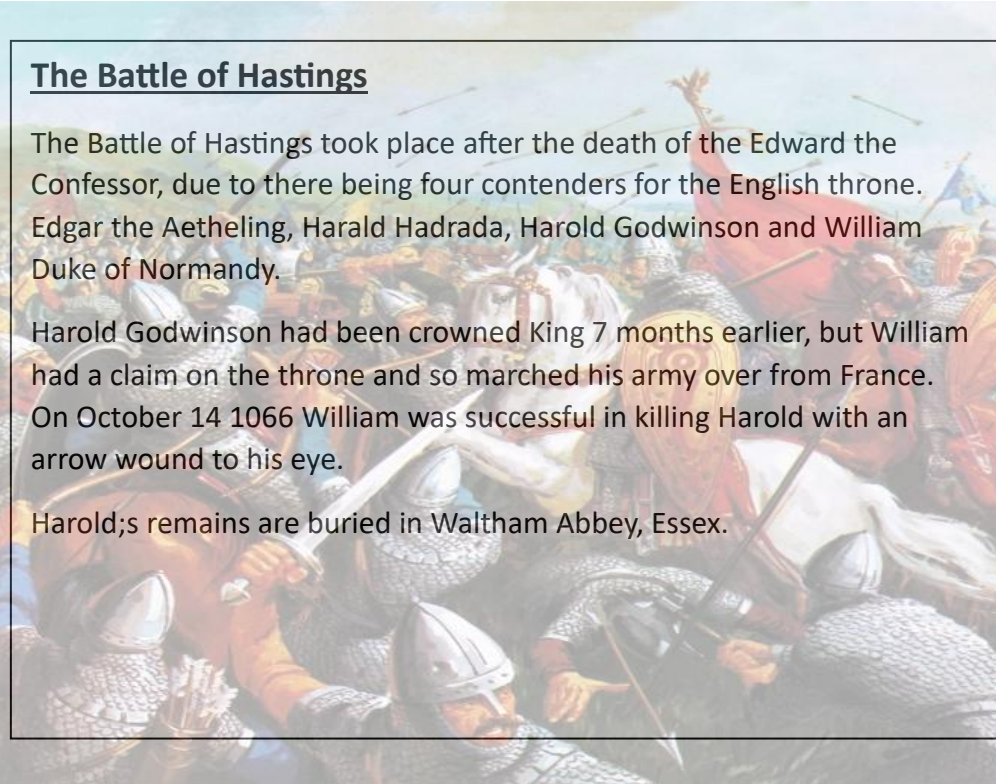


The Battle of Hastings

The Battle of Hastings took place after the death of the Edward the Confessor, due to there being four contenders for the English throne. Edgar the Aetheling, Harald Hadrada, Harold Godwinson and William Duke of Normandy.

Harold Godwinson had been crowned King 7 months earlier, but William had a claim on the throne and so marched his army over from France. On October 14 1066 William was successful in killing Harold with an arrow wound to his eye.

Harold's remains are buried in Waltham Abbey, Essex.



The Bayeux Tapestry

The Bayeux Tapestry depicts the Battle of Hastings in 1066, when William, Duke of Normandy crossed the Channel with his fleet to conquer the throne of England. This 70-meter embroidery chronicles the conquest of England by the Normans in the 11th century.



Other Notable Royals

Charles I and his execution

Charles I came to power and suspended Parliament, a Civil War broke out in England with Royalists on one side and supporters of Parliament on the other. Parliament won and tried Charles I for treason. They said he had started civil war, caused the deaths of the many English people and abused his power as king. He was found guilty and executed in 1649. He is only British Monarch to have been executed.

Elizabeth II and the longest reign

Elizabeth II is the longest reigning monarch that Britain has had. She ruled for 7 decades, saw 15 different Prime Ministers in the Houses of Parliament and saw lots of change in Britain and across the world.