

A short history of Humans in Devon

date	What's happening where
40000yrs bp	First evidence of humans at Kent's Caverns
18000	Devon one of the first places to be settled again
6000bc	Mesolithic hunters on Dartmoor
3500bc 2000bc	Evidence of farming on Dartmoor and the stone rows... Bronze age highly skilled people living on the moor, clearing oak starting to make tin Jadeite axe on settlement at High Peak nr Otterton
1500bc	Stone houses being built
0bc 43AD	Dumnonii – deep valley dwellers - mining tin romans coming
	First ports possibly in Plymouth and Brixham First roman roads
55AD	Roman military rule Exeter and near villa near Budeligh The romans bring sheep with them and the ndscape changed forever!
410AD	Kingdom of Dumnonia and west welsh – or Britons or Celts
600AD	Anglo Saxons begin settle Devon though not complete til Ecgberht of Wessex ruled 813-822
927	Ethelstan of the English ruled in Exeter
936	West Welsh finally defeated near Haldon and Teignmouth and drivin from Lands end around the same time... though some Celtic language spoken til middle ages
976	Royal mint on Lydford
9 th C	Vikings around!!! And attack in 997
1001	Normans defeat Devonians at Pinhoe
	Dartmoor and Exmoor royal hunting grounds
1086	Doomsday says 15% Uk forest cover
11 th -14th	Big population expansion Lots of mining of tin and copper and Devon makes more tin than Cornwall and mining goes on til mid 20c England one of the main centres of wool production
Though in 1348	Black death and social decline
14c	Large estates established.. .lots of sheep, grass and thus wool!
1600s	Elizabethans – Francis Drake and Sir Walter Raleigh – Explore
1650	Plymouth becomes largest city and set off point for settlers of N America
1690	Earthquake in Barnstaple!
1760	Smallpox many dead
1806	Dartmoor Prison
1842	Most people employed in agriculture though industrial age begins
19 th c	Railways arrive 1850s...holiday destination
1940	Tree cover in UK at 5% lowest ever

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1950	Dartmoor national Park established
1977	M5 reaches Exeter. Devon Population C 599,000
2009	Devon Population 741,000
2015	12% tree cover...way short of European average of 22%
2016	Roughly 2500 new homes being built.
2030	Devon Population 1,000,000?