

## **A checklist of Emperors and others Associated with Roman Britain**

**JULIUS CAESAR** (Dictator 43 BC) raided southern Britain in 55 BC and 54 BC.

**MARK ANTHONY** issued a series of *denarii* featuring different legions, including ones which later served in Britain – II *Augusta*, VI *Victrix*, IX *Hispana*, XIV *Gemina*, XX *Valeria*.

**CLAUDIUS** (Emperor 41 – 54 AD) initiated the conquest of Britain in 43 AD and himself came to Britain (with a squadron of elephants) to receive the ‘surrender’ of the Britons, taking the title *de Britannia* on behalf of his young son.

**VESPASIAN** (Emperor 69 – 79 AD) commanded the Second Legion in the Claudian invasion and, as Emperor, initiated the conquest of northern Britain.

**TRAJAN** (Emperor 98 – 117) abandoned the attempt to conquer the whole of Britain and ordered the building of legionary forts at Chester, York and Caerleon.

**HADRIAN** (Emperor 117 – 138) visited Britain in 122 AD and built a Wall.

**ANTONINUS PIUS** (Emperor 138 – 161) ordered the re-occupation of southern Scotland and the building of the wall that bears his name.

**PERTINAX** (Emperor 193) had been Governor of Britain in 187 AD.

**CLODIUS ALBINUS** (Emperor 195 – 197) proclaimed Emperor while Governor of Britain and withdrew troops from Britain in his bid for power, leaving the country open to invasion.

**SEPTIMUS SEVERUS** (Emperor 193 – 211) campaigned in Britain, rebuilt Hadrian’s Wall attempted to conquer Caledonia (modern Scotland) and divided Britain into two provinces before dying at York.

**CARACALLA** (Emperor 198 – 217) and **GETA** (Emperor 209 – 212) campaigned in Britain with their father Septimus Severus in 209-210 AD.

**CARAUSIUS** (Usurper 289 – 293) was commander of the Channel Fleet and occupied Britain and Gaul in his bid for power. He built the ‘Forts of the Saxon Shore’ in S.E. Britain.

**ALECTUS** (Usurper 293 – 296) murdered Carausius and ruled in Britain and Gaul.

**CONSTANTIUS I** (Caesar 293 – 295 and Emperor 305 – 306) invaded Britain and defeated Alectus in 296. Campaigned in Britain in 306 to restore order in the north and died at York.

**CONSTANTINE I the Great** (Emperor 307 – 337) campaigned in Britain with his father and was proclaimed Emperor at York following his father’s death. Later, he reunited the East and West Empires and made Christianity the official religion.

**CONSTANS** (Emperor 337 – 350) visited Britain in the winter of 342, the last ruling Emperor to visit the Province.

**MAGNUS MAXIMUS** (Usurper 383 – 388) was Governor of Britain. He removed troops from Britain in his bid for power, leaving the island undefended.

**CONSTANTINE III** (Usurper 407 – 411) was proclaimed ‘Emperor’ in Britain – though only a common soldier, his name was right!

**HONORIUS** (Emperor 393 – 423) removed most of the British garrison in 407 to defend Rome from barbarian attack; three years later he wrote to the British cities telling them to arrange their own defence – Britain had ceased to be a Province of the Roman Empire.