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Citoyenneté - Mobilité - Culture

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LANGUES
VIVANTES



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VIVANTES



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COMPLET



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4^e édition

www.martorana-editeur.com



ALLONS EDITIONS ENFANTS

33, avenue du Maine
75015 PARIS


ISBN 2-904218-31-9

MARTORANA
éditeur depuis 1978



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Civilisation

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Big Ben and LONDON Eye



Zion Canyon - UTAH



Advertising mural - New York City, NEW YORK



Manhattan skyline (2000) - NYC, NY

NB : orthographe britannique sauf pour les pages avec le drapeau américain



Telectroscope - LONDON
22 May-15 June 2008



LONDON by night

Géographie

Les îles Britanniques



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Fish & chips shop - LONDON

Abréviations utilisées

UK	United Kingdom
US	United States
EU	European Union

The British Isles



As a geographical description, **the British Isles** refers to Ireland, Great Britain, and thousands of smaller islands. They are separated from the continent by the North Sea and the Channel (*la Manche*).

- **Great Britain**, the largest island, is made up of England, Wales and Scotland.
- **Ireland**, the Emerald Isle, is divided into Eire (the Republic of Ireland) and Ulster (Northern Ireland).
- **The United Kingdom** of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) and the Republic of Ireland are both members of the European Union, but only Eire has adopted the euro.

The Channel Islands (Jersey and Guernsey) and **the Isle of Man** are crown dependencies with separate legislatures.

The concepts of **Britain** (as mother country) and **Britons** (as a nation) are inventions of the 19th century, related to the **British Empire** of Victorian times.

British identity and **Britishness** are controversial issues.

People in the UK agree that they are British citizens, but would probably identify either England, or Scotland, or Wales, or Northern Ireland as home.

After decades celebrating diversity and multiculturalism, the British government now seeks to encourage unity. All new immigrants must take and pass a **Life in the UK Test** (compulsory since 2007), in English, Welsh or Gaelic, before swearing an oath of allegiance at a special ceremony where they will receive a citizenship certificate.

www.lifeintheUKtest.net

www.projectbritain.com

Britannia
p. 13,17

Great Britain (GB)

The United Kingdom (UK)



The Union Flag is also called the Union Jack



Rose

▶ p. 61



Leek

▶ p. 64



Thistle

▶ p. 65



Shamrock

▶ p. 66

800 England

Broad red cross of St George



1302 Wales

The Welsh flag bears a red dragon
The patron saint is St David



1707 Scotland

Diagonal white cross of St Andrew (Saltire)



1800 Ireland

Narrow diagonal red cross of St Patrick



1921 Northern Ireland

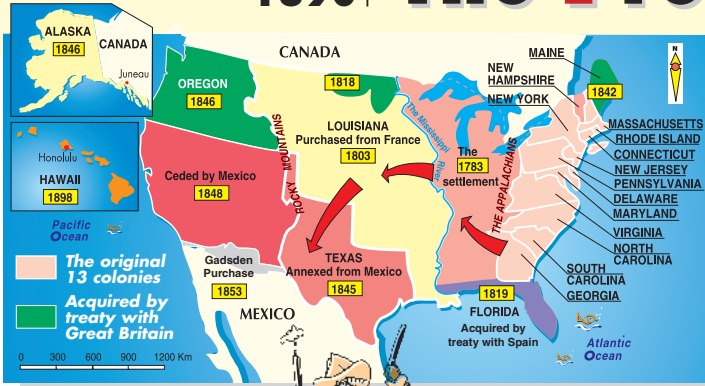


1949 The Republic of Ireland (Eire)



1790
1890

The Frontier



In the winter of 1838 the Cherokee tribe was deported from Georgia to Oklahoma. 4,000 Native Americans died of cold and exhaustion on that 'Trail of Tears'.

Reservations

As early as 1851, Native Americans were forced onto reservations where their culture,

language and religion were banned. These lands were watched over by the **Bureau of Indian Affairs** (B.I.A), created in 1824.

Children were taken from their parents and put into boarding schools, suffering forced assimilation.

Resistance

1864 The Cheyenne were slaughtered at Sand Creek (Colorado).

1876 The Sioux Chiefs **Crazy Horse** and **Sitting Bull** defeated the army of General Custer, who was killed with 300 of his soldiers at **Little Big Horn**.

1887 **Geronimo**, chief of the Apaches, was captured.

1890 **The Battle of Wounded Knee** (South Dakota) ended all resistance. The US Army massacred 300 Sioux men, women and children, and killed Chief Sitting Bull.

Go West!

Fur trappers and traders opened the way to the Wild West in the early days of colonization.

Political leaders wanted the US territory to stretch from the Atlantic to the Pacific. They encouraged settlers to go west. Pioneers started the long dangerous journey, in wagons (*charettes*) covered with canvas and pulled by oxen (*boeufs*), through unexplored areas to find new farmland. The first route to the Pacific is known as the **Oregon Trail**.

In **1848**, gold was discovered in California.

The Gold Rush (*ruée vers l'or*) accelerated the move westward. The **Frontier**, the line between 'civilized' settlements and wild territories, was pushed further west until the entire land was occupied (1890).

The conquest of the West is a founding myth of America, still relevant today as the Frontier symbolizes the struggle against nature (or any form of adversity.)

Native Americans

When Christopher Columbus landed in the New World in 1492, he thought he had discovered the western route to India. Thus he called the natives 'Indians'.

In the **1830s**, the federal government recognized **554 tribes** and gave them the status of **sovereign nations**. However, they were pushed further west as the 'Pioneers' progressed across America.

Genocide

The settlers nearly exterminated the buffalo from which the 'Indians' (Native Americans) derived their livelihood: meat, hide and horns. They also brought over to the Americas deadly diseases unknown to the Native Americans: smallpox (*variole*), measles (*rougeole*), flu, bubonic plague, mumps (*oreillons*), yellow fever, and whooping cough (*coqueluche*).



English Food



Most French people think British food is a bad joke. But then English people are often shocked at the things French people eat: snails, frogs' legs and, worst of all, horsemeat.

Stereotypes?

Bland vegetables and overcooked meat with mint or bread sauce? Or tender vegetables with well-done meat and tasty sauce? It all depends on which side of the Channel you come from.

The British are becoming more adventurous. **Curry** is probably more of a national dish than **roast beef and Yorkshire pudding**.

Today the English expect higher quality food, with greater variety. Supermarkets now stock foodstuffs and wines from all over the world. Ironically, as the British adopt French *cuisine* in London restaurants, the 'traditional' English Breakfast (bacon and eggs, with tomatoes and sausages) is being served for brunch in chic Parisian cafés!

Breakfast

A typical breakfast in England usually consists of **cereal** (cornflakes) and hot, buttered **toast with marmalade** or lemon curd (*crème de citron*). Traditionalists may have

oatmeal **porridge** (*avoine*) with treacle or **golden syrup**. Sliced bread (*pain de mie en tranches*) is essential for sandwiches and toast, so every kitchen has a **toaster**, and an electric **kettle** (*bouilloire*) to boil water for tea-making.

Elevenes

The mid-morning break is coffee or tea and biscuits, any time from ten to 11 am.

Making a **pot of tea** is almost a reflex action. The national average is **six cups a day**, usually with a drop of milk.

- first thing in the morning, before breakfast
- at 9 am when people get to work
- for elevenes
- after shopping
- when friends drop in
- when people get home
- last thing at night, before bed

Coffee

In the 18th century, London was famous for its coffee houses. In the 20th century, transport cafes were renowned for basic tea and coffee, and cheap but not particularly healthy breakfast. The 21st century has seen **the renaissance of café culture**.

A wide range of trendy new cafés have opened in London, and coffee now rivals tea in popularity,

whether it is cappuccino or espresso, served in a mug or a cup, freshly ground or instant, but often with milk and sugar. Black coffee is never the default option.

Lunch

It is generally at **one o'clock**. People either grab a sandwich from a *PRET A MANGER*™ store, or take a packed lunch, or have lunch at a pub: traditional **shepherd's pie**, or **ploughman's lunch** (bread and Cheddar cheese with pickles). Long meals are never the rule, even on Sundays.



A pub lunch

Traditional English dishes like roast beef, **steak and kidney pie** (*tourte*), **fish & chips** with salt and vinegar, **Toad in the Hole** (sausage in batter pudding), **Lancashire Hotpot**, compete with flavours from abroad for an Englishman's heart.



Toad in the Hole



A picnic tea



Stilton



Trifle

Tea

'How about a nice cup of tea?' is still a symbol of welcome in the UK, whether it is served in delicate bone-china cups or heavy pottery mugs. Enjoy the luxury of traditional afternoon tea at *Fortnum & Mason's* (from £26 to £40).

- **Muffins:** special rolls, split in half and toasted
- **Crumpets:** a bit like muffins, only with holes on the buttered side
- **Buns:** small sweet rolls
- **Scones:** similar to buns, topped with clotted cream, and strawberry or raspberry jam.

The most difficult question is to decide whether to cover the cream with a blob of jam, or the jam with the cream.

Tea time

Tea is either afternoon tea with cakes and biscuits or an **evening meal**, eaten as soon as people get home from work (around six o'clock). Sometimes they make do with baked beans on toast in front of the TV.



Afternoon tea at Marks & Spencer's

Supper or dinner

Supper is the evening meal for those who do not have tea. Dinner suggests something grander.

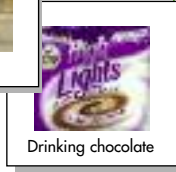
A 'nightcap'

(*bonnet de nuit*)

This may be an alcoholic beverage but is more likely to be a hot drink: tea, coffee, hot chocolate, or Horlicks. Herbal tea is another option for those who do not like milk.



Horlicks



Drinking chocolate

Health

It has been said that the British only notice food when there is a health warning. **Mad cow disease** or BSE (*maladie de la vache folle*) has led a growing number of people to become **vegetarians**. Red meat consumption has dropped by half in the last twenty years. Health food shops are now part of the High Street (*rue principale*) in every town.

The fat-free obsession

Light, diet, fat-free, low-calorie, low-carb, etc.: such terms show the importance of diet culture nowadays.

Specialities & Oddities

- **HP sauce** is a very popular thick brown sauce made of vegetables, fruit and spices, to be poured over savoury foods.
- Hard or smooth, yellow or orange, mild or mature (=strong), **Cheddar** is the most popular cheese in the UK. **Stilton**, the equivalent of *roquefort*, is served with port (porto) at Christmas.



Cheese & biscuits

- **Apple pie and hot custard** (*crème anglaise*) is a typical British dessert. Throwing **custard pies** (*tartes à la crème*) at people is typical of slapstick humour (*farce*) on stage and in films. Traditional **puddings** can be pastry-based, or steamed. They may also be made of rice (*riz-au-lait*) or bread (*pain perdu*) with added fruit. Traditional English **trifle**, layers of cake, jelly, custard and cream, is probably the most popular dessert in Britain.

- **Marmite** is a suspicious-looking dark brown substance. Marmitholics spread it on their toast, morning, noon and night, but only very thinly.



Hollywood



Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles - CA



The American Dream Factory

Hollywood is both America's mirror image of itself and a factory commercializing dreams for the whole world. Hollywood movies have often portrayed American history, starting with D.W. Griffith's *The Birth of a Nation* in 1915. While they **shaped American identity at home**, they were the **ambassadors of the American way of life abroad**, influencing fashion, behavior and speech all over the world. Ironically, Hollywood has always been in the hands of European immigrants - the studio **moguls** (*nababs*).

The Silent Era (1900-20)

Hollywood became a center for film-making because the Californian climate allowed movies to be made outdoors all year round. Weekly movie-going became a national habit. In 1927, *The Jazz Singer*, the first real movie with sound, was fatal to many silent stars, but Greta Garbo and Charlie Chaplin prospered.

Chaplin turned an industry into an art, with the 'rags to riches' American Dream scenario of *The Little Tramp* (1916).

Chaplin was the first and last film-maker to control every aspect of the process: producing, casting, acting, directing, writing, scoring and editing.

The Twenties

Newspaper editorials thundered about mass misbehavior in the film capital. ▶ p. 39

The Hays Office was created to clean up the ethics of the film industry.

The Studio Years

The Big Five, Warner Brothers, Paramount, 20th Century Fox, MGM and RKO, had a monopoly on the movie industry.

In the **1930s** the **golden age** of cinema saw the birth of the **star-system**: **westerns** (*Stagecoach*, John Ford 1939), **gangster films** (*Scarface*, 1932), **musicals** (*Gold Diggers*, 1933), **cartoons** (*Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, 1938 Disney's first full-length cartoon in colour), **melodramas** (*Gone with the Wind*, 1939), and **comedies** (*Modern Times*, 1936).



Humphrey BOGART - Lauren BACALL

About 90 million Americans went to the cinema each week (25 million now).

1940s

- It was the age of propaganda and morale boosters. By 1946, the industry was in its most lucrative period. Going to the movies meant escaping the horrors of war. The **great war movies** featured handsome, brave American Servicemen. **Social comments** started to find expression in *The Grapes of Wrath* (by John Ford, 1940) and **Orson Welles'** cult movie *Citizen Kane* (1941).

- A subversive new genre emerged, the **'film noir'**. These detective films introduced a new type of hero: the private eye (*detective privé*) immortalized by **Humphrey Bogart** as the cynical 'tough guy' in *The Maltese Falcon* (John Huston, 1941), or in *The Big Sleep* with **Lauren Bacall** (Howard Hawks, 1946). Such new **female stars**, like **Rita Hayworth** in *Gilda*, started to shake the foundations of a male-dominated world.

1950s

Television took off as the new mass medium. Hollywood brought **color** to the big screen,

The **Emmys**, the Golden Globe Awards, are the television equivalent of the **Oscars**, presented annually by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) at the most watched film award ceremony in the world.



along with technical razzmatazz (*tape à l'œil/ trompe l'œil*): CinemaScope, Cinerama and 3-D. The slogan went: 'Big screens mean Big Themes', so Hollywood produced **big musicals** (*Singing in the Rain*, 1952) and **epic entertainment** like *Ben-Hur*.

The fifties saw the birth of a new, tortured young generation of heroes with emotional problems: **Marlon Brando** in a sweaty T-shirt, raping Vivien Leigh in *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1951), or **James Dean** in *Rebel Without a Cause* (1955).

1960s

With the social and political changes of the sixties, and after the death of screen goddess **Marilyn Monroe** in 1962, **women** became subjects rather than objects. **Blacks** also began to play leading roles, although it was difficult to find a good role, as Sidney Poitier remarked (*Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, 1967). The nude was no longer rude, and men with slightly disturbing sexuality such as **Dustin Hoffman** in *The Graduate*, 1967, caught the mood of the times.



Alfred Hitchcock, showed that film directors could express **individual vision** even within the Hollywood system with *Psycho* in 1960, one of his most celebrated films.

From the 1980s

The studios developed **blockbuster** productions (*superproductions*): a few expensive movies guaranteeing **box office success** like the two historic records of *Star Wars* and *Titanic*. New **superstars** emerged (Clint Eastwood, Robert Redford, Meryl Streep etc.)

Directors like **Steven Spielberg** and **George Lucas** were able to build empires, making more money with merchandising than with films! **Martin Scorsese's** cult films with Robert De Niro (*Taxi Driver*, 1976; *Raging Bull*, 1980, and *The Departed*, Oscar-winner in 2007) are part of his personal tribute to American 'film heritage' (*A Personal Journey with Martin Scorsese Through American Movies*, 1995).

Themes

▶ p. 44

- **The Vietnam War**
- **Space and the future:** *2001: A Space Odyssey* by S. Kubrick (1968), *Star Wars* (1977), *Alien* (1979)
- **Science fiction** *Superman* (1978) *E.T. (Extra Terrestrial)*, 1982
- Physical power and

violence embodied by *Rambos*, *Rockies* and *Terminators* with **Stallone** and **Schwarzenegger** reflected an increasingly aggressive America.

- Film **adaptations of children's classics** became popular. The *Harry Potter* series began in 2001, the *Narnia Chronicles* in 2005, and the reputedly unadaptable Tolkien trilogy *The Lord of the Rings* was filmed by Peter Jackson in New Zealand (2001-3).

- Many **biopics** (biographical pictures) were produced in the 2000s: *Ali* (boxing, 2001), *Frida* (art, 2002), *Ray* (music, 2004) etc.

- The 2000s saw a new golden age for **superhero movies**. A plethora of comic-book inspired pictures were released: *X-Men* (2000), *Spider-Man* (2002), *Hulk* (2003), *Batman Begins* (2005), *The Fantastic Four* (2005), and *Iron Man* (2008).

Independent Cinema

The Sundance Film Festival became the showcase for launching films independent from Hollywood with such directors as **Tarantino** (*Pulp Fiction*, 1994), **Spike Lee** (*Malcolm X*, 1992) and **Woody Allen**, who is more successful in France than in the US!

www.festival-deauville.com