

## The UK, Britain, Great Britain, The British Isles, England....

### What's the difference?

The UK is short for The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (大不列顛與北愛爾蘭聯合王國). It is a sovereign state (in the same way as France or the USA) but is made up of four countries; England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. For Americans, the best analogy would be that the UK is like the USA, whilst its four constituent countries are like states.

- England 英格蘭; English 英格蘭人
- Scotland 蘇格蘭; Scottish 蘇格蘭人
- Wales 威爾斯; Welsh 威爾斯人
- Northern Ireland 北愛爾蘭; Irish 愛爾蘭人
- England + Scotland + Wales = Great Britain 大不列顛
- England + Scotland + Wales + Northern Ireland = the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland = the UK 英國 (大不列顛與北愛爾蘭聯合王國)



*The United Kingdom (coloured in red) with the Republic of Ireland in grey.*



*Great Britain in red, Ireland in grey.*



*The British Isles in red, with mainland Europe in green.*



England

		The 9 <sup>th</sup> Century	The 11 <sup>th</sup> Century	The 14 <sup>th</sup> Century	the late 15 <sup>th</sup> Century	late 16 <sup>th</sup> -early 17 <sup>th</sup> Century	1755
(invaded by the Romans & the Germanic tribes) Britons		(invaded by the Norseman)	(invaded by the French)		The first printing press	Standardizing spelling	Samuel Johnson (the 1 <sup>st</sup> English dictionary)
Celtic	Old English			Middle English			
(combined Irish, Scottish, Welsh)	Latin alphabets <del>the ancient</del> Germanic alphabets	+Scandinavian elements					