

The United Kingdom

Country and people

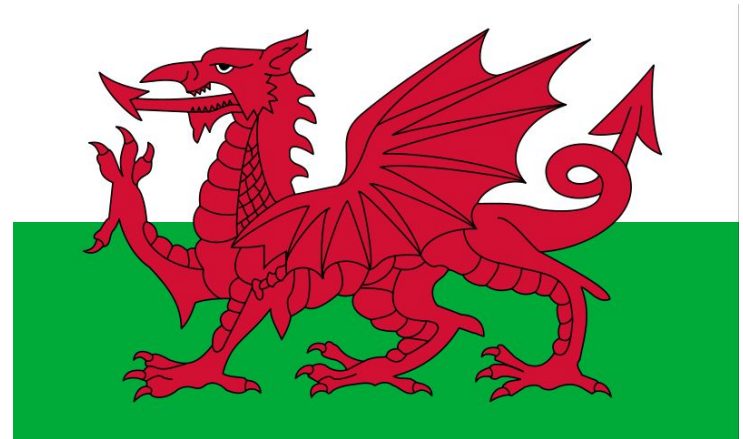
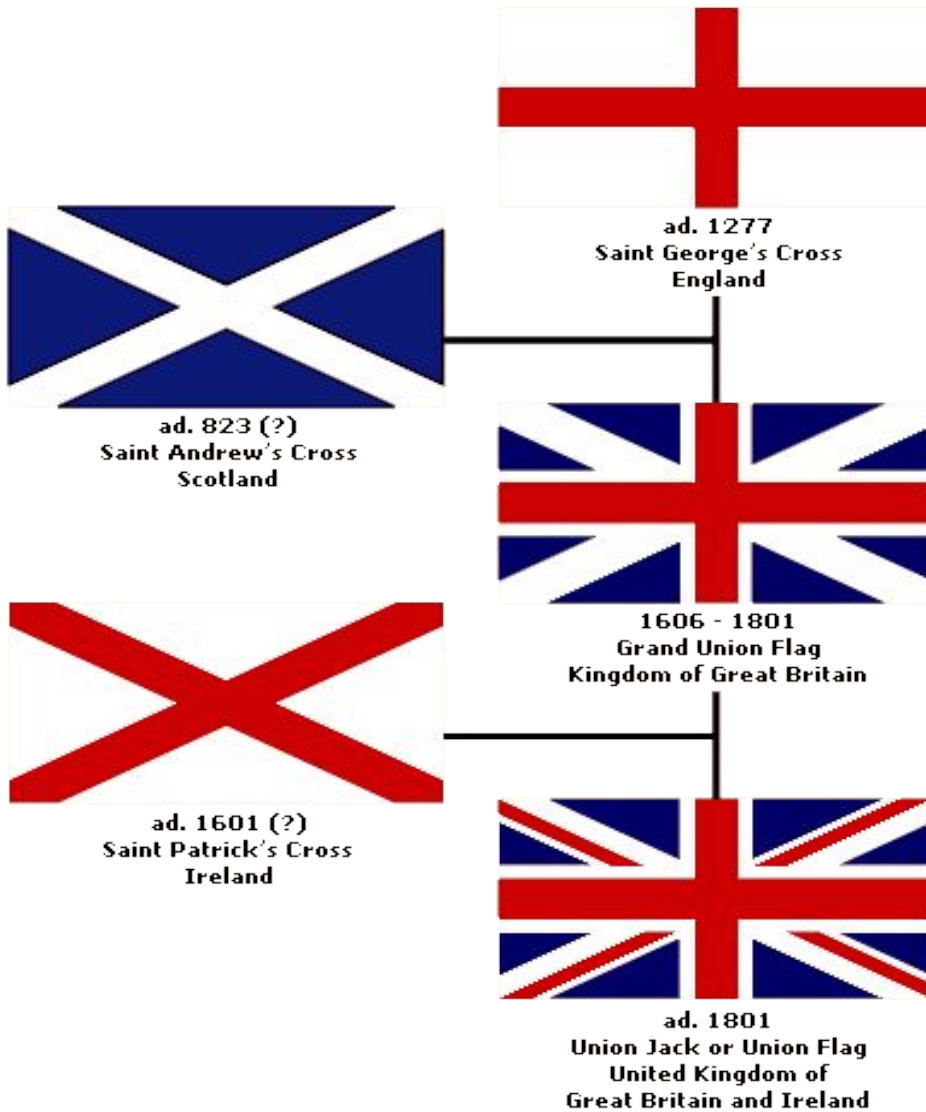


The British flag

It is called **Union Jack** (*was used on the jack-staff of naval vessels*) and it symbolises the union of England. Flag is made up of the crosses of the patron saints of England.



History of the Union Jack



15th century

Geography



Religion

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION IN BRITAIN

	2004	2010	Change (%)
Christian	45million	41million	-7.6
No religion	9million	13.4million	+48.7
Muslim	1.9million	2.6million	+36.7
Hindu	550,000	790,000	+43.0
Sikh	336,000	340,000	-1.2
Jewish	272,000	270,000	-1.0
Buddhist	160,000	270,000	+74.0
Other religion	390,000	610,000	+57.4

Source: Labour Force Survey

Languages in the UK

Language	Type	Spoken in	Rank: no. of speakers in the UK
English	<i>West Germanic</i>	Throughout the United Kingdom	58,100,000 (2005 data)
Welsh	<i>Celtic (Brythonic)</i>	Wales and parts of England near the Welsh-English border	761,000
Scots	<i>West Germanic</i>	Scotland (Scottish Lowlands, Caithness, Northern Isles) Northern Ireland (counties Down, Antrim, Londonderry)	100,000 speakers (1999) with varying dialects
British Sign Language	<i>BANZSL</i>	Throughout the United Kingdom	125,000 (based on 2010 data)
Irish	<i>Celtic (Goidelic)</i>	Northern Ireland	95,000 (based on 2004 data)
Angloromani	<i>Mixed</i>	England, Scotland, Wales	90,000 (based on 1990 data)
Scottish Gaelic	<i>Celtic (Goidelic)</i>	Scotland (Scottish Highlands with substantial minorities in various cities)	65,674 total (based on Scotland's 2001 Census)
Cornish	<i>Celtic (Brythonic)</i>	England (Cornwall)	2,000 fluent (based on 2008 data)