

TIMELINE

PRE-HISTORY	
c.500 bc – ad 50	Iron Age occupation.
1 ST – 4 TH CENTURY	
c.43–399	Romans occupy the site, known as Sorviodunum.
5 TH – 10 TH CENTURY	
c. 800-1000	Frequent Viking raids on Old Sarum.
552	The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle notes a settlement on the site.
c. 925 – 75	Old Sarum used as a defensive refuge by the Anglo-Saxons.
11 TH CENTURY	
1003	Sweyn, Viking King of Denmark attacks, causing the Wilton mint to move to Old Sarum.
1066	The Norman Conquest.
1069	Work begins on the castle.
1075	Work begins on the first cathedral.
1086	William I's Oath of Allegiance.
1092	The cathedral is consecrated and burns down five days later.
12 TH CENTURY	
1130	Bishop Roger moves into the castle and work begins on the second cathedral.
1139	Bishop Roger falls from grace; the castle is returned to the Crown.
1170	Henry II, the first Plantagenet King, improves the castle defences.
1170-1189	Henry II imprisons his wife, Eleanor of Aquitaine, for her role in the rebellion of 1173-4. She remains imprisoned at Old Sarum and Winchester until Henry dies.

13TH CENTURY	
1189–1216	The castle facilities are improved. A new hall is built.
1220	The foundation stone of Salisbury (New Sarum) Cathedral is laid.
1226	The clergy leave Old Sarum.
1240	The remainder of the castle population move to Salisbury (New Sarum).
1247	The new hall is in disrepair.
15TH CENTURY	
1415	Henry VIII permits Thomas Compton to carry away the materials at Old Sarum.
16TH CENTURY	
1540	Tourists start to visit the site.
1547	The castle is reported to be a 'barren place'.
18TH CENTURY	
1700s	Old Sarum becomes notorious as a 'rotten borough'.
19TH CENTURY	
1832	The Great Reform Act finally abolishes rotten and pocket boroughs.
1834	The Royal Academy exhibits John Constable's watercolour view of Old Sarum.
20TH CENTURY	
1909–15	Lieutenant Colonel Hawley excavates the site.
1957	Further excavations take place.
1984	English Heritage begins caring for the site.