

People live by hunting and gathering food

100,000 BC

First people in the Wycombe area

First farmers

3,000 BC

A burial Mound is built on Whiteleaf Hill near Monks
Risborough

2584 - 2532 BC

The Pyramids and Sphinx are built at Giza in Egypt

2100 BC

Stonehenge reaches the height of its development
Celts live in tribes in Britain

Hillfort built at Desborough Castle in High Wycombe at this
time

500 BC

People across Europe, Asia and Africa increasingly use
ironworking technology

334 - 326 BC

Alexander the Great conquers Persia and Egypt creating a
Greek empire from Greece to India

43

Roman Army invades Britain under Emperor Claudius

122-139

Hadrian's wall is built across the North of England

150

A Roman Villa is built on the Rye in High Wycombe,
it is abandoned about 200 years later

410

Roman Army leaves Britain

440s

Anglo-Saxon invasions and settlement begin

500

Marlow begins to be built on drained land next to the Thames

865

The Viking "Great Army" invades, conquering most of Eastern England

970

The first documented reference to Wycombe as 'Wicumun'

1066

Normans defeat English at the Battle of Hastings

1086

The Domesday Book mentions High Wycombe, Marlow, Princes Risborough. Six mills are recorded along the River Wye

1150

Castle built at Castle Hill in High Wycombe

1152

There is a siege in High Wycombe as part of the Civil War between Stephen and Matilda

1221

The cloth industry is already established in High Wycombe by this time

1222-27

High Wycombe and Marlow markets are first recorded

1343

The Black Prince is given the manor of Risborough, forming Princes Risborough

1318 - 1350

The Black Death kills 2 million people in England and Wales

1485

Henry Tudor defeats Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth and becomes Henry VII, marking the end of the Wars of the Roses

1566

Elizabeth I visits Bradenham Manor

1600

First lace is produced locally and papermaking begins in mills on the River Wye

1642 - 1646

English Civil War

1643

Possible Civil War battle or skirmish around this date on the Rye in High Wycombe

1665 - 1666

197 people die of plague in High Wycombe

1666

The Great Fire of London rages for four days. Two thirds of the city is destroyed

1758

Wethereds Brewery is established in Marlow

1771

The start of the Industrial Revolution - development of factories and industry

1813

Local chair making industry begins at this time but lace and straw plaiting are still the main industries

1816

31 mills are recorded on the River Wye from Bourne End to West Wycombe

1837

Queen Victoria becomes Queen of England

1854

High Wycombe Railway Station opens, later extensions take the line to Oxford and Aylesbury

1853 - 1856

British and Russian troops fight in the Crimean War

1874

Benjamin Disraeli becomes Prime Minister, his main residence is Hughenden Manor

1877

Queen Victoria visits High Wycombe on her way to Hughenden Manor to stay with Prime Minister, Benjamin Disraeli

1890

There are 50 factories producing chairs in High Wycombe. It is estimated that there are 5000 workers in the furniture trade by 1895

1906

The direct rail line from High Wycombe to London (Marylebone) opens

1914-1918

World War One

1939

Britain enters World War II and for the first time war affects millions of people

1940

Many children are evacuated to the Wycombe area

1945

Winston Churchill speaks from the Red Lion Hotel

1950's and 60's

Many families come to the Wycombe area
from Commonwealth countries

1989

Fall of the Berlin Wall

2008

Eden shopping centre opens