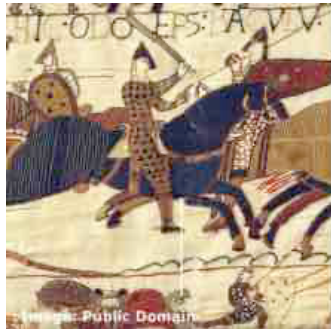


Bayeux Tapestry back in UK after 900 years

13th July 2026



The Bayeux Tapestry has returned to Britain for the first time in more than 900 years. The famed, 68-metre-long tapestry is an embroidered artwork and important historical document. It chronicles 58 events surrounding the successful military

invasion and takeover of England in 1066 by France's Duke William of Normandy. It shows the death of England's King Harold II, who was hit in the eye by an arrow at the Battle of Hastings. Historians believe the tapestry was made in England as a gift for William. For the past 900 years, it has been preserved in Bayeux, France. It is now at the British Museum in London, where it will be put on display between September 2026 and July 2027.

The tapestry was transported with military precision by an art transportation specialist. There was heavy police protection as the historic masterpiece made its journey under the cover of darkness to the British capital. It was encased in a climate-controlled box with technology to minimize shocks. The director of the British Museum called the operation a "monumental effort". Millions of people are expected to see it. A museum spokesperson said: "Every British child knows the date of 1066 — the Battle of Hastings." This battle changed the course of British history. The UK's culture secretary called it "a pivotal period in our national story and our shared heritage and friendship with France".

Sources: france24.com / cnn.com / aljazeera.com

Writing

All historical artefacts should be in their country of origin. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

tapestry / Britain / embroidered / historical document / military / invasion / historian / precision / art / specialist / masterpiece / capital / museum / 1066 / heritage / France

True / False

- 1) The last time the tapestry was in England was exactly 900 years ago. T / F
- 2) The tapestry is 68 metres in length. T / F
- 3) There are 58 different events shown on the tapestry. T / F
- 4) The tapestry was a present for a king of England. T / F
- 5) The tapestry was protected by the army as it moved to London. T / F
- 6) Specialist movers transported the tapestry at night. T / F
- 7) The article says British children know 1,066 dates. T / F
- 8) The article says the Battle of Hastings changed French. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. embroidered | a. kept |
| 2. chronicles | b. huge |
| 3. invasion | c. occupation |
| 4. preserved | d. gem |
| 5. display | e. direction |
| 6. specialist | f. decorated |
| 7. masterpiece | g. show |
| 8. monumental | h. decisive |
| 9. course | i. describes |
| 10. pivotal | j. expert |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What influence has French had on the English language?
- c) What significant dates are there in your country's history?
- d) What changed the course of your nation's history?
- e) Why was the transportation of the tapestry so secretive?
- f) Who are your country's best friends?
- g) Who does your country have shared heritage with?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the British Museum?

Phrase Match

1. an embroidered
 2. It chronicles
 3. the successful military invasion and
 4. hit in the eye
 5. it will be put
 6. The tapestry was transported with
 7. heavy police
 8. made its journey under the cover
 9. Millions of people are
 10. a pivotal period
- a. of darkness
 - b. on display
 - c. in our national story
 - d. military precision
 - e. artwork
 - f. expected to see it
 - g. by an arrow
 - h. 58 events
 - i. protection
 - j. takeover of England

Discussion – Student B

- a) What do you know about British history?
- b) What historical artefacts are there in your country?
- c) Would you like to see the Bayeux Tapestry?
- d) What is the most significant historical event in your country?
- e) Has your country ever been invaded?
- f) Has your country ever invaded another country?
- g) What's your favourite museum?
- h) What is your national museum like?

Spelling

1. an dibreeomdre artwork
2. It encrolhcis 58 events
3. the successful military vinsoni
4. hit in the eye by an roraw
5. it has been vrpeeedsr in Bayeux
6. it will be put on pylsdai
7. transported with military oinpiscer
8. the historic rpeaitcsem
9. It was eencdas in a climate-controlled box
10. a lneunamotm effort
11. a ovpialt period in our national story
12. our shared egaeriht and friendship

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. i	3. c	4. a	5. g
6. j	7. d	8. b	9. e	10. h

Comprehension Questions

Listen to / read the news article. Answer these questions.
(Answers are on p. 27 of the 27-page PDF.)

1.	How long is the Bayeux Tapestry?
2.	How many events are pictures on the tapestry?
3.	What killed England's King Harold II?
4.	What was the Bayeux Tapestry made for?
5.	Where will the Bayeux Tapestry be put on display?
6.	When did the Bayeux Tapestry get transported from France to London?
7.	What was the tapestry protected against in a special box?
8.	How many people are expected to see the Bayeux Tapestry in London?
9.	What does the article say the Battle of Hastings changed?
10.	Who said the Battle of Hastings was "a pivotal period" in British history?

Speaking – Museums

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top.
Change partners often and share your rankings.

- History
- Archaeology
- Technology
- Food
- Fashion
- Football
- Space
- Music

Answers – True False

1	F	2	T	3	T	4	F	5	F	6	T	7	F	8	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.