

**I should already know:**

Where the Anglo-Saxons, Ancient Egypt and Rome fit on a timeline

That Africa is a continent mostly in the Southern Hemisphere.

A **primary source** is created at the time of the study and a **secondary source** is created after it

**Location of the Kingdom of Benin**

Benin city is the location of the ancient Kingdom of Benin. It is located in Nigeria, which is in the west of Africa. The Ancient Kingdom of Benin is NOT located in the modern country of Benin, this is a different country in Africa.



**By the end of this unit I will:**

Know where the Bronzes are and why Nigeria wants them back

Understand why the city of Benin was important

Describe the role of the Oba

Explain the religious beliefs of the Edo people

Know about the trade links between Benin and Europe

**People of significance:**

**Oba Ewuare**

**Ewuare the Great** ruled the Benin Kingdom around 1440, transforming it into a powerful empire during a "Golden Age". As a famous warrior king, he expanded territory, rebuilt Benin City, established trade, and fortified the city with massive walls



**Key Vocabulary**

<b>artefact</b>	An item of historical importance made by people in the past
<b>heritage</b>	The history, traditions and artefacts that are handed down by previous generations.
<b>repatriation</b>	To send something back to the country it came from
<b>Edo</b>	The indigenous inhabitants of the Kingdom of Benin
<b>indigenous</b>	People living in a land from the earliest times
<b>Oba</b>	The ruler of the Edo people
<b>deity</b>	A god, goddess or supernatural being that some people worship and believe in
<b>prophecy</b>	A prediction of the future
<b>enslaved</b>	A person who is forced to be a slave
<b>transatlantic</b>	Means crossing the Atlantic
<b>loot</b>	To steal items from a place during a war or stolen items
<b>descendants</b>	People who come after someone else in a family
<b>ancestors</b>	The people who came before you in a family; a family's older generations

**Ogiso Dynasty**

**AD 1180**

Eweka becomes Oba.

Benin becomes very powerful, conquering many lands.

European traders come to Benin during the rule of Oba Ewuare and Egisie.



# Why have people argued about the Benin Bronzes?

1. Why does Nigeria want the Benin Bronzes back?

2. What was Benin city like?

3. What was the role of the Oba?

4. What were the religious beliefs of the Edo people?

5. What did Benin trade with Europe?