










What archaeological evidence is there of ancient peoples in Cornwall?

Site	Time Period	What it Shows
Poldowrian 	Stone Age	Tools, middens – shows early life in Cornwall.
Rocky Valley 	Stone Age	Carvings – possible religious or art symbols.
Mên-an-Tol 	Bronze Age	Stone circle – believed to be for healing.
Lanyon Quoit 	Bronze Age	Burial site – shows belief in afterlife.
Merry Maidens 	Bronze Age	Stone circle – used for ceremonies.
Chysauster 	Iron Age	Village with fogou – everyday life & storage.
Castle-an-Dinas 	Iron Age	Hillfort – shows defence and power.

heritage	The history and traditions of a particular area or culture that are significant today.
Mesolithic	The middle part of the Stone Age
Neolithic	The later part of the Stone Age
prehistory	The period of time before written records
archaeology	The study of human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artefacts and other physical remains
artefacts	An object made by a human being, typically one that tells us something historical
cairn	A mound of rough stones built as a memorial or landmark, typically on a hilltop or skyline
menhir	A tall upright stone of a kind erected in prehistoric times in western Europe
quoit	The flat covering stone of a dolmen.
dolmen	A megalithic tomb with a large flat stone laid on upright ones, found chiefly in Britain and France
megalith	A large stone that forms a prehistoric monument
settlement	A place where people live together in a community
courtyard	An unroofed area that is surrounded by walls
formation	In a particular arrangement or pattern
myth	A traditional story
reconstructed	To build or form (something) again after it has been damaged or destroyed
oratory	A small chapel for private worship
hillfort	A fortified village on a hill, used for defence
roundhouse	A circular house used during the Iron Age
midden	A rubbish heap left by people, often containing useful clues

Period	Activities & Evidence
Stone Age	Used flint tools, lived off the land, made carvings.
Bronze Age	Built stone circles and burial sites, held ceremonies.
Iron Age	Lived in roundhouses, farmed, built strong hillforts.

