

## Stonehenge – an unsolved mystery



The prehistoric monument known as Stonehenge includes a circular arrangement of massive, upright stones, weighing from 4 up to 50 tons each. It was built between about 3100 and 1500 BC and is located in southern England. There are hundreds of similar structures throughout Britain. Stonehenge was designated as UNESCO World Heritage site in 1986.



Stonehenge is believed to have been a place of worship of some kind. Many explanations have been offered as to why the enormous monument was built, some speculating that it was a type of astronomical clock for predicting eclipses or a temple, a place of religious worship. These ideas have never been proven, however, and the specific reasons for its construction remain unknown. Some of the stones had to be moved 240 miles (385 kilometers) from the place where they were mined. No one knows how this was done. Today only ruins of Stonehenge remain. In medieval and early modern times people took stones from the monument to use in construction projects, and other stones have fallen down. But the ruins still give an idea of what Stonehenge looked like in prehistoric times.

*(Adapted from Britannica.com)*