Timeline of Portuguese history (Lusitania and Gallaecia)

From encyclopedia

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Roman Lusitania and Gallaecia

3rd century BC

- 237 BC - The Carthaginian General Hamilcar Barca enters Iberia with his armies through Gadir.
- 228 BC - Hamilcar Barca dies in battle. He is succeeded in command of the Carthaginian armies in Iberia by his son-in-law Hasdrubal, who extends the newly acquired empire by skilful diplomacy, and consolidates it by the foundation of Cartago Nova (Cartagena) as the capital of the new province.
- 226 BC - Treaty of the Ebro between Carthage and Rome, by which Carthage grants the Greek colonies in eastern Iberia all the lands north of the Ebro river.
- 221 BC - Hasdrubal is killed by a Celtic assassin. Hannibal Barca, Hamilcar Barca's older son, is acclaimed commander-in-chief by the army and confirmed in his appointment by the Carthaginian Senate.
- 219 BC - Hannibal Barca attacks the city of Saguntum (eastern Iberia). The Roman Senate sends envoys to declare the city under Roman protection, which is disregarded by Hannibal.
- 218 BC - Hannibal Barca takes Saguntum and departs for the Italian peninsula in order to attack the Romans in their own territory. His younger brother Hasdrubal Barca is left in the command of the Carthaginian armies in Iberia.
  - Rome sends its armies to Iberia led by Gnaeus Cornelius Scipio Calvus. Beginning of the Second Punic War between Carthage and Rome.
- 217 BC - Publius Cornelius Scipio joins his brother Gnaeus Cornelius Scipio Calvus in the war against Carthage in Iberia.
- 215 BC - The Romans retake Saguntum and go deeper into Iberia, winning victories against the Carthaginians.
- 212 BC - Big Carthaginian counter-offensive led by Hasdrubal Barca, his brother Mago Barca and Gisco.
- 211 BC - Publius Cornelius Scipio is killed in the Battle of Upper Baetis. Carthaginian victory.
  - Gnaeus Cornelius Scipio Calvus is killed in the Battle of Ilipa, near Seville. Carthaginian victory.
- 210 BC - The Carthaginian armies spend the winter in an area populated by the Conii.
  - Hasdrubal son of Gisco goes into Lusitania and camps near the Tagus mouth.
  - Publius Cornelius Scipio Africanus Major arrives in Iberia and takes Cartago Nova.
- 209 BC - Scipio Africanus drives back Hasdrubal Barca from his position at Baccula, on the upper Guadalquivir, but is unable to hinder the Carthaginian's march to Italy.
- 206 BC - The Roman legions, commanded by Scipio Africanus, take Cartago Nova.
  - Battle of Ilipa (near Seville) between Roman legions, commanded by Scipio Africanus, and Carthaginian armies, commanded by Hasdrubal Barca and Mago. Roman victory that results in the evacuation of Iberia by the Punics commanded by Gadir surrenders without a fight to the Romans.
- 202 BC - End of the Second Punic War with the defeat of Hannibal Barca in the Battle of Zama in North Africa.
- 200 BC - The Latin poet Quintus Ennius records, for the first time, the use of the word Hispania to designate the Iberian peninsula (from the Carthaginian name). By this time, the Romans control most of eastern and southern Hispania, along the Mediterranean coast.

2nd century BC

- 197 BC
o In a first attempt of a Roman provincial administration in Hispania, Caius Sempronius Tuditanus and M. Helvius divide the peninsula into Hispania Ulterior and Hispania Citerior (the one actually controlled by Rome). These two provinces were to be ruled by Governors with a mandate of one year.
  • 194 BC
  o Lusitani, Gallaecia and Asturias are included in the Roman province of Hispania Ulterior.
  • 193 BC
  o Lusitani resist Roman invaders successfully, taking back land and ransacking Conistorgis, the Coni royal capital (in modern Algarve), because of that people's alliance with Rome.
  o The Lusitani are defeated by the Romans, led by Publius Cornelius Scipio Nasica (Gnaeus Cornelius Scipio Calvus' son), when sacking the city of Ilipa (in the Guadalquivir).
  • 180 BC - Viriathus born in Lorica (roman name), in the Herminius mons (now Loriga, in the Serra da Estrela).
  • 179 BC - The Praetor Lucius Postumianus Albinus celebrated a triumph over the Lusitani.
  • 155 BC - Under the command of Punicus first and Cesarius after, the Lusitani and Vettones reach Gibraltar. There they were defeated by the Roman legions of Marcus Junius Munatius, Beginning of the Lusitanian War. Still the struggle continues in the years to come with frequent Lusitanian victories.
  • 154 BC
  o Lusitani, under Cesarius, pillage through Baetica (modern Andalusia).
  o Lusitani, under Caecinus, pillage through southern Lusitania (modern Alentejo and Algarve).
  o There is a Lusitanian migratory movement towards the south.
  • 152 BC - From this date onwards the Roman Republic has difficulties in recruiting soldiers for the wars in Hispania, deemed particularly brutal.
  • 150 BC - The Lusitani are defeated by Praetor Servius Sulpicius Galba. Springing a clever trap, Galba's Legions killed 9000 Lusitani and later sold 20000 more as slaves in Gaul (modern France).
  • 147 BC
  o The Lusitani suffer severe losses at the hands of the Roman army led by Caius Vetilius, appointed governor of Hispania Ulterior.
  o Caius Vetilius promises the Lusitani lands in the south if they abide by Roman rule. Viriathus, a survivor of Servius Sulpicius Galba's massacre, urges the tribes not to trust the Romans and fight back.
  o Viriathus is acclaimed leader of the Lusitani.
  o The Lusitanian successfully resist Roman offensive.
  o Caius Vetilius, appointed governor of Hispania Ulterior, is killed in an ambush led by Viriathus.
  • 146 BC
  o Viriathus' Lusitani defeat the Roman forces of Caius Plancius, taking the city of Segobriga.
  o Viriathus' Lusitani defeat the Roman forces of Claudius Uninarus, governor of Hispania Citerior.
  • 145 BC
  o Viriathus' Lusitani defeat the Roman forces of Caius Nigidius.
  o Fabius Maximus Aerilenus is appointed governor of Hispania Citerior and given the specific task of helping Caius Lelius defeat Viriathus and the Lusitani. The Romans achieve some military victories.
  • 143 BC
  o The Roman forces of Fabius Maximus Aerilenus are defeated in Osuna (near modern Córdoba).
  o The Roman forces of Fabius Maximus Aerilenus are totally defeated near what is today the city of Beja in Alentejo.
  • 142 BC - The governor Quintus Caecilius Metellus Macedonicus attacks the territory of the Vettones, but is not able to take the cities of Namancia and Termancia.
  • 140 BC
  o Fabius Servilianus, new Consul of Hispania Ulterior, after having sacked several cities loyal to Viriathus in Baetica and southern Lusitania, is defeated by the Lusitani in Erisane (in Baetica).
  o Fabius Servilianus, after the defeat, declared Viriathus to be a Friend of the Roman People and recognized the Lusitanian rule over their own lands.
  • 139 BC
  o The Roman Senate deems Fabius Servilianus' actions unworthy of Rome, and sends Servilius Cipianus to defeat the rebellious tribes of Hispania.
  o In Hispania Ulterior, Servilius Cipianus, with the aid of Marcus Pomptinus Lenas' armies, severely defeat the Lusitani and oblige Viriathus to take refuge north of the Tagus river and surrender hostages, such as his son father-in-law, Astolus.
  o Servilius Cipianus armies also attack the Vettones and the Gallaecians.
  o Servilius Cipianus founds the Roman cities of Castra Servilia and Caepiana (in the territory of the Celtici).
  o Viriathus send emissaries to negotiate the peace with Servilius Cipianus.
  o Viriathus is betrayed and killed in his sleep by his companions (that had been sent as emissaries to Servilius Cipianus), Audax, Ditalcus and Minurus, bribed by Marcus Pomptinus Lenas.
  o When Audax, Ditalcus and Minurus return to receive their reward by the Romans, the Consul Servilius Cipianus orders their execution, declaring, "Rome does not pay traitors".
  o Viriathus' Lusitanian armies, now led by Tautalus, still tries a southern incursion against the Romans, but are defeated. End of the Lusitanian War.
  • 138 BC
  o The Romans grant the Lusitani lands in the south of Lusitania (in modern Alentejo).
  o First big Roman campaign deep inside present Portuguese territory led by Praetor Decimus Junius Brutus, governor of Hispania Ulterior. Decimus Junius Brutus, having in his back a pacified southern Lusitania (modern Alentejo and Algarve), established headquarters in the Valley of the Tagus (probably in the site of the Castle of Almourol) and had the allied city of Olissipo (modern Lisbon) fortified before advancing north, destroying settlements as he went.
  o The city of Olissipo (modern Lisbon) sends men to fight alongside the Roman legions against the Celtic tribes of the Northwest.
  • 137 BC
  o Praetor Decimus Junius Brutus advances further north, mainly along the coastline, and establishes a fortified position in the area of modern Viseu.
  o The Roman legions cross the Douro river and enter the territory of the Gallaecians.
  o The Roman legions reluctantly cross the Litor (Lelches) river, only after Decimus Junius Brutus crossed alone and called for them, thus proving he had not lost his memory.
  • 136 BC
  o Roman legions under Praetor Decimus Junius Brutus reach the Minho river, but do not cross it for fear of losing their memories.
  o Decimus Junius Brutus lays siege and conquers the city of Talabriga, thus defeating the Gallaecians. After the military campaigns, the Roman legions departed south and left no garrisons.
  o The Roman Senate grants Praetor Decimus Junius Brutus the title Gallaicus for his campaigns in Gallaecia.
  • 114 BC - Praetor Gaius Marius is sent to govern Lusitania and has to deal with minor Lusitanian unruliness.
  • 113 BC
  o Romans score victories against Lusitanian attacks with Praetor Gaius Marius and Proconsul Decimus Junius Brutus (who replaced Marius), but still the Lusitani resist with a long guerrilla war. Eventually they are defeated.
  o Beginning of the progressive consolidation of Roman administration and control.
1st century BC

- **97 BC** - The General Quintus Sertorius serves in Iberia for the first time.
- **96 BC - 94 BC** - Publius Crassus (son of Marcus Licinius Crassus Dives), Governor of Hispania Ulterior, leads a military expedition to the Northwest and finds the source mines of Tin.
- **83 BC** - Quintus Sertorius goes to Iberia for a second time, where he represented the Marian party (of Gaius Marius) against Lucius Cornelius Sulla in the Roman Republican civil wars.
- **83 BC - 72 BC** - Quintus Sertorius Hispanic revolt, where he is joined by the Lusitanians.
- **81 BC** - Generalized Roman Republican war in all of Iberia.
- **80 BC**
  - Battle of the Baetis River, where rebel forces under Quintus Sertorius defeat the legal Roman forces of Lucius Fulvius, governor of Hispania Ulterior.
  - Quintus Sertorius' second in command, Hirtuleus, defeats the governor of Hispania Citerior.
- **79 BC**
  - Quintus Sertorius' armies control most of Hispania Ulterior and parts of Hispania Citerior.
  - The appointed governor of Hispania Ulterior, Quintus Caecilius Metellus Pius, attacks the positions of Quintus Sertorius' armies, namely the city of Lacobriga (probably Lagos in the Algarve), but is unable to take it.
- **77 BC**
  - Quintus Sertorius is joined by the General Marcus Perperna Vento from Rome, with a following of Roman nobles.
  - Quintus Sertorius defeats the generals Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus (previously faithful to Sertorius) and Quintus Caecilius Metellus Pius at the Battle of Saguntum.
  - In this period Quintus Sertorius, through pacts of hospitality and clientele, establishes strong solidarity with local indigenous populations.
  - Quintus Sertorius founds a Roman school for the children of its local allies in Lusitania.
- **76 BC**
  - Quintus Sertorius defeats Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus near the Pyrenees.
  - In Baetica, Quintus Caecilius Metellus Pius defeats Hirtuleus, who is obliged to flee.
- **75 BC**
  - Quintus Caecilius Metellus Pius again defeats Hirtuleus and is able to join his armies with those of Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus.
  - Battle of the Sueco where Quintus Caecilius Metellus Pius, Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus and Lucius Afranius defeat Quintus Sertorius.
- **74 BC** - Probable expedition to Cete (in Gallaecia, near the modern city of Porto) promoted by Marcus Perperna Vento.
- **73 BC** - Quintus Sertorius loses all the region of Celtiberia (north central Iberia).
- **72 BC**
  - Quintus Sertorius is assassinated at a banquet, Marcus Perperna Vento, it seems, being the chief instigator of the deed due to his grudge against the rivalries of non-Roman military commanders.
  - Marcus Perperna Vento assumes the command of Quintus Sertorius' armies, but is swiftly defeated by Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus. Ultimate defeat of Quintus Sertorius' Hispanic revolt.
  - Quintus Caecilius Metellus Pius pacifies and submits Hispania Ulterior. The regions north of the Tagus river are still not effectively occupied by the Roman Republic.
- **69 BC** - Julius Caesar was elected Quaestor by the Assembly of the Roman People, at the age of 30, as stipulated in the Roman Cursus honorum, having been assigned with a questorship in Lusitania (part of Hispania Ulterior, whose governor was then Antistius Vetus).
- **61 BC**
  - Julius Caesar is assigned to serve as the Propraetor governor of Hispania Ulterior.
  - Julius Caesar attacks the Lusitanian areas between the Tagus and the Douro rivers, from his headquarters in Scallabis (modern Santarém).
  - Julius Caesar personally conducts an important naval expedition to the shores of Gallaecia.
- **60 BC** - Julius Caesar wins considerable victories over the Gallaecians and Lusitanians. During one of his victories, his men hailed him as Imperator in the field, which was a vital consideration in being eligible for a triumph back in Rome.
- **59 BC** - Julius Caesar, Marcus Licinius Crassus Dives, and Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus make an agreement by which they establish the First Triumvirate.
- **56 BC** - The agreement establishing the First Triumvirate is renewed.
- **53 BC**
  - Marcus Licinius Crassus Dives dies in Parthia.
  - Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus is granted Hispania as a Proconsular Province.
  - Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus delivers the rule of the two Roman provinces of Hispania Citerior and Hispania Ulterior to his lieutenants Marcus Terentius Varro and Marcus Petreius, respectively.
  - Marcus Petreius commands two Roman legions in Lusitania, between the frontier areas of the Lusitanians and the Vettones (at the edge of Roman effective control).
- **50 BC**
  - Open hostility between Julius Caesar and Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus, the first favouring the Populares and the second the Optimates in their struggle for power.
  - Julius Caesar is asked by the Roman Senate to give up his troops, but he refuses.
- **49 BC**
  - January 1. The Roman Senate receives a proposal from Julius Caesar that he and Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus should lay down their commands simultaneously. The Senate rejects Julius Caesar's final peace proposal and declares him a Public Enemy.
  - January 10, Julius Caesar crosses the Rubicon, pronouncing the famous phrase Alea iacta est ("The die has been cast"). Beginning of the Roman Civil War.
  - Julius Caesar goes into Hispania and defeats the legions of Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus' legates, Marcus Terentius Varro, Marcus Petreius and Lucius Afranius, leaving Gaius Cassius Longinus as legate and facing growing difficulties in maintaining local populations obedient to Rome.
- **48 BC**
  - Julius Caesar is elected Dictator, but only serves the office for 11 days.
  - Julius Caesar is named Consul for a period of five years.
  - September 29, Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus is assassinated.
  - Gaius Cassius Longinus, Caesar's legate in Hispania, leads a campaign against the city of Medobrega and other regions of northern Lusitania, where he installs military garrisons that face a lot of local resistance.
- 46 BC - Julius Caesar proceeds to North Africa where he defeats the remnants of Pompey's Senatorial supporters (the Optimates) under Marcus Porcius Caton Uticensis.
- 45 BC - Battle of Munda, in southern Hispania, where, in his last victory, Julius Caesar defeats the Pompeian forces of Titus Labienus and Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus.
- 44 BC - Julius Caesar is appointed Perpetual Dictator (Dictator Perpetuus).
- 43 BC - Several Roman governors of Hispania Ulterior celebrate Roman triumphs in Rome for their victories in submitting the rebellious local tribes and nations.
- 27 BC - January 16 - Gaius Julius Caesar Octavianus becomes Roman Emperor as Caesar Augustus. Definitive end of the Roman Republic and establishment of the Roman Empire.
- 28 BC - 24 BC - Augustus' military campaigns pacify all Hispania under Roman rule.
- 23 BC - The emperor Augustus establishes the Principate and the Pax Romana.

1st century
- 14 - Tiberius becomes Roman Emperor.
- 37 - Caligula becomes Roman Emperor.
- 41 - Claudius becomes Roman Emperor.
- 54 - Nero becomes Roman Emperor.
- 65 - Emperor Nero orders his former tutor and advisor Lucius Annaeus Seneca the Younger and his nephew Marcus Annaeus Lucanus, both born in Hispania Baetica, to commit suicide.
- 68 - Galba becomes Roman Emperor.
- 69 - January - Otho and Vitellius become Co-Emperors.
- 70 - July 1 - Vespasian is proclaimed Roman Emperor against the surviving Co-Emperor Vitellius.
- December 22 - Co-Emperor Vitellius dies. Vespasian becomes sole Emperor.
- 79 - Titus becomes Roman Emperor.
- 81 - Domitian becomes Roman Emperor.
- 96 - Nerva becomes Roman Emperor.
- 98 - Trajan, born in Hispania Baetica, becomes Roman Emperor.

2nd century
- 103 - Probable date of death of the poet Martial, born in Hispania Tarraconensis.
- 117 - Hadrian, born in Hispania Baetica, becomes Roman Emperor.
- 138 - Antoninus Pius becomes Roman Emperor.
- 161 - Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus become Co-Emperors.
- 169 - Marcus Aurelius becomes sole Emperor.
- 177 - Commodus becomes Co-Emperor with Marcus Aurelius.
- 180 - Commodus becomes sole Emperor.
- 193 - January 1 - Pertinax becomes Roman Emperor.
- March 28 - Didius Julianus becomes Roman Emperor.
- April 9 - Septimius Severus becomes Roman Emperor.
3rd century

- Braga becomes an Episcopal Diocese.

- 211
  - February 4 - The brothers Caracalla and Geta become Co-Emperors.
  - December - Caracalla kills his brother Geta and becomes sole Emperor.

- After 211 - The Emperor Caracalla makes a new administrative division which lasts only a short time. He splits Hispania Citerior again into two parts, creating the new provinces Hispania Nova Citerior and Asturiae-Caliciae (the later under governor Cerealis).

- 217 - Macrinus and Diadumenian become Co-Emperors.

- 218 - Elagabalus becomes Roman Emperor.

- 222 - Alexander Severus becomes Roman Emperor.

- 235 - Roman Imperial Crisis of the Third Century, from 235 until 284, great confusion in the Imperial seat.

- 238 - The unified province Tarraconensis or Hispania Citerior is reestablished. Asturias and Gallaecia are again part of it.

- 284 - Diocletian becomes Roman Emperor. Beginning of the Dominate period. Under Emperor Diocletian, Lusitania kept its borders and was ruled by a Praeses, later by a Consularis; finally, it was united with the other provinces to form the Diocesis Hispaniarum ("Diocese of Hispania").

- 286 - Maximian becomes Co-Emperor with Diocletian.

4th century

- 303 – Emperor Diocletian orders the persecution of Christians.


- 318 – Excommunication of Arius.

- 325 – The Ecumenical Council of Nicaea.

- 366 – 383 - Damasus, son of Antonius and Laurentia, born in the Conventus Bracarensis of Gallaecia (near the modern city of Guimarães), is the reigning Pope under the name Damasus I.

- 388 - Paternus becomes bishop of the Episcopal see of Braga.

See also

- Timeline of Portuguese history
  - Pre-Roman Western Iberia (Before the 3rd century BC)
  - Germanic Kingdoms (5th to 8th century)

- Viriathus
- Photos of Land of Viriathus and links
- Viriato (in portuguese and english)
- Viriato (in portuguese)