

## *King Arthur: Myth or Real Man?*

Many stories and legends have been told about the great King Arthur, from his involvement with Merlin the magician to his overseeing the Round Table.

Tourists come from all over to visit England's ruins, ponds, and sites that are connected to King Arthur. Despite all of the claims, there is very little evidence to prove that the king of Camelot existed.



The first documentation of King Arthur was not even written until 300 years after he supposedly lived. It was not until the twelfth century (600 years after King Arthur's reign) that Tintagel Castle was cited as Arthur's birthplace.

Just as there are few historical written documents to support the legend of King Arthur, there are also very few artifacts to suggest his existence. In 2000, archaeologists found a piece of slate with the inscription "Artognou, father of a descendant of Coll, has this built."

The slate was dated to the sixth century, and some historians claim that "Artognou" is too similar to "Arthur" for them to ignore.

One other discovery that cannot be overlooked occurred in 1911. Monks at Glastonbury Abbey found two bodies and a cross with the words, "Here lies buried the famous King Arthur, with Guinevere his second wife, in the isle of Avalon."

Some claim that the bodies were planted by monks to bring tourists to the abbey. Regardless, the bodies and the cross have mysteriously been lost.

It seems that the mystery surrounding King Arthur and whether he existed is as thought provoking as the legends and tales about him. What do you think?



