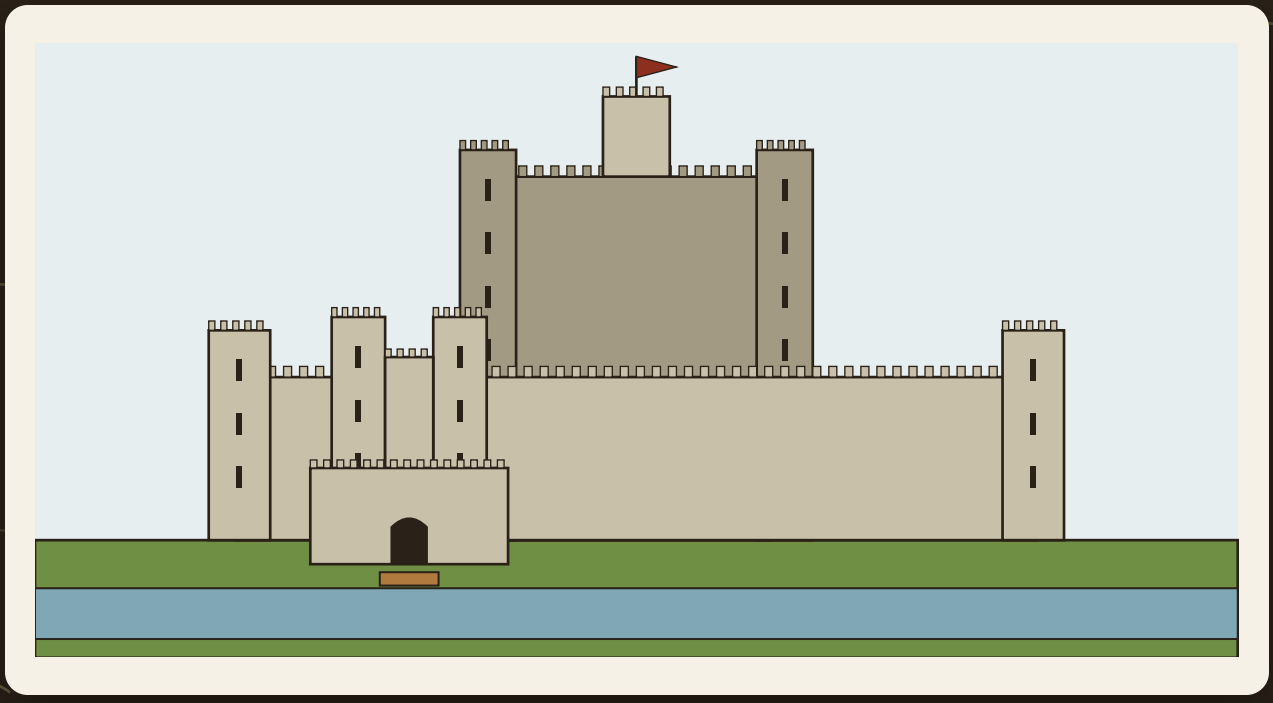
Isle of Man Castles & Forts Printables: Free Sample

A taste of the six packs



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WELCOME

What’s in this sample

Real pages from the full packs

Thanks for downloading. This sample has pages from the **KS2 Topic Pack**, the **Timeline & Poster Set** and the **Family Activity Pack**. Every fact is checked against a named source, listed at the back.

PACK	FOR
Isle of Man Castles & Forts KS2 Topic Pack	Ages 7 to 11, schools and families
Isle of Man Castles & Forts Archaeology Detective Pack	Ages 11 to 14
Isle of Man Castles & Forts Family Activity Pack	Families, ages 5 and up
Isle of Man Castles & Forts Spotter’s Field Guide	Adult history fans and walkers
Isle of Man Castles & Forts Visit Journal	Visitors of all ages
Isle of Man Castles & Forts Timeline & Poster Set	Classrooms and home

The full packs are at isle-of-man.forts.im/shop/.

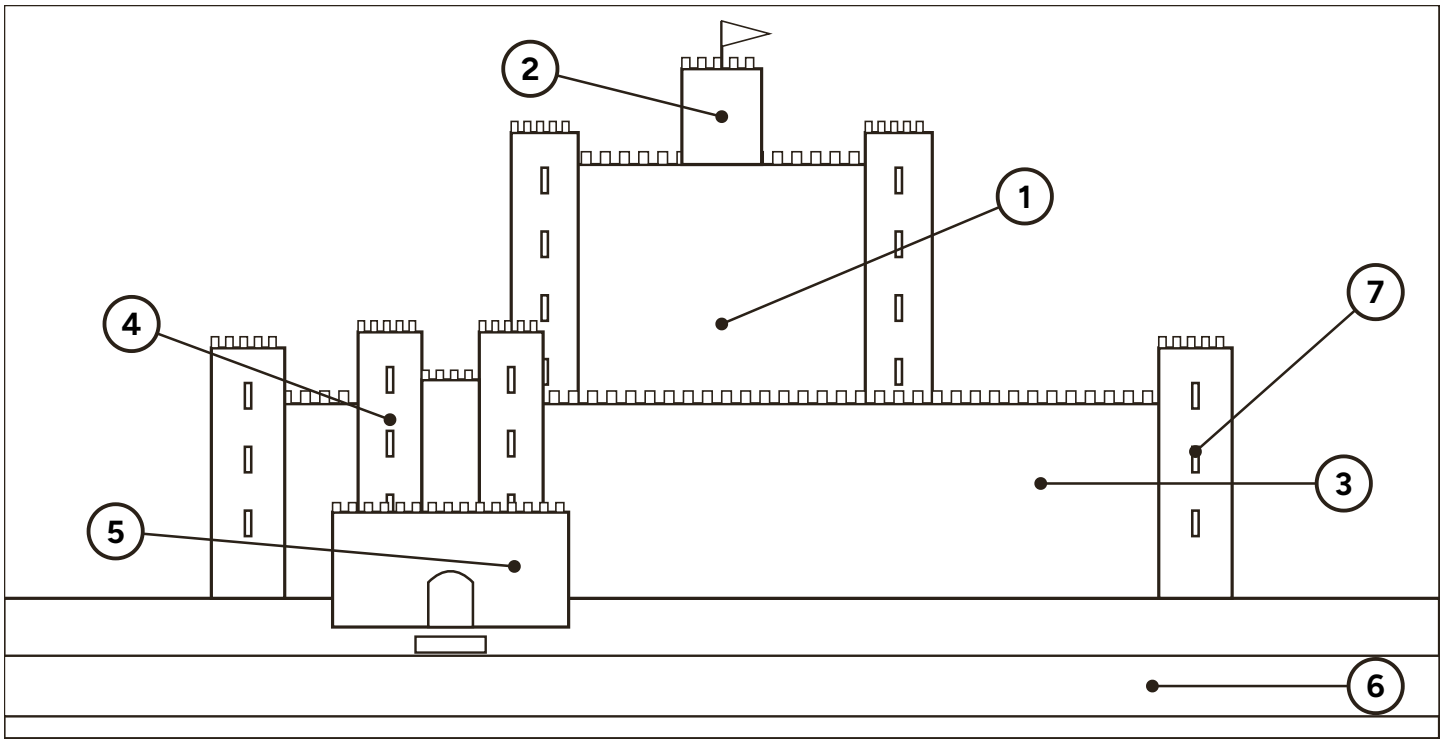
ABOUT THE FACTS

Some of these places are thousands of years old, so dates are often “about” or “probably”, and some questions have no sure answer yet. Where sources differ, we show what each one says, rather than picking one.

FROM THE KS2 TOPIC PACK

Label the castle

From the KS2 Topic Pack. Answers: 1. keep · 2. flag tower · 3. curtain wall · 4. gatehouse · 5. barbican · 6. ditch · 7. tower



A stone castle with a keep, from the side. Our own simplified drawing, not to scale, not a copy of any real castle, fort, site plan or photograph.

Word bank: barbican · curtain wall · ditch · flag tower · gatehouse · keep · tower

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

FROM THE POSTER SET

The castles and forts timeline

From around 5700 BC to 2013

AROUND 5700 BC
Hunter-gatherers camp near what is now Cass ny Hawin (Manx National Heritage)

ABOUT 6,000 YEARS AGO
King Orry's Grave, a Neolithic tomb, is built (Manx National Heritage)

FROM ABOUT 700 BC
Iron-working reaches the British Isles (Manx National Heritage)

BEFORE 300 BC
Cronk Sumark hillfort is thought to be built (Manx National Heritage)

ABOUT AD 50
The last Iron Age use of Close ny Chollagh, dated by a brooch (Manx National Heritage)

AROUND AD 800
The Vikings arrive (Manx National Heritage)

1134
King Olaf founds Rushen Abbey (Peter Davey, 2002)

AROUND 1200
Castle Rushen's first stage: a great tower inside a ditch (Manx National Heritage)

1250
A battle on St Michael's Isle, the first time the Chronicles mention it (Manx National Heritage)

1266
The Norse Kingdom of Man and the Isles ends with the Treaty of Perth (Peter Davey, 2002)

1313
Robert the Bruce attacks Castle Rushen (Peter Davey, 2002)

1360S TO 1390S
Castle Rushen gets its curtain wall, gatehouse and barbican (Manx National Heritage)

1536 TO 1540
A round tower is built in Castle Rushen's moat (Manx National Heritage)

1627
A document lists the wardens of the day watch and the night watch (Andrew Johnson, 2002)

1640S
James Stanley, Earl of Derby, has Derby Fort refurbished (Manx National Heritage)

1651
Illiam Dhone negotiates the island's surrender (Manx National Heritage)

ABOUT 1720
Castle Rushen's clock gets a face (Manx National Heritage)

1891
Castle Rushen stops being a prison (Manx National Heritage)

1904 TO 1910
Armitage Rigby restores Castle Rushen (Manx National Heritage)

1922
The Manx Museum opens in Douglas (Manx National Heritage)

1979
Odin's Raven sails from Norway to the Isle of Man (Manx National Heritage)

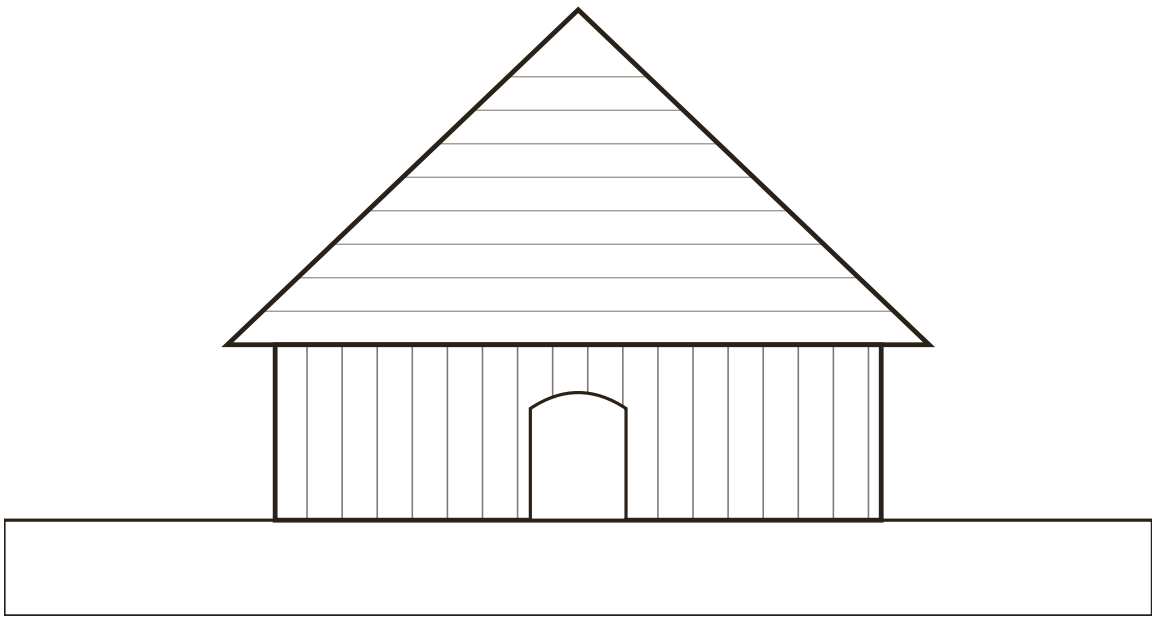
1988
Castle Rushen becomes a Manx National Heritage site (Visit IOM)

2013
The island's courts stop using Castle Rushen's courtroom (Manx National Heritage)

FROM THE FAMILY ACTIVITY PACK

A roundhouse

A round home with a tall thatched roof



At the Braaid you can see an Iron Age roundhouse and two Norse longhouses side by side.

Credits, licence & help

The small print, kept short

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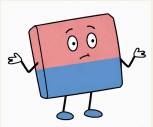
All drawings, charts, puzzles and layouts are REALLYBYTE's own original work. Drawings are our own simplified impressions: not photographs or copies of real objects, buildings or maps, not to scale, and not copied from any plan, print, photo or book.

WHERE THE FACTS COME FROM

Every fact in this pack was checked against the source pages below on 3 Nov 2026. Where sources give different figures, we show each one with its source rather than picking one.

Manx National Heritage: Castle Rushen Assessment of Significance (2017), on Planning Portal IoM: planningportal.im/a/22753-malew-castle-rushen-replacement/documents/1176188
Manx National Heritage: Access Guide for Castle Rushen (2026): manxnationalheritage.im/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Castle-Rushen-Access-Guide-2026v2.pdf
Manx National Heritage: Cass ny Hawin: manxnationalheritage.im/our-sites/cass-ny-hawin/
Manx National Heritage: King Orry's Grave: manxnationalheritage.im/our-sites/king-orrys-grave/
Manx National Heritage (archived gov.im page, 2012): Celtic Farmers, Iron Age: web.archive.org/web/20120316143141/http://www.gov.im/mnh/collections/archaeology/ironage/
Manx National Heritage (archived gov.im page, 2012): Iron Age Fortifications: web.archive.org/web/20120316143141/http://www.gov.im/mnh/collections/archaeology/ironage/forts.xml
Peter Davey, "Manx archaeology in the high Middle Ages" (Scottish Society for Northern Studies, 2002): www.ssns.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/06_Davey_Man_2002_pp_81-102.pdf
Manx National Heritage: St Michael's Isle (Fort Island): manxnationalheritage.im/our-sites/st-michaels-isle-fort-island/
Andrew Johnson, "Watch and Ward on the Isle of Man" (Scottish Society for Northern Studies, 2002): www.ssns.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/05_Johnson_Man_2002_pp_63-80.pdf
Manx National Heritage: Hango Hill: manxnationalheritage.im/our-sites/hango-hill/
Manx National Heritage: Castle Rushen's medieval clock to undergo specialist conservation: manxnationalheritage.im/news/castle-rushens-remarkable-medieval-clock-to-undergo-specialist-conservation/
Manx National Heritage: House of Manannan: manxnationalheritage.im/our-sites/house-of-manannan/
Visit IOM: Castle Rushen: www.visitiom.co.uk/things-to-see-and-do/heritage-attractions/castle-rushen/
Manx National Heritage: The Braaid: manxnationalheritage.im/our-sites/the-braaid-2/

Not affiliated with Manx National Heritage, Visit IOM, the Isle of Man Government, the Scottish Society for Northern Studies, A Manx Notebook, the UK government or any museum. Their names, and the names of the places they look after, are used only to identify the places and sources discussed. All pictures are our own simplified drawings: not reconstructions, not scale plans, and not copied from any site plan, guidebook or photograph.



NEED HELP?

Useless can't help (he's an eraser, and he's busy rubbing out the bits he got wrong), but we can. Problems with your file, or spotted something we should fix? Email **info@reallybyte.com**.

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