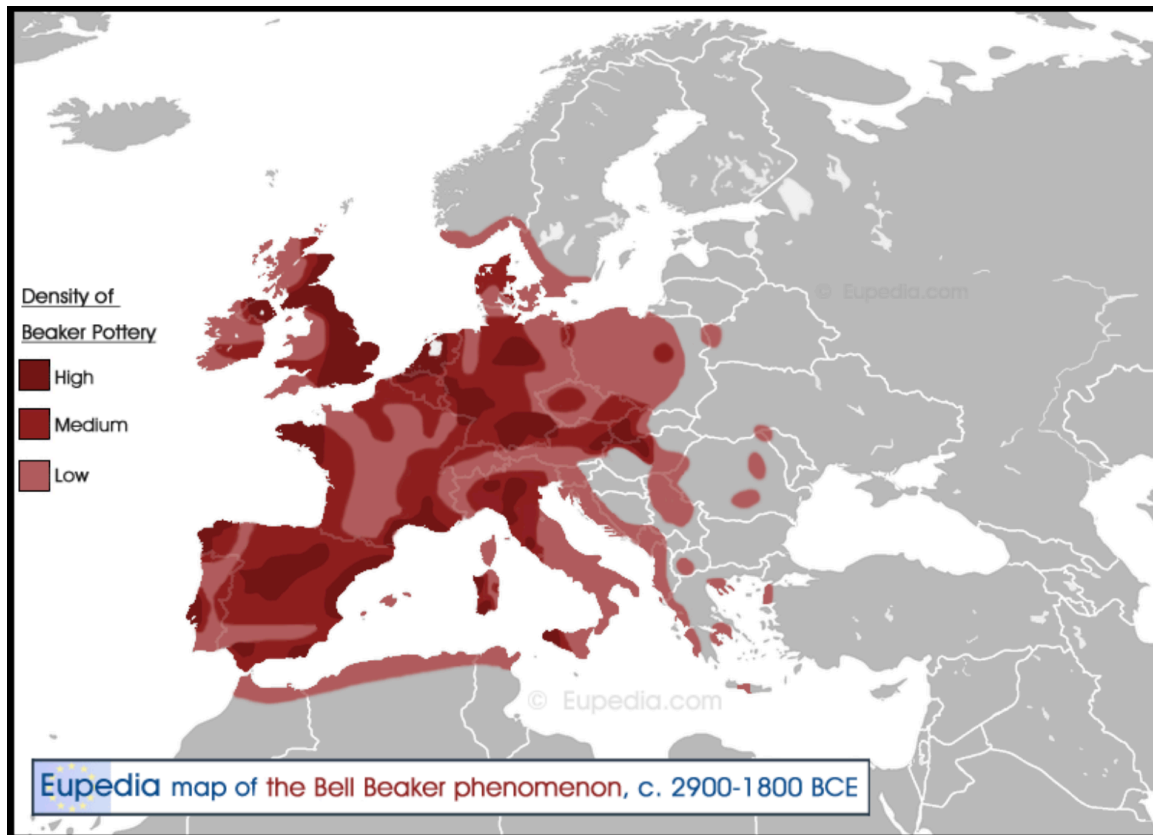


Bell Beaker People Map



Quick Facts

- The Bell Beaker phenomenon was not an ethnic culture like most other archeological cultures of the period, but rather represents a huge multicultural trade network inside which a variety of new artifacts, customs and ideas were exchanged and diffused, notably metalwork in copper, bronze and gold and archery.
- The Bell Beaker network was contemporary with the late Megalithic cultures of western Europe and the Corded Ware culture in central Europe and Scandinavia.
- It is associated with the diffusion of Proto-Italo-Celto-Germanic speakers and haplogroup R1b-L11 (and subclades) across central and western Europe.
- Coincides with the progressive disappearance of the Megalithic culture in the British Isles, Belgium, France and northern Italy.
- The Bell Beaker period marks the transition from the Late Neolithic or Chalcolithic (depending on the region) to the Early Bronze Age.

- The Unetice culture replaced the Bell Beaker culture in Germany, Bohemia and western Poland from 2300 BCE. The Bell Beaker culture ended elsewhere by 2200 BCE, except in Great Britain where it lasted until 1800 BCE.

The vast Bell Beaker trade network can be divided in five main archeological cultures, each with its own distinctive type of Beaker pottery:

- Central European Beakers : Czechia, southern Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria, southern Germany and Switzerland. Cord-impressed type of Beaker pottery, such as the "All Over Corded". Influenced by the Corded Ware culture.
- Western European Beakers : Netherlands, Belgium, the Rhineland, France, Great Britain and Ireland.
- Maritime Beakers : Brittany and the Tagus Estuary in central Portugal. Maritime Beaker pottery was decorated with bands filled with impressions made with a comb or cord. Influenced by the Megalithic culture.
- Southern European Beakers : most of the Iberian Peninsula, the Balearic Islands and western Sicily. Influenced by the Megalithic culture.
- Southeastern European Beakers : northern Italy, Tuscany, Corsica and Sardinia. Morocco