

Time line of the Ancient World

- 3150 BC: [First Dynasty of Egypt](#)
- c. 3000 BC: [Stonehenge](#) construction begins. In its first version, it consisted of a circular ditch and bank, with 56 wooden posts.^[2]
- 3000 BC: First known use of [papyrus](#) by [Egyptians](#)
- 2700 BC: [Minoan Civilization](#) ancient palace city Knossos reach 80,000 inhabitants
- 2700 BC: The [Old Kingdom](#) begins in Egypt
- 2600 BC: Oldest known surviving literature: [Sumerian](#) texts
- 2600 BC: Emergence of [Maya](#) culture in the [Yucatán Peninsula](#)
- 2560 BC: King Khufu completes the [Great Pyramid of Giza](#). The [Land of Punt](#) in the Horn of Africa first appears in Egyptian records around this time.
- 2055 BC: The [Middle Kingdom](#) begins in Egypt
- 1600 BC: [Minoan civilization](#) on [Crete](#) is destroyed by the Minoan eruption in
 - Santorini Island
- 1600 BC: [Mycenaean Greece](#)
- c.1550 BC: The [New Kingdom](#) begins in Egypt
- [890](#) BC: Approximate date for the composition of the *[Iliad](#)* and the *[Odyssey](#)*
- 800 BC: Rise of [Greek](#) city-states
- 776 BCE: First recorded [Ancient Olympic Games](#).
- [753](#) BCE: Founding of [Rome](#) (traditional date)
- 600 BCE: [Pandyan kingdom](#) in [South India](#).
- 508 BCE: [Democracy](#) instituted at [Athens](#)
- 447 BCE: Building of the [Parthenon](#) at Athens started

- 331 BCE: [Alexander the Great](#) defeats [Darius III of Persia](#) in the [Battle of Gaugamela](#), completing his conquest of Persia.
- 326 BCE: Alexander the Great defeats Indian king [Porus](#) in the [Battle of the Hydaspes River](#).
- 323 BCE: Death of Alexander the Great at [Babylon](#).
- 300 BCE: Construction of the [Great Pyramid of Cholula](#), the world's largest pyramid by volume (the [Great Pyramid of Giza](#) built 2560 BCE Egypt stands 146.5 meters, making it 91.5 meters taller), begins in [Cholula, Puebla](#), Mexico.
- 44 BCE: Julius Caesar murdered by [Marcus Brutus](#) and others; End of Roman Republic; beginning of [Roman Empire](#).
- 40 BCE: The Roman conquest of [Egypt](#).
- 30 BCE: [Cleopatra](#) ends her reign as the last active ruler of the [Ptolemaic Kingdom](#) of [Egypt](#)
- 27 BCE: Formation of Roman Empire: [Octavius](#) is given titles of Princeps and Augustus by Roman Senate - beginning of [Pax Romana](#). Formation of influential [Praetorian Guard](#) to provide security to Emperor
- 14: Death of [Emperor Augustus](#) (Octavian), ascension of his adopted son [Tiberius](#) to the throne.
- 26-34: [Crucifixion of Jesus Christ](#), exact date unknown.
- 79: Destruction of [Pompeii](#) by the volcano [Vesuvius](#).
- 98: After a two-year rule, Emperor [Nerva](#) dies of natural causes, his adopted son Trajan

- 106-117: Roman Empire at largest extent under [Emperor Trajan](#) after having conquered modern-day [Romania](#), [Iraq](#) and [Armenia](#).
- 117: Trajan dies of natural causes. His adopted son [Hadrian](#) succeeds him. Hadrian pulls out of Iraq and Armenia.
- 126: Hadrian completes the [Pantheon](#) in Rome.
- 161: [Marcus Aurelius](#) becomes emperor of the Roman Empire.
- 180: Reign of Marcus Aurelius officially ends.
- 180 - 181: [Commodus](#) becomes Roman Emperor.
- 285: [Diocletian](#) becomes emperor of Rome and splits the Roman Empire into [Eastern](#) and [Western](#) Empires.
- 285: [Diocletian](#) begins a large-scale persecution of [Christians](#).
- 292: The capital of the Roman empire is officially moved from Rome to Mediolanum (modern day [Milan](#)).
- 301: [Diocletian's edict on prices](#)
- 313: [Edict of Milan](#) declared that the Roman Empire would tolerate all forms of religious worship.
- 325: [Constantine I](#) organizes the [First Council of Nicaea](#).
- 330: [Constantinople](#) is officially named and becomes the capital of the eastern Roman Empire.
- [Zeno](#) in [Constantinople](#) in return for the title of *dux* of [Italy](#); most frequently cited date for the end of ancient history.