Timeline 1900-2021

**1900** Publication of the 1st Michelin Guide  
**1901** 1st exhibition by Pablo Picasso opens in Paris

**1902** Marie and Pierre Curie isolate the radioactive compound radium chloride

**1903** The Wright brothers make the 1st sustained motorized aircraft flight

**1904** United States begins construction of the Panama Canal

**1905** Albert Einstein finishes his paper on Quantum Theory of Light

**1906** World's 1st animated cartoon is released, "Humorous phases of Funny Faces" by J. Stuart Blackton  
**1907** Marconi begins the first commercial transatlantic wireless service

**1908** Henry Ford introduces the Model T car

**1909** Leo Baekeland patents the first thermo-setting plastic.

**1910** Dalai Lama flees Tibet for British India to escape Chinese troops

**1911** Hiram Bingham discovers Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas

**1912** Titanic hits an iceberg and sinks

**1913** Ford Motor Company institutes world’s first moving assembly line

**1914** 1st World War begins.

**1915** 1st military use of poison gas (chlorine, by Germany)

**1916** Battle of the Somme

**1917** US declares war on Germany

**1918** Spanish Flu

**1919** Treaty of Versailles, ending WWI and establishing the League of Nations

**1920** Earthquake in China, Gansu

**1921** Dr. Banting and Dr. Best discover Insulin

**1922** Howard Carter opens Tutankhamun’s tomb in Egypt

**1923** Disney was founded

**1924** Edwin Hubble announces existence of other galactic systems

**1925** Mussolini proclaims himself dictator of Italy

**1926** Britain’s first ever general strike

**1927** Saudi Arabia becomes independent of Great Britain in the Treaty of Jeddah

**1928** Alexander Fleming discovers penicillin

**1929** Wall Street Stock Market crashes triggering the “Great Depression”

**1930** Ras Tafari Makonnen becomes Emperor Haile Selassie of Abyssinia (Ethiopia)

**1931** Empire State Building opens in New York

**1932** BBC begins transmitting overseas

**1933** Nazi Germany announces its withdrawal from the League of Nations

**1934** Adolf Hitler becomes Fuhrer

**1935** 1st Penguin book is published, starting the paperback revolution

**1936** Alan Turing submits “On Computable Numbers” for publication

**1937** Adolf Hitler informs his military leader of his intentions of going to war

**1938** Superman 1st appears in DC Comics Actions Comic Series issue #1

**1939** World War II starts with the invasion of Poland

**1940** Winston Churchill becomes British Prime Minister

**1941** Bombing of Pearl Harbor. US and Britain declare war on Japan, US enters World War II

**1942** Beginning of the Manhattan Project

**1943** Italy declares war on Germany

**1944** Anne Frank is sent to Auschwitz concentration camp

**1945** US dropsAtomic Bombs on Nagazaki and Hiroshima. End of World War II and foundation of the United Nations.  
**1946** First US rocket to reach edge of space

**1947** CIA comes into existence after being established by President Truman.  
**1948** World Health Organization is formed by the United Nations

**1949** NATO treaty signed in Washington

**1950** Chinese invasion of Tibet forces Dalai Lam to flee

**1951** Joseph Stalin proclaims the Soviet Union has the atomic bomb

**1952** The concept of the integrated circuit is first published by Geoffrey Dummer

**1953** Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in England

**1954** 1st atomic power station opens in Obninsk

**1955** Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to give her seat to a white passenger

**1956** IBM introduces the RAMAC 305, 1st commercial computer with a hard drive that uses magnetic disk storage

**1957** Soviet Union launches Sputnik 2 with space dog Laika

**1958** Beginning of the European Economic Communit (EEC)

**1959** Fidel Castro becomes Prime Minister of Cuba

**1960** 1st contraceptive pill in the US

**1961** Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin becomes the first person to orbit Earth

**1962** Discovery of anti-matter

**1963** Martin Luther King Jr. delivers his “I have a dream” speech

**1964** Nelson Mandela is sentenced to life in Prison in South Africa

**1965** US sends troops to the Vietnam War

**1966** Large-scale anti-Vietnam War protests take place in the United States

**1967** Six-Day War

**1968** Martin Luther King is assassinated

**1969** Neil Armstrong becomes the first person to step on the Moon

**1970** Douglas Engelbart received the patent for the first computer mouse

**1971** Richard Nixon installs secret taping system in the White House

**1972** Bloody Sunday

**1973** End of the Vietnam War

**1974** Chinese farmers discover the Terracotta Army

**1975** Microsoft is founded by Bill Gates and Paul Allen to develop BASIC interpreters for the Altair 8800

**1976** Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak found Apple  
**1977** Apple ships its first Apple II computers

**1978** Sweden bans aerosol sprays

**1979** Margaret Thatcher becomes the first woman to be elected Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

**1980** Saddam Hussein declares war against Iran

**1981** IBM introduces its first Personal Computer (PC)

**1982** President Reagan proclaims a War on Drugs

**1983** TCP/IP protocols become the only approved protocol on the ARPANET, replacing the earlier NCP protocol

**1984** Apple releases the Macintosh Computer

**1985** Garry Kasparov becomes the youngest ever world chess champion (22)

**1986** Explosion in Chernobyl nuclear power station

**1987** Stock market crash

**1988** Ceasefire between Iran & Iraq takes effect

**1989** Germans begin demolishing the Berlin Wall

**1990** Nelson Mandela is released after 27 years in prison

**1991** Tim Berners-Lee starts the World Wide Web (WWW)

**1992** Linus Torvalds releases Linux operating system

**1993** “Jurassic Park” is released

**1994** Amazon.com is founded by Jeff Bezos

**1995** “Toy Story” is released

**1996** “Trainspotting” is released

**1997** Princess Diana dies in a car crash

**1998** Bill Clinton scandal with Monica Lewinsky

**1999** Columbine High School massacre

**2000** Metallica files a lawsuit against Napster

**2001** Terrorist attack on World Trade Center

**2002** US invasion of Afghanistan

**2003** The Human Genome project is completed

**2004** Mark Zuckerberg launches Facebook

**2005** Hurricane Katrina

**2006** WikiLeaks is launched by Julian Assange

**2007** Steve Jobs announces the iPhone

**2008** Stock market crash

**2009** Barack Obama becomes US President

**2010** “Inception” is released

**2011** Osama Bin Laden gets killed by US special forces

**2012** Kim Jong-Un becomes Supreme Leader of North Korea

**2013** Human stem cells are successfully cloned

**2014** Psy’s “Gangnam Style” becomes the first video to reach 2 billion views on Youtube

**2015** China announces the end of their one-child policy

**2016** United Kingdom votes to leave the European Union

**2017** Donald Trump becomes US President

**2018** Apple becomes first company to reach $1 trillion in value

**2019** Greta Thunberg starts climate change strike

**2020** Covid-19 declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization

**2021** Riot in the the US Capitol