

Time – Life Top 100 Events of the Last Millennium (www.lifemag.com/Life/millennium/events)

1. Gutenberg prints the Christian Bible, Germany, 1455
2. Columbian Encounter, Spain and the Americas, 1492
3. Luther launches Protestant Reformation, Germany, 1517
4. James Watt patents the steam engine, England, 1769
5. Galileo establishes sun-centered solar system, Italy, 1610
6. Robert Koch develops germ theory of disease, Germany, 1882
7. Gunpowder first used in weapons, China, 1100
8. Declaration of Independence, United States, 1776
9. Hitler and Nazis come to power, Germany, 1933
10. Compass used to navigate, China, 1117
11. Thomas Edison opens “inventing” lab, United States, 1876
12. Beginning of the Atlantic Slave trade, 1509
13. Small pox vaccine developed, England, 1796
14. First television broadcast, United States, 1928
15. Darwin publishes “Origin of Species,” England, 1859
16. Nuclear attack on Hiroshima, Japan and United States, 1945
17. Ford produces first Model T, United States, 1908
18. First Christian Crusade to conquer Jerusalem, 1095
19. Magna Carta, England, 1215
20. First telephone call, United States, 1876
21. Black Plague decimates Europe, 1348
22. Penicillin discovered, Scotland, 1928
23. Newton discovers gravity, England, 1666
24. First fully steam-driven railway, England, 1830
25. First wireless broadcast across Atlantic, England/Italy, 1901
26. World War starts in Europe, 1914
27. Wright Brothers fly first airplane, United States, 1903
28. Dutch import tea into Europe from East Asia, 1610
29. Mongols begin conquest of China, 1211
30. First transistor invented, United States, 1947
31. Freud publishes work on dreams Austria, 1900
32. First moving picture, United States, 1895
33. First manned-moon landing, United States, 1969
34. French Revolution, 1789
35. Shakespeare writes Hamlet, England, 1603
36. Einstein proposes relativity, Switzerland, 1905
37. First photograph, France, 1826
38. Marx and Engels campaign for communism, 1844
39. Europeans learn about potatoes from Inca, Peru, 1537
40. Declaration of Sentiments for rights of women, U.S., 1848
41. Invention of the telegraph, United States, 1844
42. Gregor Mendel develops Laws of Heredity, Austria, 1866
43. Bach revolutionizes European music, Germany, 1722
44. Microscope developed by Leeuwenhoek, Netherlands, 1674
45. Russian Revolution, 1917
46. First water purification plant, England, 1829
47. First oil well, United States, 1859
48. First canned food factory, England, 1812
49. Harvey describes circulation of blood, England, 1628
50. First modern university, Bologna, Italy, 1088
51. 13th amendment to Constitution ends slavery in U.S., 1865
52. Huygens develops first pendulum clock, Netherlands, 1656
53. First refrigeration, England, 1834
54. Cartier, smokes Iroquois tobacco, North America, 1535
55. Comenius writes about childhood, Germany, 1633
56. World’s first restaurant, China, 1120
57. Sanger campaigns for birth control, United States, 1914
58. Invention of process to make rubber, 1839
59. First regularly published newspaper, Germany, 1609
60. First flush toilet, England, 1596
61. Roentgen discovers x-rays, Germany, 1895
62. Bessemer develops process for making steel, England, 1854
63. Nobel invents dynamite, Sweden, 1867
64. Mao leads communist Long March, China, 1934
65. Brunelleschi invents perspective, Italy, 1413
66. Aztecs found Tenochtitlan, Mexico, 1325
67. Development of sewing machine, United States, 1851
68. Protestant fundamentalist Pentacostal movement, United States, 1906
69. Publication of detailed human anatomy, Brussels, 1543
70. Rachel Carson launches environmental campaign, U.S., 1962
71. Angkor Wat temple completed in Cambodia, 1150
72. First national labor union convention, England, 1838
73. European clothing transformed following the Crusades, Italy, 1350
74. Bolivar leads Latin American independence movement, Venezuela, 1821
75. Construction of Chartres Cathedral, France, 1260
76. Watson and Crick present model for DNA, England, 1953
77. World’s first safety elevator, United States, 1854
78. Brewing of coffee begins in Yemen, 1455.
79. First Poor Law, England, 1601
80. Suez Canal opens, Egypt and England, 1869.
81. Spain finds silver in Peru, 1545
82. First marketing of Coca-Cola, United States, 1886
83. Murasaki Shikibu write first novel, Japan, 1008
84. First modern credit or “check” system, Genoa, Italy, 1407
85. Ibn-Rushd translates Aristotle into Arabic and Latin, Cordoba, Spain, 1169.
86. Independence for India, 1947
87. Cezanne develops modern (impressionist) art, France, 1880
88. Japan opens door to Western trade and influence, 1868
89. Mansa Musa of Mali makes pilgrimage to Mecca, 1324
90. Invention of plastic, United States, 1907
91. Haiti wins independence, 1804
92. Ottoman Turks conquer Constantinople, 1453.
93. First surgery using ether, 1846.
94. Sinking of Spanish Armada off coast of Ireland, 1588.
95. First public museum opens, Oxford, England, 1683.

96. Miguel Cervantes writes Don Quixote de la Mancha, Spain
97. Modern Olympics, Greece, 1896
98. Discovery of the Rosetta Stone, Egypt and France, 1799

99. Popularization of Rock and Roll music, United States, 1954
100. New Gregorian calendar, Italy, 1582