

## Timeline for Ancient Greece

### The Bronze Age 3000 - 1100

1. 2,000 - 1,700 B.C. – Mycenaeans enter mainland Greece
2. 1700 - 1,500 B.C. – The height of Minoan Civilization is reached
3. 1400 B.C. – The rise of Mycenaean naval strength
4. 1250 B.C. – Decline and eclipse of Mycenaean civilization
5. 1200 B.C. – Trojan war begins
6. 1184 B.C. – City of Troy falls to the Greeks under Agamemnon

### The Dark Age 1100 – 700 B.C.

1. 1100 B.C. – End of Mycenaean age and civilization. Monarchies rule early city-states
2. 1100 - 1000 B.C. – Ionian Immigration to Asia Minor.
3. 1000 B.C. – Greek colonization of eastern coasts of Aegean.
4. 900 B.C. – Dorian migration to the Aegean islands, Asia Minor and the Peloponnesus
5. 850 B.C. – Homer composes *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*
6. 790 B.C. – Greek trading settlement at Al Mina in Syria
7. 776 B.C. – First recorded Olympic games held
8. 750 B.C. – Greek colonies established in southern Italy & Sicily
  - a. Invention of Greek alphabet
  - b. Homeric poems recorded in writing
  - c. Geometric pottery created

### Archaic Period 700 – 480 B.C.

1. 650 B.C. – Earliest Lyric Poets
2. 630 B.C. – Lyric poet Sappho born in Lesbos
3. 625 B.C. – Thales, Greek mathematician and founder of geometry born in Miletos
4. 621 B.C. – Draco, an Athenian lawgiver, issues Draconian code making nearly every offense a capital crime
5. 569 B.C. – Pythagoras, Greek mathematician and discover of Pythagorean Theorem is born in Samos
6. 594 B.C. – Solon replaces the Draconian law in Athens and lays the foundation for Democracy; he also introduces Athens to the first coinage and a system of weights and measures
7. 556 B.C. – Simonides of Ceos, Greek lyric poet is born; known chiefly for his elegies of the slain warriors at Thermopylae
8. 546 B.C. – Pisistratos becomes tyrant of Athens
9. 525 B.C. – Red-figure pottery developed in Athens
  - a. Aeschylus, Greek tragedy writer is born
10. 522 B.C. – Lyric Poet Pindar is born

11. 510 B.C. – Alcmaeonid family and Spartans free Athens from tyranny and introduce democracy
12. 508 B.C. – Kleisthenes reforms Athenian code of laws, and establishes a democratic constitution
13. 500 B.C. – Heraclitus, early Greek philosopher is born
14. 498 B.C. – Earliest dated poem of Pindar
15. 497 B.C. – Persian Wars begin
16. 490 B.C. – Athenians defeat Darius and his Persian Army at the Battle of Marathon
  - a. Greek historian Herodotus, known as the ‘Father of History’ is born
17. 480 B.C. – Xerxes marches on Greece
  - a. Battle of Thermopylae
  - b. Persians burn the Acropolis
  - c. Athens defeats Persian fleet at naval battle of Salamis

### **Classical Period 480 – 323 B.C.**

1. 479 B.C. – Greeks defeat Persian army at the Battle of Plateae
2. 477 B.C. – Delian league lead by Athens
3. 472 B.C. – Aeschylus writes first surviving play, *The Persians*
4. 470 B.C. – Socrates, Greek Philosopher is born
5. 465 B.C. – Helot revolt against Sparta
6. 461 B.C. – First Peloponnesian Wars begin, last until 445 B.C.
7. 460 B.C. – Perikles leads Athens through its "Golden Era" (ca. 460-429)
8. 458 B.C. – Aeschylus produces *Oresteia* trilogy of tragedies: *Agamemnon*, *Libation Barers*, and *Eumenides*
9. 455 B.C. – Thucydides. historian of the Peloponnesian Wars is born
10. 449 B.C. – Construction of Parthenon begins on the Acropolis
11. 449 B.C. – Sophocles produces the tragedy *Ajax*
12. 446 B.C. – Thirty-year peace treaty between Athens and Sparta ends first Peloponnesian War
13. 441 B.C. – Sophocles writes *Antigone*
14. 431 B.C. – Euripedes writes *Medea*
15. 431 B.C. – Second Peloponnesian War begins
16. 430 B.C. – Plague in Athens
17. 429 B.C. – Perikles dies Plague epidemic in Athens
18. 427 B.C. – Plato, Greek philosopher is born
19. 424 B.C. – Sophocles writes *Oedipus Rex*
20. 421 B.C. – Peace of Nicias
21. 420 B.C. – Construction of Temple of Athena Nike begins, ends in 410
22. 418 B.C. – Athenians resume war, Spartans defeat Athens at Mantinea
23. 413 B.C. – Syracuse defeats Athens
24. 411 B.C. – Aristophanes writes *Lysistrata*
25. 405 B.C. – Aristophanes writes *The Frogs*
26. 404 B.C. – Athens surrenders to Sparta and is ruled by 30 Tyrants
27. 403 B.C. – Democracy restored in Athens

28. 399 B.C. – Trial and execution of Socrates
29. 384 B.C. – Aristotle, Greek philosopher and naturalist, is born
30. 380 B.C. – Plato establishes the Athens Academy
31. 359 B.C. – Philip II, becomes King of Macedonia
32. 338 B.C. – Macedonian army defeats Athens
  - a. League of Corinth founded
33. 336 B.C. – Alexander the Great becomes king of Macedonia
34. 335 B.C. – Aristotle founds the Lyceum in Athens
35. 334 – 326 B.C. – The armies of Alexander invade Asia and conquer from Egypt to India, establishing Alexandrian Empire
36. 330 B.C. – Euclid, inventor of modern geometry is born
37. 323 B.C. – Alexander the Great dies

**Hellenistic Period 323 – 146 B.C.**

1. 322 B.C. – Aristotle dies
2. 310 B.C. – Stoic philosopher Zeno founds school in Athens
3. 307 B.C. – Stoic philosopher Epicurus founds school in Athens
4. 300 B.C. – Ptolemy I founds museum in Alexandria
5. 287 B.C. – Archimedes, Greek mathematician and engineer is born in Syracuse
6. 279 B.C. – Invasion of Greece by Celts
7. 146 B.C. – Rome invades Greece and rules from then on