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## Timeline of key events

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- c.1000 [Shona people establish the Kingdom of Great Zimbabwe](#)
- c.1066 [Battle of Hastings](#)
- c.1130 [Foundation of the Kingdom of Benin, West Africa](#)
- c.1215 [The Magna Carta is signed](#)
- c.1235 [Rise and expansion of the Kingdom of Mali](#)
- c.1347 [The Black Death in Europe](#)
- c.1439 [Portugal takes the Azores and explores the Gold Coast](#)
- c.1441 [Portuguese take 10 African captives to Portugal](#)
- c.1444 [Prince Henry of Portugal captures 235 Africans](#)
- c.1450 [The Kingdom of Benin expands](#)
- c.1460 [Sugar cultivated by African slaves in Madeira](#)
- c.1482 [Portuguese build slave fortress](#)
- c.1484 [Canary Islands begin to produce sugar using enslaved Africans](#)
- c.1492 [Columbus lands in the Bahamas](#)
- c.1494 [The Treaty of Tordesillas](#)
- c.1502 [First enslaved Africans in the Americas](#)
- c.1506 [King Afonso I opposes slave traders](#)
- c.1509 [Reign of Henry VIII, King of England](#)
- c.1510 [Ferdinand of Spain orders enslaved Africans to be imported](#)
- c.1535 [Frey Bartolomé de las Casas advises that Africans would be better suited to work the plantations](#)
- c.1550 [Approximately 10,000 enslaved Africans resident in Lisbon](#)
- c.1552 [Rebellion of enslaved Africans in Hispaniola](#)
- c.1555 [First enslaved Africans are brought to England](#)
- c.1562 [Sir John Hawkins makes first known British slave trading voyage to Africa](#)
- c.1564 [John Hawkins voyages to Sierra Leone](#)
- c.1565 [Seville, Spain, has 5000 African residents](#)
- c.1580 [The crowns of Portugal and Spain unite](#)
- c.1588 [Spanish Armada](#)

- c.1591 [Fall of the Songhay Kingdom](#)
- c.1592 [Dutch end Portuguese monopoly](#)
- c.1600 [Dutch enter the trade](#)
- c.1601 [Elizabeth I expels African people](#)
- c.1607 [Colony of Virginia is founded](#)
- c.1610 [Up to 135,000 English go to the Caribbean](#)
- c.1618 [British Crown allows the Guinea Company to trade with West Africa](#)
- c.1619 [Beginning of the trade in enslaved Africans in Virginia](#)
- c.1620 [Pilgrim Fathers set sail for America](#)
- c.1621 [Dutch West India Co. established](#)
- c.1623 [Thomas Warner founds settlement on St Kitts](#)
- c.1625 [British occupy Barbados](#)
- c.1626 [First ship of enslaved Africans arrives at St Kitts](#)
- c.1630 [Queen Nzinga organises state of Matamba; former enslaved Africans can be free in Ndongo](#)
- c.1631 [Charles I grants London merchants monopoly trade with Guinea](#)
- c.1636 [Slave ship 'Desire' launched; American slave trade begins](#)
- c.1640 [Sugar in Barbados](#)
- c.1649 [Enslaved Africans revolt on Barbados](#)
- c.1651 [Guinea Company founded in London](#)
- c.1652 [Dutch establish colony at Cape of Good Hope](#)
- c.1652 [First coffee house established in Britain.](#)
- c.1655 [British capture Jamaica from Spain](#)
- c.1656 [Enslaved Africans revolt in Guadeloupe](#)
- c.1657 [Juan de Bolas surrenders to British](#)
- c.1668 [Lobby's rebellion in Jamaica](#)
- c.1672 [Royal Africa Company formed to regulate trade in enslaved Africans](#)
- c.1675 [Enslaved Africans executed](#)
- c.1678 [Mutiny by enslaved Africans reported](#)
- c.1679 [Enslaved Africans revolt in St Domingue](#)
- c.1683 [Enslaved African conspiracy in Jamaica is uncovered](#)
- c.1685 [Enslaved African rebellion](#)
- c.1689 [British Parliament issues new charter to Royal African Company](#)
- c.1690 [Major revolt by enslaved Africans in Jamaica](#)
- c.1692 [Conspiracy to massacre plantation owners discovered](#)
- c.1698 [Act of Parliament legalises British slave trade](#)
- c.1699 [80% of Caribbean residents are enslaved Africans](#)
- c.1700 [Asante empire unites under Osei Tutu](#)

- c.1702 [War of the Spanish Succession](#)
- c.1713 [Britain gains all of St Kitts](#)
- c.1719 [Robinson Crusoe](#)
- c.1720 [Rise of the Kingdom of Dahomey](#)
- c.1729 [Ignatius Sancho](#)
- c.1730 [Britain becomes the biggest slave trading country](#)
- c.1730 [First Maroon War](#)
- c.1735 [Tacky's rebellion](#)
- c.1745 [Olaudah Equiano](#)
- c.1746 [Revolt of enslaved Africans in Jamaica](#)
- c.1750 [Revolt of enslaved Africans aboard 'King David'](#)
- c.1752 [Revolt of enslaved Africans in Martinique](#)
- c.1752 [Royal African Company is dissolved](#)
- c.1759 [William Wilberforce](#)
- c.1760 [Thomas Clarkson](#)
- c.1760 [Rebellion of Enslaved Africans in Jamaica](#)
- c.1761 [Revolt of enslaved Africans in Nevis](#)
- c.1761 [Dutch treaty with escaped enslaved Africans](#)
- c.1763 [Treaty of Paris](#)
- c.1765 [Uprising by enslaved Africans in Jamaica](#)
- c.1769 [Granville Sharpe collects evidence](#)
- c.1772 [Somerset case ruling](#)
- c.1772 [John Stedman](#)
- c.1774 [John Wesley denounces slavery](#)
- c.1774 [Royal Commission set up regarding slave trade](#)
- c.1778 [Slavery is declared illegal on Scottish soil](#)
- c.1778 [The House of Commons appoints a Committee to investigate the British slave trade](#)
- c.1781 [The Zong](#)
- c.1783 [Zong insurance case heard](#)
- c.1786 [Thomas Clarkson essay on slavery published](#)
- c.1787 [Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade is set up](#)
- c.1787 [Ottobah Cuguoano publishes first abolitionist book in English by an African](#)
- c.1787 [Thomas Clarkson writes pamphlet 'A Summary View of the Slave Trade'](#)
- c.1788 [The Dolben Act](#)
- c.1788 [The Amacree Coin](#)
- c.1788 [William Pitt introduces Bill to abolish the slave trade](#)
- c.1789 [Olaudah Equiano publishes autobiography](#)

- c.1789 [William Wilberforce delivers abolition speech](#)
- c.1791 [Slave uprising in St Domingue starts revolution](#)
- c.1791 [William Wilberforce presents first abolition bill to the Commons](#)
- c.1792 [Commons votes to abolish slave trade; Lords rejects](#)
- c.1793 [French Revolutionary War](#)
- c.1794 [French revolutionary government abolishes slavery](#)
- c.1795 [Second Maroon War in Jamaica](#)
- c.1795 [Rebellion in St Vincent](#)
- c.1796 [St Vincent expels Caribs from the island](#)
- c.1796 [Napoleon restores slavery in the French colonies](#)
- c.1796 [John Stedman publishes account of his experiences](#)
- c.1797 [Wilberforce loses a motion to abolish the slave trade](#)
- c.1798 [Toussaint L'Ouverture gains control of St Domingue](#)
- c.1800 [Napoleon sends troops to re-establish slavery](#)
- c.1802 [Toussaint L'Ouverture is taken prisoner](#)
- c.1802 [Denmark abolishes the slave trade](#)
- c.1802 [First West India dock opens](#)
- c.1803 [Toussaint L'Ouverture dies](#)
- c.1803 [Denmark abolishes transatlantic slave trade](#)
- c.1804 [St Domingue renamed Haiti](#)
- c.1804 [The Dutch abolish the slave trade](#)
- c.1805 [Commons passes Bill for Abolition; Lords reject](#)
- c.1807 [British Act of Parliament to abolish transatlantic slave trade](#)
- c.1807 [Britain declares Sierra Leone a crown colony](#)
- c.1808 [US ban trade in slaves from Africa](#)
- c.1808 [British West Africa Squadron established](#)
- c.1815 [Congress of Vienna](#)
- c.1816 [Bussa's rebellion in Barbados](#)
- c.1817 [Slave Registration Act](#)
- c.1818 [Frederick Douglas](#)
- c.1820 [The Spanish abolish the slave trade](#)
- c.1823 [Uprising of enslaved Africans in Demerara](#)
- c.1823 [Society for the Migration and Gradual Abolition of Slavery](#)
- c.1824 [Hanover Slave Rebellion in Jamaica](#)
- c.1830 [Two million enslaved Africans in the US](#)
- c.1831 [The Baptist War and other rebellions](#)
- c.1832 [The Great Reform Act](#)

- c.1833 [Bill passed for Emancipation Act](#)
- c.1833 [Revolt against apprenticeship on St Kitts](#)
- c.1834 [Act for the Abolition of Slavery passed as law throughout British Empire](#)
- c.1838 [Apprenticeship scheme fails](#)
- c.1839 [Enslaved Africans revolt on board 'Amistad'](#)
- c.1840 [J.M.W. Turner's painting 'The Slave Ship' put on display](#)
- c.1841 [US Supreme Court upholds freedom of those in 'Amistad' case](#)
- c.1842 [Webster-Ashburton Treaty](#)
- c.1845 [Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass](#)
- c.1848 [Emancipation of enslaved Africans by the French](#)
- c.1849 [Harriet Tubman & the Underground Railroad](#)
- c.1850 [The Fugitive Slave Law \(US\)](#)
- c.1865 [Slavery is abolished in America](#)
- c.1865 [Uprising by Black Jamaicans in Morant Bay](#)
- c.1869 [Portugal abolishes the slave trade](#)
- c.1870 [1.5 million enslaved people in Brazil](#)
- c.1871 [Fisk Jubilee Singers tour along the Underground Railroad Path](#)
- c.1873 [Fisk Jubilee singers perform in Europe](#)
- c.1886 [Slavery is abolished in Cuba](#)
- c.1888 [Slavery is abolished in Brazil](#)
- c.1895 [The Golliwog](#)
- c.1900 ["Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" composed](#)
- c.1912 [First written blues published](#)
- c.1920 [Mamie Smith records the first major 'race record'](#)
- c.1920 [Abolition of slavery in colonies](#)
- c.1921 ['Shuffle Along' musical](#)
- c.1925 [Louis Armstrong - Hot Five / Hot Seven](#)
- c.1925 [Paul Robeson debut as bass-baritone](#)
- c.1935 [Slavery is abolished in Saudi Arabia](#)
- c.1939 [Marian Anderson open air concert](#)
- c.1942 [Ethiopia abolishes slavery](#)
- c.1956 [Nat King Cole Show debut](#)
- c.1962 [Saudi Arabia compensates owners](#)
- c.1963 [Assassination of President J.F. Kennedy](#)
- c.1964 [American Civil Rights Act is passed](#)
- c.1964 [Nelson Mandela sentenced to life imprisonment](#)
- c.1965 [Voting Rights Act in the United States is passed](#)

- c.1965 [Assassination of Malcolm X](#)
  - c.1968 [Assassination of Martin Luther King Jr](#)
  - c.1973 [Trevor McDonald becomes Britain's first Black newsreader](#)
  - c.1976 [Race Relations Act enforced \(Britain\)](#)
  - c.1981 [Brixton Riots](#)
  - c.1987 [Diane Abbott and Bernie Grant become MPs](#)
  - c.1990 [Apartheid ban lifted \(South Africa\)](#)
  - c.1999 [Togo and Benin pass legislation on trafficking children](#)
  - c.2000 [Mali and Cote d'Ivoire sign child trafficking treaty](#)
  - c.2001 [News of ship carrying child slaves](#)
  - c.2007 [Bicentenary anniversary of the British Abolition of the Slave Trade Act](#)
  - c.2009 [Barack Obama elected US President](#)
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