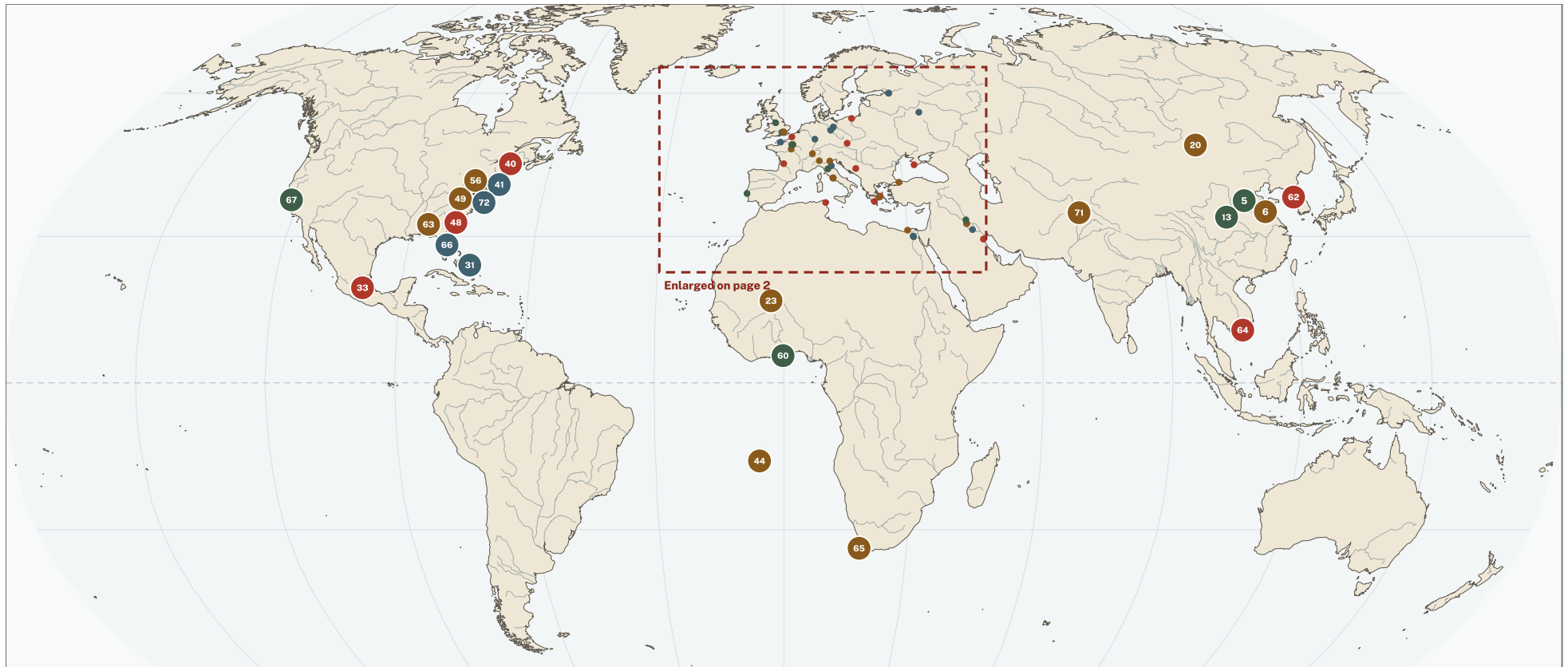


World history map

72 turning points pinned where they happened, 3200 BCE to 2001. Numbers run in time order.

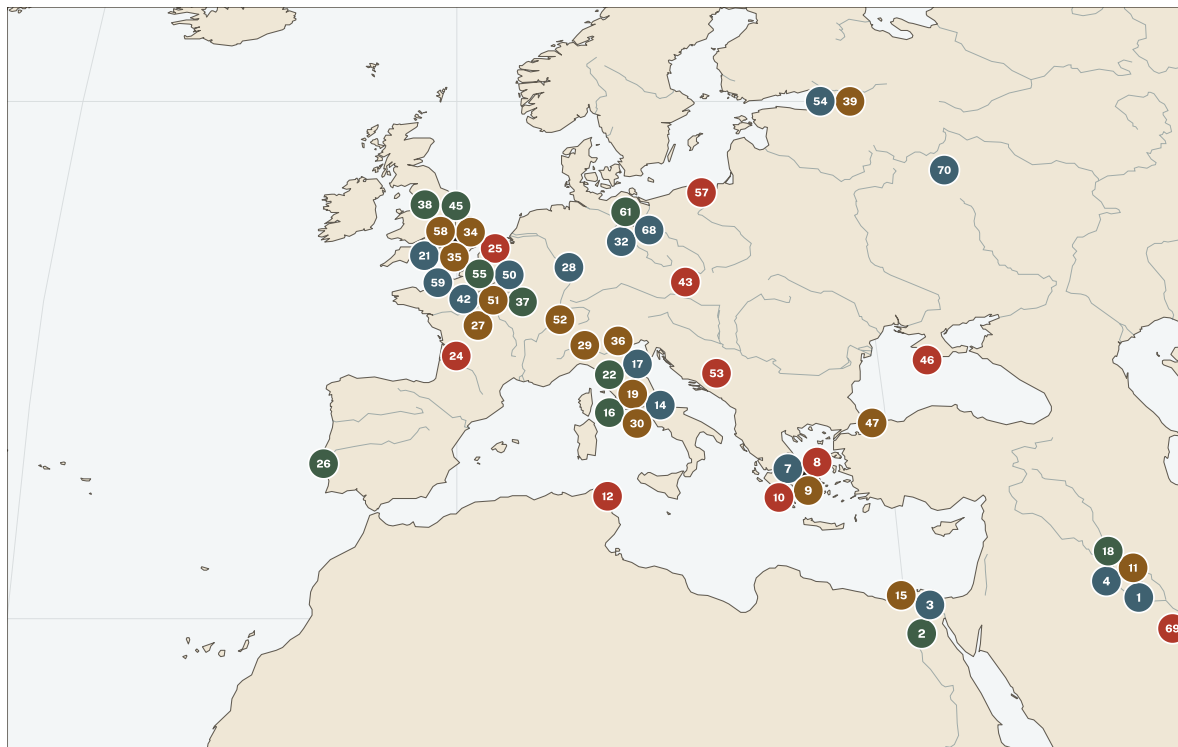
● Event ◆ Person ▲ Conflict ○ Period



Europe, the Mediterranean and the Middle East hold 50 of the 72 places: they are numbered on the enlarged map overleaf, with their key.

Robinson projection

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>5 The Shang dynasty rules the Yellow River · c. 1600–1046 BCE · Anyang, China</p> <p>6 Confucius teaches in a fracturing China · 551–479 BCE · Qufu, state of Lu (China)</p> <p>13 The Han dynasty opens the Silk Road · 206 BCE – 220 CE · Chang'an (Xi'an), China</p> <p>20 Genghis Khan unites the Mongols · 1206–1227 · Onon River, Mongolia</p> <p>23 Mansa Musa rules Mali · c. 1312–1337 · Timbuktu, Mali</p> <p>31 Columbus reaches the Americas · 12 October 1492 · Guanahani, Bahamas</p> | <p>33 The Aztec Empire falls · 1519–1521 · Tenochtitlan (Mexico City)</p> <p>40 The American colonies revolt · 1765–1783 · Boston, Massachusetts</p> <p>41 The Declaration of Independence · 4 July 1776 · Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</p> <p>44 Napoleon is exiled — twice · 1814 & 1815 · St Helena, South Atlantic</p> <p>48 The American Civil War · 1861–1865 · Fort Sumter, South Carolina</p> <p>49 Abraham Lincoln is assassinated · 14 April 1865 · Ford's Theatre, Washington, D.C.</p> | <p>56 Franklin D. Roosevelt · 1933–1945 · White House, Washington, D.C.</p> <p>60 Decolonisation across Africa and Asia · 1945–1975 · Accra, Ghana</p> <p>62 The Korean War · 1950–1953 · Panmunjom, Korea</p> <p>63 Rosa Parks refuses to move · 1 December 1955 · Montgomery, Alabama</p> <p>64 The Vietnam War · 1955–1975 · Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City), Vietnam</p> <p>65 Nelson Mandela's 27 years in prison · 1962–1990 · Robben Island, South Africa</p> | <p>66 Apollo 11 lands on the Moon · 20 July 1969 · Kennedy Space Center, Florida</p> <p>67 The Digital Age · 1970s–today · Silicon Valley, California</p> <p>71 Malala Yousafzai · born 1997 · Mingora, Swat Valley (Pakistan)</p> <p>72 The 9/11 attacks · 11 September 2001 · World Trade Center, New York</p> |
|--|--|--|--|



Europe, the Mediterranean and the Middle East

Where several things happened in one city, the numbers fan out around a dot that marks the place.

Try this: find a number from before 500 BCE and one from after 1900, then read both in the key.

● Event ◆ Person ▲ Conflict ○ Period

- 1 Writing is invented in Sumer · c. 3200 BCE · Uruk, Mesopotamia (Iraq)
- 2 Upper and Lower Egypt are unified · c. 3100 BCE · Memphis, Egypt
- 3 The Great Pyramid of Giza is completed · c. 2560 BCE · Giza, Egypt
- 4 Hammurabi codifies Babylonian law · c. 1792–1750 BCE · Babylon, Mesopotamia (Iraq)
- 7 Athens invents democracy · 508 BCE · Athens, Greece
- 8 The Battle of Marathon · 490 BCE · Marathon, Greece
- 9 Pericles leads Athens at its height · 461–429 BCE · Acropolis, Athens
- 10 The Peloponnesian War · 431–404 BCE · Sparta, Greece
- 11 Alexander conquers the Persian Empire · 336–323 BCE · Babylon, Mesopotamia (Iraq)
- 12 Rome and Carthage fight the Punic Wars · 264–146 BCE · Carthage (Tunisia)
- 14 Julius Caesar is assassinated · 15 March 44 BCE · Curia of Pompey, Rome
- 15 Cleopatra dies and Egypt becomes Roman · 30 BCE · Alexandria, Egypt
- 16 The Roman Empire · 27 BCE–476 CE · Rome, Italy
- 17 The Western Roman Empire falls · 4 September 476 CE · Ravenna, Italy
- 18 The Islamic Golden Age · 8th–13th century · Baghdad (Iraq)

- 19 Charlemagne is crowned emperor · 25 December 800 · St Peter's Basilica, Rome
- 21 The Magna Carta is sealed · 15 June 1215 · Runnymede, England
- 22 The Renaissance · 14th–17th century · Florence, Italy
- 24 The Hundred Years' War · 1337–1453 · Castillon, France
- 25 Henry V wins at Agincourt · 25 October 1415 · Agincourt, France
- 26 The Age of Exploration · 15th–17th century · Lisbon, Portugal
- 27 Joan of Arc turns the Hundred Years' War · 1429–1431 · Orléans, France
- 28 Gutenberg builds the printing press · c. 1440–1455 · Mainz, Germany
- 29 Leonardo da Vinci · 1452–1519 · Milan, Italy
- 30 Michelangelo · 1475–1564 · Sistine Chapel, Rome
- 32 Martin Luther publishes the 95 Theses · 31 October 1517 · Wittenberg, Germany
- 34 Anne Boleyn is executed · 19 May 1536 · Tower of London
- 35 Elizabeth I rules England · 1558–1603 · London, England
- 36 Galileo turns a telescope to the sky · 1564–1642 · Padua, Italy
- 37 The Enlightenment · 1650–1800 · Paris, France
- 38 The Industrial Revolution · 1760–1840 · Manchester, England
- 39 Catherine the Great expands Russia · 1762–1796 · St Petersburg, Russia

- 42 The Bastille is stormed · 14 July 1789 · Paris, France
- 43 The Napoleonic Wars · 1803–1815 · Austerlitz (Moravia, Czechia)
- 45 The Victorian era · 1837–1901 · Buckingham Palace, London
- 46 The Crimean War · 1853–1856 · Sevastopol, Crimea
- 47 Florence Nightingale reinvents nursing · 1820–1910 · Scutari (Üsküdar), Istanbul
- 50 Germany is unified · 18 January 1871 · Hall of Mirrors, Versailles
- 51 Marie Curie discovers polonium and radium · 1867–1934 · Paris, France
- 52 Albert Einstein rewrites physics · 1879–1955 · Bern, Switzerland
- 53 The First World War · 1914–1918 · Sarajevo, Bosnia
- 54 The Russian Revolution · 1917 · Winter Palace, Petrograd
- 55 The interwar years · 1919–1939 · Versailles, France
- 57 The Second World War begins in Europe · 1 September 1939 · Westerplatte, Gdańsk
- 58 Winston Churchill · 1874–1965 · Cabinet War Rooms, London
- 59 D-Day · 6 June 1944 · Omaha Beach, Normandy
- 61 The Cold War · 1947–1991 · Checkpoint Charlie, Berlin
- 68 The Berlin Wall falls · 9 November 1989 · Bornholmer Straße, Berlin
- 69 The Gulf War · 1990–1991 · Kuwait City, Kuwait
- 70 The Soviet Union dissolves · 25–26 December 1991 · The Kremlin, Moscow