

NELSON MANDELA TIME LINE

| 1918 Nelson Mandela is born

| 1927 Mandela's father dies (the exact date is disputed, Mandela himself claimed he was 9 at the time of his father's death, but records show that 12 is more likely)

| 1940 Mandela is expelled from Fort Hare College for participating in a student strike and runs away to Johannesburg

| 1941 Mandela meets Walter Sisulu for the first time

| 1944 Mandela joins the ANC and marries his first wife Evelyn

| 1948 The Nationalists win the general election and Apartheid is introduced

| 1952 Mandela and Oliver Tambo open the first black law firm in South Africa

| 1958 Mandela and Evelyn divorce. Mandela marries Winnie

| 1959 Oliver Tambo flees South Africa to campaign for support against Apartheid worldwide

| 1960 The Sharpeville Massacre takes place

| 1961 Mandela founds The Spear of The Nation, a more radical wing of the ANC

| 1961 Spear of the Nation bomb government buildings , Mandela goes into hiding on Liliesleaf Farm

| 1962 Mandela visits Ethiopia, Sierra Leone and London seeking support for the ANC

| 1962 On his return to South Africa Mandela is arrested

| 1963 Mandela and Sisulu on trial for acts of Sabotage

| 1964 Mandela enters the prison on Robben Island

| 1980 The ANC chooses Mandela as the face of all the political prisoners and The Free Nelson Mandela campaign is spread worldwide

| 1982 Mandela is transferred to Pollsmoor Prison

| 1985 Mandela's daughter Zindzi reads his rejection of President Botha's offer of freedom to a crowd in Soweto stadium

| 1986 The USA passes an anti apartheid economic sanctions bill against South Africa

| 1989 F W De Klerk is elected President, he promises to negotiate with the ANC

| 1990 Mandela is released from prison. He is 77 years old and has spent 10,000 days behind bars

| 1992 Mandela and De Klerk sign a memorandum of understanding

| 1993 Mandela and De Klerk win the Nobel Peace Prize

| 1994 Mandela is elected the first black President of South Africa

| 1996 Mandela and Winnie divorce

| 1998 On his eightieth birthday Mandela marries his third wife Graca

| 1999 Mandela steps down as President having served his five year term

| 2005 Mandela devotes himself to AIDS education after his son Makgathho dies of the disease

| 2003 Walter Sisulu dies

| 2010 Mandela's last public appearance takes place at The World Cup Soccer Tournament

| 2013 Mandela dies on December 5th