

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MIDDLE AGES

500 CE - 1500 CE

THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES (C. 500 - 1000)

- 476** Fall of the Western Roman Empire; traditionally marks the start of the Middle Ages.
- 732** Battle of Tours: Charles Martel halts the Umayyad advance into Western Europe.
- 800** Charlemagne is crowned Holy Roman Emperor, unifying much of Western Europe.
- 800 - 1000** The Viking Age: Peak of Norse exploration, raiding, and settlement across Europe.

THE HIGH MIDDLE AGES (C. 1000 - 1300)

- 1066** Battle of Hastings: William the Conqueror leads the Norman conquest of England.
- 1095** Pope Urban II calls for the First Crusade to reclaim the Holy Land.
- 1215** Magna Carta is signed by King John, establishing the principle that the king is not above the law.
- 1271** Marco Polo begins his travels to East Asia and the court of Kublai Khan.

THE LATE MIDDLE AGES (C. 1300 - 1500)

- 1337 - 1453** The Hundred Years' War between England and France over territorial rights.

- 1347 - 1351** The Black Death (Bubonic Plague) peaks in Europe, killing an estimated 30-60% of the population.
- 1453** Fall of Constantinople to the Ottoman Empire; end of the Byzantine Empire.
- 1455** Johannes Gutenberg invents the movable-type printing press.
- 1492** The Reconquista ends in Spain; Columbus reaches the Americas, signaling the Early Modern Era.