Disneyland Timeline

- 1901 Walter Elias Disney born in Chicago on December 5th.
- 1926 Walt and his older brother, Roy O. Disney, start Disney Brothers Studio, which later becomes Walt Disney Productions. They debut Mickey Mouse in 1928.
- 1952 Walt Disney Inc. is formed (later renamed WED Enterprises). First public mention of plans to build Disneyland appears in the *Burbank Daily Review*. The City of Burbank denies Walt's request to build a theme park near his film studio.
- 1953 Disney commissions the Stanford Research Institute to advise him on the best location for an amusement park. Based in part on the report, Disney selects Anaheim as the site. Disney forms the privately owned Retlaw Enterprises for projects over which he wants more personal control such as the trains at Disneyland.
- 1954 Disney produces a TV series for ABC in order to get funds for the park project. Ground is broken for Disneyland, and excavation begins.
- 1955 Disneyland opens for press and special guests on July 17th, 28,154 attend. Millions more watch the "Dateline: Disneyland" special on ABC. The following day, Disneyland opens to the public at \$1 for general admission and 10 to 35 cents for each attraction ticket. The millionth guest visits the park in early September. The Disneyland Hotel opens in October.
- 1956 New attractions include Tom Sawyer's Island and the Skyway (removed in 1994).
- 1957 New attractions include Fantasy in the Sky Fireworks and Monsanto's Plastics Home of the Future.
- 1958 The Magic Kingdom Club is founded, and the first holiday Candlelight Procession is held.
- 1959 Three new attractions become Disneyland's first E-ticket rides: The Matterhorn Bobsleds, the Disneyland-Alweg Monorail, and the Submarine Voyage.
- 1960 Mine Train Through Nature's Wonderland debuts.
- 1961 Monorail track is extended to the Disneyland Hotel as the Mark II monorails debut. Grad Night is held for the first time at Disneyland.
- 1963 The Enchanted Tiki Room opens, and the term "audio-animatronics" is coined.
- 1964 Disney designs numerous attractions for the New York World's Fair. Several of them are later moved to Disneyland, including "it's a small world" (1966), the Carousel of Progress (1967), and Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln (1965).
- 1965 Walt Disney dies of cancer on Dec. 15, 1966.
- 1966 New Orleans Square opens.

- 1967 Pirates of the Caribbean opens. A revamped Tomorrowland also opens, including the PeopleMover (removed in 1997) and Adventure Thru Inner Space (removed in 1985). Club 33, hidden above New Orleans Square, opens to a select group of members.
- 1969 The Haunted Mansion opens.
- 1971 Walt's brother and business partner, Roy O. Disney, dies. The 100 millionth guest visits Disneyland on June 17.
- 1972 New attractions include the Country Bear Jamboree and the Main Street Electrical Parade. Bear Country becomes the park's newest "land." It was renamed Critter Country in 1988.
- 1974 The Carousel of Progress is replaced by America Sings (removed 1988).
- 1978 Matterhorn Bobsled ride is enhanced with ice caverns and an abominable snowman.
- 1979 Big Thunder Mountain Railroad opens.
- 1982 Unlimited use passports replace ticket books.
- 1983 Newly redesigned Fantasyland opens.
- 1986 The Golden Horseshoe Revue closes after the world's longest continuous run of any live stage show. The Golden Horseshoe Jamboree replaces it.
- 1987 New attractions include Star Tours and the Disney Gallery.
- 1988 Disney buys the Wrather Corporation, owner of Disneyland Hotel.
- 1989 Splash Mountain opens.
- 1991 Disney announces plans for a second Anaheim theme park. It is originally envisioned as a smaller version of Epcot Center, with the working title "Westcot."
- 1992 Fantasmic! show debuts on the Rivers of America.
- 1993 Mickey's Toontown becomes the newest "land."
- 1995 The Indiana Jones Adventure opens. Disney purchases the Pan Pacific Hotel.
- 1996 The proposed Westcot theme park is officially scrapped in favor of Disney's California Adventure. The new Frank Gehry-designed Team Disney building unites all of Disneyland's administrative and creative employees under one roof.
- 1998 A remodeled Tomorrowland debuts with some new attractions. The original Disneyland parking lot closes to make way for Disney's California Adventure.
- 1999 FastPass system is tested on four attractions, allowing guests to schedule ride times rather than wait in long lines.

- 2000 Disneyland restricts smoking inside the park to three small designated areas.
- 2001 Disney's California Adventure, Downtown Disney, and Disney's Grand Californian Hotel open to the public.
- 2004 Tower of Terror opens at Disney's California Adventure.
- 2005 The park celebrates its 50th anniversary. Buzz Lightyear's Astro Blasters ride opens.