

## Timeline of the History of Australia

### Chronological Copywork

1606: Dutch explorer William Jansz (Janszoon) maps a portion of Australia

October 1616: Dirk Hartog lands in Western Australia

1626: Explorer Pieter Nuyts begins exploring a portion of the southern coast of Australia

November 24, 1642: Abel Tasman discovers what he called "Van Diemen's Land" (Tasmania)

1644: Abel Tasman explores Australia's northern coast

1688 and 1699: English explorer William Dampier is the first Englishman to explore parts of Australia, first near Broome and then Shark Bay, Western Australia

June 3, 1769: James Cook, Joseph Banks, and others observe the transit of Venus from Tahiti

1770: English explorer James Cook explores the east coast of Australia and claims it for Britain

May 13, 1787: First Fleet leaves England for Australia

January 19–20, 1788: The first convict colonists arrive in Botany Bay as part of the First Fleet

January 21, 1788: The First Fleet moves to Sydney Cove in Port Jackson because it is a better harbor

January 26, 1788: A convict settlement is started at Sydney Cove

February 7, 1788: British government begins in Australia

1789: A smallpox epidemic hits the Aboriginal people as more colonists settle in Australia

September 1790: The earliest instance of Aboriginal resistance to Europeans occurs

1791: George Vancouver explores the southern shores of Australia

1797: Merino sheep are introduced to Australia

1798: George Bass and Matthew Flinders circumnavigate Tasmania and prove it is an island

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