

## TIMELINE OF NEVADA'S HISTORY

- Explorer John C. Fremont travels through western Nevada, including the future site of Carson City.
- The United States gained control of Nevada land after the Mexican-American War ended.
- Over 60,000 settlers in covered wagons (49ers) passed through Nevada on their way west.
- Gold was discovered near Dayton, Nev.
- The land was admitted as part of Utah Territory.
- Nevada Territory is created and Carson City is designated the territorial capital.
- Nevada gains statehood on October 31 and Carson City is selected as the state capital.
- March 21, 1864 Congress approves the drafting of Nevada's constitution. (The Nevada Constitution was written July 4-27, 1864 as 44 pages, handwritten on paper 17" x 24")
- October 26, 1864 Nevada's constitution was telegraphed from Carson City to Salt Lake City, where it was transcribed and sent to Chicago, transcribed and sent to Philadelphia, transcribed and forwarded to the U.S. War Department in Washington for final transcription, before being dispatched to President Lincoln. At 16,543 words in length the telegraph is believed to be the second-longest ever sent; it took twelve hours to send to Salt Lake City and a total of two days to reach Washington, D.C.
- May 13, 1868 The city of Reno was established.
- The Central Pacific Railroad reached Nevada from the west. It would connect as part of the Transcontinental Railroad on May 10, 1869.
- The University of Nevada was first established in Elko.
- The University of Nevada was moved to Reno.
- The world heavyweight championship fight between James "Gentleman Jim" Corbett and Australian Robert Fitzsimmons was held in Carson City.
- Jim Butler found ore that was laced with silver in Tonopah.
- May 15, 1905 Clark County auctions 600 plots of land, establishing Las Vegas as a town.

The Golden Gate Hotel & Casino opens as the Hotel Nevada in downtown Las Vegas.

**1910** The first air flight in Nevada took place in Carson City on June 23. A Curtis biplane climbed 50 feet and traveled a distance of about a half mile in a field about three miles north of Carson City.

March 16, 1911 The city of Las Vegas is incorporated.

The city of Elko was officially established.

1925 Fremont Street in Las Vegas is paved.

The Reno City Council decided to put their famous slogan "Biggest Little City" on a lighted structure.

Gambling became legal by the Nevada State legislature; Pair-O-Dice Club opens on Highway 91, which later is known as the famous Las Vegas Strip.

1935 Hoover Dam was completed and dedicated by President Franklin Roosevelt.

The Las Vegas strip was established; U.S. Army creates a gunnery school that will become Nellis Air Force Base.

December 26, 1946 Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel opened the Flamingo Hotel.

The first atomic bomb was detonated at the Nevada Test Site; Frank Sinatra had his first performance at the Desert Inn.

The city of Henderson, Nev. was established.

1956 Nellis Air Force Base became the home of Thunderbirds, the Air Force aerobatic team.

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas holds its first classes.

Wayne Newton opened at the Fremont Hotel in Las Vegas; "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas" sign is created by Betty Willis.

Wayne Newton performs his first show at the Flamingo.

The Beatles perform at the Las Vegas Convention Center; Lake Mead National Recreation Area became the nation's first national recreational area.

Elvis and Priscilla Presley marry at the Aladdin in Las Vegas.

The Nevada State Legislature approved the consolidation of Ormsby County and Carson City into the state's only combined city-county government.

The 96,000-square-foot State Legislative Building was completed.

**1979** Liberace opens the Liberace Museum, which displays his collection of rare pianos, cars and his bejeweled wardrobes.

**1986** Great Basin National Park, the only national park in the state, was created. It includes the area around Wheeler Peak and Lehman Caves in eastern Nevada.

**1989** Steve Wynn opens the Mirage (the first new casino in 16 years) which ignites a resort building boom that revolutionizes Las Vegas into the 1990's and 2000's.

1990 UNLV's basketball team wins a national title with a 103-73 victory over Duke in Denver.

**1995** The \$70 million Fremont Street Experience opens; the world's first Hard Rock Hotel opens in Las Vegas.

**1999** Barbra Streisand's New Year's Eve concert at the MGM Grand becomes Vegas' highest grossing concert ever.

**2002** There were officially three million marriage certificates recorded in Clark County.

**2005** Las Vegas celebrates its centennial; Harrah's Entertainment became the world's largest owner/operator of casinos after purchasing Caesars Entertainment.

**2007** Nevada regained its title as the fastest growing state in the country. They lost its title in 2008.

**2012** The Smith Center for Performing Arts opens in downtown Las Vegas.

**2011** The new 70,000 square-foot Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas opens on the campus of the Las Vegas Springs Preserve.

**2011** The 1910 McKeen Motorcar in the collection of the Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City is named Nevada's 8th National Historic Landmark and the first self-propelled railcar to be granted this distinction.

**2012** The Mob Museum opens in Las Vegas.

Oct. 24, 2013 Nevada kicks-off its yearlong sesquicentennial celebration.

## **Resources**

http://www.visitcarsoncity.com/history/dates events.php

http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/namerica/usstates/nvtimeln.htm

http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/factsstatistics/history.htm

http://www.lasvegassun.com/history/timeline/

http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel/nevada/reno.htm

http://www.cityofhenderson.com/our history/index.php

## http://nsla.nevadaculture.org/

http://www.tonopahnevada.com/history.html

http://www.elkocountynv.net/history\_of\_elko\_county.html

http://www.shgresources.com/nv/timeline/

http://living-las-vegas.com/las-vegas-info/boomtown-facts/a-short-timeline-of-las-vegas-history/

https://leg.state.nv.us/Const/NVConst.html