

## Timeline History of Aachen – Oche (= ahha, water)

Prehistory	Stone Age flint mining on the Lousberg (around 3000-2500 BC) and Bronze Age burial mounds in the Aachen Forest bear witness to settlement in the Aachen area at an early date. By the 1st century, the Celts had settled in Aachen, as numerous place and field names attest. The Romans turned Aachen into a military spa with thermal baths, streets, and temples; Burtscheid was also a Roman spa as early as the 1st century. Frankish graves from the middle of the 7th century attest to a settlement in the centre of Aachen.
765	First known written mention of Aachen as "Aquis villa" by King Pippin.
768	King Charles spends Christmas on his court estate in Aachen - construction of the palace and the Palatine Chapel (today's cathedral) begins about 20 years later.
800	Charles is crowned emperor in Rome
814	Death of Charlemagne and burial in the Palatine Chapel (canonisation in 1165)
881	Norman invasion of Aachen and the surrounding area
936	First German royal coronation in Aachen: Otto I is anointed and crowned king. From then on, Aachen remains the coronation site of the German kings for almost 600 years.
13th/14th century	Construction of the outer city fortifications with 4 main gates, of which the Marschier and Pont Gate have been preserved.
1258	First mention of a working place of the clothwalkers, who represented an important economic factor for centuries.
1312	First documented pilgrimage to the shrine, which since then has brought crowds of pilgrims to Aachen every seven years.
1330-1346	Reconstruction of the Aachen Palatinate into the town hall
1414	Consecration of the Gothic choir hall of the cathedral
1531	Last royal coronation (Ferdinand I) in Aachen
1656	Great city fire. According to official counts, 4664 houses burn down in 20 hours.
1668	Peace of Aachen ends the Revolutionary War between Spain and France.
1815	As a result of the Congress of Vienna, Aachen falls to Prussia and becomes the seat of the Aachen government.
1825	Opening of the theatre
1827	Inauguration of the Elisenbrunnen municipal park
1830	The introduction of steam power in the cloth industry, advancing mechanisation and the resulting unemployment, as well as women's and children's work at low wages, cause a revolt among the Aachen workforce, which is bloodily put down by armed citizens, gendarmes, and a few soldiers.
1865	Foundation of the "Royal Rhenish-Westphalian Polytechnic School in Aachen", today's Rhenish-Westphalian Technical University (RWTH), by Wilhelm I.
1906	Incorporation of the municipality of Forst into Aachen. The population grows from 144,048 to 151,922.
1914-1918	The effects of the First World War are also clearly felt in Aachen.
1918-1929	As a result of the First World War, the western hinterland of Aachen, including the district of Eupen, falls to Belgium; the city is under Belgian occupation for 11 years.
1925	Millennium Exhibition in the Town Hall with ≈ 150,000 visitors. First horse-riding, showjumping and driving tournament (CHIO).
1937	With 800,000 participants, the Shrine Ride becomes a "silent protest" against the Nazi spirit of the times.
1939-1944	As a city on the outermost western border, Aachen experiences the war particularly severely. The first major attack on the city takes place in July 1941. Countless bombs in the frequent air raids and four further major raids in 1943/1944 destroy large parts of the city and about 65% of all dwellings. On 11/12 September 1944, large parts of the population are forcibly evacuated. On 21 October 1944, the embattled city is liberated by the Americans after almost six weeks.
1945	The most important facilities are restored, but large-scale reconstruction is still out of the question. The Americans are replaced by the British, who are replaced by the Belgians in 1946. After the return of the forced evacuees, the city soon has around 100,000 inhabitants again.
1950	The "International Charlemagne Prize of the City of Aachen" is awarded for the first time in the Kaisersaal of the town hall. Richard Nikolaus Count Coudenhove-Kalergi receives it as the founder of the Pan-European movement.
1973	The new hospital, for years "Europe's largest building site", celebrates its topping-out ceremony.
1974	Joint activities of the provinces of Limburg, Liège and the administrative district of Cologne to found the Euregio Meuse-Rhine.
1987	Aachen has 249,000 inhabitants. 36,183 students are enrolled at the RWTH.
1998	The first sod is turned in the cross-border industrial estate "Avantis" between Aachen and Heerlen (NL).
2000	Bill Clinton receives the International Charlemagne Prize 2000. 1200 years of Aachen Cathedral and Emperor Charlemagne.
2001	Opening of the Carolus Thermen.
2002	The new European currency, the Euro, receives the International Charlemagne Prize 2002 Aachen has Europe's most modern radio system, the digital public authority radio Tetra 25.
2004	Pope John Paul II receives the Extraordinary Charlemagne Prize of Aachen. Constituent meeting of the special-purpose association assembly of the StädteRegion Aachen.
2008	First award of the "European Charlemagne Youth Prize. Award of the Charlemagne Prize to the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr. Angela Merkel. Official opening of the "Super C" of RWTH Aachen University
2009	During excavations in the Elisengarten, archaeologists secure around 40,000 finds. The human rights organisation "Reporters without Borders" receives the European Media Prize "Médaille Charlemagne pour les Médias Européens". "International Chorbiennale Aachen" takes place for the first time. Opening of the new Tivoli Stadium. Launch of the "StädteRegion Aachen.