

The basic history facts

CR 1918 Czechoslovakia was formed/ founded on October 28. TG Masaryk was the first President

1939 Germany invaded Czechoslovakia, Bohemia and Moravia were occupied by the Germans – after a few months World War II (the second world war started)

1948 Communist party won elections and started the „socialistic“ era

In the 1960's a more democratic period known as „Prague Spring“ began, but in August 1968 Warsaw Pact returned the country to the Soviet control.

1989 after the „Velvet revolution“ the era of Communists ended. Vaclav Havel was elected the President and Czechoslovakia started to be democratic.

1993 Czechoslovakia was divided peacefully in two republics – the Czech and Slovak Republics

USA 1492 an Italian explorer Christopher Columbus reached the New World, he was the first person to discover America

1773 The Boston Tea Party – British parliament rose tax on tea from America. As a political protest the Native Americans destroyed the whole shipment of tea by throwing it into the sea. The crisis started the American Revolutionary War in 1775

1789 George Washington became the first President of the USA

1776 July 4 the US gained its independence from Britain. It is now celebrated as Independence Day. One of the authors of the Declaration of Independence Thomas Jefferson became the 3rd president of the USA.

1861-1865 The American Civil War– The south against the north – Northern victory ended slavery. About 600.000 people died during the war. Abraham Lincoln won election in 1860.

1941 Japanese attack on the US Naval base in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii started the second World War

2001 September 11 a terrorist attack during which the World Trade Towers in New York City were destroyed and the Pentagon in Washington, DC damaged.

Canada First Europeans to colonize Canada were Portuguese in the 15th century, they were replaced by French, from the 18th century, control moved to the British.

1867 the country became more independent.

1982 through the Canada Act, Canada became formally separated from the United Kingdom.

Australia

The first people who settled Australia were Aborigines about 50.000 years ago. In the 17th century the Dutch discovered Australia.

1770 British explorer James Cook claimed Australia for Britain.

In 1850s gold was discovered and a lot of people moved to Australia.

1901 Australia became a federation and Australia became an independent nation.

New Zealand

The first inhabitants were the Maori who came in the 13th century from Polynesia. The first European to reach NZ was Dutch sailor Abel Tasman in 1642. In the second half of the 18th century British explorer James Cook explored NZ.

1840 it became a British colony. 1947 NZ became an independent country.