A LEWIS & CLARK TIMELINE

THE NATIONAL LEWIS AND CLARK BICENENNIAL EXHIBITION

Jan. 18, 1803  Jefferson proposes the expedition to Congress
Spring  Jefferson chooses Lewis as expedition commander; Lewis visits Philadelphia to do research and to buy supplies

June  Lewis asks Clark to join the expedition as co-commander
Summer  Keelboat is contracted near Pittsburgh; Lewis and Clark travel down the Ohio River and up the Mississippi River to St. Louis

October  Louisiana Purchase is ratified by Congress
Winter 1803-4  The Corps winters at Camp DuBois across the Mississippi from St. Louis

May 14  Expedition begins
August 3  Council with representatives of Oto and Missouri tribes
August 30  Council with the Yankton Sioux
September 25-28  Expedition meets with the Teton Sioux
October 10-12  Council with the Arikara
October 27  Arrival at the Mandan and Hidatsa villages
December 24  Fort Mandan completed; winter among the Mandan Indians

February 11, 1805  Sacagawea gives birth to Jean Baptiste
April 7  Keelboat sent downriver to St. Louis; the remaining party heads upriver

June 13  Lewis first sees the Great Falls of the Missouri River
June 17-July 15  Portage around the Great Falls
August 12  Lewis and a small party reach the Continental Divide at Lemhi Pass
August 13  Lewis and party meet about 60 Shoshone warriors
August 13-31  Camped with the Shoshone
September 5  Council with the Flathead [Salish] Indians
September 11-22  Expedition crosses the Bitterroot Mountains
September 22  Expedition emerges from the Bitterroot Mountains; encounter the Nez Perce camps

October 7  Expedition leaves the Nez Perce camps
October 16  Expedition reaches the Columbia River
October 20  Clark sees first piece of European clothing on an Indian
October 23  Expedition portages the Celilo Falls on the Columbia; continues past the Dalles

November 19  Reach Cape Disappointment, the mouth of the Columbia River; Pacific Ocean

January 1, 1806  Fort Clatsop completed
March 23  Fort Clatsop presented to Clatsop Indians, expedition heads for home

May – late June  Expedition camps with the Nez Perce awaiting snow melt
July 3  Expedition splits into 3 parties
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 26-27</td>
<td>Lewis and his party camp with several Blackfeet warriors; they kill two of the warriors in a skirmish.</td>
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<td>August 12</td>
<td>All three parties are reunited near the mouth of the Yellowstone.</td>
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<td>August 14-17</td>
<td>Expedition returns to Mandan villages; Sacagawea and Charbonneau leave the expedition.</td>
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<td>August 21</td>
<td>Council with the Arikara and Cheyenne leaders.</td>
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<td>August 31</td>
<td>Return encounter with Teton Sioux.</td>
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<td>September 23</td>
<td>Expedition reaches St. Louis and disbands.</td>
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