

The Life and Times of Geoffrey Chaucer

1337	Edward III, King of England claims French crown. The Hundred Years' War begins.
1340	Chaucer born. His parents John and Agnes were wealthy vintners, but were not titled.
1357	Chaucer becomes a squire in the court of the Earl of Ulster
Late 1350s	Chaucer goes to France with John of Gaunt. He probably went several more times over the next years as an ambassador.
1359	Treaty of London restores lands in France to England.
Early 1360s	Chaucer translates <i>The Romance of the Rose</i> by Guillaume de Lorris
1361	Black Death reappears in England
1362	William Langland writes <i>Piers Plowman</i>
1366 (9/12)	Chaucer marries Philippa, a woman of higher rank.
1368-9	<i>The Book of the Duchess</i>
1372-73	Chaucer visits Italy
1374	Chaucer appointed to the customs department
1375	Robin Hood appears in literature.
1375-1400	<i>The Canterbury Tales</i>
1377	King Edward III dies. His grandson Richard II is crowned.
1378-81	<i>The House of Fame</i>
1378-81	<i>The Parliament of Fowls</i>
1380s	Translates Boethius' <i>Consolation of Philosophy</i>
1381	Wat Tyler leads the Peasants' Revolt.
1382-86	<i>Troilus and Criseyde</i>
1385	War begins again between England and Scotland
1386	<i>The Legend of Good Women</i>
1389	Truce between England, Scotland, and France.
1399	Richard II deposed. Henry of Lancaster (John of Gaunt's son) becomes King Henry IV.
1400	Chaucer dies.