A *very* basic chronology of Irish history.

Date / range	Era	Highlights	Contemporary events.
6500 BC		Rising sea-level separates Ireland and Britain. Earliest evidence of human activity at Coleraine.	
2500 BC	Neolithic	Neolithic settlement Lough Gur, wheat cultivated at Newgrange.	
2000 BC		Copper axes cast in flat moulds. Forest clearance.	
1200 BC	Later bronze age	More advance metalworking, gold ornaments.	
680 BC		Earliest circular enclosure, Navan Fort.	753 BC foundation of Rome
500 BC	Iron age	Early evidence of ironworking, bronzework continues.	
100 BC-500 AD		Ogham script.	323 BC death of Alexander the Great. 1 BC birth of Christ.
297 -450 AD		Irish raids on Roman Britain.	43 AD Romans conquer Britain.
432 AD	Early Christian era	Trad. date of St. Patrick's arrival in Ireland.	449 AD Anglo-Saxon invasion of Britain.
520-620 AD		Early monastic foundations. Earliest Irish law texts. Latin flourishes in Irl.	c. 590 St. Columbanus Irish missionary to Europe. 630 AD Caliph Omar takes Jerusalem.
750-850 AD		Old Irish sagas & lyric poetry. Book of Kells illuminated.	711 AD Moslem conquest of Visigothic Spain.
795 – 1000s AD	Viking era	795 AD Earliest Viking raids on Ireland. 836 AD Viking base at Arklow, Co. Wicklow. Intense V. activity, large V. fleets on east coast.	794 AD Viking raids on Britain. 800 AD Charlemagne crowned Emperor of the West. 843 AD Viking raids on Frankish empire.

		841 Norse settlement at Dublin. 922 Norse Limerick founded. 1028-36 Christchurch cathedral founded in Dublin.	1066 Normans invade England.
1169-1534	Medieval age Tudor age.	1169 Normans land in S.E. Ireland. 1170 Dublin captured. 1185 Prince John Lord of Ireland arrives. Normans build castles and churches. Town charters granted by King John. 1209 Dublin castle begun. 1254 St. Patrick's cathedral Dublin. 1292 laws against Irish dress.	1130-1180 European universities founded Salerno, Bologna, Paris, Oxford. 1452-55 Gutenberg bible printed. 1483 Richard III seizes English throne. 1485 Richard III defeated by Henry VII (Henry Tudor). 1497 John Cabot sails from Cork to Newfoundland. 1509 Henry VIII succeeds to throne. 1531 Henry VIII head of Church of England.
1534-1691	Early modern era. Stuart reign.	1534 Silken Thomas rebels against Henry VIII (executed 1537). 1588 remains of Spanish armada wrecked off Irish coast. 1592 Trinity College Dublin founded. 1641 Rebellion in Ulster, many Protestants killed. 1649 Cromwell arrives in Ireland. 1673 Catholic bishops and priests banished from Ireland.	Tudor reign continues. 1535 rising in England against Henry VIII's religious policies. Edward VI; Mary I; then Elizabeth I 1558. 1585 first English colony in New World at Roanoke Island. 1588 Spanish armada defeated by English. 1603 Eliz.I dies, James I succeeds to throne. Start of Stuart reign. 1625 Charles I succeeds James I. 1642 civil war in England begins. 1649 Charles I executed. 1643 Cromwell declared Lord Protector. 1658 Cromwell dies. 1660 Charles II succeeds to throne. 1685 James II (a Catholic) succeeds

		1681 Archbishop Oliver Plunkett executed. 1691 William III defeats James II at Battle of the Boyne.	to throne. 1688 William of Orange invited to take throne, James II flees. 1689 William III & Mary II succeed to throne.
1691-1800	Eighteenth century Ireland. Georgian period/ Hanoverian dynasty.	1697 Catholic Bishops & priests banished from Ireland (again). 1704 restrictions on catholics and dissenters from buying property. 1712 Trinity library begun. 1728 catholics lose parliamentary franchise. 1748 John Wesley in Ireland. 1779 Irish parliament resists Westminster taxes. 1783 Bank of Ireland opens. 1791 United Irishmen founded. 1795 Orange Order founded. 1798 United Irishmen's rebellion. 1799 Act of Union unites Ireland and Britain under Westminster parliament.	1702 Anne succeeds William III. Anne is succeeded by 1714 George I, Hanoverian dynasty begins. 1727 George II sccds. 1760 George III secds. 1776 American independence.
1800 – 1921	Ireland under the Union. Famine & emigration.	1801 Union begins. 1803 Robert Emmet's abortive rising. 1829 campaign leads to "catholic emancipation". 1845-47 Great Famine. 1840-60s mass emigration. 1858 Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB) founded. 1859 Fenian Brotherhood in USA. 1866 submarine	1814 Napoleon abdicates. 1837 Victoria succeeds William IV.

		telegraph cable links Ireland & Newfoundland. 1869 Anglican Church of Ireland no longer the established state church.	
	Parnell era; seeking Home Rule by political means.	1875 Charles Stewart Parnell first elected. 1879-82 "Land War", Land League. 1882 Phoenix Park murders. 1886 Home Rule Bill defeated. 1890 "Fall of Parnell" split in party. 1890-1903 new laws benefit Irish farmers & poor. 1900 Party reunited. 1907-08 Sinn Fein party founded. Home Rule is key political issue. 1911 George V visits Dublin.	1880-1914 expansion of British Empire. 1870-71 Franco-Prussian war. William I declared Emperor of Germany.

1901 Edward VII succeed Victoria.

1910 George V sccds.

Home Rule is key political issue. |
	Ulster or Home Rule Crisis.	1912 Ulster promises to resist Home Rule. 1913 Ulster Volunteers formed. Industrial unrest in Dublin. Irish Volunteers formed.	
	Great War 1914-18.	1914 Great War begins. 1916 Easter Rising.	1914 Great War begins.
	Revolutionary Period 1916-22.	1919-21 War of Independence.	1918 Great War ends.
1922- present	Independence Freestate.

Civil war. | 1922 Treaty with Britain. Irish Freestate (Eire) founded. Northern Ireland founded. 1922-23 Civil War. 1937 Constitution adopted. 1939-35 Ireland | World War II 1939-45. |

		neutral during the "Emergency".	
		1949 Republic of Ireland declared.	Elizabeth II sccds. Civil Right movement in US.
	Northern Ireland Troubles	1968 catholic Civil Rights marches in Northern Ireland.	
		1973 Northern Ireland parliament dissolved by Westminster.	1973 UK joins EEC.
	European Economic Community	1973 Ireland joins European Economic Community.	