

## A Timeline of Eleanor Roosevelt's Life



1884: Born in NYC, October 11

1892: Mother dies, maternal grandmother assumes ER's care

1894: Father dies

1899: ER attends Allenswood, School in England

1902: ER leaves Allenswood to make her debut in society at NYC's Aldorf-Astoria on Dec. 11



1903: ER teaches at the Rivington Street Settlement House and investigates sweatshops for the National Consumers' League

1905: ER marries FDR, a fifth cousin, in NYC, where the couple establishes their first home

1906: ER gives birth to Anna on May 3

1907: ER gives birth to James on Dec. 23

1909: Franklin, Jr. born on March 18; dies of influenza the same year

1910: ER gives birth to Elliott on Sept. 23. FDR elected to NY State Senate



1913: The Roosevelts move to Washington D.C. where FDR serves as assistant secretary of the Navy

1914: The second Franklin, Jr. is born on August 17

1916: ER gives birth to John on March 17

1918: ER volunteers with Red Cross canteens during WWI

1918: ER discovers FDR's affair with Lucy Mercer. ER offers a divorce but FDR promises never to see Mercer again.

1920: ER joins FDR on campaign trail during his unsuccessful bid for Vice President on the Cox ticket. She begins friendship with FDR advisor Louis Howe.

1921: ER nurses FDR after he is stricken with polio and encourages his ambition to return to public life

1922: ER becomes politically active



1927: ER, with Nancy Cook and Marion Dickerman opens Val-Kill furniture factory; ER begins teaching at Todhunter

1928: ER campaigns for Al Smith; FDR elected governor of NY; ER and Lorena Hickok meet



1932: ER and Lorena Hickok become friends during FDR's campaign for the presidency

1933: ER becomes the 1st First Lady to hold press conference; only female reporters are admitted. ER and LH take summer vacation to the Northeast and Canada. ER begins her support of Arthur Daley; opens White House Conference on the Emergency Needs of Unemployed Women



1934: ER and LH travel to Puerto Rico on fact-finding tour; take summer vacation in CA together

1935: ER starts publishing her syndicated column, "My Day"



1936: ER writes *This Is My Story*, first volume of her autobiography

1937: Val-Kill furniture factory closed; rift in ER's friendship with Cook and Dickerman; factory is renovated as ER's residence



1939: ER becomes active in civil rights issues; resigns from the DAR; arranges a concert by Marian Anderson, a black singer, for 75,000 people at Lincoln Memorial

1939: ER helps Karl Frank, who had been active in the German underground movement against Hitler. ER helps relocate to America a number of Labor and Socialists deputies (and/or their families) stranded in Europe. ER befriends Joe Lash.

1942: ER serves as assistant director of the Office of Civilian Defense; travels to England October-November, 1942



1943: ER travels to South Pacific to boost troop morale

1944: ER visits troops in Latin America; convenes White House Conference on How Women May Share in Post-War Policy-Making

1945: FDR dies April 12. ER joins the board of the NAACP; is appointed to the United Nations by President Truman; divides her time between Val-Kill and New York City

1946: ER helps to secure passage of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the General Assembly, December



1947: ER helps found Americans for Democratic Action; begins close friendship with David Gurewitsch

1948: ER chairs Human Rights Commission of the UN, develops the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

1949: ER publishes *This I Remember*, second volume of her autobiography

1952: ER resigns from the United Nations delegation after the election of Republican President Eisenhower



1954: ER and LH publish *Ladies of Courage*

1958: ER publishes *On My Own*, third volume of her autobiography; purchases NY townhouse jointly with Gurewitsch and his new wife

1961: ER appointed chair of the President's Commission on the Status of Women by President Kennedy



1962: ER dies on November 7