

## Calendar

- 1827 March 26: Ludwig van Beethoven † in Vienna at the age of 56  
1828 Nov 19: Franz Schubert † in Vienna at the age of 31  
1833 May 7: Johannes Brahms \* in Hamburg  
1840 May 7: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky \* in Votkinsk  
Nov 17: František Dvořák (1814–1894) married Anna Zdeňková (1820–1882)  
1841 Sept 8: Antonín Dvořák, the eldest son of František and Anna Dvořák, \* in Nelahozeves  
1842 July: František Dvořák's inn in Nelahozeves burned out  
1843 June 15: Edvard Grieg \* in Bergen  
Bedřich Smetana (1824–1884) came to Prague to study music theory with Joseph Proksch  
1845 Railway route Vienna–Prague–Dresden (crossing Dvořák's native village) under construction  
1847 September: Antonín Dvořák attends the elementary school in Nelahozeves and receives basic music instruction (violin, singing) from schoolmaster Josef Spitz  
Nov 4: Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy † in Leipzig at the age of 38  
1848 Uprisings in Paris, Vienna, Prague, Hungary, a.o.  
Dec 2: Franz Joseph I. (1830–1916) became the new Emperor of Austria  
1849 Revolution in Central Europe defeated, the absolutist rule re-established  
1850 April 3: Václav Jan Tomášek (composer and music teacher, aged 76) † in Prague  
Dec 21: Zdeněk Fibich (composer) \* in Všebořice  
1853 Antonín Dvořák moved from Nelahozeves to Zlonice and received further music instruction (violin, viola, piano, organ, music theory) from Anton Liehmann  
Robert Schumann praised Johannes Brahms in *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik* (in his article *Neue Bahnen*)  
1854 Eduard Hanslick (1825 Prague–1904 Vienna) published his dissertation *Vom Musikalisch-Schönen*  
July 3: Leoš Janáček \* in Hukvaldy  
1855 Antonín Dvořák's parents moved to Zlonice  
1856 Antonín Dvořák went to Česká Kamenice [Böhmisch Kamnitz] to learn German  
July 29: Robert Schumann † in Endenich (Bonn) at the age of 46  
Oct 11: Bedřich Smetana left for Göteborg (Sweden)  
1857 September: Antonín Dvořák comes to Prague and studies at the Organ School  
1859 Juli: D. graduates from the Organ School and plays viola in Karel Komzák's band  
Dec 30: Josef Bohuslav Foerster (composer and music reviewer) \* in Prague  
1860 March 13: Gustav Mahler \* in Kaliště (Moravia)  
October: Emperor Franz Joseph's "October Diploma" (promising political reforms and autonomy to the nations of the Hapsburg Monarchy) was published  
1861 January: the first Czech daily newspaper, *Národní listy*, appeared in Prague  
May: Bedřich Smetana comes back to Prague  
Juni: Dvořák finished his String Quintet A-minor op. 1  
1862 March: D. finished his first String Quartet A-major op. 2  
August 22: Claude Debussy \* in Saint-Germain-en-Laye  
Nov 18: the *Prozatímní divadlo* in Prague opened; D. was engaged as a viola player  
1863 February: the *Umělecká beseda* established in Prague  
Juli: D. plays with Karel Komzák's band at the international exhibition in Hamburg  
1864 February – October: war of Schleswick-Holstein (Prussia + Austria against Denmark)  
Juni 11: Richard Strauss \* in Munich  
1865 Antonín Dvořák's father and his family moved from Zlonice to Kladno  
D. composed Symphonies C minor and B-flat major, Cello-Concerto A major, *Cypresses*, a.o.  
1866 May 30: Bedřich Smetana's *Prodaná nevěsta* first performed in Prague  
Juni – July: war of Prussia against Austria; July 3: battle of Hradec Králové  
July – September: Prussian troops occupied Prague and other parts of Bohemia and Moravia  
1867 Austro-Hungarian *Ausgleich*: the Hapsburg Monarchy was divided into Austria and Hungary  
1868 May 16: the foundation stone of *Národní divadlo* laid and Smetana's *Dalibor* first performed in Prague  
1869 March 8: Hector Berlioz † in Paris at the age of 68  
1870 July – September: French-Prussian war  
Dvořák finished his first opera *Alfred* (on a German libretto by Th. Körner), a.o.  
Dec 5: Vítězslav Novák (composer, pupil of Dvořák) \* in Kamenice nad Lipou  
1871 Jan 18: the German Empire was proclaimed in Versailles  
Dvořák quitted the Provisional Theatre orchestra; composed his second opera *Král a uhlíř*, a.o.  
Dec 24: Giuseppe Verdi's opera *Aida* (written for the opening of Suez Canal) first performed in Cairo

- 1872 Dvořák composed a.o. his first *Piano Quintet* A major (op. 5) and several songs
- 1873 March 9: Dvořák's patriotic cantata *The Heirs of White Mountain* first performed in Prague  
 May 1: world exhibition in Vienna opened  
 May 9: crash of the Vienna stock exchange; beginning of a deep economic crisis in Austria-Hungary  
 Nov 17: Antonín Dvořák married his former pupil Anna Čermáková (1854–1931)  
 Dvořák composed a.o. *Symphony* (No. 3) E-flat major, several chamber music works, and songs
- 1874 Jan 24: Josef Suk (composer, Dvořák's pupil and son-in-law) \* in Křečovice  
 February: Dvořák became organist of St. Adalberts's church in Prague  
 April 4: Dvořák's son Otakar (I) born  
 September: Dvořák applied for the Austrian artists' scholarship for the first time and was awarded a considerable sum of 400 gulden  
 Nov 24: Dvořák's opera *Král a uhlíř* (2<sup>nd</sup> version) first performed at the Provisional Theatre in Prague  
 Dvořák's *Symphony* D minor (No. 4) and one-act opera *Tvrdé palice* (a.o.) came to existence
- 1875 D. composed *Symphony* F major (No. 5), tragic opera *Vanda*, chamber music works and songs, a.o.  
 August 19: Dvořák's daughter Josefa born († Aug 21)
- 1876 May 26: František Palacký (historian and politician) † in Prague at the age of 78  
 August: Richard Wagner's theatre in Bayreuth was inaugurated and his *Ring des Nibelungen* was first performed as a complete cycle (conductor: Hans Richter)  
 Sept 18: Dvořák's daughter Růžena born  
 Apart from chamber music works, piano pieces, songs, etc., D. composed *Piano Concerto* G minor
- 1877 February: Dvořák gave up his post at St. Adalberts's church and became free-lance composer  
 June: D. made a walking tour in Central Bohemia with Leoš Janáček  
 Aug 13 Dvořák's daughter Růžena † ; Sept 8: Dvořák's son Otakar †  
 November–December: Eduard Hanslick wrote to Dvořák that Johannes Brahms had recommended the *Moravian Duetts* to his publisher Fritz Simrock in Berlin; D. travelled to Vienna to meet Hanslick and dedicated his *String Quartet* D minor op. 34 to Brahms  
 Dvořák's opera *Šelma sedlák*, sacred cantata *Stabat mater*, and *Symphonic variations* (a.o.) composed
- 1878 Crisis in the Balkans; military occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria-Hungary  
 June 6: Dvořák's daughter Otilie born  
 November: Louis Ehlert's enthusiastic article on Dvořák appeared in Berlin; D. met in Berlin the publisher Fritz Simrock and signed a contract with him  
 December: D. travelled to Vienna to meet Johannes Brahms  
 Dvořák's *Slavonic Rhapsodies* for orchestra, first series of *Slavonic Dances*, *Moravian Duetts*, and several chamber music works were composed (or finished)
- 1879 January: Johannes Brahms and Joseph Joachim (Hungarian-born violinist) gave a concert in Prague and visited Dvořák  
 July 29: Dvořák's *String Sextet* A major (op. 48) performed in Berlin on the initiative of Joachim  
 Nov 14: Dvořák's *Slavonic Rhapsody* No. 3 performed in Vienna under Hans Richter (1843–1916)  
*String Quartet* E-flat major (op. 51), *Czech Suite* for orchestra, *Violin Concerto* A minor, a.o. composed  
 Dvořák's music (above all the *Slavonic Dances*) started to be widely performed and appreciated in Germany, England, and the U.S.
- 1880 January 13: Dvořák's daughter Anna born  
 D. composed *Cigánské melodie*, *Sonata* for Violin and Piano (op. 57), and *Symphony* D major (No. 6)
- 1881 Juni 11: Bedřich Smetana's festival opera *Libuše* first performed at the official opening of the *Národní divadlo* in Prague; August 12: the new theatre destroyed by fire  
 August 17: Dvořák's daughter Magdalena born  
*Legendy* for piano 4 hands, *String Quartet* C major (op. 61), and tragic opera *Dimitrij* (libretto: Marie Červinková-Riegrová, after Fr. Schiller), a.o. came to existence
- 1882 Charles-Ferdinand University in Prague divided into two independent schools (German and Czech)  
 Juli 26: Richard Wagner's *Parsifal* first performed in Bayreuth  
 Oct 8: Dvořák's *Dimitrij* first performed in Prague  
 Oct 23: Dvořák's *Šelma sedlák* performed in Dresden  
 Nov 5: Bedřich Smetana's *Má vlast* first performed as a complete cycle in Prague
- 1883 Jan 3: Dvořák's *Šelma sedlák* performed in Hamburg  
 Feb 13: Richard Wagner † in Venice, aged fewer than 70  
 March 7: Dvořák's son Antonín born  
 August: D. made a walking tour in South Bohemia with Leoš Janáček  
 Nov 18: the newly built *Národní divadlo* opened with Smetana's *Libuše*; Dvořák's *Dimitrij* followed on Nov 20  
 December: D. attended the premiere of Brahms' *Symphony* No. 3 and visited Brahms in Vienna

- 1884 Dvořák's *Piano Trio* F minor (op. 65), *Husitská-Overture*, *Ze Šumavy* for piano 4 hands, a.o. composed  
March: D. visited England for the first time and conducted his works in London  
May 12: Bedřich Smetana † in Prague at the age of 60  
D. bought his summer residence at Vysoká near Příbram  
August: D. travelled for the second time to England and conducted his *Stabat Mater* in Worcester  
Dvořák's Symphony D minor (No. 7) and his cantata *Svatební košile* (on the text of K. J. Erben) came into existence
- 1885 February 7: the *Rudolfinum* concert and exhibition hall in Prague opened  
February 9: Dvořák's son Otakar (II) born  
April: D. travelled to London to conduct the premiere of his Symphony D minor  
August: Dvořák's fourth visit in England: concerts in London and premiere of *Svatební košile* in Birmingham  
D. started writing his oratorio *Svatá Ludmila* (on the text of Jaroslav Vrchlický)
- 1886 July 31: Franz Liszt † in Bayreuth, aged fewer than 75  
October: Dvořák's fifth concert tour to England; *Svatá Ludmila* first performed in Leeds  
*Slovanské tance* (second series op. 72) composed
- 1887 September: Dvořák's *Mass D major* op. 86 (written for Josef Hlávka) was first performed in Lužany  
November: D. started composing his opera *Jakobín* (libretto: Marie Červinková-Riegrová)  
December 4: Dvořák's *Symfonické variace* performed in Vienna under Hans Richter
- 1888 January 5: *Neues Deutsches Theater* in Prague opened with Wagner's *Die Meistersinger*  
February–March: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky visited Prague to perform his works; he established contacts with Dvořák and invited him to Russia  
March 28: D. conducted his *Stabat mater* in Budapest  
April 4: Dvořák's daughter Aloisie born  
Juni: *Česká akademie pro vědy, slovesnost a umění (ČAVU)* founded thanks to the donation of Josef Hlávka (1831–1908, architect and benefactor)
- 1889 January 30: Crown Prince Rudolph of Hapsburg committed suicide at the age of 30  
February 12: Dvořák's *Jakobín* first performed in Prague  
March 13: D. conducted his Symphony No. 5 F major, a.o. in Dresden  
October: Hans von Bülow (1830–1894) conducted Dvořák's Symphony D minor a.o. in Berlin  
November 11: Richard Strauss' symphonic poem *Don Juan* first performed in Weimar  
November 20: Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 1 first performed in Budapest  
December 9: D. was awarded (together with Johannes Brahms, a.o.) the Austrian distinction of the *Iron Crown* and received an audience by the Emperor Franz Joseph I.  
*Poetické náladý* for piano, *Piano quartet* op. 87, and Symphony G-major (No. 8) came into existence
- 1890 February–March: D. visited Russia and gave concerts in Moscow and St. Petersburg  
April: Dvořák's sixth visit in England; concerts in London (Symphony G major, a.o.)  
October: D. was appointed a professor of composition at Prague Conservatory  
Nov 7: D. conducted his Symphony G major and *Husitská-Overture* in Frankfurt a.M.  
The new building of the *Národní muzeum* at Wenceslas Square in Prague was inaugurated  
Dvořák's *Requiem* op. 89 and *Dumky*-Trio op. 90 came into existence
- 1891 March: D. received the Honorary Doctor Degree from the Charles University in Prague  
May 15: *Zemská jubilejní výstava* in Prague opened  
Juni: D. received the Honorary Doctor Degree from the Cambridge University  
October: Dvořák's eight travel to England: premiere of *Requiem* in Birmingham and concerts in London  
December: D. signed a contract with the *National Conservatory of Music* in New York  
D. composed three concert-overtures: *V přírodě*, *Karneval*, *Othello*, the *Rondo* G minor for cello, a.o.
- 1892 January–March: Dvořák's farewell concert tour of Bohemia (together with the violinist Ferdinand Lachner and cellist Hanuš Wihan)  
June: Smetana's *Prodaná nevěsta* and Dvořák's *Dimitrij* performed at the Theatre exhibition in Vienna (the former one with an enormous success)  
September: Dvořák arrived at the New York City  
D. composed *Te Deum* and *The American Flag*
- 1893 January–May: D. was teaching at the National Conservatory in New York  
Spring: beginning of a deep economic crisis in the U.S.  
June–September: D. spent his summer holiday in Spillville/Iowa and conducted his works at the World exhibition in Chicago; the "American" works: String Quartet F major, String Quintet E-flat major, and Symphony E minor (No. 9 *From the New World*) were composed  
August–September: political turbulencies and demonstrations in Prague  
Sept 12: the military government put out over Prague (until October 1895)

- Nov 9: P. I. Tchaikovski † in St. Petersburg  
Dec 16: Premiere of the *New World* Symphony in Carnegie Hall, New York (conductor: Anton Seidl)
- 1894 February: members of Prague dissident group *Omladina* sentenced to long terms of imprisonment  
April: D. was elected a Honorary Member of the *New York Philharmonic Society*  
July–September: summer holiday in Bohemia  
October: return to N.Y.C.  
*Biblické písně*, *Suite A* major, and *Humoresques* for piano composed; Cello-Concerto B minor sketched
- 1895 January 19: Marie Červinková-Riegrová (Dvořák's librettist) † in Prague at the age of 40  
February: D. became a Honorary Member of the *Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde* in Vienna  
April: D. left the U.S. once for all  
May: the *Národopisná výstava* opened in Prague  
May 28: Josefina Kaunitz (Dvořák's sister-in-law) † in Prague at the age of 45  
May 30: D. left for Carlsbad to meet Fritz Simrock and Eduard Hanslick  
November: D. resumed his teaching at Prague Conservatory  
D. finished his Cello-Concerto B minor and String Quartets A-flat major op. 105 and G major op. 106
- 1896 January 4: inaugural concert of *Česká filharmonie* in Rudolfinum hall; the programme featured Dvořák's works and was conducted by him  
February 16: Dvořák's Symphony *From the New World* was performed in Vienna (under Hans Richter)  
March: Dvořák's ninth (last) trip to England: premiere of the Cello-Concerto in London  
Okt 11: Anton Bruckner (composer) † in Vienna, aged 72  
D. composed his symphonic poems *Vodník*, *Polednice*, *Zlatý kolovrat*, and *Holoubek* (based on the ballads by Karel Jaromír Erben)
- 1897 April 3: Johannes Brahms † in Vienna  
July: D. was appointed a member of the Jury for State Artists' Scholarships in Vienna; at the same time, he turned down resuming his activities at the National Conservatory of Music in New York  
Sept 20: Karel Bendl (composer, Dvořák's classmate and lifetime friend) † in Prague  
Oct 19: D. conducted his Cello-Concerto in a concert given in Leipzig *in memoriam* of Joh. Brahms  
Summer–Autumn: arising political troubles and chauvinistic demonstrations in Vienna and in Prague  
Dec 2: the military government was put out over Prague anew (until January 10, 1898)  
D. composed his last symphonic poem *Píseň bohatýrská* and sketched his fairy-tale opera *Čert a Káča*
- 1898 Sept 10: the Austrian Empress Elisabeth ("Sisi", the wife of Franz Joseph I.) was assassinated in Genf  
November: Antonín Dvořák and his wife celebrated their silver wedding; at the same time, Dvořák's eldest daughter Otilie married Josef Suk (cf. above)  
Nov 25: D. was awarded the State decoration *Litteris et artibus*  
Dec 4: Gustav Mahler conducted the premiere of Dvořák's *Píseň bohatýrská* in Vienna  
D. composed his fairy opera *Čert a Káča*
- 1899 Nov 23: Dvořák's *Čert a Káča* first performed at the National Theatre in Prague  
Dec 20: D. conducted his *Píseň bohatýrská* and Cello-Concerto B minor (soloist: Hanuš Wihan) in Budapest; the concert showed to be his last public performance outside Prague
- 1900 Oct 15: Zdeněk Fibich † in Prague  
D. was working on his opera *Rusalka* on the libretto by Jaroslav Kvapil (1868–1950)
- 1901 Jan 27: Giuseppe Verdi † in Milan at the age of 87  
March 31: Dvořák's *Rusalka* was first performed at the National Theatre in Prague  
April: D. was appointed a member of the Austrian House of Peers  
July: D. was appointed Director of the Prague Conservatory  
Aug 8: Fritz Simrock (Dvořák's and Brahms' publisher) † in Lausanne at the age of 64  
September–November: Dvořák's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrated in Prague and elsewhere
- 1902 April 30: Claude Debussy's opera *Pelléas et Mélisande* first performed in Paris  
D. occupied himself with the composition of his opera *Armida* on the text of Jaroslav Vrchlický
- 1903 March: Dvořák met Edvard Grieg during his concert tour in Prague  
Dvořák's last opera *Armida* was finished
- 1904 January 21: Leoš Janáček's opera *Její pastorkyňa* (*Jenufa*) first performed in Brno  
February: Outbreak of the Russo-Japanese war  
March 25: *Armida* first performed at the National Theatre in Prague  
March–April: D. fell seriously ill  
May 1: Antonín Dvořák † in Prague