A Hell of a City: Dante’s *Inferno* on the Road to Rome
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DANTE CHRONOLOGY
(From the *Cambridge Companion to Dante*)

1265 Dante born under the sign of Gemini
1283 Dante’s father dies and Dante comes of age. He is married shortly thereafter to Gemma Donati with whom he has four children (Jacopo, Pietro, Giovanni, and Antonia)
1289 Dante takes part in the battle of Campaldino against Arezzo
1290 June 8, death of Beatrice
1293–94 *Vita nuova* written
1294 Dante meets Charles Martel, king of Hungary, and heir to the Kingdom of Naples and the country of Provence, in Florence
1295 Dante enters political life
1300 Boniface VIII proclaims Jubilee Year. June 15, Dante becomes one of the six priors of Florence for a term of two months. Easter 1300 is the fictional date of the journey of the *Divina Commedia*
1301 As Charles of Valois approaches Florence, Dante is sent on an embassy to Pope Boniface VIII
**1302 January 27, the first sentence of exile against Dante reaches him in Siena. On March 10, Dante is permanently banished from Florence**
1303–05 *De vulgari eloquentia* and *Convivio*, both unfinished, written
1303 Guest of Bartolomeo della Scala in Verona
1304 Birth of Francesco Petrarca
1309 Papacy moves from Rome to Avignon
1310 Henry VII of Luxemburg descends into Italy. Dante writes Epistle to him. Possible date of Monarchia (others think it may have been written as late as 1317)
**1312–18 Guest of Cangrande della Scala in Verona**
1313 Death of Henry VII. Birth of Giovanni Boccaccio
1314 *Inferno* published. Epistle to the Italian cardinals
1315 Florence proposes to repeal Dante’s exile on the condition that he acknowledges his guilt. Dante refuses. *Purgatorio* published
1319 Dante in Ravenna as guest of Guido Novello da Polenta. Latin correspondence with the humanist Giovanni del Virgilio
1320 Dante lectures on the *Quaestio de aqua et terra*
**1321 Completion of Paradiso. September 13 or 14, Dante dies in Ravenna**