



Is time the same all over the world?

Time is measured from Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), the standard time at Greenwich, London. Every 15° of longitude east of GMT means adding on one hour. Every 15° of longitude west of GMT means taking off one hour. Time must be adjusted 180° west and 180° east of the Prime Meridian on the International Date Line (IDL). Crossing this imaginary line – which does not pass through any land mass – from east to west means losing one day. Crossing from west to east means gaining one day. This means that there is a difference of one day between places either side of the line.

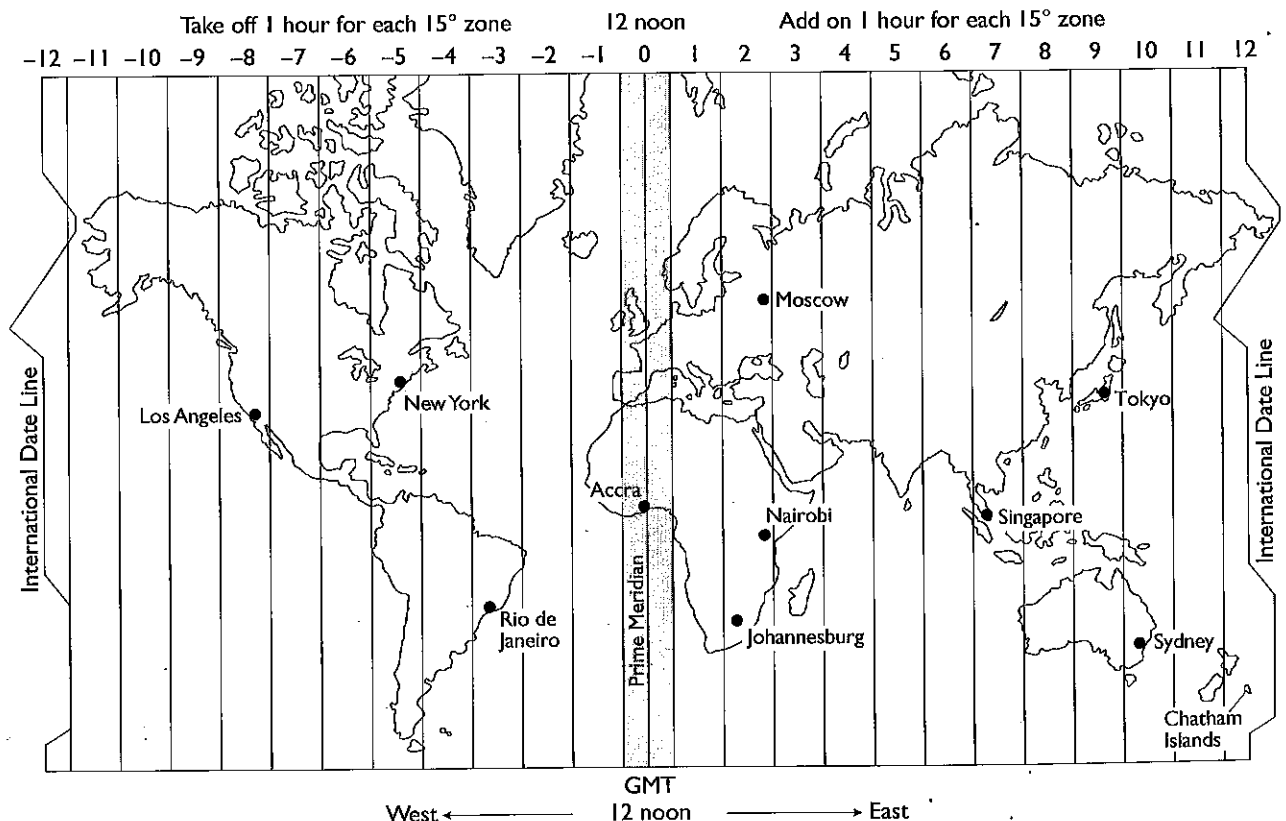
Time is the same across all of each time zone. Time changes when another 15° of longitude is crossed, although some are adjusted so that small countries are not divided into two time zones.

When the new millenium dawns on January 1, 2000, Chatham Islands, the first populated land mass west of the IDL, will experience it first.



If it is 12 noon at Greenwich, what time is it in these cities? Use the 24 hour clock:

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Los Angeles | 5 Accra | 9 Singapore |
| 2 New York | 6 Moscow | 10 Tokyo |
| 3 Rio de Janeiro | 7 Nairobi | |
| 4 Sydney | 8 Johannesburg | |



Who needs to know the time in different parts of the world? Why?