

Timeline of the

24th August
Morning

The first eruption phase begins with a small explosion and a thin ash cloud is sent into the sky.



24th August
Afternoon
Ash and
Rocks
and b

24th August

Days Before 24th August

Tremors are felt around the area of Mount Vesuvius.



24th August
Early Afternoon (around 1 p.m.)

Vesuvius erupts violently. A massive ash cloud is expelled up to 20km high and blocking out the sun. Ash falls to the ground soon afterwards.

The Mount Vesuvius Eruption

24th August

Afternoon (around 2 p.m.)

and pumice is now falling on Pompeii. Ashes and debris begin to land on buildings and build up on rooftops.



25th August

Midnight

The volcanic cloud reaches an estimated height of over 30km. This cloud begins to plummet back down towards earth.

25th August

24th August

Late Afternoon (around 4 p.m.)

Buildings begin to collapse from the weight of the ash, pumice, rocks and stones. A layer of ash has started to form over everything and people are fleeing towards the harbour.

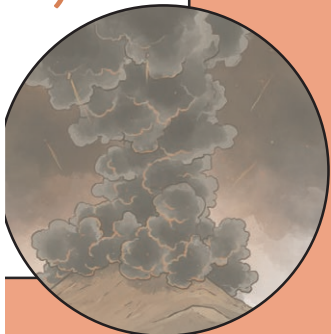


25th August

Early Morning

The eruption cloud from Mount Vesuvius reaches the city by a pyroclastic surge, by a third.

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Evacuation in AD 79

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25th August

Morning (around 7 a.m.)

The cloud above Mount Vesuvius collapses again. A fourth surge of rock and gas is released, reaching Pompeii.



g (around 2 a.m.)

ud collapses again.
releases a second
e, closely followed



25th August

Morning (around 8 a.m.)

Additional surges bring more rock, gas and debris down onto Pompeii. By the end of the entire eruption process, the city is buried under tonnes of volcanic material.



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