



# 1998–2008 VLT

Very Large Telescope

Ten years of the world's most advanced optical telescope



Dec. 1987  
Decision to  
build the VLT



Dec. 1990  
Paranal site  
selected



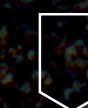
Dec. 1996  
Foundation  
Ceremony



May 1998  
First Light  
for UT1



Sep. 2000  
First Light  
for UT4



Mar. 2001  
First Light  
for VLT1



Jan. 2004  
First AT  
installed



Feb. 2006  
Laser above  
Paranal



Dec. 2006  
Fourth AT  
installed



May 2008  
Ten-year  
anniversary  
of First Light