

**Leonardo: the last years  
1508-1519**

- 1508 Leonardo leaves Florence permanently, returning to Milan, to serve the new king of France, Louis XII  
Virgin of the Rocks finally delivered to the Confraternity of the Immaculate Conception. (Contract had been signed in 1483!)  
League of Cambrai formed against Venice by Pope Julius II, Spain, the Holy Roman Empire and France  
Michelangelo begins painting of ceiling of the Sistine Chapel
- 1509 Leonardo continues his Anatomical Studies  
*De Divina Proportione* by Luca Pacioli is published in Venice, illustrated with woodcuts after designs by Leonardo.  
Raphael is engaged to decorate the rooms of the Papal apartments of the Vatican with frescoes.  
Death of King Henry VII. He is succeeded by King Henry VIII who marries Catherine of Aragon.
- 1510 Leonardo is paid a salary of 104 livres for the year by the French state, under Louis XII.  
Leonardo working on St Anne? (Louvre, Paris)  
Leonardo works briefly with Marcoantonio della Torre
- 1511 Julius II forms Holy League against France, with Spain, Venice, England and Switzerland. His motto: "Fuori i barbari!"  
On 10th and 18th September Leonardo records that the invading Swiss soldiers have set fires in the city of Milan, marking the end of the French domination of Milan.  
Leonardo and his household abandon the city, settling for some time at the Melzi family villa in Vaprio d'Adda.
- 1512 The French withdraw from Italy. The Medici are re-instated in Florence and the Sforza in Milan.  
Machiavelli writes *The Prince*
- 1513 Pope Julius II dies. Giovanni di Medici new Pope as Leo X. On 1st December Leonardo is in Rome as part of the household of Giuliano de' Medici (brother of Pope Leo X), who sets up the artist in a workshop in the Belvedere wing of the Vatican Palace.

Between c1513-16 Leonardo probably began his painting of the seated *St John the Baptist*, later transformed by someone else into a *Bacchus*.

- 1514 Leonardo in Rome. Travels often
- 1515 Louis XII dies. New king of France: Francis I invades Italy and recovers Milan  
Leonardo painting St John the Baptist? (Louvre)
- 1516 On 17th March, Giuliano de' Medici dies. Leonardo writes "The Medici made me  
and destroyed me." Leonardo is left without a patron.  
Leonardo leaves Rome for France, as guest of Francis I  
Ferdinand the Catholic dies. 16 yr old Charles, his grandson,  
becomes king of Spain as Charles I
- 1517 Leonardo designs new royal palace in Romorantin  
Visit by Cardinal of Aragon to Leonardo  
Martin Luther posts his 95 theses in Wittenberg
- 1518 Leonardo organizes festivities at Amboise  
Thomas More's Utopia published
- 1519 Leonardo writes last will on April 23  
Death of Leonardo on May 2  
Burial at Amboise's St Florentine chapel
- 1863 Bones excavated from chapel ruins are later reburied at  
St Hubert chapel at the Amboise Castle