

# Contents

List of illustrations x

- 1 A brief history 1
- 2 Einstein and all that 12
- 3 First principles 27
- 4 The expanding Universe 39
- 5 The Big Bang 57
- 6 What's the matter with the Universe? 74
- 7 Cosmic structures 93
- 8 A theory of everything? 107
- Epilogue 129
- Further reading 131
- Index 135