

# The Age of Exploration Early Years

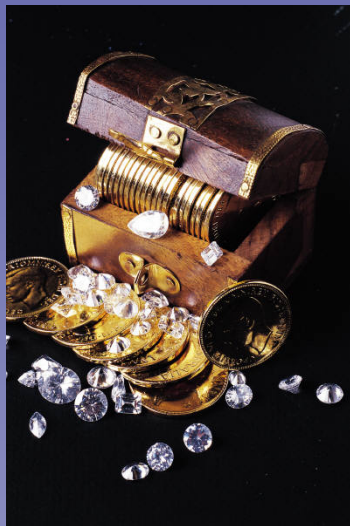


Williams, John Garnons. (n.d.). A Map of World Exploration.  
Retrieved July 31, 2006 from: <http://www.explorers.enta.net/>.

# The Roots of Exploration

There were three main motives behind exploration:

1. Religious aims – to spread Christianity
2. The desire for wealth and power
3. The Renaissance spirit – curiosity and the quest for knowledge and discovery



Often these motives are described as the search for “**God, Gold & Glory.**”



# Portuguese Exploration

Prince Henry the Navigator, of Portugal, is given credit for being the first to officially sponsor European sea voyages and exploration.

His goal was to find an easterly sea route to India in order to increase trade and spread Christianity.



**Prince Henry the Navigator**

Vista Ibérica Publicações. (1997). Prince Henry the Navigator. Retrieved July 31, 2006 from: <http://www.sagres.net/sagres/history.htm>

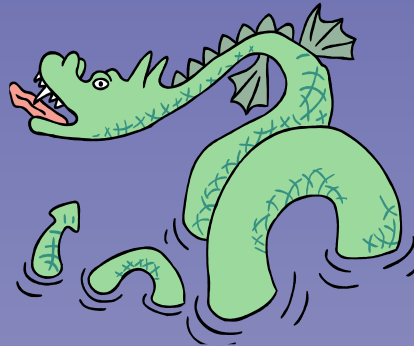


# Portuguese Exploration

**Why was Prince Henry's naval observatory so important?**

His scholars helped to dispel the common myths of the day, such as:

- 🚢 The water at the Equator boiled.
- 🚢 Human skin turned black as you traveled south.
- 🚢 Sea monsters lived at the edge of the world and would eat the ships.





# Portuguese Exploration

From Sagres, the Portuguese sent ships south along the coast of Africa. Here they established trading posts and plantations.

The Portuguese used their superior weapons to establish a monopoly on trade.

The Portuguese acquired a great deal of wealth from these practices, especially from their sugar plantations.



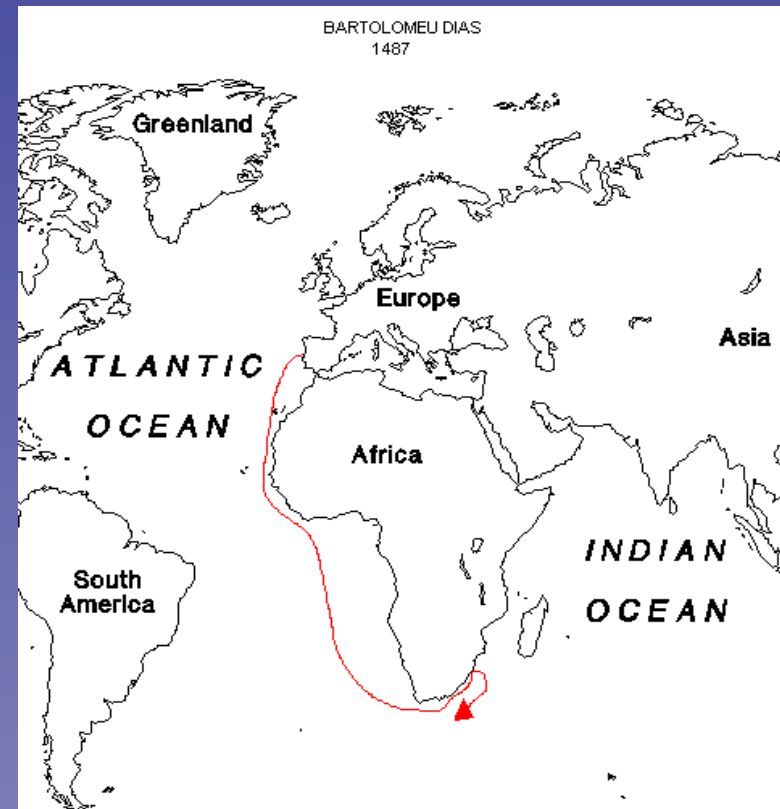
Map scanned from: Perry, Marvin, et al. (1995). *History of the World*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, p 348.



# Portuguese Exploration

Although the Portuguese now had money, they still desired the glory of finding a sea route to India. The first step was to discover a way around Africa.

In 1488, Bartholomeu Dias got blown off course and ended up on the east side of Africa, thus discovering the route around the Cape of Good Hope.



Voyage of Bartholomeu Dias

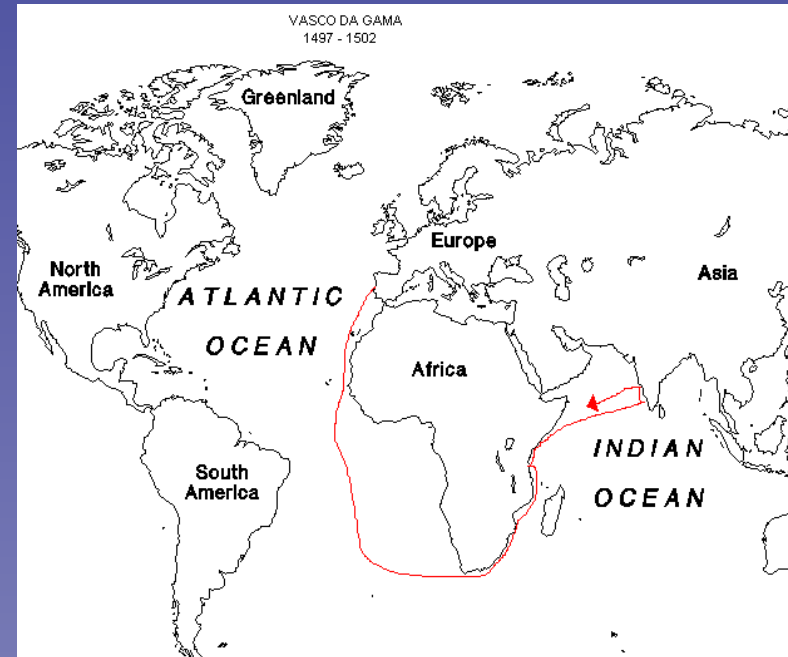
The Mariners' Museum. (2004). Portuguese Explorers. Retrieved July 30, 2006 from: [http://www.mariner.org/educationalad/ageofexp/portuguese\\_exp.php#](http://www.mariner.org/educationalad/ageofexp/portuguese_exp.php#)



# Portuguese Exploration

Buoyed by the success of Dias, the Portuguese continued to sponsor voyages around the tip of Africa.

In 1498,  
Vasco da Gama finally  
found a sea route to  
India.



**Voyage of Vasco da Gama**

The Mariners' Museum. (2004). Portuguese Explorers. Retrieved July 30, 2006 from: [http://www.mariner.org/educationalad/ageofexp/portuguese\\_exp.php#](http://www.mariner.org/educationalad/ageofexp/portuguese_exp.php#)



# Portuguese Exploration

Vasco da Gama's voyage opened a new trade route between Portugal and India. They were now in a position to control the spice trade of the Indian Ocean. Spices and dyes from India were in high demand in Europe.





# Portuguese Exploration

What was the attraction of sea trade, since it was so dangerous at the time?

Transporting goods by sea cost 20% of what it cost to ship goods over land. Merchants could charge lower prices and still make a tremendous profit.

Also, since prices were lower, more people could afford these “luxury” items.

Click here to  
discover the most  
common hazards  
for these early  
explorers!



# Spanish Exploration

The Spanish started their exploration looking for a westerly route to Asia. This daring idea came from Christopher Columbus.

Columbus was an Italian navigator who was eventually sponsored by Queen Isabella of Spain, after being turned down by many including Prince Henry the Navigator.



**Christopher Columbus**

Was Columbus from Chios? (n.d.). Christopher Columbus. Retrieved July 30, 2006 from: <http://www.magicaljourneys.com/Chios/chios-interest-columbus.html>



# Spanish Exploration

Columbus sailed with three ships outfitted by Queen Isabella – the *Niña*, the *Pinta* and the *Santa Maria*.

Columbus made landfall on October 12, 1492; however, he did not land on Asia.

On his first voyage he found the islands of San Salvador, Hispaniola and Cuba.



The Mariners' Museum. (2004). Christopher Columbus. Retrieved July 30, 2006 from: [http://www.mariner.org/education/ad/ageofex/columbus\\_1st.php#](http://www.mariner.org/education/ad/ageofex/columbus_1st.php#).

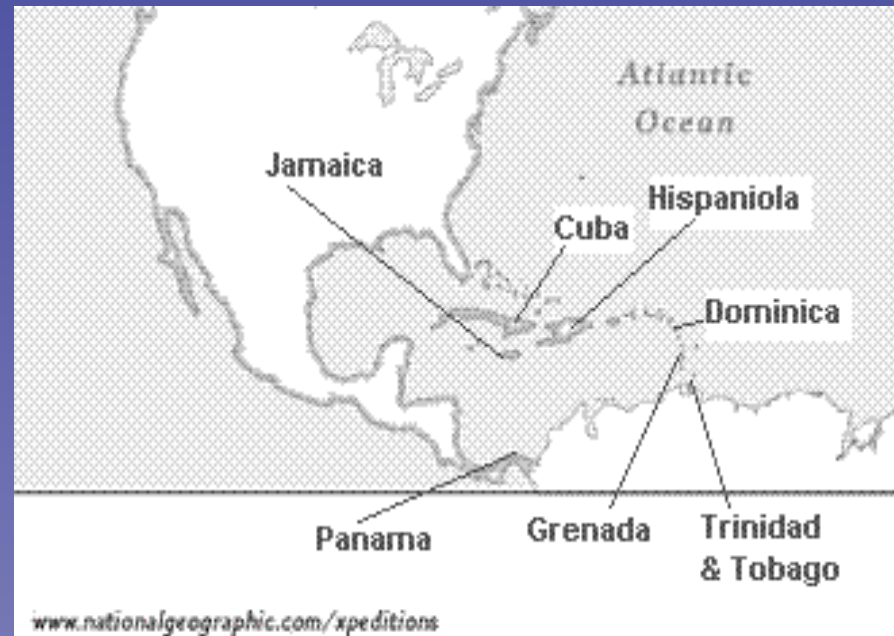


# Spanish Exploration

Columbus made three subsequent voyages.

On these voyages he discovered the islands of Dominica, Jamaica, Trinidad, Tobago, and Grenada.

In addition, he may have anchored off the coast of Panama.



## Caribbean Islands

National Geographic Society. 2003. Xpeditions. Retrieved July 15, 2006 from: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/atlas/index.html>.

Map labeled through MS Paint.



# Spanish Exploration

Although it is believed that Columbus actually found the Americas, he died believing that he had found a westerly route to Asia. Although he did not find Asia, his voyages opened the way for future exploration and colonization of America.



**Replicas of Columbus' ships**

Mooney, Sharon. (2006). Christopher Columbus. Retrieved August 7, 2006  
from: [http://www.encyclopedia.edwardtbabinski.us/who/c/columbus\\_christopher/](http://www.encyclopedia.edwardtbabinski.us/who/c/columbus_christopher/).



# Spanish Exploration

Amerigo Vespucci was a noted Italian sailor and navigator who sailed for Spain and later Portugal. While traveling with Columbus (and then others), he documented the journey and mapped the new territory.

It was this mapping of the Amazon River, Orinoco River and South American coastline that led him to determine that they had found a new land area – not Asia.



**Amerigo Vespucci**

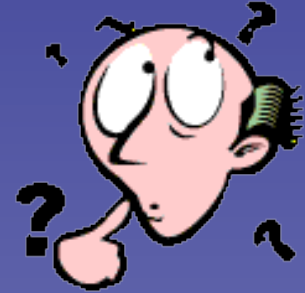
The Mariners' Museum. (2004). Americus Vesputius. Retrieved July 30, 2006 from: <http://www.mariner.org/educationalad/ageofex/magellan.php>.





# Spanish Exploration

How did America get its name?



Amazingly enough, the continents acquired their name by accident. Amerigo Vespucci sold his maps to a German cartographer, Martin Waldseemüller . The cartographer published the maps with Amerigo's name on the land mass to give him credit for the map. People misunderstood this labeling and thought the new land was called Amerigo, or America.



# Spanish Exploration

Another notable voyage to the “New World” was that of Vasco Nunez de Balboa. Balboa is credited with setting up the first stable European settlement in the “New World.” While this is a noteworthy feat, he is most often remembered for something else...



Lindner, Debra. (2005).  
Digital Photograph of boat  
engraving.



# Spanish Exploration



**Balboa reaching the Pacific Ocean**

History Central. (2005). Vasco Nunez de Balboa (1475-1519). Retrieved August 7, 2006 from: <http://www.historycentral.com/WH1400-1900/Biographies/Balboa.html>.

...being the first European to see the West Coast of the Americas – thus the eastern boundary of the Pacific Ocean.

Balboa and his men traveled from their settlement across the Isthmus of Panama and claimed the Ocean and all the land touching it for Spain.



# Spanish Exploration

While Balboa is often credited with naming the Pacific Ocean, Ferdinand Magellan actually named the ocean.

Magellan wanted to explore the new waters that Balboa had found. After sailing through the rough waters around the southern tip of South America (now called the Straits of Magellan), Magellan named the calm waters the *Mar Pacifico* - the peaceful sea.



**Ferdinand Magellan**

Dowling, Mike. (2002). The Electronic Passport to Magellan. Retrieved July 30, 2006 from: <http://www.mrdowling.com/704-magellan.html>.



# Spanish Exploration

Ferdinand Magellan's goal was to circumnavigate the earth by sailing through the Pacific Ocean to Asia and then on to Europe - thus proving that the earth was round. Magellan set off with 5 ships and about 250 crew members. Their journey was fraught with problems including wormy food, rancid water, low morale and stormy weather – especially off the southern coast of South America.



## Magellan's Ships

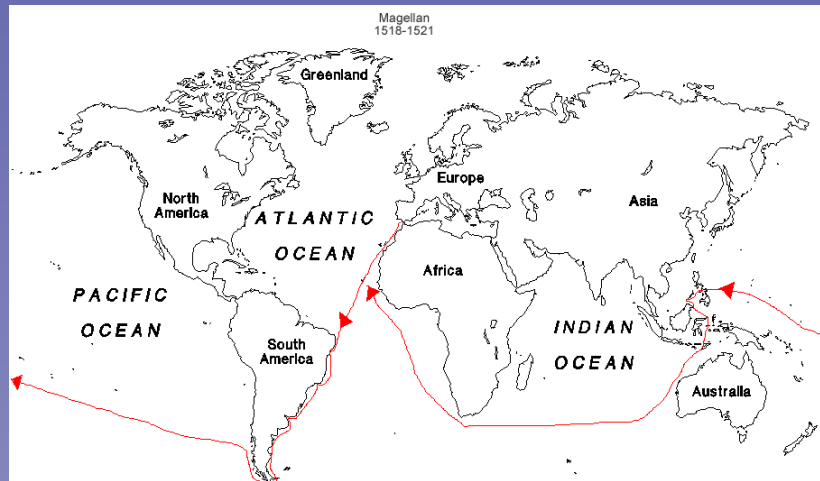
The Mariners' Museum. (2004). The Discovery of the Straits of Magellan. Retrieved July 15, 2006 from:

<http://www.mariner.org/educationalad/ageofex/magellan.php>.



# Spanish Exploration

Magellan and his crew made it to the Philippines; however, they became embroiled in a war with the natives during which Magellan was killed. His one remaining ship and 18 surviving crewmen eventually made it back to Europe, successfully completing the first circumnavigation of the earth.



## Magellan's Voyage

The Mariners' Museum. (2004). Ferdinand Magellan and the First Circumnavigation of the World . Retrieved July 30, 2006 from:  
<http://www.mariner.org/educationalad/ageofex/magellan.php>.





# Spanish Exploration

Although Magellan never completed the voyage, he was the captain of record and thus has gone down in history as the first to successfully circle the globe.



His voyage proved that the Pacific Ocean was larger than originally believed, all oceans were connected and that ocean winds could be predicted.



# Portuguese vs. Spanish

Exploration of the “New World” was cause for dispute between the Portuguese and Spanish explorers.

At first the Pope established an imaginary line called the Line of Demarcation. This line granted Spain everything to the west of the line and Portugal everything east of the line.

Spain

Portugal



# Portuguese vs. Spanish



This map made after the Treaty of Tordesillas clearly shows the boundary line cutting through the South American continent

North Park University. (n.d.). Treaty of Tordesillas. Retrieved July 30, 2006 from:  
<http://campus.northpark.edu/history/WebChron/Americas/Tordesillas.html>

After some dispute and the threat of war, diplomats from Spain and Portugal met and drew up the Treaty of Tordesillas.

This treaty moved the Line of Demarcation further west. This gave Portugal present day Brazil and Spain the rest of the Americas.

While the Line of Demarcation was not equitable, it did help to eliminate some competition and discord during the Age of Exploration.



# Results of Exploration

The Age of Exploration began as the quest for “God, Gold and Glory.”



Seed, Patricia. (2002). Latin Caravel.  
Retrieved August 7, 2006 from:  
<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~feegi/ship.html>

It led to:

- ✓ discovery of both easterly & westerly routes to Asia
- ✓ circumnavigation of the globe
- ✓ disproving of traditional myths about the earth
- ✓ opening of the world for further exploration, colonization and conquest



# Glossary

**Astrolabe** – An early navigational device used to find latitude at sea by observing the positions of the sun, moon and stars.

**Bullion** – Bars of gold and silver.

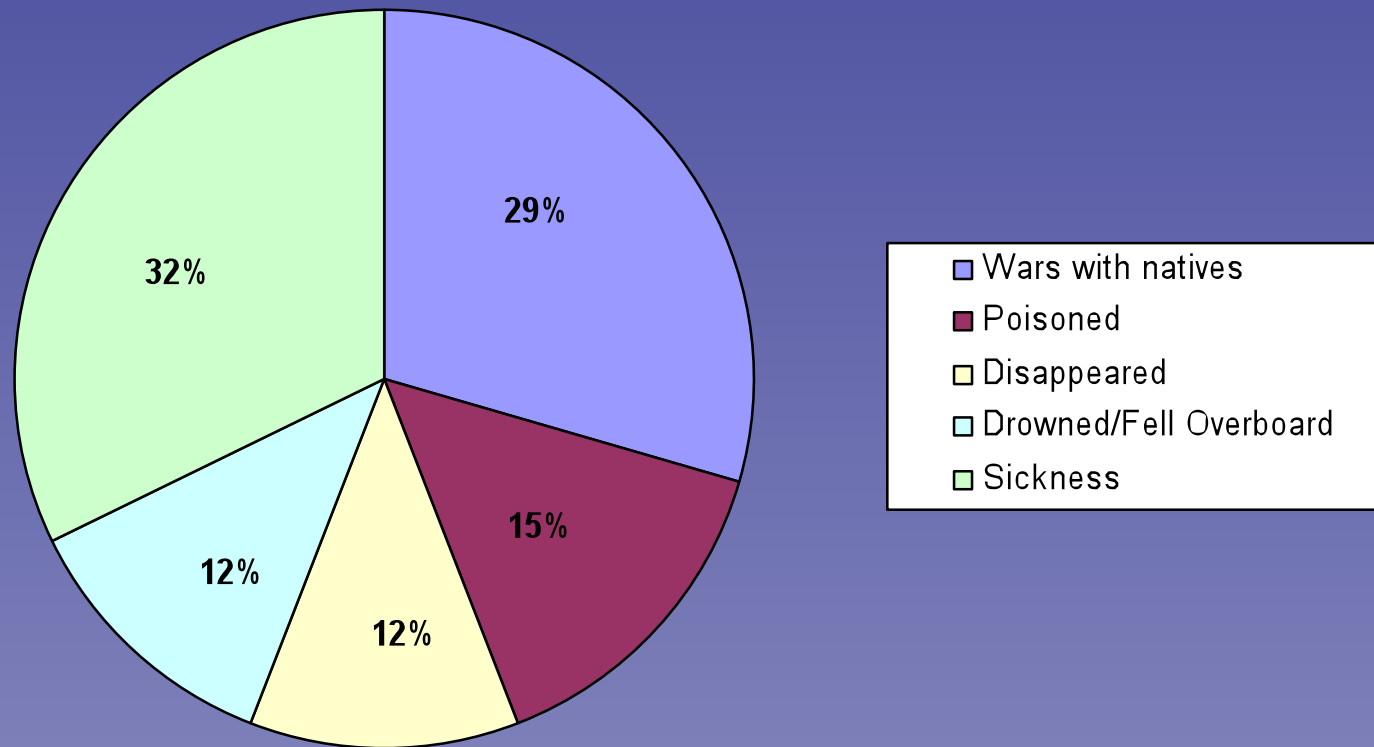
**Cartographer** – Map maker.

**Circumnavigate** – to sail completely around something; in this context, to sail completely around the earth.

**Monopoly** – complete control over a good or service.



# Top 5 Causes of Death for Early European Explorers



Information compiled from: Engles, Andre. (2002). Exploration is Risky Business. Retrieved July 30, 2006 from: <http://www.win.tue.nl/~engels/discovery/death.html>.

