


Journey to the Americas




Christopher Columbus
Admiral Of The Ocean Sea
 (1451-5/20/1506)

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In 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean blue...

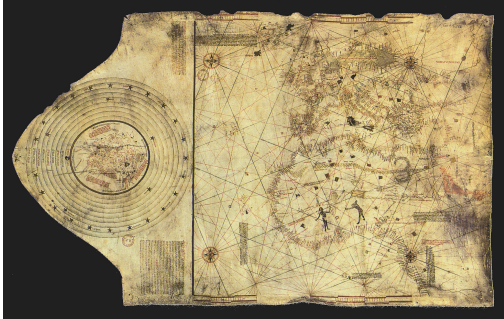
- Christopher Columbus was an Italian mapmaker, explorer and favorite of the King Ferdinand II and Queen Isabella I of Spain
- He was living in Europe and decided he would like a funded exploration to sail west to the Indies
- In the Indies he planned to gather precious gold and spices to bring back to England



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A. Columbus left his fathers trade as a weaver and set out for a life on the sea between the ages of 10-14.

B. Genoa Italy was the center for the spice trade throughout the Mediterranean Sea.

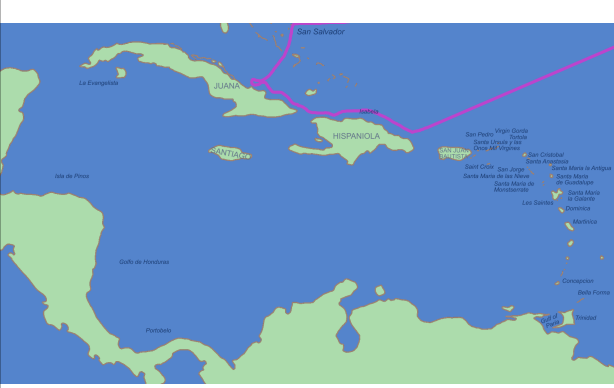


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Where ya headed?

- Columbus originally planned to sail to the Indies
- To sail to the Indies you must sail east, Columbus sailed west
- He and the crew spent over two months at sea
- He finally landed in present day Bahamas

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• The Santa Maria Ran aground on Christmas morning and the ship was destroyed.

• The Captain of the Pinta sailed off without Columbus to claim the glory.

• Columbus was forced to leave 40 men behind and load the Nina with the remaining crew and sail for Spain.

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• Columbus reached Spain before The Pinta on March 15, 1493.

• The Queen was presented with gold, birds, several surviving natives, and stories of great cities of gold.

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Columbus never stepped foot in North America

He made four trips and found the Bahamas, Carribean, Haiti and Cuba

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Line of Demarcation

- Pope Alexander VI drew an imaginary line down the middle of the Atlantic from Pole to pole..

- The Treaty of Tordesillas moved the line further West.

- This treaty divided the New World between Spain and Portugal.



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Despite the popular misconception that Christopher Columbus discovered North America, he never actually did set foot there. Through four different excursions starting in 1492, Columbus explored the coasts of Central and South America, landing on various Caribbean islands, including what is now known as the Bahamas and Hispaniola.

Scholars believe that the island Columbus first landed on, which he dubbed "San Salvador," is one of the islands in the Bahamas: either Plana Cays, Samana Cays, or San Salvador Island (which was named that in 1925 because of the theory that that's where Columbus landed). The island that he landed on was called "Guanahani" by the native people who lived there, including the Arawak, Taino, and Lucayan.

Columbus also explored the coast of Cuba and the Bay of Rincón on this first expedition.

There is some debate as to the actual location of his landing, although he named the place "San Salvador," meaning "blessed Savior." Best evidence is that he landed on present day Watling Island in the Caribbean. Columbus' journals do not provide sufficient information to more nearly identify the location.

One thing is certain: the Indians whom Columbus met were the Arawak (sometimes identified as Taino) Indians. They were very peaceful and welcoming. Had he landed one island over, he would have met the Caribs, who were a fierce, cannibalistic people. Had he landed there, chances are they would have been happy to have him for dinner, so to speak.

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Cuba

He landed in Cuba on October 28, 1492

To honor to the Catholic Kings' daughter, his benefactors, he called the island Juana, first of various names that successively this island received at this time; finally it was called Cuba like a variant of her aboriginal name: Cubanascan.

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Haiti-
The recorded history of Haiti began on 4 December 1492 when the European navigator Christopher Columbus happened upon a large island in the region
It was inhabited by the Taino, an Arawakan people, who variously called their island Ayiti, Bohio, or Kiskeya (Quisqueya).
Columbus promptly claimed the island for the Spanish Crown, naming it La Isla Española ("the Spanish Island"), later Latinized to Hispaniola.

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