

# TIMELINE: The Age of Exploration

1492 Columbus-Sailed westward to reach Asia. ITALY

1493 Instead, he landed in the Americas\*. Columbus was significant for two major reasons:

1. He landed on two continents that Europe did not know existed.
2. He was the first person to establish a long-term relationship between Europe and the Americas. The sharing of goods and ideas between the New World and the Old World is known as the Columbian Exchange.

\*In 1501, Amerigo Vespucci sailed along the coast of Brazil. He went home to Italy and told folks that this was not Asia. In Florence, he sought out Lorenzo de Medici, Europe's richest banker. Medici popularized Vespucci. Both continents - North and South America - were named after his first name, "Amerigo".

1497 John Cabot – Explored eastern Canada ENGLAND  
He made the first English voyage to North America.  
From then on, England claimed the mainland of North America.

1498 Vasco da Gama – Sailed east to Asia PORTUGAL  
Went around Africa and sailed across the Indian Ocean to India.  
Proved Asia could be reached by sea.

1500 Pedro Alvarez Cabral – Sailed to Brazil PORTUGAL  
He claimed Brazil for Portugal.

1513 Ponce de Leon – Sailed to Florida SPAIN  
Claimed Florida for Spain. This led to the exploration and settlement of  
the U.S.

1513 Balboa – Sailed to Panama

SPAIN

This was the narrowest piece of land between the Atlantic and Pacific. He walked across it and became the first European to see the eastern shore of the Pacific Ocean.

His discovery led to Magellan's voyage west – across the Pacific

His discovery led to Pizarro's voyage south – to the Inca Empire in Peru.

1519 Magellan –

PORTUGAL

Sailed around South America and across the Pacific Ocean, to get to Asia.

His expedition was the first to circumnavigate the world.

Because of the danger of his voyage, he is considered to be a top-notch navigator. <..\Desktop\YouTube - Magellan scientific Voyage around the world in 1519 -1522.mht>

1519 Cortez – Sailed to Mexico and conquered the Aztecs. SPAIN

His victory opened North America to Spanish rule.

1527 Cabeza da Vaca – walked across Texas. SPAIN

From Florida, sailed across the Gulf of Mexico to Texas. Then walked across Texas.

1527 Estevanico – walked across Texas. SPAIN

From Florida, sailed across the Gulf of Mexico to Texas. Then walked across Texas. Joined up with Coronado and traveled through the U.S. Southwest.

1532 Pizarro – Sailed to Peru and conquered the Inca. SPAIN

His conquest of Peru opened South America to Spanish rule.

1535 Cartier – Sailed to Canada. FRANCE

Sailed up the St. Lawrence River to Montreal

1540 Coronado – Led an expedition through the U.S. Southwest SPAIN

His men were the first Europeans to see the Grand Canyon

1540 De Soto – Led an expedition through the U.S. Southeast SPAIN  
He hunted for gold in places like the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi.  
His men were the first Europeans to see the Mississippi River.

1565 The Spanish founded St. Augustine, Florida SPAIN  
It is the oldest city in the United States.

1585 Sir Walter Raleigh ENGLISH  
He tried to establish a colony at Roanoke, North Carolina.  
This colony disappeared and became known as the “Lost Colony.”

1577 Drake – First Englishman to sail around the world. ENGLAND  
Took the same route as Magellan

1607 The first permanent English colony was founded at Jamestown, Virginia. ENGLISH

Captain John Smith made sure the colony survived.

1610 Henry Hudson – He sailed on behalf of the Dutch. DUTCH

He sailed into Hudson Bay and up the Hudson River (New York).

He claimed New York and New York City for the Dutch.

He was searching for the Northwest Passage – a mythical waterway to get from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.

1620 Pilgrims on the Mayflower established a colony at ENGLISH

Plymouth, Massachusetts.