

Maps for Building and Understanding Europe

Erasmus+ Project 2016 - 2018

Greatest Navigators

Cristovão Colombo



Cristovão Colombo

Navigator and explorer who was born in Genoa, Italy in 1451 and died in Valladolid, Spain on May 20, 1506.

Cristovão Colombo was a Genoese navigator and the commander of the Spanish fleet that arrived in the lands of the American continent, called New World, on October 12, 1492.

At the age of 14 he began sailing on merchant ships that traveled along the coast of Liguria. At the age of 22, he commanded a ship chartered by Renato II D'Anjour, claimant to the throne of Naples, with the aim of intercepting a vessel of the king of Aragon, João II.

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In 1477 he participated in an expedition that arrived in Iceland. In the 9 years that he stayed in Portugal (1476-1485) he designed maps and made several trips, one to Genoa and others along the African coast. He took care of the interests of important Genoese firms.

As we shown in the map below which contains the events chronology:





First trip

- **August 3, 1492** - Cristovão Colombo left the port of Palos de la Frontera where it is considered the starting point of the conquest of America. Three vessels participated: the caravel Pinta, the caravel Niña and the Santa Maria ship, under the command of Martín Alonso Pinzón, Vicente Yáñez Pinzón and Juan de la Cosa.
- **16 September** - the vessels reached the Sargassos Sea and on October 12 arrived on the Island of Guanahani.

Second trip

- **25 September 1493** - a new expedition led by Colombo left from Cadiz, Spain. It consisted of 3 ships and 14 caravels.
November 3 - arrived on an islet of the Lesser Antilles (Desired Islands) and Maria Galanda after reaching Guadalupe, Martinique and Puerto Rico. It was on the second voyage that Colombo created the first European city in the Americas, called Isabela, now the Dominican Republic.
- **November 12** - they visited Hispaniola, looking for the colony left on the first trip, but the natives had destroyed them, then left another part of the crew. Before returning to Spain, Colombo left his brother, the capital of Santo Domingo, under the command of Bartolomeu. Upon arriving in his native land, he was accused of being a tyrant and thus lost all his glory before the Crown.

Tirth trip

- **1498** - Colombo performs the third trip discovering Trinidad and stepping for the first time on the continent of South America This trip was funded by the monarchs with six ships. After a stop in the Canary Islands, three ships went to Spain and three went ahead with Colombo.
- **August 31** - he returns to Spain and finds the inhabitants without food and in revolution.

Fourth trip

- **1500** - after being imprisoned, Colombo returned on his fourth voyage, passing through Honduras and Panama, judging to be Indochina and insisently seeking the Straits of Malacca.
- **1504** - returning to Europe, he was ignored, and died in 1506 discredited.

Vasco da gama

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&

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9th A Grade

