

Ferdinand Magellan



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1. Who was Magellan?

- ❖ He studied mapmaking and navigation.
- ❖ By his mid-20s, he was sailing in large fleets.
- ❖ In 1519, with the support of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, he set out to find a better route to the Spice Islands.
- ❖ He assembled a fleet of ships which, despite huge setbacks and Magellan's death, circumnavigated the world in a single voyage.





2. Early life

- ❖ Magellan was born in Portugal, either in the city of Porto or in Sabrosa, circa 1480.
- ❖ His parents were members of the Portuguese nobility. After their deaths, Magellan became a page for the queen, at the age of 10.
- ❖ He studied at Queen Leonora's School of Pages in Lisbon.
- ❖ He spent his days poring over texts on cartography, astronomy and celestial navigation.
- ❖ He married Beatriz Barbosa in 1515 in Seville and they had two children: Rodrigo and Carlos.



3. Navigator and explorer


- ❖ In 1505, he joined a Portuguese fleet that was sailing to East Africa.
- ❖ By 1509, he found himself at the Battle of Diu, in which the Portuguese destroyed Egyptian ships in the Arabian Sea. 
- ❖ Two years later, he explored Malacca, located in present day Malaysia, and participated in the conquest of Malacca's port.
- ❖ After participating in battle of Azamor (Morocco), he was accused of illegally trading with the Moors. When several of accusations were verified, the job offers stopped on May 15, 1514. 

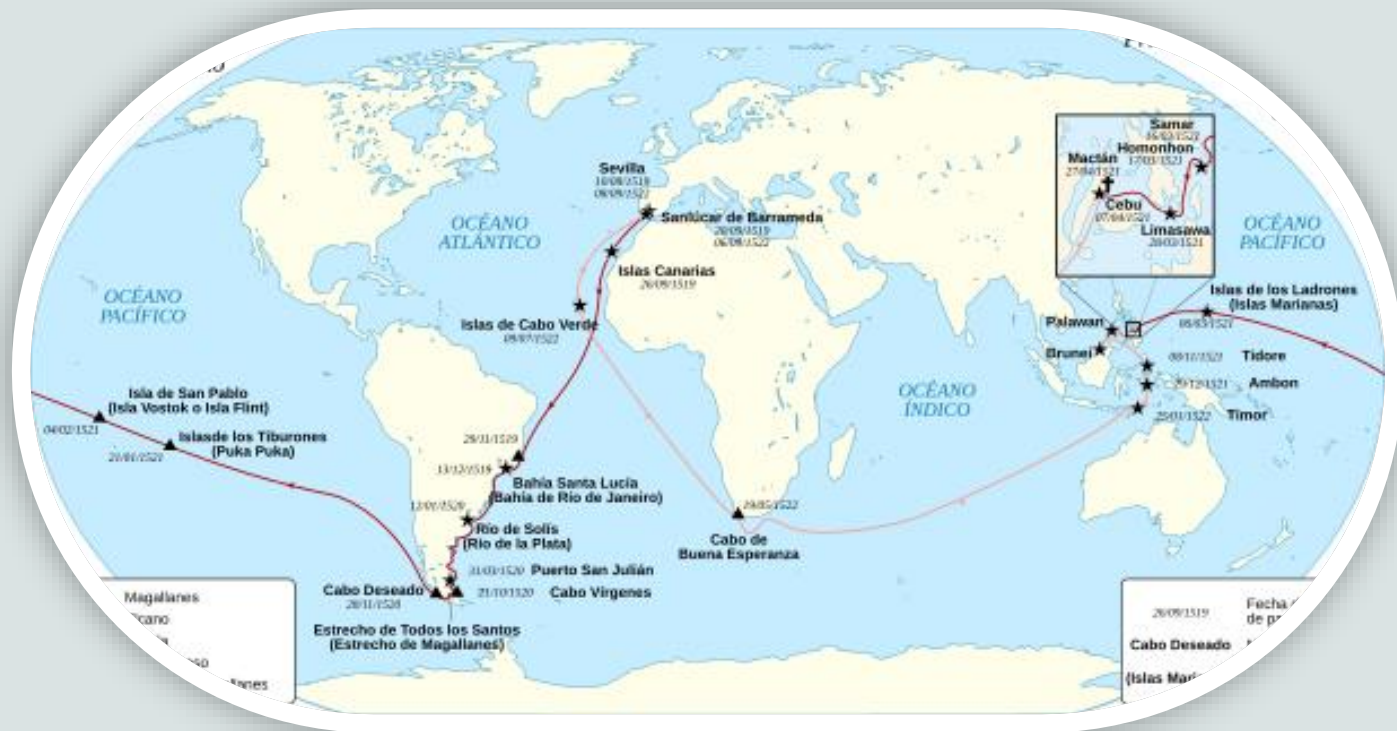
3. Navigator and explorer

- ❖ In 1515 he was offered to be part of the crew of a Portuguese ship, but he rejected the offer.
- ❖ Back in Lisbon, he devoted himself to studying the most recent letters, investigating together with the cosmographer Rui Faleiro a passage to the Pacific through the South Atlantic and the possibility that the Moluccas were in the Spain zone defined in the Treat of Tordesillas.



3.1. Circumnavigation of the globe

- ❖ In 1517 he went to Seville with Rui Faleiro and found in Juan de Aranda, an important ally for the project he had conceived: to give Spain the possibility of reaching the Moluccas from the west and in addition to that, to prove that the “spice islands” were in the Castilian hemisphere. At the end they got the approval of King Charles I.
- ❖ On August 10, 1519, the squadron of five ships, led by Magellan, left Seville and descending the Guadalquivir, reached Sanlúcar de Barrameda. 
- ❖ On September 20, the expedition set sail from Sanlúcar, with the intention of finding the maritime passage towards the territories of the East Indies and looking for the way that would reach the Spicy islands.



3.1. Circumnavigation of the globe

- ❖ After landing in the Canaries, they passed in front of the islands of Cabo Verde and the coasts of Sierra Leone on December 13, 1519.
- ❖ They continued south, passing Rio de la Plata in March 1520, and they reached San Julian Bay, which they explored in search of a possible passage.
- ❖ On May 22, the Santiago, under the command of Juan Serrano, was shipwrecked while exploring the southern coast of Patagonia.
- ❖ Upon reaching the mouth of what would become the Strait of Magellan, the Concepción and San Antonio ships were ordered to explore the canal. The San Antonio ship returned to Spain and the Concepción ship crosses the canal. Crossing it was very difficult, given the complexity of the coasts.



3.1. Circumnavigation of the globe

- ❖ Fortune made the crossing through the Pacific Ocean calm, without any storm. On the contrary, the misfortune of not finding solid ground for three months.
- ❖ Finally, on March 6, 1521, he found an island where the navigators took the opportunity to rest and gather food. They had arrived at Island of Thieves.
- ❖ Looking for the Moluccas, Magellan and his people arrived on the island of Cebu. They had reached the Far East, fulfilling the Project of Christopher Columbus.
- ❖ Magellan perished on April 27, 1521 at the Battle of Mactan, fighting a Cebuana tribe led by the Lapulapu tribal chief, on the Philippine island of Mactan.



4. Chronology

- ❖ 1480: Date of birth of Ferdinand Magellan, in Sabrosa, north of Portugal.
- ❖ 1505: Part to India in the army of Francisco de Almeida.
- ❖ 1509: Under the command of Diogo Lopes de Sequeira participates in the disastrous expedition to Malacca.
- ❖ 1511: Participated together with Francisco Serrão in the conquest of Malacca.
- ❖ 1512 Returns to the peninsula.
- ❖ 1514: He is wounded in combat in Azamor (Morocco).
- ❖ 1517: He goes to Seville to present to Carlos I his plan to reach the spice islands from the west.
- ❖ 1519: Begins what will be the first circumnavigation trip; reaches Guanabara Bay.
- ❖ 1520: It reaches the estuary of Rio de la Plata; winters in San Julian Bay; a riot dominates; discovers and crosses the Strait of Magellan and empties into the Pacific.
- ❖ 1521: Discover the island of Thieves; discovers the archipelago of Philippines and dies in combat.
- ❖ 1522: Juan Sebastián Elcano finishes the first trip started by Ferdinand Magellan.

