



*Fernando  
de  
Magallanes*

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1° BAC



# 1. Biography

## 1.1 Origins and family

- Magellan was born in northern Portugal in 1480.
- He was the son of Rui de Magalhaes and Inês Vaz Moutinho.
- Magellan was about ten years old when he entered a serve as a page at the court of Queen Leonor, a consortium of John II of Portugal. He married in Seville in 1515 with Beatriz Barbosa, his relative, daughter of Diogo Barbosa and María Caldeira, and had two sons: Rodrigo, who died very young in October 1522, and Carlos who died at birth. Beatriz Barbosa also died soon after, in March 1522.

## 1.2 First trips

- In March 1505, at the age of twenty-five, he enlisted in the Indian Navy, in the fleet of 20 ships sent to install Francisco de Almeida as the first viceroy of India (although his name does not appear in the chronicles, he is known to have remained there for eight years and was in Goa, Cochín and Chiloa).
- He participated in several military actions, including the naval battle of Cananor (Kerala) where he was wounded, and in the decisive Battle of Diu.



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- In 1509 he departed on the first expedition to Malacca commanded by Diogo Lopes de Sequeira, along with Francisco Serrão, his friend and possibly cousin.
  - Arriving in Malacca in September, they were the victims of a conspiracy and the expedition ended up on the run leaving nineteen prisoners behind.
  - Magellan played a crucial role in alerting Sequeira and saving Serrão who had landed, acts that earned him honors and a promotion.
  - In the service of the new governor, Afonso de Albuquerque, he participated with Serrão in the conquest of Malacca in 1511. After the conquest of the city, the paths of friends separated: Magellan, promoted, with a rich loot and in the company of a slave acquired in Sumatra, Henry of Malacca, returned to Europe.
  - Serrão departed on the first expedition sent to the "islands of the species", the Moluccas. There he remained and married a woman from Amboina, becoming a military adviser to the sultan of Ternate. His letters to Magellan would be decisive, as he obtained information from them on the situation of the spice-producing places.
  - Later, in 1515, he was offered to be part of the crew of a Portuguese ship, but rejected the offer. Back in Lisbon, he devoted himself to studying the most recent letters, researching with the cosmographer Rui Faleiro a passage to the Pacific through the South Atlantic and the possibility that the Moluccas were in the Spanish area defined in the Treaty of Tordesillas.



## 1.3 Balloon circumnavigation

### 1.3.1. Preparations for the expedition

- In 1517 he went to Seville with Rui Faleiro and found in Juan de Aranda, the factor of the Sevillian Contracting House, an important ally for the project he had conceived: to give Spain the possibility of reaching the Moluccas in the West, without crossing seas reserved for the Portuguese by the Treaty of Tordesillas and, on top of that, according to Faleiro , prove that the "islands of the species" were in the Spanish hemisphere. With the influence of Juan Rodríguez de Fonseca, Bishop of Burgos, they obtained the approval of King Charles I.
- On March 22, 1518 Charles I appointed Magellan and Faleiro admirals to set out on the search for the "islands of the species", and in July he elevated them to the rank of commanders of the Order of Santiago and granted them a set of privileges.
  - The monopoly of the route discovered over the end of ten years.
  - The appointment as governors of the lands and islands they found, with five percent of the net profits resulting.
  - A twenty-twentieth of the trip's profits.
  - The right to retain a thousand ducats on upcoming trips, paying only five percent on the surplus.
  - Granting an island to each, except for the six richest of which would receive only a fifteenth part.

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- The slow preparations for the journey began, that were riddled with incidents: insufficient funds, maneuvers of the King of Portugal, Manuel I, who sought to imprison them, distrust of the Castilians towards Magellan and the other Portuguese involved, not forgetting the difficult character of Faleiro.<sup>8</sup> Through the Bishop of Burgos, obtain the participation of the merchant Cristóbal de Haro who supplies a portion of the funds and the goods to trocar for spices. The Portuguese cartographer Diego Ribero, at the service of the Contracting House since 1518, participated in the development of the maps used in the trip.
  - After breaking up with Faleiro, Magallanes continued to rig the ships that were to depart Seville. The crew consisted of sailors from very different backgrounds, mainly Spaniards from almost all regions. Among the few Portuguese sailors were Alvaro de Mezquita, Magellan's cousin brother, Duarte Barbosa, cousin of Magellan's wife, Juan Serrano, cousin or brother of Francisco Serrao and Esteban Gómez. Magellan was also accompanied by his slave Henry of Malacca, who according to some sources would be the first person to circumnavigate the planet.
  - Antonio Pigafetta, Venetian chronicler and geographer, who participated in the expedition at his own expense, wrote a complete diary of the trip, made possible by the fact that he was one of the few travelers to return alive to Europe. In this way, he bequeathed to posterity a rare and important record from which much can be drawn from what is known from this episode of the story.

### 1.3.2. Start of the journey

- On August 10, 1519, the squadron of five ships departed from Seville, captained by Fernando de Magallanes who, descending the Guadalquivir, reached Sanlúcar de Barrameda (Cádiz). During the following weeks, the squadron was completed and other matters were resolved. While Magellan himself granted a will in Seville on 24 August, appointing his son Rodrigo and the creatures to be given birth to his wife, to which he became pregnant.
- On 20 September the expedition finally sailed from Sanlúcar, with the intention of finding the sea passage to the territories of the East Indies and looking for the path that, always traveling Castilian seas (according to the Treaty of Tordesillas), reached the islands of spices, what was the so-called route to the west that Christopher Columbus had already sought.



### 1.3.3. Atlantic Crossing

- After climbing the Canary Islands, they passed off the islands of Cape Verde and the coasts of Sierra Leone, touching the lands of what is now Rio de Janeiro on December 13, 1519. They continued south, passing by the Río de la Plata (already discovered by Juan Díaz de Solís in 1516) in March 1520, and arrived at The Bay of St Julian, which they explored in search of a possible passage. Magellan, in view of the arrival of winter, decided to recalar there until spring.

### 1.3.4. Rebellion during the winter in Patagonia

- The desire to return in what was considered a failure for not having found its way to the Moluccas, coupled with the inhospitable of the place and the conditions of navigation caused discontent among the crew.
- They barely anchored in the port of St Julian's, when the captains of the other four ships hatched a mutiny to kill the commander-in-chief. The conspirators were: Juan de Cartagena, rodent; Luis de Mendoza, treasurer; Antonio de Coca, accountant; Gaspar de Quesada, captain of the Concepcion. After the plot failed, Magellan sentenced Gaspar de Quesada to death, and had his body quartered next to that of Luis de Mendoza, who had died during the revolt. Juan de Cartagena was left on the ground, along with cleric Sánchez de Reina, on 21 August 1520 from the port of San Julian, with nothing known after them.
- On May 22, the Santiago, under Juan Serrano, was shipwrecked while exploring Patagonia's southern coast. Magellan appoints Serrano captain of the Concepcion and Duarte Barbosa captain of victory.



### 1.3.5. Discovery of the Strait of Magellan

- Arriving at the mouth of what would be the Strait of Magellan, the ships Concepción and San Antonio were ordered to explore the canal. The nave San Antonio, with Alvaro de Mezquita was advanced, at which point the pilot Esteban Gómez and the treasurer Jerome Guerra depose Mosque to clear the way at night and return to Spain. The ship Concepción under Captain Juan Serrano crosses the canal and waits in vain for the Nave San Antonio. Crossing it was very difficult, given the complicated coastlines. Once these meticulous stages were completed, they managed to get out of the "labyrinth" towards the South Sea.

### 1.3.6. In the Pacific

- Fortune caused the voyage through the Pacific Ocean, which is named after him (that he would remain, making the former South Sea forget) because of the calm, because he did not encounter any storms. On the other hand, the unselling of not finding land until after three months.
- Because the crew of the ship carrying the groceries fled back to Spain, famine and scurvy whipped their crew, to the point that they paid large coins for a simple rat to devour. The water rotted, the scurvy appeared and the men ate even softened leather and serrín.
- Finally on March 6, 1521, he found an island where sailors took the opportunity to rest and collect food. Soon many indigenous people would come to that island with gifts for these new "visitors", had arriving on the island of thieves (probably the present island of Guam) in the Mariana archipelago.

### 1.3.7. Death of Magellan in the Philippines

- Looking for the Moluccas, Magellan and his own arrived on the island of Cebu, belonging to the archipelago that would later become known as "Philippine Islands" in honor of Philip II. They had reached the Far East, fulfilling Christopher Columbus' project.
- Magellan perished on 27 April 1521 at the Battle of Mactan, fighting a Cebuan tribe led by tribal chief Lapulapu on the Philippine island of Mactan.



## *2. Return trip, captained by Elcano*

### 2.1 The expedition after Magellan's death

- ▶ After Magellan's death in the Philippines, the expedition members decided to burn the *Conception*, being distributed on the remaining two ships. He was elected head of the expedition and captain of the *nao Trinidad* Gonzalo Gómez de Espinosa, and at the head of the *nao Victoria* he became captain to Juan Sebastián Elcano. After arriving at the Moluccas Islands, the object of the voyage, and carrying the spices, he set out on his way back to Spain.
- ▶ The *Trinity* sailed poorly and had to stay in the port of Tidore to be repaired and return through the Pacific to Panama. Elcano finally took command of the return expedition, choosing to sail the Portuguese seas to the west, bordering Africa along known routes and with the possibility of watering, even having to dodge Portuguese ports and fleets.

### 2.2. Arrival in Spain of *nao Victoria* captained by Elcano

- ▶ The expedition arrived only with victory back to Seville in September 1522, after almost three years of crossing. In total, 216 men perished during the journey, and only 18, including Juan Sebastián Elcano, were able to survive. Four other men from the 55 of the original *Trinity* crew, who had embarked on a different return route from the Philippines and was captured by the Portuguese, finally returned to Spain in 1525.

- ▶ The Nao Victoria on a map of Abraham Ortelius from 1589
- ▶ After crossing the Indian Ocean and turning to Africa, Juan Sebastián Elcano completed the first circumnavigation of the globe, managing to complete the expedition and reach the port of departure, Seville, on September 8, 1522 in nao Victoria, along with 17 other survivors, which was the achievement of an imposing feat for the time.
- ▶ Elcano, eager to reach Seville, barely stopped in Sanlúcar de Barrameda. On the same day of arrival he took at his service a ship to tow victory by the Guadalquivir to Seville, because of the bad condition in which the ship was located. The officers of the House of The Contracting of Indies of Seville prepared a boat with 12 oars, loaded with fresh supplies, at the pier awaited the authorities of the city and the members of the Contracting House in full, together with a large audience contemplating the arrival of the haped ship.
- ▶ The expedition had left Seville on August 10, 1519, initially composed of five ships: Trinidad, captain ship under Magellan, Victoria, San Antonio, Concepción and Santiago.



Não Victoria



### *3. Chronology*

- ▶ 1480: Date of birth of Fernando de Magallanes, in Sabrosa, northern Portugal.
- ▶ 1505: Part for India in the navy of Francisco de Almeida.
- ▶ 1509: Under the command of Diogo Lopes de Sequeira he participates in the disastrous expedition to Malacca and makes great friendship with Francisco Serrao.
- ▶ 1511: Participates with Francisco Serrcao, under the command of Afonso de Albuquerque, in the conquest of Malacca.
- ▶ 1512: Return to the peninsula.
- ▶ 1514: Wounded in combat in Azamor (Morocco).
- ▶ 1517: He heads to Seville to present to Charles I his plan to reach the spice islands by the West.
- ▶ 1519: Initiates what will be the first journey of circumnavigation; reach Guanabara Bay.
- ▶ 1520: Reaches the estuary of the Río de la Plata; spends the winter in St Julian's Bay; dominates a mutiny; discovers and crosses the Strait of Magellan and flows into the Pacific. For this reason currently in Chile, the Magellan region and Chilean Antarctica bears his surname.
- ▶ 1521: Discover the Island of Thieves (Mariana Islands); discover the archipelago of the Philippines and die in combat.
- ▶ 1522: Juan Sebastián Elcano ends the first journey initiated by Fernando de Magallanes.

## 4. Monuments



Fernando de Magallanes at the Monument to the Discoveries of Lisbon (Portugal).



Monument to Magellan in Mactan (Philippines) erected by the Government of Elizabeth II.



Statue of Fernando de Magallanes in Punta Arenas (Chile).



Monument "Legua Cero" commemorating the world's first circumnavigation in Sanlúcar de Barrameda (Spain).



Statue of Magellan in Ponte da Barca (Portugal).



Plaque of the monument commemorating the arrival of Magellan in Guam.



*...THE END...*

*Thank you very much!*