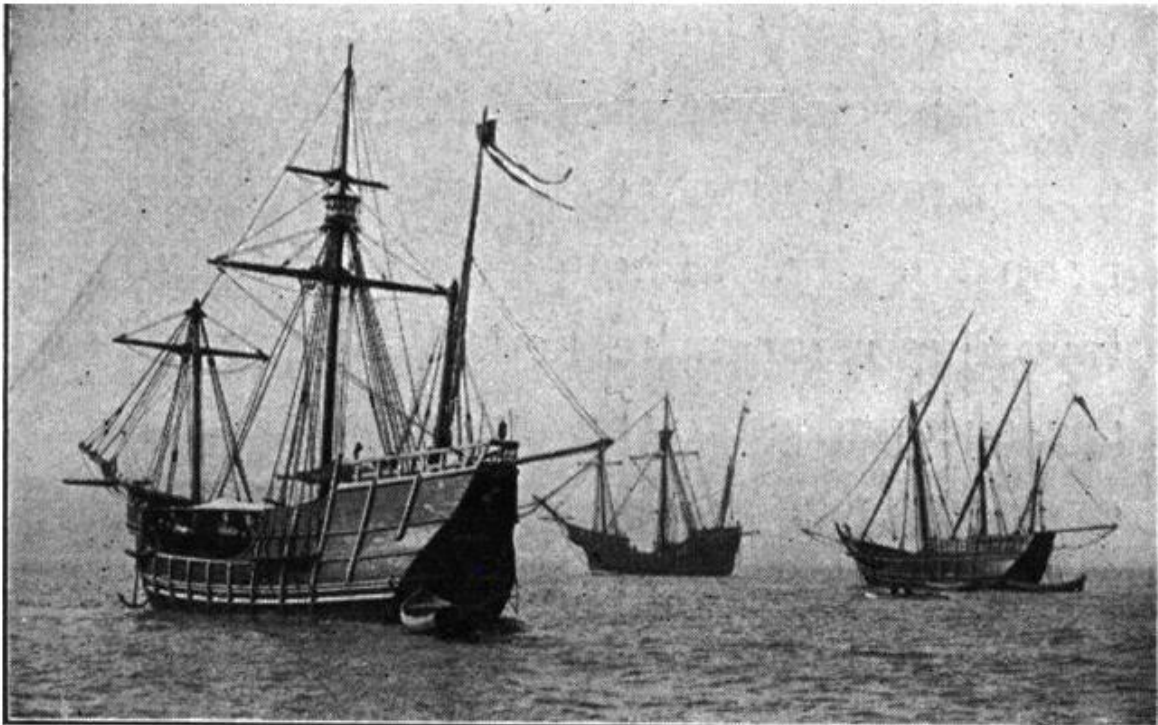


Assessing the Results of Columbus' Voyages

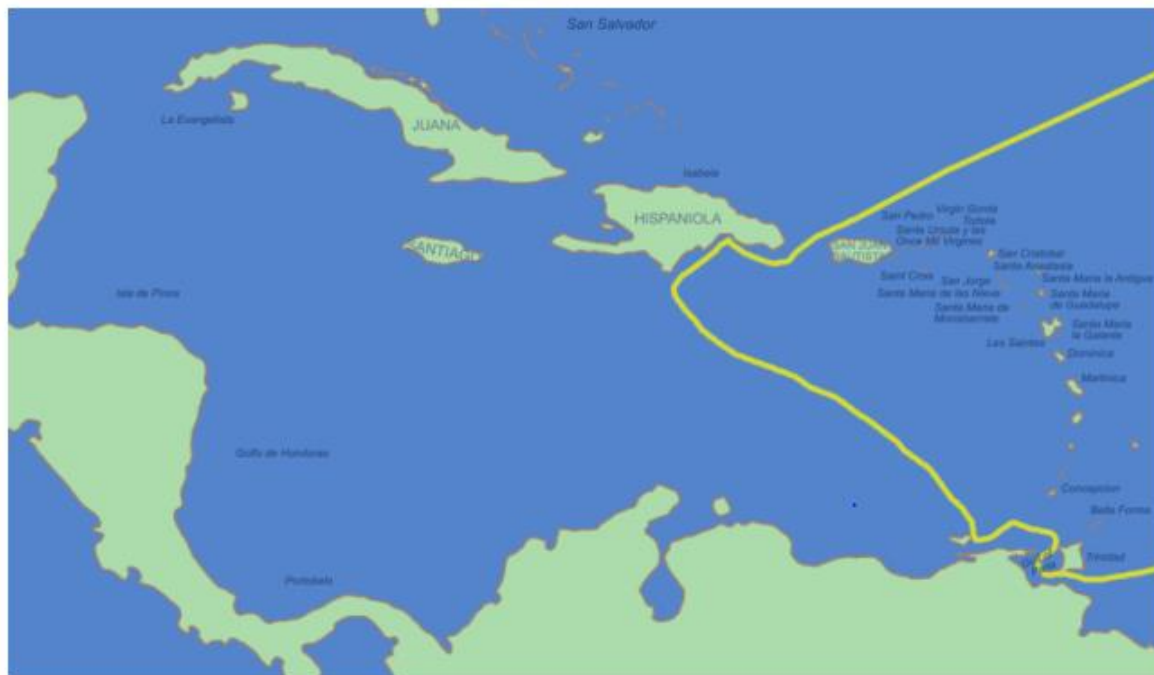
New World Encounters: Clash of Cultures

On **August 3, 1492**, Columbus set sail from the port of Palos in Spain with three ships: the **Pinta**, the **Nina** and the **flagship, the Santa Maria**. On **October 12th**, after approximately six weeks at sea, though he did not know it, he set foot for the first time on **Caribbean** soil. He came ashore one of the many islands of the **Bahamas**, known to the indigenous peoples as **Guanahani**. Columbus not only claimed it for Spain but audaciously renamed it San Salvador, in honor of the Lord.

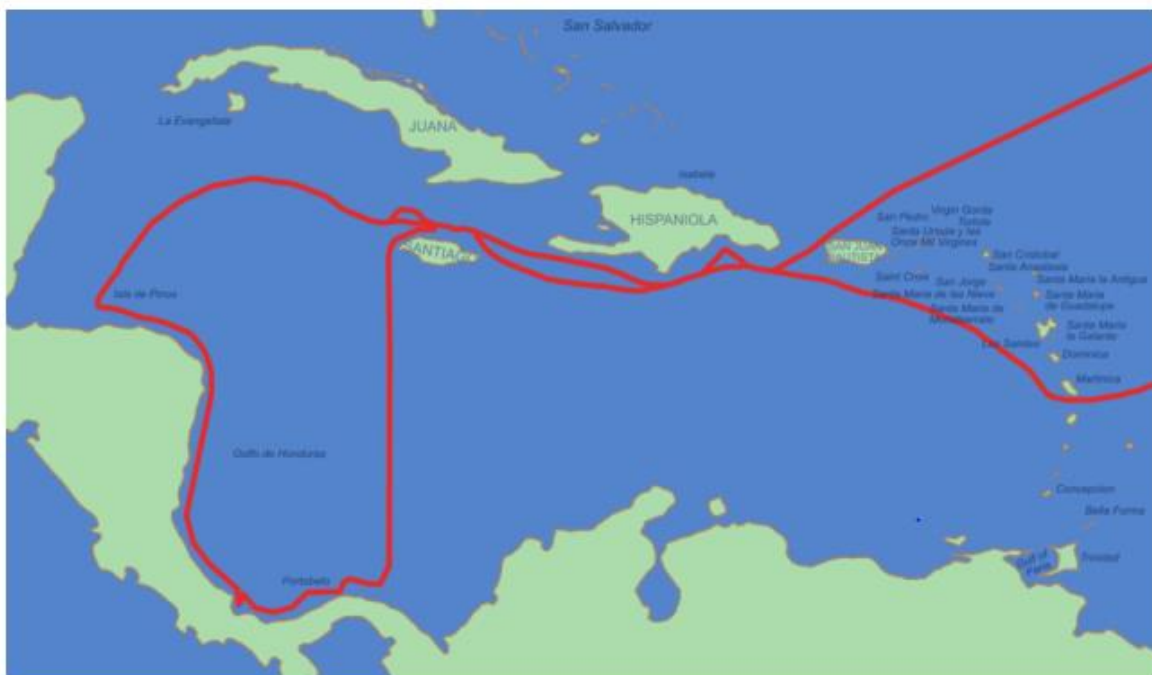
Columbus had not reached the Indies but his landing and subsequent claim of the Western Hemisphere by Spain would set in motion a chain of events that would change not just the Western Hemisphere but Africa and Europe forever.



Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria replicas



Columbus' third voyage



Columbus' fourth voyage

Effects for Spain

1. She came to own a vast new empire. In fact by the **Treaty of Tordesillas**, Pope Alexander IV divided the world into two in **1494**. Spain was now the 'legal' owner of the Western Hemisphere EXCEPT Brazil while Portugal was acclaimed owner of

the East and Brazil.

2. Needless to say she became a wealthy nation. By the sixteenth century, the Caribbean was used as a base from which to explore the American mainland. Here, they discovered large deposits of gold and other minerals that were extracted and sent to Spain in secured convoys.

3. Trade flourished between Spain and her colonies. She was able to get spices and other tropical goods that could survive the journey to Spain. In return she sent and sold a variety of goods and crops that was unknown to the indigenous peoples but could be grown in the Caribbean.

4. A large number of persons migrated from Spain to the New World. Many who were mere commoners and unemployed in their hometown of Spain came to the New World and became landowners, traders and so on. Others came by royal appointment to be officials of the new Spanish system of government in the New World, for example: governors, viceroys and mayors.

5. She became the envy of Europe and would later be forced to engage in various wars in a futile attempt to protect her empire.

6. The entire New World was forced to become Catholic. Spain sent out officials from the Church and almost immediately the work of forced conversion began.

Effects for Europe

1. They gained new and important geographical information.

2. The old superstition was destroyed. This allowed for the migration of various people from all over Europe to the New World and Africa.

3. Since quite a number of Europeans had migrated to the New World there was an increase in the demand for European goods.

4. Three of the other European nations in particular did NOT accept the Treaty of Tordesillas. Francis I King of France said "I should like to see the clause in Adam's will that excludes **me** from a share of the world." The King of England and Holland not only agreed with him but they joined in attacking Spain's monopoly of trade and colonies in the New World.