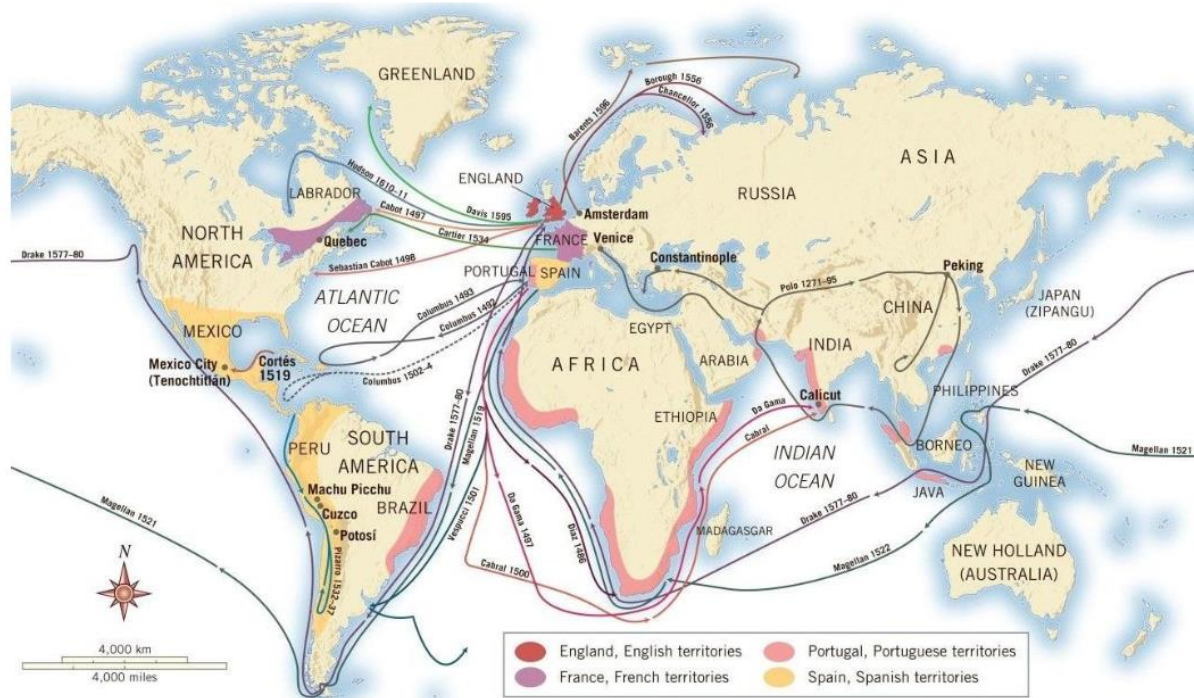


THE AGE OF DISCOVERY / GREAT EXPLORERS

<https://geology.com/world/world-map.shtml>

For nearly two centuries, countries from all over Europe participated in a series of exploratory trips overseas to previously-settled territories. This period of time in European history is known as the **Age of Exploration**, also commonly referred to as the **Age of Discovery**. In total, five European nations would throw their hats into the exploration ring in an attempt to find trade routes, merchant opportunities, and - ultimately - lands to conquer. These nations were Portugal, Spain, England, France, and the Netherlands.



NAME	NATIONALITY	CENTURY	AREA
Marco Polo	Italian	13 th /14 th	China, Mongol Empire, India
João Côrte-Real	Portuguese	15 th	Azores, Newfoundland (Possible exploration of North America in 1473)
Christopher Columbus	Italian (Genoese)	15 th /16 th	Bahamas, Caribbean, Central America, South America (Colombia and Venezuela)

Vasco da Gama	Portuguese	15th/16th	sea route from Europe to India
Ferdinand Magellan	Portuguese	15th/16th	1st circumnavigation, Philippines, Strait of Malacca, Indian Ocean
Amerigo Vespucci	Italian	15th/16th	Eastern South American coast, Caribbean
Hernán Cortés	Spanish	16th	Mexico
Francisco de Orellana	Spanish	16th	South America, Amazon River
James Cook	English	18th	Australasia, Oceania
Francisco Pizarro	Spanish	16th	Hispaniola, Panama, Peru