

## Film week 13

During the 15th century, mariners from different countries embarked on expeditions in search of new trade routes, territories, and resources. While each mariner had unique goals, there were some similarities and differences between them based on their country of origin.

One of the most notable groups of mariners during this period were the Portuguese. Led by Prince Henry the Navigator, they sought to find a sea route to Asia that would allow them to bypass the Arab traders who controlled the overland routes. Their voyages led to the discovery of new territories and resources, including the Cape of Good Hope, which became a crucial stopover for ships traveling to India. Additionally, they established colonies in Brazil, Angola, Mozambique, and other regions.

The Spanish were also active during this period, seeking to expand their territory and influence. Christopher Columbus, a Genoese sailor, famously sailed under the Spanish flag and discovered the Caribbean islands in 1492. Other Spanish explorers, such as Ferdinand Magellan, sought to find a western route to the Spice Islands. While Magellan died during the voyage, his crew became the first to circumnavigate the globe, proving that the earth was round.

The Dutch also played a significant role in maritime exploration during the 15th century. They were mainly interested in establishing trade relations with Asian countries, particularly in the spice trade. Dutch mariners, such as Willem Barentsz, sailed to the Arctic regions in search of a Northeast Passage to Asia, but they were unsuccessful in finding one. Instead, they discovered the Spitsbergen archipelago, which became a hub for whaling and fishing.

Overall, while the Portuguese, Spanish, and Dutch mariners had different goals and discoveries, they all shared a common desire to expand their territory, wealth, and influence through maritime exploration. Their voyages opened up new trade routes, territories, and resources, transforming the world as we know it today.