

# Christopher Columbus

Christopher Columbus was an excellent sailor. Years before sailing to the Americas, he had already sailed along the coast of Europe and Africa. During his voyages, he had sailed as a crew member and as an acting captain many times.

While most sailors thought that the only way to reach Asia was by traveling to the east, Columbus had a different idea. He thought he could reach Asia by traveling west; something no European had tried to do since the Vikings (nobody even realized that they had done it). Also, Columbus believed that the world was round instead of being flat. This was uncommon among most sailors. All Columbus needed for his journey was the funds to make it happen.

It was really difficult for Columbus to get any help for his voyage. For nearly a decade, Columbus lobbied European monarchies to bankroll his quest to discover a western sea route to Asia. In Portugal, England and France, the response was the same: no. The experts told Columbus his calculations were wrong and that the voyage would take much longer than he thought. Royal advisors in Spain raised similar concerns to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. But, when Christopher Columbus explained that all the land he found would be claimed for Spain, and any gold discovered would be shared, this seemed appealing to the monarchs of Spain.

Opinion -

Factual Support

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