

PRESS PACK



April 20th - 25th

Trinity Landing · Cowes Harbour

NAO VICTORIA

The First Sailing Around The World



The *Nao Victoria* was Ferdinand Magellan's ship. Her name is associated with the greatest adventure in the maritime history: the first circumnavigation of the world in the 16th century (1519-1522).

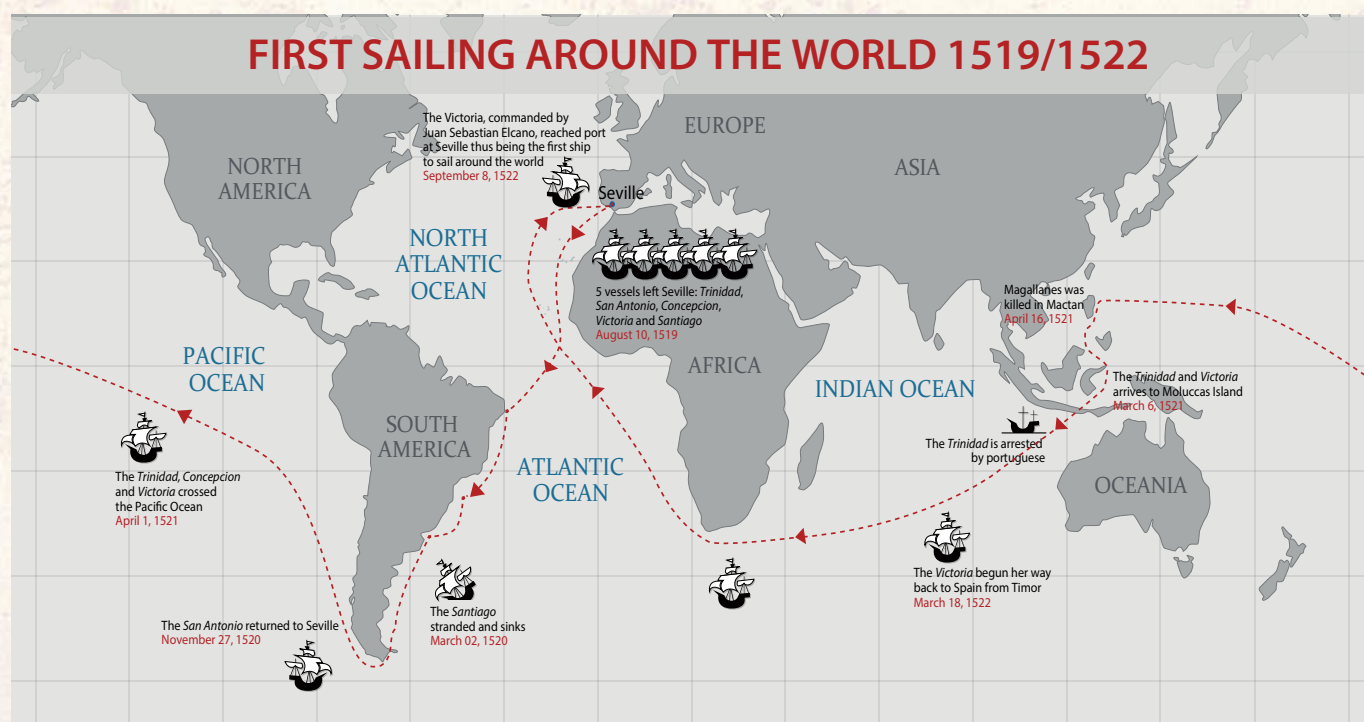
On the 8th of September of 1522, eighteen men with their captain Juan Sebastián Elcano on board the *Nao Victoria* managed to set a milestone with the biggest achievement in the maritime history. After almost three arduous years at sea, these men were the first to sail across vast oceans and showed how big the earth really was.

"The Spice Route Armada"

The expedition comprised five ships and had a crew of 243 men, commanded by Ferdinand Magellan. It set sail from the port of Seville (Spain) on the 10th of August of 1519. It was known as *Armada de la Especiería* (Spice Route Armada) and it was financed by the Spanish Crown, since its goal was to find a new westbound route to reach the Moluccas, islands known back then as the Spice Islands (now Indonesia).



For three years, the expedition sailed across three oceans, visited southern coasts of the United States, Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina and discovered the Strait of Magellan. They sailed across the immense Pacific Ocean, discovered islands and archipelagos and finally reached the Philippines and the Moluccas. The *Nao Victoria*, the only ship to survive the voyage, started her return trip under the command of Juan Sebastián Elcano. Having crossed the Indian Ocean, the ship arrived to





the African continent, navigated south to round the Cape of Good Hope and returned to Spain. On the 8th of September of 1522, eighteen men returned to Seville without truly realizing that they had accomplished the greatest adventure in the maritime history: the [first round-the-world voyage](#).

The replica of the Nao Victoria

The replica was built for the EXPO, the World's Fair that was held in 1992 in Seville, capital of the autonomous community of Andalusia and the original nao's port of origin. The *Nao Victoria* is the only replica of the original ship that managed to circumnavigate the world.

The construction of the replica started in March of 1991 at Isla Cristina, small fishing town in the Andalusian province of Huelva. Six carpenters and five helpers started to work hard and eight months later the ship was ready to be launched.



When the construction was completed, the *Nao Victoria* remained on display during the EXPO'92, together with the replicas of the nao *Santa María* and the caravels *Pinta* and *Niña*, all three Christopher Columbus' ships. These ships, permeated with history, were visited by more than three million people.

After the Universal Exposition, the *Nao Victoria* was installed on land to allow visitors to admire her from all angles, thus becoming a star exhibit at the Seville Sailing Pavilion (*Pabellón de la Navegación*).

The Nao Victoria World Tour (2004-2006)

In 2003, we presented the project of the [Nao's circumnavigation of the world](#) to the State Society for the Management of Assets (*Sociedad Nacional de Gestión de Activos*) and to the National Society for International Exhibitions (*Compañía Nacional de Exposiciones Internacionales*). Both institutions decided to support the initiative with great enthusiasm. The restauration and preparation of the ship for navigation were initiated immediately.

In 2004, the *Nao Victoria's* replica repeated the epic journey of the first circumnavigation of the globe in order to promote the contribution of Spanish sailors to geographical discoveries.

The replica left Seville with 20 members of the crew onboard. From 2004 to 2006 it sailed 26,894 nautical miles, visited 17 countries on 5 different continents and became the first replica of a ship to complete the journey around the world.

Due to the exceptional similitude to that unique chapter of the Age of Discovery, we were able to get to know the lives and suffering of the seamen, their feelings in the moments of facing the unknown and their fears during night time when ships were experiencing thunderstorms.



The visit of the vessel in Cowes is a part of Nao Victoria Tour 2017:



FACTS AND FIGURES

More than **120m²** of visiting area (in different desks).

4 decks, captain cabin and living accommodation on board area.

Capacity: 100 people maximum/event. Increased possibilities and at- port installations.

Average number of visitors per day: 2.000

Figures:

290m² sail area.

Length: 26 m / Main beam: 6,70 m

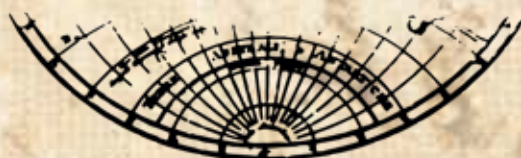
3 Masts / 6 Sails





1519 **NAO VICTORIA** 1522

The First Sailing
AROUND THE WORLD



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