

The Tudors

Learning Objective:

To be able to locate where Tudor explorers travelled to on a map.



Today we know where all the countries in the world are because we have maps, atlases and satellites to help us, but how do you think people knew what the world looked like in Tudor times?

Europeans hadn't 'discovered' all of the globe at the beginning of the Tudor period. As you can see from the map below, which was created in 1493, there were lots of areas of the world that they didn't know about. The only way they could find out about the world was to venture onto the ocean on sailing ships.



The Tudor period was a great time of exploration and lots of sailors took to the seas to discover new lands and find out more about the world.

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Christopher Columbus

In fourteen hundred and ninety two, Columbus sailed the ocean blue.

In 1492, Christopher Columbus set sail for the Orient but instead found a new land which became known as America.

At that time, lots of sailors wanted to find a quicker and easier way to reach eastern lands, such as India and China, so that they could improve trade links for spices, silks and other items. Columbus knew that the Earth was round and so he decided to try sailing west instead of east.

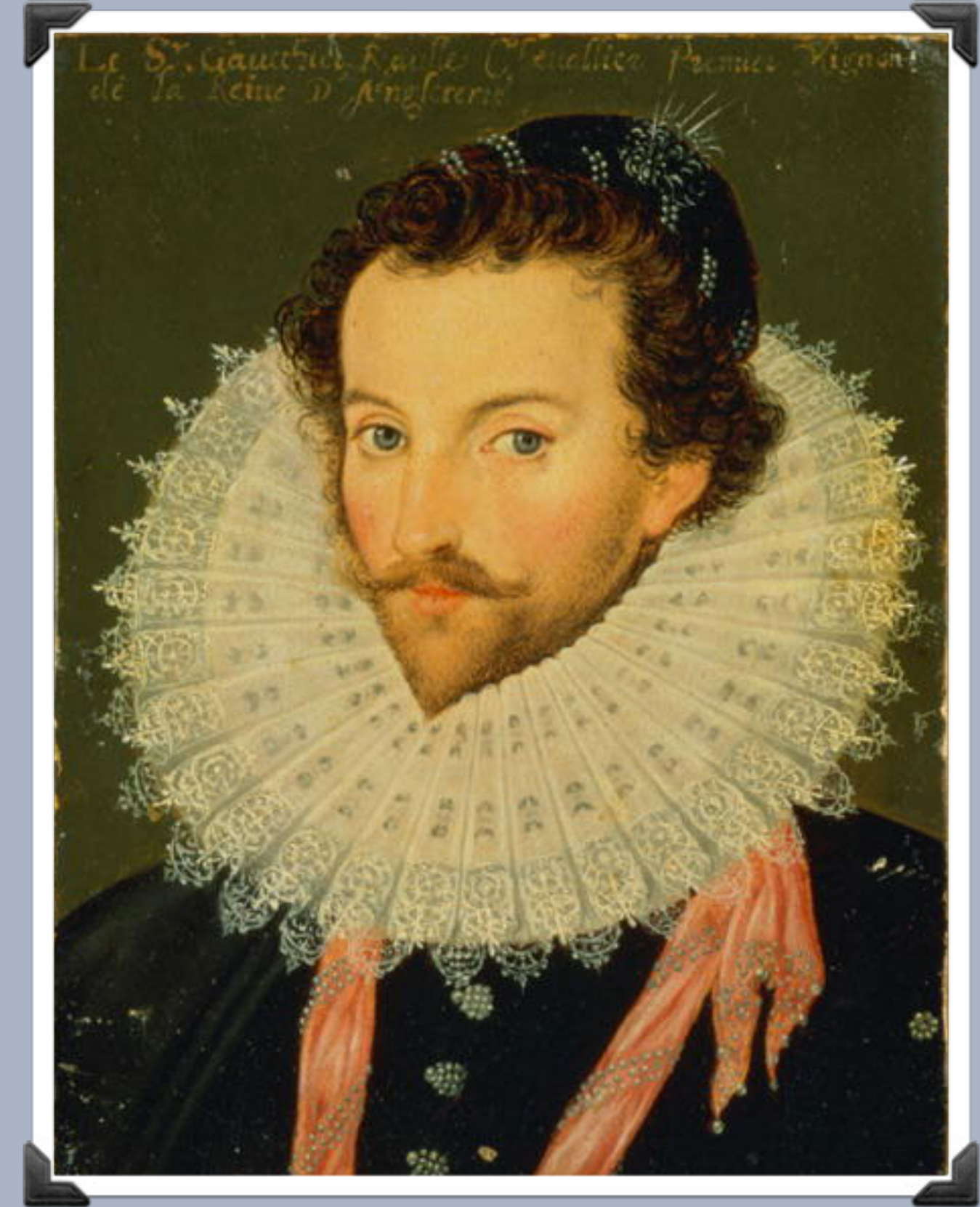
This was how he accidentally discovered America, the 'New World'.

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Sir Walter Raleigh

Walter Raleigh was one of the most famous men in Elizabethan England. He was a courtier, poet, politician, soldier, poet, historian and sailor. He was also a particular favourite of Queen Elizabeth and she rewarded his loyalty with wealth and riches.



Raleigh used his wealth to fund journeys across the sea to the New World. In 1585, he funded a group of colonists to travel to America to settle there. He named the area they landed on 'Virginia' in honour of Elizabeth, the Virgin Queen.



Sir Francis Drake

Sir Francis Drake was the first Englishman to circumnavigate the globe. This means that he started in England and sailed all the way around the world until he got back to England again! His adventures helped him to understand more about the world and he created a new and more detailed map when he returned home.

This modern map shows the route that Sir Francis Drake took when he circumnavigated the world.



Which oceans
did he sail
through?

Which
continents did he
sail around?

Which countries
did he sail
around?

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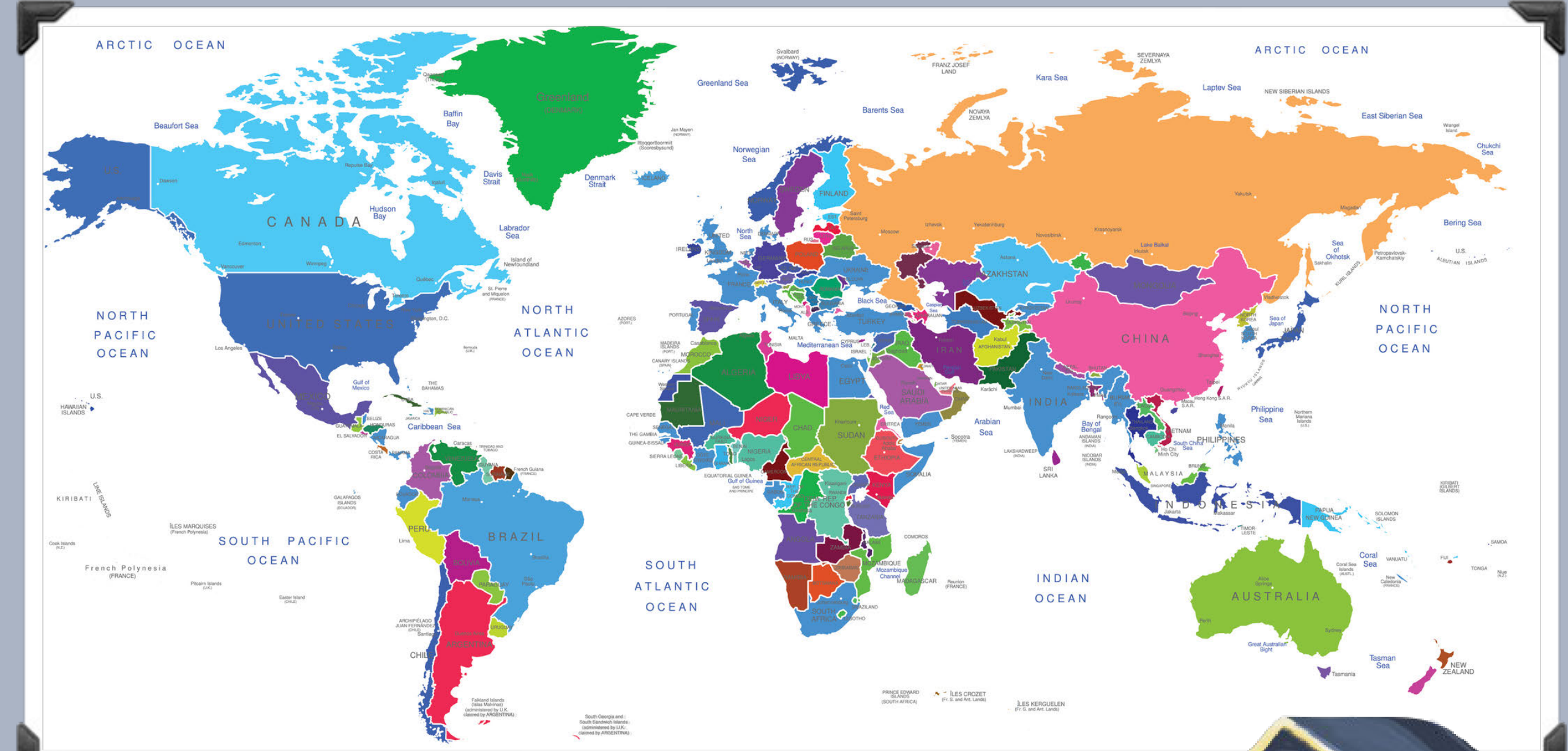
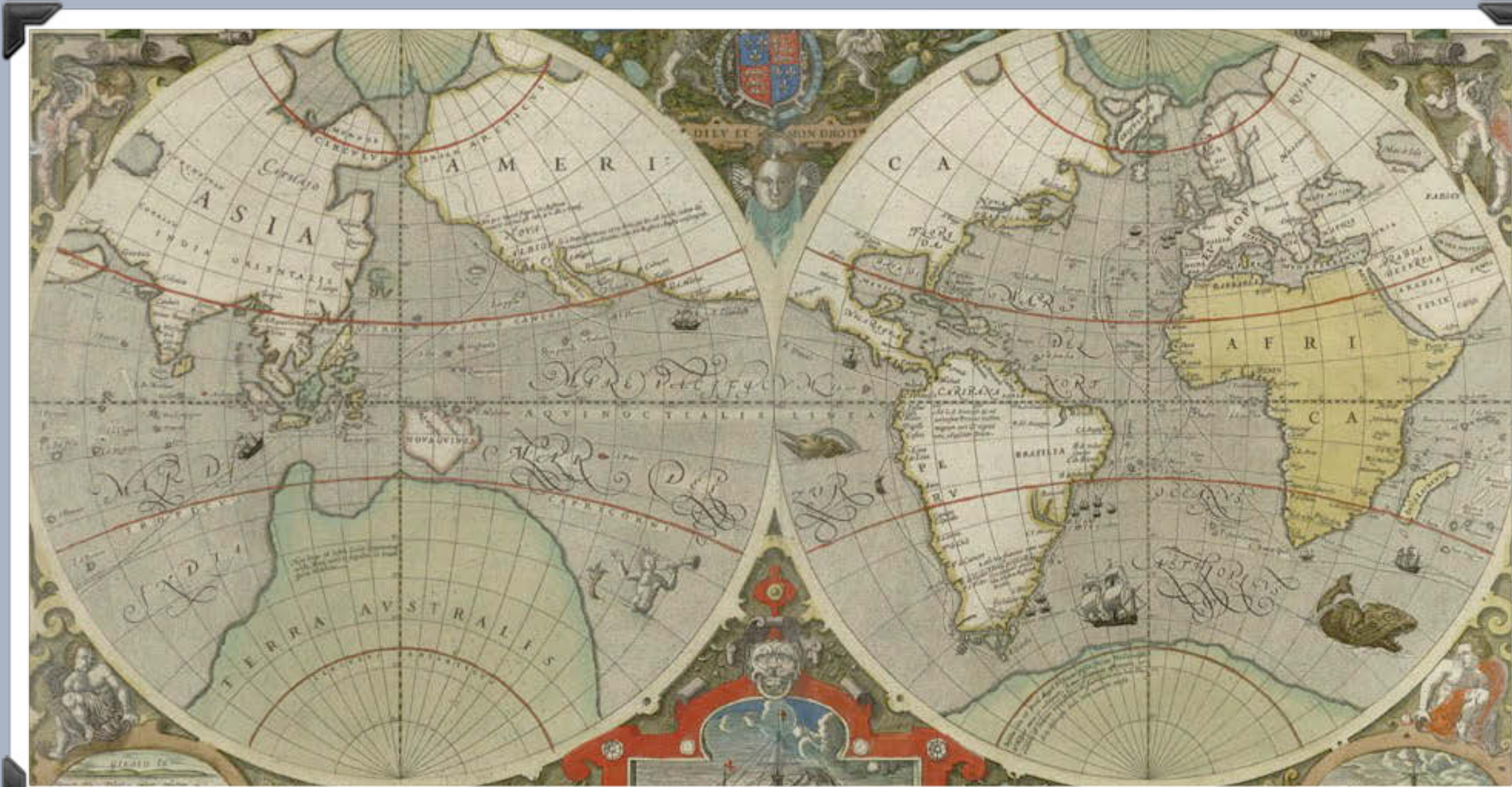
Are you ready to go
and explore these routes
in more detail?



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Plenary:



Have a careful look at the world map from 1595
and the modern map.
How many differences can you spot?



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