

Count Down
to
Columbus Day **1**



The Travels of Christopher Columbus... As A Deadman!

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS REALLY LOVED TO GO PLACES. WE MEAN HE REALLY LOVED TO GO PLACES. SO MUCH SO, THAT HE KEPT TRAVELLING EVEN AFTER HE DIED. THAT'S RIGHT, FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH IN 1506, HIS CORPSE MOVED FROM ONE PART OF THE WORLD TO ANOTHER. HERE IS HOW IT HAPPENED.

The Year
1506

COLUMBUS DIED IN VALLADOLID, SPAIN IN MAY OF 1506. HE HAD WANTED TO BE LAID TO REST IN THE NEW WORLD, BUT ONCE HE WAS DEAD THERE WASN'T MUCH HE COULD DO ABOUT IT. SO, HE WAS BURIED IN THE TOWN WHERE HE HAD DIED.



THIS IS
THE MONESTARY WHERE
I WAS BURIED.

The Year
1509

COLUMBUS WAS A FAMOUS MAN, AND MANY IMPORTANT PEOPLE THOUGHT HIS BODY SHOULD BE IN A MORE IMPORTANT CITY. SO, IT WAS REMOVED FROM VALLADOLID AND REBURIED AT A MONASTERY IN THE BIG CITY OF SEVILLE, SPAIN.

The Year 1542

OVER THIRTY YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH COLUMBUS GOT HIS WISH. HIS BODY WAS REMOVED FROM SPAIN AND TAKEN TO SANTO DOMINGO ON THE NEW WORLD ISLAND OF HISPANIOLA (TODAY CALLED THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC). HE WAS ENTOMBED IN THE CATHEDRAL THERE.

THEY EVEN
HAVE A GUARD AT THIS
TOMB. I MUST REALLY
BE A BIG DEAL.



CHECK
THIS OUT. THE WHOLE
CEMETARY WAS NAMED
AFTER ME.

The Year 1795

THEN OVER 250 YEARS LATER THE LEADERS OF THE SPANISH EMPIRE GAVE UP ON HISPANIOLA AND THE ISLAND WENT TO THE FRENCH. THEY STILL WANTED COLUMBUS THOUGH... OR AT LEAST HIS SKELETON... AND MOVED IT TO SPANISH COLONY OF HAVANA, CUBA NEARBY.

The Year 1898



THE SPANISH WERE AT WAR WITH THE UNITED STATES AND DIDN'T WANT COLUMBUS TO FALL INTO THE ENEMY'S HANDS. SO, THEY MOVED HIM BACK TO SPAIN AND PLACED THE BODY IN A BEAUTIFUL TOMB AT SEVILLE CATHEDRAL. IT HAS BEEN THERE SINCE THAT DAY. OR HAS IT?

PRETTY NICE, HUH?



A CONTROVERSY AROSE ABOUT THE BODY OF COLUMBUS. IN SANTO DOMINGO A LARGE LEAD BOX WAS DISCOVERED MARKED "THE ILLUSTRIOUS AND EXCELLENT MAN, DON COLON, ADMIRAL OF THE OCEAN SEA." THIS OF COURSE WAS THE SPANISH NAME AND TITLE OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS. SOME CLAIMED THAT THE BODY THAT WENT TO HAVANA, CUBA BACK IN 1795 AND THEN TO SPAIN IN 1898 WAS NOT COLUMBUS, AND THAT THE REAL COLUMBUS WAS STILL IN SANTO DOMINGO.

**The Year
2006**

SO, FOR MANY YEARS NO ONE COULD BE SURE WHERE COLUMBUS ENDED UP. THEN IN 2006 DNA WAS EXTRACTED FROM THE REMAINS IN SPAIN. IT WASN'T EASY, BUT THE GENETIC EVIDENCE, ALONG WITH OTHER HISTORICAL PROOF HELPED EXPERTS TO DECLARE THE REAL COLUMBUS WAS RIGHT THERE IN SEVILLE, SPAIN. AND AS FAR AS WE KNOW, THAT'S WHERE HE'LL STAY... OR WILL HE?



OR



Christopher Columbus has been famous for over 500 years after his death. This was because of his accomplishments as an explorer - something he loved to do. Write about something you love to do and would even like to become well-known for.