

Good day gentles! I be the one and true Ferdinand Magellan. I was born in a watchtower in 1480 in far away land called Braga. 'Tis in the country of Portugal. My family originally descended of the French. I am the third child of me parents, Dom Rui Magalhães and Donha Alda de Mesquita. I was raised in a humble, poor, two-story farmhouse. I grew up with my sister Isabel and brother Diego on the farm doing simple chores such as growing wheat and raising cattle. As a young Christian, I went to a monastery to learn. Later, I got married to a lass named Beatriz when I traveled to Spain before my voyage. Currently, I be forty-one years old.

Prithee listen as I tell you about my extravagant life as an explorer. 'Tis not that easy. I need to be able to lead me men bravely into battles and use navigational tools. There's one lad who I'd like to honor. He be my black slave Henry; he was always there for me, caring for him like a son. I acquired the poor lad when I conquered a village. I crave your pardon, but I would like to explain my voyage now. I departed on the dawn of September 20<sup>th</sup>, 1519. Me voyage was to prove that some islands rightfully belong to Spain. On the way, I tried to find a new route to get there. Alas! 'Twas not meant to be. Those rogues on my ship mutinied against me, but they were no match to thee as I be the best fighter sailing the seas. After many nights of ferocious fighting I won, decapitating the lead mutineer. Sailing on, I found a strait at the bottom of South America and crossed o'er to the Pacific. My crew was starving and we became lost landing in this village.

I have some certain special tools I would like to point out. First of all, I stole a leather globe from King Manuel of Portugal's map room. 'Twere made by a German

mapmaker and included a detailed map showing a possible strait that I later discovered. This probably saved my career. I showed it to King Charles of Spain and he allowed me on my famous voyage. Second, I was given a golden compass from the viceroy Albuquerque before he died in battle. He was a close friend of mine. Some other tools I used were maps, compasses, astrolabes, and caravels. Luckily, King Charles took care of all my expenses.

As thou can most likely see, I be in the upper class. I wear a fancy vest from King Charles. Under that, I have a flowing shirt and it is extremely elegant. As for my tights, they are clean as well. I acquired a brown cape recently from my good mother. A fabulous hat with a feather from the rare and exotic dodo bird is laying on my head too. I be the first one to discover the bird in the Spice Islands. I have a new belt from my father and a large ruby necklace from the conquered village where my slave came from.

I think there be a plentiful supply of reasons I should be admitted to the fair. I will teach any young lads or old sailors and explorers about techniques of sailing. I will give realistic and vivid images from my travels to any local artists. Providing details to any mapmakers will help their works and I can sell some of my rare and scrumptious spices to the local baker over there. Thou should be delighted to have it. Next, I can tell horrific and epic tales of my journeys such as being ambushed by thousands of native warriors on my deathbed. Forsooth, I think you should be honored to have me here and people will flock here just to see me!