



Portugal's Golden Years: The Life and Times of Prince Henry "The Navigator"

Carlos B. Carreiro

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Before Columbus, da Gama, or Magellan went on their trips of discovery, a Portuguese prince created the conditions to initiate voyages to the Western African coast. By doing so, he inspired seagoing mariners to realize their accomplishments. In a time when superstition and fear limited sea travel to known coastal waterways, Prince Henry literally prepared the way and started the Age of Discoveries.

Portugal's Golden Years provides a comprehensive look at the life of Prince Henry, both as a member of a distinguished royal family and as an organizer and planner of the first sea trips that went beyond known lands. Much more than a biography, this portrait of Prince Henry also gives insight into the tools the old mariners had at their disposal, the advances made in the Art of Navigation during his lifetime, the adventure of discovery, and especially the influence these early Portuguese explorers ultimately had on the far-reaching cultures they encountered.

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