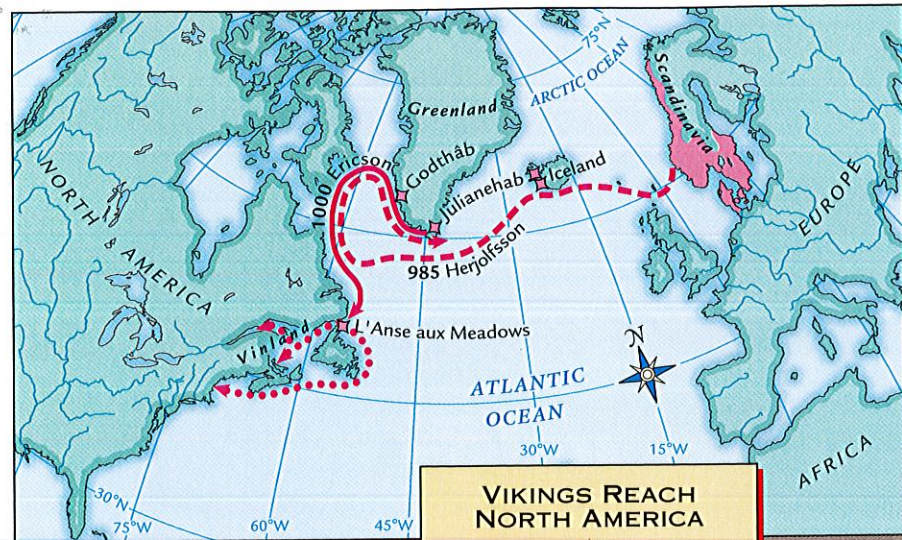


# Europeans Explore the New World

In the 900s Vikings from Scandinavia sailed to North America. But word of this unfamiliar land did not reach the rest of Europe.

- ★ Five hundred years later, Columbus believed he had reached the islands of the Indies and referred to their inhabitants as *Indians*.
- ★ After finding no sign of the cities and treasures of the Indies, other European explorers began calling the Americas the *New World*.



**VIKINGS REACH NORTH AMERICA**

■ Viking homeland  
✕ Viking colony  
← Ericson  
← Herjolfsson  
⋯ Unconfirmed Viking voyages

0 500 1000 miles  
0 500 1000 kilometers

**A** Ancient Scandinavian sagas, or stories, told of Viking settlements in Vinland. Few believed them until traces were found of a Viking village, L'Anse aux Meadows.

**B** The English, French, and Dutch sought the Northwest Passage, a water route through North America to the Indies. No such route was found, but all three claimed lands on the newly mapped continent.

## ENGLISH, FRENCH, AND DUTCH EXPLORATIONS

### English

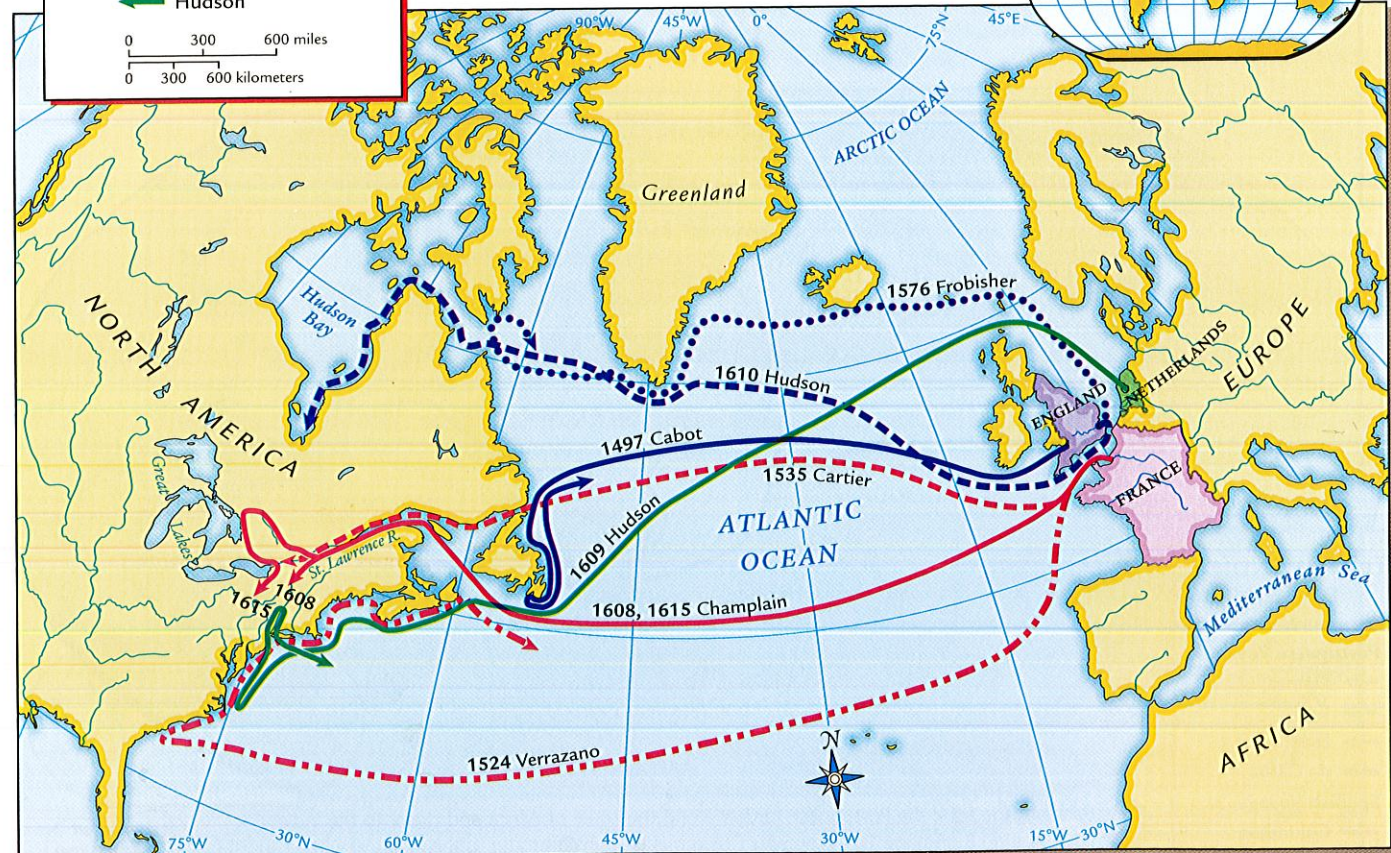
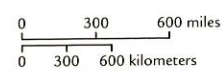
- ← Cabot
- ⋯ Frobisher
- ← Hudson

### French

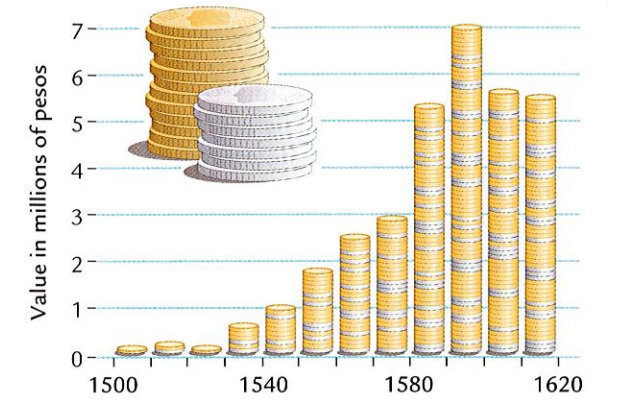
- ← Verrazano
- ← Cartier
- ← Champlain

### Dutch (Netherlands)

- ← Hudson



**C** Treasures of the Incas and the Aztecs fueled Spain's quest for gold.

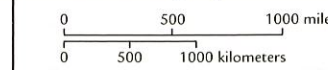


**D** **GOLD AND SILVER SENT TO SPAIN**  
Spanish explorers soon stopped looking for the Indies and started looking for gold. They mined silver and seized gold objects made by Aztecs and other Native Americans.



## SPANISH EXPLORATIONS AND CONQUESTS

- ← Vespucci
- ← Ponce de León
- ← Cortés
- ← Narváez and Cabeza de Vaca
- ← Pizarro
- ← de Soto
- ← Coronado
- ← Cabrillo and Ferrello
- ★ Spanish conquest
- INCA Cultural group



**E** The Spanish explored coasts and traveled inland searching for gold. They based their land claims on their explorations and their conquests of native empires.