

## The Routes of Balboa and Magellan



**Magellan Sails Around the World** This map shows the route of Magellan and his crew during the first round-the-world trip. **SKILL** Reading Maps How long did Magellan's voyage take?

## Exploration Continues

**Main Idea** Explorers continued to sail to the Americas to search for new routes to Asia.

Word of Columbus's voyage spread throughout Europe. European rulers soon sent their own explorers to the Americas.

**Pedro Alvarez Cabral** (ka BRAHL) explored eastern South America in 1500 and claimed it for Portugal. An Italian named **Amerigo Vespucci** (vehs POO chee) made several voyages to South America and the Caribbean. A Spanish explorer, **Vasco Núñez de Balboa**, (VAS coh NOON yez deh bal BOH ah) sailed to present-day Panama in Central America. In 1513, he crossed the mountains and jungles of Panama and reached the Pacific Ocean.

## Magellan

**Ferdinand Magellan** was a Portuguese soldier and sailor who sailed for Spain. Magellan had a daring idea. He believed that he could sail west, go around South America, cross the Pacific Ocean, and end up back in Spain.

Magellan left Spain in September 1519, with five ships and about 250 men. They crossed the Atlantic Ocean and arrived on the coast of present-day Brazil. The crew spent the winter on the coast of present-day Argentina. Magellan then sailed south down the east coast of South America. In November 1520, his ships entered the Pacific Ocean. He named it Pacific, which means "peaceful," because it looked so calm. Magellan and his crew had no idea how large the Pacific was.