



0. SAILING HOME by a NORTHERN ROUTE - Story
Preface

1. PRINCESS ELIZABETH
2. PHILIP II: KING CONSORT of BRITAIN
3. ELIZABETH BECOMES QUEEN
4. THE TROUBLE WITH MARY
5. THE BABINGTON PLOT
6. A QUEEN LOSES HER HEAD
7. SIR WALTER RALEIGH
8. PHILIP II and the ARMADA
9. THE ARMADA SAILS
10. NEGOTIATIONS FAIL
11. BRITISH SHIPS
12. THE FLEETS ENGAGE
13. FIRE SHIPS and the BATTLE OF GRAVELINES
14. PARMA'S NO-SHOW
15. PUSHED TO THE NORTH SEA
16. ELIZABETH'S SPEECH to her PEOPLE
- 17. SAILING HOME by a NORTHERN ROUTE**
18. SPANISH SHIPS on IRISH ROCKS
19. MISERY IN IRELAND
20. CELEBRATING THE VICTORY
21. THE DEATH OF RALEIGH
22. THE GOLDEN AGE

This map, from the U.S. Military Academy (at West Point), depicts the Spanish Armada's route home during the late summer and early fall of 1588. Click on the image for a clearer view.

Not only were the ships now in unfamiliar waters, to return home they would have to sail around the top of Scotland, then down the rocky west coast of Ireland. Even then, the winds were not favorable for the defeated Armada. Many ships were lost on the Irish and Scottish coasts.

Philip II's Armada objectives (to restore the Catholic Church, to insure Spanish ships would dominate world trade and not be threatened by Britain in the "new world," and to punish British support of rebels in Spanish-held Holland) came to naught. The king - who dreamed of victory and planned a great Armada he had never personally seen - bore the loss in stride:

The Spanish king himself bare the over-throw patiently, as received from God, and gave and commanded to bee given all over Spaine thanks to God and the Saints, that it was no more grievous; and used singular mercy in relieving the distressed souldiours and saylers. (Camden, *Annales Rerum Angliae et Hiberniae Regnante Elizabetha*, 1588, Section 34)

Most of the dishonor went to Don Alonso, the 7th Duke of Medina-Sedonia (who had tried to persuade his king that the entire plan was unwise) and to Alexander Farnese, the Duke of Parma (who was never able to meaningfully help).

The British people rejoiced that the threat had passed:

Now was that hydeous tempest blownen over, which thundered so threateningly out of Spaine ... (Camden, *Annales Rerum Angliae et Hiberniae Regnante Elizabetha*, 1588, Section 41)

But a "hideous tempest" was about to begin for the survivors of the Armada. They likely had no idea of extremely hard days ahead as they tried to sail back to Spain by way of the North Sea.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:
<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/SAILING-HOME-by-a-NORTHERN-ROUTE-Elizabeth-I-The-Golden-Age>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:
<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/SAILING-HOME-by-a-NORTHERN-ROUTE-Elizabeth-I-The-Golden-Age>

Media Stream



Spanish Armada - Route Around Scotland

Image online, courtesy the Royal Maritime Museums, Greenwich, London.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Spanish-Armada-Route-Around-Scotland>



SAILING HOME by a NORTHERN ROUTE

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/SAILING-HOME-by-a-NORTHERN-ROUTE>

Spanish Armada - A Dangerous Journey Home

Clip from *Battlefield Detectives: What Sank the Armada?*

Director:

Bill Lyons

Production Company:

[Granada Television](#)

Executive Producer:

Liz McLeod

Producer: Bill Lyon

Released: 2003



Video online, courtesy DrBogdanovic's Channel at YouTube.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Spanish-Armada-A-Dangerous-Journey-Home>