1 Main hall
2 Catholic King and Queen, 1474-1517
3 House of Austria, 1517-1700
4 Spanish Succession War, 1700-1714
5 Phillip V and Ferdinand VI, 1714-1759
6 6. Charles III and Charles IV, 1759-1805
7 Great hall
8 Nao San Diego, 1600
9 Arsenals and naval construction, s. XVIII
10 Nautical sciences, ss. XV-XVIII
11 Chief-commander cabin
12 Room of the Real Patronato
13 Geographical discoveries, ss. XV-XVIII
14 Trafalgar, Independence War and Ferdinand VII 1805-1833
15 Marine science, s. XIX
16 Weapons and Etnography, s. XIX
17 Campaigns of Cuba, Santo Domingo and Africa, s. XIX
18 The Philippines, s. XIX
19 Elizabeth II, 1833-1868
20 Amadeo I, First Republic, Alphonse XII, and María Cristina's Regency, 1868-1902
21 Naval construction, ss. XIX-XX
22 Alfonso XIII, 1902-1931
23 Second Republic and Civil War, 1931-1939
24 Francisco Franco - Juan Carlos I
25 Temporary exhibitions
26 Toilets

NAVAL MUSEUM OF MADRID

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www.facebook.com/FundacionMuseoNaval

Opening hours
Tuesday to Sunday from 10:00 to 19:00
August from 10:00 to 15:00
The Museum will be closed on Mondays, and the following bank holidays: 1st and 6th January, 24th and 25th December.
A 3€ voluntary contribution is kindly requested to support The Museum maintenance

Group tours
Only possible by previous appointment through the Visitor Services Centre (Centro de Atención al Visitante)
reservas_museonaval@fn.mde.es / Tel. 91 523 85 16

Public transport
Underground: Line 2. Banco de España
Buses: 1, 2, 14, 27, 37, 51, 146, 150, 202 y 522
RENFE (railway): Recoletos and Atocha Stations
Public parking in Montalbán st. and in Plaza de las Cortes

Naval Museum Library and Archive
Researcher's room
Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 14:00.
Access through Juan de Mena st., 1. Entrance first floor
Tel. 91 523 8378

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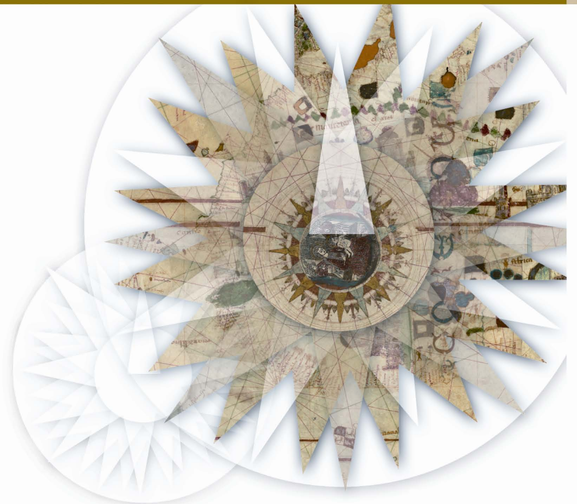
Depósito Legal: M-14.656-2011



NAVAL MUSEUM

THE NAVAL MUSEUM

The Naval Museum is a national museum that aims to tell the story of Spanish maritime history. Its goal is to illustrate and safeguard Spanish maritime traditions as well as to promote a national maritime conscience. This museum was born in 1792 when Antonio Valdés and Fernández Bazán, Secretary of State for the Navy, had the idea of creating a Maritime Museum that would be located in the costal town of San Carlos (Cádiz). From the outset its goals were didactic, as it was to be an illustrative project focused on the instruction programs of the Navy and based on the compilation of learning materials.

The unsettled political events that characterized Spanish history at the end of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth centuries prevented the completion of the Maritime Museum project. Fortunately, the initiative was taken up again and in 1843 the Museum was successfully inaugurated in Madrid. The Museum changed locations several times until in 1932 it finally opened its doors in what was then the Marine Ministry, today the Spanish Navy General Headquarters.

THE EXHIBITION

Visitors can choose to take two different routes through the twentyfour rooms of romantic orientation. Both follow a chronological approach to the naval history of Spain from the time of the Catholic King and Queen to the present. There are also some monographs of great interest.

The Naval Museum manages to show through its exhibits not only the history of the Spanish Navy, its famous officers and naval battles, but also the different ship-building methods, as well as the technological developments in navigation relating to astronomy, geodesy and cartography. It also shows the Spanish expeditions and discoveries from the fifteenth to the eighteenth centuries and the weapons and equipment that illustrate what life on board was like. Visitors can compare Spanish practices by viewing how weapons and ships differed from those of China, South East Asia and the Pacific, some examples of which are also on view. To enrich the visitor's impression of life at sea, a replica of the cabin of the Commander-in-Chief of a ship can be viewed, as well as the wardroom of a nineteenth-century frigate.

COLLECTION

The collections that made up the Naval Museum's initial wealth came from a variety of sources. For the most part they were contributions from important institutions such as: the already defunct Guardamarinas Companies, naval peninsular departments, naval stations from Cuba and the Philippines, the Hydrographic Deposit, as well as the Royal Observatory of San Fernando Navy and the Hydrographic Institute of Cádiz. However, the Naval Museum has kept increasing its wealth through continuing purchases as well as donations. Private donations and loans (of museum pieces by companies, together with objects produced at the Museum's own workshops of the also contribute significantly to the enrichment of its collections.

The Naval Museum, as a whole, takes care of approximately 10.700 museum collections, their richness being their common and unifying characteristic. The diversity of the collections adds significantly to their value: astronomic instruments-scientific as well as navigational-models of ships as well as scale models of arsenal and naval dockyards, maps and plans, plastic and decorative arts' items, weapons, flags, banners and standards, uniforms, medals and insignias. There are also naval uniform and nautical equipment, personal objects from renowned naval officers and famous seamen, together with unusual ethnographic items collected by them. It can be concluded that the well-ordered arrangement of these objects fulfills the didactic and illustrative goals of this institution.

OUTSTANDING PIECES

Universal chart by Juan de la Cosa, 1500

This is the oldest existing cartographic item that maps the American continent. It includes the geographical discoveries that took place between 1492 and 1500. It was made probably as a explanatory document to show to their Majesties the Catholic King and Queen of Spain who had sponsored the expeditions.

In this map all the European and Mediterranean coastlines are represented according to the advanced Portuguese and Majorcan knowledge of the subject at the time. For the first time the African continent appears orientated North/South. Its coastline is defined also based on Portuguese discoveries. By contrast, the representation of Asia shows a considerably lack of precision as it was based on less scientific sources, such as Ptolemaic theories and chronicles obtained from Italian travellers such as Marco Polo.

First homage to Christopher Columbus, *circa* 1892

This work can be classified within the broad genre of historical painting, which achieved great success and acceptance during the nineteenth century. Romanticism as an artistic current together with National exhibitions contributed to its development. The creator of this painting, José Garnelo, belongs to a second generation of painters of historical subjects who were characterized by the introduction of a comparatively modern pictorial language. This painting depicts the moment when the Admiral Columbus arrives on shore in the New World.

Flag of the fixed Regiment of Málaga

This is the only flag remaining in Spain of King Joseph I. According to the Courts of Cádiz, from 26th November 1812 all flags and insignia belonging to Joseph Bonaparte had to be destroyed.

Scale model of the ship Royal Charles

In the eighteenth century, naval construction in Spain used scale models like this one to design ships. This model ship with three bridges was built according to plans drawn by the engineer Mateo Mullan and was dedicated to Charles III. Both scale model and plans were later used for the construction of the ship Santísima Trinidad.

COLLECTION