

Magellan's Voyage Around The World 1519



The Mariners Museum

In order to round the Cape of Good Hope we went as far south as 42 degrees toward the Antarctic Pole. We remained near this Cape for seven weeks with sails furled because of the west and northwest wind on our bow, and in a very great storm.... Some of our men, both sick and healthy, wished to go to a place of the Portuguese called Mozambique, because the ship was taking in much water, and also for the great cold, and still more because we had nothing else to eat except rice and water, since for want of salt the meat which we had was rotten and putrefied. But some others, more mindful of their honor than of their own life, determined to go to Spain alive or dead.

At length, by God's help, on the sixth of May we passed this Cape at a distance of 5 leagues from it.... Then we sailed northwest for two months continually without taking any refreshment or repose. And in that short space of time twenty-one of our men died....

On Saturday the sixth of September, 1522, we entered the Bay..., and we were only 18 men, the most part sick.... From the time when we departed from that Bay until the present day we had sailed fourteen thousand four hundred and sixty leagues, and completed the circuit of the world from east to west.

—Antonio Pigafetta

