

Columbus Day

Jedes Jahr am zweiten Montag im Oktober wird in den USA der Kolumbastag als staatlicher Feiertag begangen. Um zu erfahren, wie es dazu kam, setzen Sie das passende Wort aus dem Kasten in den Lückentext ein. Good luck!

anniversary ~ attracted ~ Caribbean ~ celebrated ~ coast ~ colonists ~ commemorate ~ commemorated ~ continent ~ death ~ Florentine ~ foot ~ gain ~ holiday ~ landing ~ merchant ~ national ~ parades ~ Queen ~ renamed ~ representative ~ seafarers ~ seaport ~ second ~ set ~ settlement ~ shape ~ sighted ~ voyages ~ westward

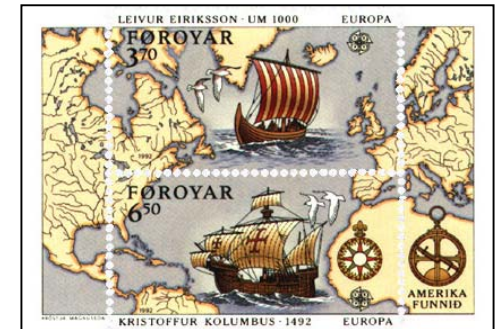
Since 1971, on the second Monday in October, *Columbus Day* has been _____ in the United States as a national holiday. On this day, which is sometimes also called *Pioneers Day* or *Discovery Day*, people _____ the first landing of Christopher Columbus on the American continent and honor this important date in the history of America with great _____.

Let's go back to the origins of this public holiday.

In 1451, Christopher Columbus was born in the Italian _____ town of Genoa as the son of a weaver and wool merchant. As most Genoese boys, he went to sea on _____ voyages in the Mediterranean, to England and Ireland and as far as Iceland. He was fascinated by reports of the great voyages of _____ and explorers such as Marco Polo. In course of time, the idea of sailing _____ and reaching countries in the East such as India on this route took _____ in his mind. He tried to convince King John of Portugal of his plans and to _____ his support. When he refused, Columbus went to Spain. The King and _____ of Spain, Ferdinand II of Aragon and Isabella I of Castile, had a willing ear for his plans. On 3 August 1492, he _____ sail from the port of Palos, near Huelva in southern Spain on the Atlantic _____, with three ships – the *Niña*, the *Pinta* and the *Santa María*. Nearly ten weeks later, one of his men _____ land. On 12 October 1492, Columbus set _____ on an island which he thought was an island off the coast of India. However,

this was an island in the Bahamas – Guanahani – which he _____ San Salvador. From there he sailed on to Cuba and to Hispaniola – the Dominican Republic and Haiti today – where he founded a Spanish _____. In March 1493, he returned to Spain. Columbus went on three more _____ which, however, were overshadowed by rebellions of the Spanish _____ and problems with the Spanish governors of those new lands. In 1504, he returned from his fourth voyage, and two years later, on 20 May 1506, he died in Valladolid, a town in northern Spain. Until his _____, Columbus was convinced of having reached India on his route westward, the West Indies as the islands in the _____ are called.

Columbus's voyages to the west _____ other navigators and explorers, one of them Amerigo Vespucci, a commercial _____ of the House of Medici. Although Columbus is honored as having discovered America, it was this _____ merchant who gave the new _____ its name: America.



On 12 October 1792, 300 years after Columbus's first _____ on the island of Guanahani, the Society of St. Tammany, which is also known as the Colombian Order, _____ this great event in the history of America for the first time. One hundred years later, in 1892, on the occasion of the 400th _____ of the landing, US-President Benjamin Harrison celebrated the first official Columbus Day in the United States. During the following years, the idea of making Columbus Day a public _____ throughout the United States got more and more supporters. In 1907, Colorado was the first state to do so, followed by New York two years later. On 12 October 1909, Columbus's landing was honored by a big parade there. Since 1971, Columbus Day has been celebrated as a _____ holiday every year on the _____ Monday in October.

Columbus Day

Lösung

Since 1971, on the second Monday in October, *Columbus Day* has been **celebrated** in the United States as a national holiday. On this day, which is sometimes also called *Pioneers Day* or *Discovery Day*, people **commemorate** the first landing of Christopher Columbus on the American continent and honour this important date in the history of America with great **parades**.

Let's go back to the origins of this public holiday.

In 1451, Christopher Columbus was born in the Italian **seaport** town of Genoa as the son of a weaver and wool merchant. As most Genoese boys, he went to sea on **merchant** voyages in the Mediterranean, to England and Ireland and as far as Iceland. He was fascinated by reports of the great voyages of **seafarers** and explorers such as Marco Polo. In course of time, the idea of sailing **westward** and reaching countries in the East such as India on this route took **shape** in his mind. He tried to convince King John of Portugal of his plans and to **gain** his support. When he refused, Columbus went to Spain. The King and **Queen** of Spain, Ferdinand II of Aragon and Isabella I of Castile, had a willing ear for his plans. On 3 August 1492, he **set** sail from the port of Palos, near Huelva in southern Spain on the Atlantic **coast**, with three ships – the *Niña*, the *Pinta* and the *Santa María*. Nearly ten weeks later, one of his men **sighted** land. On 12 October 1492, Columbus set **foot** on an island which he thought was an island off the coast of India. However, this was an island in the Bahamas – Guanahani – which he **renamed** San Salvador. From there he sailed on to Cuba and to Hispaniola – the Dominican Republic and Haiti today – where he founded a Spanish **settlement**. In March 1493, he returned to Spain.

Columbus went on three more **voyages** which, however, were overshadowed by rebellions of the Spanish **colonists** and problems with the Spanish governors of those new lands. In 1504, he returned from his fourth voyage, and two years later, on 20 May 1506, he died in Valladolid, a town in northern Spain. Until his **death**, Columbus was

convinced of having reached India on his route westward, the West Indies as the islands in the **Caribbean** are called.

Columbus's voyages to the west **attracted** other navigators and explorers, one of them Amerigo Vespucci, a commercial **representative** of the House of Medici. Although Columbus is honored as having discovered America, it was this **Florentine** merchant who gave the new **continent** its name: America.

On 12 October 1792, 300 years after Columbus's first **landing** on the island of Guanahani, the Society of St. Tammany, which is also known as the Colombian Order, **commemorated** this great event in the history of America for the first time. One hundred years later, in 1892, on the occasion of the 400th **anniversary** of the landing, US-President Benjamin Harrison celebrated the first official Columbus Day in the United States. During the following years, the idea of making Columbus Day a public **holiday** throughout the United States got more and more supporters. In 1907, Colorado was the first state to do so, followed by New York two years later. On 12 October 1909, Columbus's landing was honored by a big parade there. Since 1971, Columbus Day has been celebrated as a **national** holiday every year on the **second** Monday in October.