

...COLUMBUS DAY, 2025

Proclamations

October 9, 2025

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

Today our Nation honors the legendary Christopher Columbus — the original American hero, a giant of Western civilization, and one of the most gallant and visionary men to ever walk the face of the earth. This Columbus Day, we honor his life with reverence and gratitude, and we pledge to reclaim his extraordinary legacy of faith, courage, perseverance, and virtue from the left-wing arsonists who have sought to destroy his name and dishonor his memory.

Born in Genoa, Italy in 1451, Columbus quickly emerged as a titan of the Age of Exploration. On August 3, 1492, following years of intense study, preparation, and petitioning, Christopher Columbus secured funding from the Spanish Crown to set out on a daring expedition that most believed to be impossible. Commissioned by Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, Columbus and his crew boarded three small ships — the Niña, Pinta, and Santa Maria — to set sail on a perilous voyage across the Atlantic. He was guided by a noble mission: to discover a new trade route to Asia, bring glory to Spain, and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to distant lands.

Just over 2 months later, on October 12, 1492, Columbus made landfall in the modern-day Bahamas. Upon his arrival, he planted a majestic cross in a mighty act of devotion, dedicating the land to God and setting in motion America's proud birthright of faith. Though he initially believed he had arrived in Asia, his discovery opened the vast frontier and untold splendors of the New World to Europe. He later ventured onward to Cuba and other islands in the Caribbean — exploring their coasts and engaging with their people.

Guided by steadfast prayer and unwavering fortitude and resolve, Columbus's journey carried thousands of years of wisdom, philosophy, reason, and culture across the Atlantic into the Americas — paving the way for the ultimate triumph of Western

civilization less than three centuries later on July 4, 1776.

Outrageously, in recent years, Christopher Columbus has been a prime target of a vicious and merciless campaign to erase our history, slander our heroes, and attack our heritage. Before our very eyes, left-wing radicals toppled his statues, vandalized his monuments, tarnished his character, and sought to exile him from our public spaces. Under my leadership, those days are finally over — and our Nation will now abide by a simple truth: Christopher Columbus was a true American hero, and every citizen is eternally indebted to his relentless determination.

As we celebrate his legacy, we also acknowledge the contributions of the countless Italian-Americans who, like him, have endlessly contributed to our culture and our way of life. To this day, the United States and Italy share a special bond rooted in the timeless values of faith, family, and freedom. My Administration looks forward to strengthening our long and storied friendship in the years to come.

This Columbus Day, more than 500 years since Columbus arrived in the New World, we follow his example, we echo his resolve, and we offer our gratitude for his life of valor and grit. Above all, we commit to restoring a Nation that once again dares to tame the unknown, honors our rich cultural inheritance, and offers rightful praise to our Creator above.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 13, 2025, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of the great Christopher Columbus and all who have contributed to building our Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fiftieth.

DONALD J. TRUMP

OCTOBER 11, 2024

A Proclamation on Columbus Day, 2024

Today, we celebrate the proud heritage of Italian Americans in our Nation, whose contributions and character have shaped our country's soul.

I believe we are the only Nation in the world with a heart and soul that draws from old and new. For some Italian-American families, the stories they share about their ancestors' lives in this country stretch back generations. They are stories about immigrants who left everything behind to sail across an ocean and chase the American Dream for the hope of a brighter future. They are stories about ancestors who helped build this country and found America's middle class — and their traditions and recipes still bring joy to their families today. They are stories of Italian-American artists, laborers, lawmakers, and leaders who never gave up on the idea of America. And for many Italian Americans, the story of Christopher Columbus' voyage crossing the Atlantic from the Spanish port of Palos de la Frontera on behalf of Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand II remains a source of pride. But no matter if their families arrived here centuries ago or only recently, Italian Americans' courage, strength, and character are woven into the rich tapestry of our country.

For many Italian Americans, the lives of their ancestors in this country were not always easy. In addition to the challenges of starting life in a new land, they also faced discrimination. Columbus Day was founded by President Benjamin Harrison in 1892 in response to the horrific, xenophobic attack that took the lives of 11 Italian Americans

the year before. In the face of hate, Italian Americans persisted — advancing our Nation and challenging us to live up to our highest values.

My Administration also recognizes that Italian Americans are a source of strength in our country's unshakeable alliance, strategic partnership, and deep friendship with Italy. The ties between our countries are founded on our shared values and principles: democracy, freedom, and respect for human rights. Both of our nations take pride in standing with the brave people of Ukraine as they defend themselves against Russia's illegal aggression.

Today, may we honor the history and heritage of Italian Americans and all that they have done to help realize the full promise of America for generations.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus' historic voyage 532 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2024, as Columbus Day. I direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-ninth.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.

OCTOBER 06, 2023

A Proclamation on Columbus Day, 2023

Today, we celebrate all the Italian Americans, whose courage and character reflect and help define our Nation.

In 1891, 11 Italian Americans were murdered in one of the largest mass lynchings in our Nation's history. In the wake of this horrific attack, President Benjamin Harrison established Columbus Day in 1892. For so many people across our country, that first Columbus Day was a way to honor the lives that had been lost and to celebrate the hope, possibilities, and ingenuity Italian Americans have contributed to our country since before the birth of our republic.

More than a century later, we mark Columbus Day with that purpose — celebrating the heritage of Italian Americans, whose hands helped build our Nation and whose hearts have always carried faith in the American Dream. For many Italian Americans, the story of Christopher Columbus' voyage — from the Spanish port of Palos de la Frontera on behalf of Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand II — remains a source of pride. It reflects the stories of trips across the Atlantic that so many Italian Americans grew up hearing at the dinner table, whether tales of ancestors who set sail on wooden boats across rough waters to begin new lives on our shores or grandparents who immigrated here with little more than hope in their hearts. These are stories of people leaving everything they knew and loved behind for the promise of opportunity in the United States.

Today, we honor those stories told around the dinner table and celebrate what these hopeful Italian American newcomers brought to our Nation. Italian Americans are educators, service members, doctors, engineers, artists, Government officials, and leaders and innovators in every field. The Italian American community is also a source of strength for our Nation's enduring relationship with Italy — an essential NATO ally and partner in the European Union. Together, we are working to address the challenges of our time, especially supporting the people of Ukraine in defense of their freedom.

America was founded on an idea: that we are all created equal, endowed by our creator with certain inalienable rights, and deserve to be treated equally throughout our lives. Though we have never fully lived up to that idea, our aspirations have never let us walk away from it either. Today, we honor all the Italian Americans who never walked away from our fundamental creed and who, for generations, have helped realize the full promise of our Nation.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus' historic voyage 531 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2023, as Columbus Day. I direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord

two thousand twenty-three, and of the Independence of the
United States of America the two hundred and forty-eighth.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.

OCTOBER 07, 2022

A Proclamation on Columbus Day, 2022

In 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed from the Spanish port of Palos de la Frontera on behalf of Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand II, but his roots trace back to Genoa, Italy. The story of his journey remains a source of pride for many Italian Americans whose families also crossed the Atlantic. His voyage inspired many others to follow and ultimately contributed to the founding of America, which has been a beacon for immigrants across the world.

Many of these immigrants were Italian, and for generations, Italian immigrants have harnessed the courage to leave so much behind, driven by their faith in the American dream — to build a new life of hope and possibility in the United States. Today, Italian Americans are leaders in all fields, including government, health, business, innovation, and culture.

Things have not always been easy; prejudice and violence often stalled the promise of equal opportunity. In fact, Columbus Day was created by President Harrison in 1892 in response to the anti-Italian motivated lynching of 11 Italian Americans in New Orleans in 1891. During World War II, Italian Americans were even targeted as enemy aliens. But the hard work, dedication to community, and leadership of Italian Americans in every industry make our country stronger, more prosperous, and more vibrant. The Italian American community is also a cornerstone of our Nation's close and enduring relationship with Italy — a vital NATO Ally and European Union partner. Today, the partnership between Italy and the United States is at the heart of our

efforts to tackle the most pressing global challenges of our time, including supporting Ukraine as it defends its freedom and democracy.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage 530 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 10, 2022, as Columbus Day. I direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-seventh.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.

OCTOBER 08, 2021

A Proclamation on Columbus Day, 2021

More than 500 years ago, after securing the support of Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand II, Christopher Columbus launched the Niña, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria from the coast of Spain in 1492. While he intended to end his quest in Asia, his 10-week journey instead landed him on the shores of the Bahamas, making Columbus the first of many Italian explorers to arrive in what would later become known as the Americas.

Many Italians would follow his path in the centuries to come, risking poverty, starvation, and death in pursuit of a better life. Today, millions of Italian Americans continue to enrich our country's traditions and culture and make lasting contributions to our Nation — they are educators, health care workers, scientists, first responders, military service members, and public servants, among so many other vital roles.

Today, we also acknowledge the painful history of wrongs and atrocities that many European explorers inflicted on Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities. It is a measure of our greatness as a Nation that we do not seek to bury these shameful episodes of our past — that we face them honestly, we bring them to the light, and we do all we can to address them. For Native Americans, western exploration ushered in a wave of devastation: violence perpetrated against Native communities, displacement and theft of Tribal homelands, the introduction and spread of disease, and more. On this day, we recognize this painful past and recommit ourselves to investing in Native communities,

upholding our solemn and sacred commitments to Tribal sovereignty, and pursuing a brighter future centered on dignity, respect, justice, and opportunity for all people.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage 529 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day." Today, let this day be one of reflection — on America's spirit of exploration, on the courage and contributions of Italian Americans throughout the generations, on the dignity and resilience of Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities, and on the work that remains ahead of us to fulfill the promise of our Nation for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 11, 2021, as Columbus Day. I direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.

...PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamation on Columbus Day, 2020

Issued on: October 9, 2020



More than 500 years ago, Christopher Columbus's intrepid voyage to the New World ushered in a new era of exploration and discovery. His travels led to European contact with the Americas and, a century later, the first settlements on the shores of the modern day United States. Today, we celebrate Columbus Day to commemorate the great Italian who opened a new chapter in world history and to appreciate his enduring significance to the Western Hemisphere.

When Christopher Columbus and his crew sailed across the Atlantic Ocean on the Niña, Pinta, and Santa María it marked the beginning of a new era in human history. For Italian Americans, Christopher Columbus represents one of the first of many immeasurable contributions of Italy to American history. As a native of Genoa, Columbus inspired early immigrants to carry forth their rich Italian heritage to the New World. Today, the United States benefits from the warmth and generosity of nearly 17 million Italian Americans, whose love of family and country strengthen the fabric of our Nation. For our beautiful Italian American communities — and Americans of every background — Columbus remains a legendary figure.

Sadly, in recent years, radical activists have sought to undermine Christopher Columbus's legacy. These extremists seek to replace discussion of his vast contributions with talk of failings, his discoveries with atrocities, and his achievements with transgressions. Rather than learn from our history, this radical ideology and its adherents seek to revise it, deprive it of any splendor, and mark it as inherently sinister. They seek to squash any dissent from their orthodoxy. We must not give in to these tactics or consent to such a bleak view of our history. We must teach future generations about our storied heritage, starting with the protection of monuments to our intrepid heroes like Columbus. This June, I signed an Executive Order to ensure that any person or group destroying or vandalizing a Federal monument, memorial, or statue is prosecuted to the fullest

extent of the law.

I have also taken steps to ensure that we preserve our Nation's history and promote patriotic education. In July, I signed another Executive Order to build and rebuild monuments to iconic American figures in a National Garden of American Heroes. In September, I announced the creation of the 1776 Commission, which will encourage our educators to teach our children about the miracle of American history and honor our founding. In addition, last month I signed an Executive Order to root out the teaching of racially divisive concepts from the Federal workplace, many of which are grounded in the same type of revisionist history that is trying to erase Christopher Columbus from our national heritage. Together, we must safeguard our history and stop this new wave of iconoclasm by standing against those who spread hate and division.

On this Columbus Day, we embrace the same optimism that led Christopher Columbus to discover the New World. We inherit that optimism, along with the legacy of American heroes who blazed the trails, settled a continent, tamed the wilderness, and built the single-greatest nation the world has ever seen.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 12, 2020, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.

DONALD J. TRUMP

...PROCLAMATIONS

Presidential Proclamation on Columbus Day, 2019

Issued on: October 11, 2019



On October 12, 1492, after a perilous, two-month journey across the treacherous Atlantic Ocean, Christopher Columbus and his crew aboard the Niña, Pinta, and Santa Maria landed in what is today The Bahamas. This watershed voyage ushered in the Age of Exploration, changing the course of history and setting the foundation for development of our Nation. Today, we commemorate this great explorer, whose courage, skill, and drive for discovery are at the core of the American spirit.

While Columbus sailed from the port of Palos under the Spanish flag, he took pride in the fact that he was a citizen of Genoa, Italy. The celebration of Columbus Day is, therefore, an appropriate opportunity to recognize the more than 16 million Americans who claim Italian heritage and to carry forth the legacy of generations of Italian Americans who helped shape our Nation. The United States greatly values its close bond with Italy, a longstanding friend, ally, and economic partner. Our relationship, built on shared values and a commitment to furthering peace and prosperity, continues to benefit both of our nations.

Columbus's daring voyage to the New World brought two continents together, enabling a global perspective for the first time. The bold legacy of Columbus and his crew spun a thread that weaves through the extensive history of Americans who have pushed the boundaries of exploration. On Columbus Day, we draw inspiration from this intrepid pioneer's spirit of adventure. We also affirm our commitment to continuing our quest to discover and better understand the wonders of our Nation, the world, and beyond.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2019, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand nineteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fourth.

DONALD J. TRUMP

Presidential Proclamation on Columbus Day, 2018

Issued on: October 6, 2018



In 1492, Christopher Columbus and his mighty three-ship fleet, the Niña, Pinta, and Santa Maria, first spotted the Americas. His historic achievement ushered in an Age of Discovery that expanded our knowledge of the world. Columbus's daring journey marked the beginning of centuries of transatlantic exploration that transformed the Western Hemisphere. On Columbus Day, we commemorate the achievements of this skilled Italian explorer and recognize his courage, will power, and ambition — all values we cherish as Americans.

Columbus's spirit of determination and adventure has provided inspiration to generations of Americans. On Columbus Day, we honor his remarkable accomplishments as a navigator, and celebrate his voyage into the unknown expanse of the Atlantic Ocean. His expedition formed the initial bond between Europe and the Americas, and changed the world forever. Today, in that spirit, we continue to seek new horizons for greater opportunity and further discovery on land, in sea, and in space.

Although Spain sponsored his voyage, Columbus was, in fact, a proud citizen of the Italian City of Genoa. As we celebrate the tremendous strides our Nation has made since his arrival, we acknowledge the important contributions of Italian Americans to our country's culture, business, and civic life. We are also thankful for our relationship with Italy, a great ally that shares our strong, unwavering commitment to peace and prosperity.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President

proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as “Columbus Day.”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 8, 2018, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-third.

DONALD J. TRUMP

...PROCLAMATIONS

President Donald J. Trump Proclaims October 9, 2017, as Columbus Day

Issued on: October 6, 2017



Five hundred and twenty-five years ago, Christopher Columbus completed an ambitious and daring voyage across the Atlantic Ocean to the Americas. The voyage was a remarkable and then-unparalleled feat that helped launch the age of exploration and discovery. The permanent arrival of Europeans to the Americas was a transformative event that undeniably and fundamentally changed the course of human history and set the stage for the development of our great Nation. Therefore, on Columbus Day, we honor the skilled navigator and man of faith, whose courageous feat brought together continents and has inspired countless others to pursue their dreams and convictions — even in the face of extreme doubt and tremendous adversity.

More than five centuries after his initial voyage, we remember the “Admiral of the Ocean Sea” for building the critical first link in the strong and enduring bond between the United States and Europe. While Isabella I and Ferdinand II of Spain sponsored his historic voyage, Columbus was a native of the City of Genoa, in present day Italy, and represents the rich history of important Italian American contributions to our great Nation. There can be no doubt that American culture, business, and civic life would all be much less vibrant in the absence of the Italian American community. We also take this opportunity to reaffirm our close ties to Columbus’s country of birth, Italy. Italy is a strong ally and a valued partner in promoting peace and promoting prosperity around the world.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus’s historic voyage, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as “Columbus Day.”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2017, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.

DONALD J. TRUMP

Presidential Proclamation -- Columbus Day, 2016

COLUMBUS DAY, 2016

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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

In October of 1492, Christopher Columbus completed the first of his expeditions that would land him on the shores of North America. Sponsored by Isabella I and Ferdinand II, Columbus embarked on a 10-week voyage he had hoped would lead to Asia. But when his ships instead landed in the Bahamas, a new story began to unfold. The spirit of exploration that Columbus embodied was sustained by all who would follow him westward, driving a desire to continue expanding our understanding of the world.

Though Columbus departed from the coast of Spain, his roots traced back to his birthplace of Genoa, Italy. Blazing a trail for generations of Italian explorers and Italian Americans to eventually seek the promise of the New World, his voyage churned the gears of history. The bonds between Italy and the United States could not be closer than they are today -- a reflection of the extraordinary contributions made by both our peoples in our common efforts to shape a better future. Across our Nation, Italian Americans continue to enrich our country's traditions and culture.

As we mark this rich history, we must also acknowledge the pain and suffering reflected in the stories of Native Americans who had long resided on this land prior to the arrival of European newcomers. The past we share is marked by too many broken promises, as well as violence, deprivation, and disease. It is a history that we must recognize as we seek to build a brighter future -- side by side and with cooperation and mutual respect. We have made great progress together in recent years, and we will keep striving to maintain strong nation-to-nation relationships, strengthen tribal sovereignty, and help all our communities thrive.

More than five centuries ago, one journey changed the trajectory of our world -- and today we recognize the spirit that Christopher Columbus's legacy inspired. As we reflect on the adventurers throughout history who charted new courses and sought new heights, let us remember the communities who suffered, and let us pay tribute to our heritage and embrace the multiculturalism that defines the American experience.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage 524 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 10, 2016, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.

BARACK OBAMA

Presidential Proclamation -- Columbus Day, 2015

COLUMBUS DAY, 2015

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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Over half a millennium ago, Christopher Columbus -- an ambitious navigator native to Genoa, Italy -- set sail for new horizons. Aboard the Niña, the Pinta, and the Santa María, his expedition went west for a months-long journey. Though his first of four voyages across the Atlantic did not end at his desired destination of Asia, Columbus's adventure reflected the insatiable thirst for exploration that continues to drive us as a people.

Columbus's legacy is embodied in the spirit of our Nation. Determined and curious, the young explorer persevered after having been doubted by many of his potential patrons. Once opportunity struck, when Ferdinand II and Isabella I agreed to sponsor his trip, he seized the moment and pursued what he knew to be possible. Columbus's arrival in the New World inspired many and allowed for generations of Italians to follow -- people whose Italian-American heritage contributes in immeasurable ways to making our country what it is, and who continue to help strengthen the friendship between the United States and Italy.

Though these early travels expanded the realm of European exploration, to many they also marked a time that forever changed the world for the indigenous peoples of North America. Previously unseen disease, devastation, and violence were introduced to their lives -- and as we pay tribute to the ways in which Columbus pursued ambitious goals -- we also recognize the suffering inflicted upon Native Americans and we recommit to strengthening tribal sovereignty and maintaining our strong ties.

In the years since Columbus's time, the legacy of early explorers has carried on in the wide eyes of aspiring young dreamers and doers, eager to make their own journeys and to continue reaching for the unknown and unlocking new potential.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage 523 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each

year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 12, 2015, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fortieth.

BARACK OBAMA

Presidential Proclamation -- Columbus Day, 2014

COLUMBUS DAY, 2014

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

When Christopher Columbus -- a son of Genoa, Italy -- set sail across the Atlantic, no one could imagine the profound and lasting impact he would have on the world. In search of a westward route to Asia, he instead spotted the Bahamas. As dawn broke on October 12, 1492, Columbus's crew set foot on a Caribbean island and changed the course of history. For much of Europe, this marked the discovery of the New World, and it set in motion the more than five centuries that have followed.

In a new world, explorers found opportunity. They endured unforgiving winters and early hardship. They pushed west across a continent, charting rivers and mountains, and expanded our understanding of the world as they embraced the principle of self-reliance.

In a new world, a history was written. It tells the story of an idea -- that all women and men are created equal -- and a people's struggle to fulfill it. And it is a history shared by Native Americans, one marred with long and shameful chapters of violence, disease, and deprivation.

In a new world, a Nation was born. A resolute people fought for democracy, liberty, and freedom from tyranny. They secured fundamental rights to expression, petition, and free exercise of religion and built a beacon of hope to people everywhere who cherish these ideals.

Columbus's historic voyage ushered in a new age, and since, the world has never been the same. His journey opened the door for generations of Italian immigrants who followed his path across an ocean in pursuit of the promise of America. Like Columbus, these immigrants and their descendants have shaped the place where they landed. Italian Americans have enriched our culture and strengthened our country. They have served with honor and distinction in our Armed Forces, and today, they embrace their rich heritage as leaders in our communities and pioneers of industry.

On Columbus Day, we reflect on the moment the world changed. And as we recognize the influence of Christopher Columbus, we also pay tribute to the legacy of Native Americans and our Government's commitment to strengthening their tribal sovereignty. We celebrate the long history of the American continents and the contributions of a diverse

people, including those who have always called this land their home and those who crossed an ocean and risked their lives to do so. With the same sense of exploration, we boldly pursue new frontiers of space, medicine, and technology and dare to change our world once more.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage 522 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 13, 2014, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-ninth.

BARACK OBAMA

Presidential Proclamation -- Columbus Day, 2013

COLUMBUS DAY, 2013

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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Late in the summer of 1492, Christopher Columbus, a renowned navigator and fearless adventurer, set out with three ships into uncharted waters. He hoped to discover a new route to the east -- opening trade routes for precious spices and paving the way for his patrons, Ferdinand II and Isabella I, to expand their empire. Instead, more than two months later, his crew spotted the Bahamas, and our world was changed forever.

A son of Genoa, Italy, Columbus blazed a trail for generations of Italians who followed his path across the Atlantic. As we mark the anniversary of his voyage, our Nation embraces the many ways Italian Americans have enriched our culture and our communities -- as soldiers who defend our Nation in times of war, as leaders and laborers, as educators and entrepreneurs. This deep-rooted heritage has come to define who we are as a Nation, and it has helped us forge an extraordinary transatlantic partnership with the people of Italy.

As Christopher Columbus and his crew made landfall, they could not have foreseen the ways in which their journey would shake contemporary understanding of the world, or the lasting mark their arrival would leave on the Native American societies they encountered. So as we celebrate the bold legacy of Christopher Columbus, we also pay tribute to the honorable yet arduous history of Native Americans, with whom the United States will always maintain strong nation-to-nation relationships.

As today's dreamers, explorers, scientists, and engineers set their sights on the next great discovery, may they be inspired by Christopher Columbus's tale of unbounded courage and unwavering spirit. And as we pursue knowledge and progress, may we never lose sight of our shared humanity.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage 521 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2013, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand thirteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-eighth.

BARACK OBAMA

Presidential Proclamation -- Columbus Day, 2012

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

As dawn broke over the Atlantic on October 12, 1492, a perilous 10-week journey across an ocean gave way to encounters and events that would dramatically shape the course of history. Today, we recall the courage and the innovative spirit that carried Christopher Columbus and his crew from a Spanish port to North America, and we celebrate our heritage as a people born of many histories and traditions.

When the explorers laid anchor in the Bahamas, they met indigenous peoples who had inhabited the Western hemisphere for millennia. As we reflect on the tragic burdens tribal communities bore in the years that followed, let us commemorate the many contributions they have made to the American experience, and let us continue to strengthen the ties that bind us today.

In the centuries since that fateful October day in 1492, countless pioneering Americans have summoned the same spirit of discovery that drove Christopher Columbus when he cast off from Palos, Spain, to pursue the unknown. Engineers and entrepreneurs, sailors and scientists, explorers of the physical world and chroniclers of the human spirit -- all have worked to broaden our understanding of the time and space we live in and who we are as a people. On this 520th anniversary of Columbus's expedition to the West, let us press forward with renewed determination toward tomorrow's new frontiers.

As a native of Genoa, Italy, Christopher Columbus also inspired generations of Italian immigrants to follow in his footsteps. Today, we take time to celebrate the innumerable contributions that generations of Italian Americans have made to our country. Throughout 2013, Italy will also commemorate this rich heritage and the enduring bonds between our countries with the Year of Italian Culture in the United States, which Americans will join in celebrating.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage 520 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do

hereby proclaim October 8, 2012, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-seventh.

BARACK OBAMA

Presidential Proclamation -- Columbus Day, 2011

COLUMBUS DAY, 2011

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

On October 12, 1492, Christopher Columbus and his crewmembers sighted land after an ambitious voyage across the Atlantic Ocean. The ideals that guided them to this land -- courage, determination, and a thirst for discovery -- have inspired countless Americans and led to some of our Nation's proudest accomplishments. Today, we renew our commitment to fostering the same spirit of innovation and exploration that will help future generations reach new horizons.

Ten weeks before his arrival in the Americas, Columbus and his crewmembers set sail from Spain in search of a westward route to Asia. Though their journey was daring, it did not yield the trade route they sought. Instead, it illuminated a continent then unknown to Europe, and established an unbreakable bond between two distant lands.

These explorers, and countless others that followed them, encountered indigenous peoples that had lived in the Western hemisphere for tens of thousands of years. On this day, we also remember the tragic hardships these communities endured. We honor their countless and ongoing contributions to our Nation, and we recommit to strengthening the tribal communities that continue to enrich the fabric of American life.

Columbus returned to the Americas three more times after his first historic voyage, and his journey has been followed by millions of immigrants, including our Nation's earliest settlers and Founders. Born in Genoa, Italy, Christopher Columbus was the first in a proud tradition of Italians to cross the Atlantic to our shores. Today, we recognize their indelible influence on our country and celebrate the remarkable ways Italian-Americans have shaped the American experience.

The excitement Christopher Columbus and his crewmembers experienced that October morning is felt every day by today's pioneers: entrepreneurs and inventors, researchers and engineers. On the anniversary of Christopher Columbus's voyage, we celebrate the pursuit of discovery as an essential element of the American character. Embracing this heritage and inspiring young people to set their own sails, our Nation will reach the shores of an ever brighter tomorrow.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus's historic voyage 519 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 10, 2011, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our diverse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-sixth.

BARACK OBAMA

Presidential Proclamation--Columbus Day

Over five centuries ago, Christopher Columbus set sail across the Atlantic Ocean in search of a new trade route to India. The findings of this explorer from Genoa, Italy, would change the map of the world and forever alter the course of human history.

When Columbus's crewmembers came ashore in the Americas, they arrived in a world previously unknown to his contemporaries in Europe. Columbus returned to the Caribbean three more times after his maiden voyage in 1492, convinced of the vast potential of what he had seen. His expeditions foreshadowed the journey across the seas for millions of courageous immigrants who followed. As they settled, they joined indigenous communities with thriving cultures. Today, we reflect on the myriad contributions tribal communities have made to our Nation and the world, and we remember the tremendous suffering they endured as this land changed.

For more than 500 years, women and men from every corner of the globe have embarked on journeys to our shores as did Columbus. Some have sought refuge from religious or political oppression, and others have departed nations ravaged by war, famine, or economic despair. Columbus charted a course for generations of Italians who followed his crossing to America. As Italy marks the 150th anniversary of its unification this year, we celebrate the incalculable contributions of Italian Americans, whose determination, hard work, and leadership have done so much to build the strength of our Nation.

What Columbus encountered over half a millennia ago was more than earth or continent. His epic quest into the unknown may not have revealed the new trade route he sought, but it exposed the boundless potential of a new frontier. It is this intrepid character and spirit of possibility that has come to define America, and is the reason countless families still journey to our shores.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus' historic voyage 518 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 11, 2010, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the Flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in

honor of Christopher Columbus.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand ten, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fifth.

BARACK OBAMA

...October 9, 2009

COLUMBUS DAY, 2009

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

More than 500 years have passed since Christopher Columbus set sail across the Atlantic Ocean in a bold attempt to expand human understanding of the known world. His voyage radically altered the course of history and changed our world forever. Many generations later, that same spirit of exploration inspires Americans to pursue brave new frontiers in business, science, and technology. Today, we reflect on the transformation of North America from a land of boundless opportunity to the modern communities of the 21st century.

Born in Genoa, Italy, Christopher Columbus' journey aboard three Spanish ships revealed a new land for many European nations whose people would later flock to our shores in search of prosperity and freedom. These immigrants joined many thriving indigenous communities who suffered great hardships as a result of the changes to the land they inhabited. Although their competing ways of life were initially at odds, over time, the "New World" became a culturally and ethnically diverse place where we now enjoy the free exchange of ideas and democratic self-governance. Tribal communities continue to strengthen our Nation through their rich heritage and unique identity.

Columbus inspired generations of men and women to search out the farthest reaches of the world. From the coasts of Newfoundland to the Gulf of Mexico, explorers of Italian descent have directly influenced the growth of North America. Their dedication to our country has helped lay the foundation on which America was built. Today, Italian Americans continue to contribute immeasurably to the identity of our Nation, as role models, leaders, innovators, and committed public servants. From the boardroom to the classroom, they are prominent in every facet of American life.

In commemoration of Christopher Columbus' historic exploration 517 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), and an Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested that the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 12, 2009, as Columbus Day. I call upon all the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.

BARACK OBAMA

The American Presidency Project (<https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/>)



GEORGE W. BUSH (/ **PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/** **GEORGE-W-BUSH)**

Proclamation 8305— Columbus Day, 2008

October 10, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Christopher Columbus' bold voyage across the Atlantic changed the world forever. On Columbus Day, we remember this Italian explorer's courage in traveling to the unknown and celebrate his landmark achievements and lasting legacy.

History holds remarkable examples of heroism and adventure, and the journey of the navigator from Genoa in 1492 is one of history's great stories of daring and bravery. Columbus' expedition became an epic of discovery and opened up the New World for future generations. His journey will forever stand as a testament to his intrepid spirit and persistence. Today, his legacy of discovery and determination is an example for innovators and dreamers as they pursue broader understanding and use their talents to benefit humanity.

Columbus Day is also an opportunity to reaffirm the close ties between the United States and Italy. Our two countries will continue to work together to advance liberty, peace, and prosperity around the globe. Our Nation recognizes the many inspiring contributions made by Americans of Italian descent. We also honor the dedication and sacrifice of Italian

Americans who are serving in our country's Armed Forces. In commemoration of Columbus' journey, the Congress has requested (36 U.S.C. 107) that the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 13, 2008, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GWB", is positioned above the printed name.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Note: At the time of publication, this proclamation had not been received by the Office of the Federal Register for assignment of a proclamation number.

George W. Bush, Proclamation 8305—Columbus Day, 2008 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project
<https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/284439>



October 04, 2007

**GEORGE W. BUSH (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
GEORGE-W-BUSH)**

Proclamation 8186—Columbus Day, 2007

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

In 1492, Christopher Columbus set sail on a journey that changed the course of history. On Columbus Day, we celebrate this voyage of discovery and honor an Italian explorer who shaped the destiny of the New World.

Christopher Columbus' bold journey across the Atlantic opened new frontiers of exploration and demonstrated the power of perseverance. His journeys inspired other risk-takers and dreamers to test the bounds of their imagination and gave them the courage to accomplish great feats, whether crossing the world's oceans or walking on the moon. Today, a new generation of innovators and pioneers continues to uphold the finest values of our country--discipline, ingenuity, and unity in the pursuit of great goals.

As we look back on the contributions of the great explorer from Genoa, we also celebrate the many contributions that generations of Italian Americans have made to our Nation. Their service to America and ties to family, faith, and community have strengthened our country and enriched our culture.

In commemoration of Columbus' journey, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested that the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 8, 2007, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "GWB".

GEORGE W. BUSH

Note: This proclamation will be published in the Federal Register on October 9.

George W. Bush, Proclamation 8186—Columbus Day, 2007 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/276114>



October 05, 2006

**GEORGE W. BUSH (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
GEORGE-W-BUSH)**

Proclamation 8065—Columbus Day, 2006

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

More than five centuries ago, Christopher Columbus boldly set out on a long and challenging journey across the Atlantic that led the way for exploration of the Americas. On Columbus Day, we celebrate the historic voyages of the Italian explorer and honor his life, heritage, and lasting legacy.

Columbus' brave expeditions expanded the horizons of human knowledge and inspired generations of risk-takers and pioneers in America and around the world. Our Nation is built on the efforts of men and women who possess both the vision to see beyond what is and the desire to pursue what might be. Today, the same passion for discovery that drove Columbus is leading bold visionaries to explore the frontiers of space, find new energy sources, and solve our most difficult medical challenges.

Columbus Day is also an opportunity to celebrate the heritage we share with the legendary explorer, the important relationship between the United States and Italy, and the proud Italian Americans who call our Nation home. Italian Americans have strengthened our country and enriched our culture, and through service in our Armed Forces, many have defended our Nation with courage and helped lay the foundation of peace for generations to come.

In commemoration of Columbus' journey, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested that the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2006, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "GWB", written in a cursive style.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Note: This proclamation will be published in the Federal Register on October 11.

George W. Bush, Proclamation 8065—Columbus Day, 2006 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/268975>



October 07, 2005

**GEORGE W. BUSH (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
GEORGE-W-BUSH)**

Proclamation 7944—Columbus Day, 2005

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Christopher Columbus' journey across uncharted waters in 1492 changed the course of history. Overcoming many obstacles, the explorer from Genoa pursued a dream that carried him to the "New World" and helped launch an age of exploration, leading to the founding of new countries across the Americas. Through the years, the desire to discover and understand has been a part of our Nation's character, and Columbus' spirit has inspired generations of explorers and inventors. On Columbus Day, we honor Christopher Columbus and the vision that carried him on his historic voyage.

Since 1934, when President Roosevelt first proclaimed the national holiday, our Nation has observed Columbus Day to mark the moment when the Old World met the New. As we recognize Columbus' legacy, we also celebrate the contributions of Italian Americans to our Nation's growth and well-being. Americans of Italian descent are musicians and athletes, doctors and lawyers, teachers and first responders. They are serving bravely in our Armed Forces. From our country's first days, the sons and daughters of Italy have brought honor to themselves and enriched our national life.

More than 500 years after Columbus' journey, we are honored that the Italian Republic is among our closest friends and strongest allies. On Columbus Day, we celebrate this strong bond between America and Italy.

In commemoration of Columbus' journey, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested that the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 10, 2005, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirtieth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GWB", written over a horizontal line.

GEORGE W. BUSH



October 11, 2004

**GEORGE W. BUSH (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
GEORGE-W-BUSH)**

Proclamation 7829—Columbus Day, 2004

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The journeys of Christopher Columbus are among the world's greatest stories of daring and discovery. His courage, optimism, and adventurous spirit altered the course of history. On Columbus Day, we celebrate this remarkable explorer and his contributions to the "New World."

In August 1492, Columbus left Spain and sailed into the unknown with the simplest of navigational equipment. The risks were great and the outcome uncertain. Yet, Columbus was committed to the cause of discovery, finding a more efficient trade route to the East and advancing European civilization.

Today, Columbus' voyages continue to stir our imagination and encourage us to explore new frontiers. His spirit of determination and discovery is a characteristic shared by the American people and is reflected throughout our history, from the Lewis and Clark Expedition to the Moon landing and our many scientific and technological advances.

Columbus Day is also a celebration of the many contributions that Italian Americans have made to our Nation. Every aspect of our culture, whether it be art or music, law or politics, reflects the influence of Italian Americans. On this day we also remain thankful for the strong ties between the United States and Italy and pay tribute to the courageous and selfless Italian forces who are helping to advance freedom alongside American and coalition troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In commemoration of Columbus' journey, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested that the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 11, 2004, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-ninth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "GWB", written in a cursive, stylized script.

Note: This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on October 14.

George W. Bush, Proclamation 7829—Columbus Day, 2004 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/211422>



October 10, 2003

**GEORGE W. BUSH (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
GEORGE-W-BUSH)**

Proclamation 7720—Columbus Day, 2003

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

When Christopher Columbus set out from Spain in August 1492, he launched an era of discovery and exploration that continues today. On Columbus Day, we honor this Italian explorer's courage and vision, and recognize his four journeys to the "New World."

One of the first known celebrations of Christopher Columbus' achievements was in 1792 when a ceremony in New York City celebrated the 300th anniversary of his landing in the Bahamas. Italian Americans began regularly honoring Columbus in the 1860s. In 1892, President Benjamin Harrison issued a Presidential proclamation on the 400th anniversary of Columbus' first voyage, describing Columbus as "the pioneer of progress and enlightenment." The United States now celebrates a national holiday in honor of Columbus.

Columbus' willingness to sacrifice the comfort of his home to pursue the unknown has inspired generations of daring explorers. Through the years, Americans have followed in the spirit of Columbus through exploration of land, sea, and space, and are fulfilling Columbus' great legacy. Since the days of Columbus, millions of Italian immigrants have crossed the ocean and come to the United States. These Italian Americans and their descendants have made America stronger and better.

In commemoration of Columbus' journey, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested that the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 13, 2003, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GWB", written in a cursive style.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Note: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 12, and it was published in the Federal Register on October 16.

George W. Bush, Proclamation 7720—Columbus Day, 2003 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/211038>



**GEORGE W. BUSH (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
GEORGE-W-BUSH)**

Proclamation 7606—Columbus Day, 2002

October 09, 2002

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

In August 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed from Palos, Spain, embarking on a westward voyage and intending to establish a new trade route from Spain to the Far East. With three ships and a crew of approximately 100 men, he journeyed across the Atlantic Ocean. Instead of finding a new route to the Indies, Columbus discovered the Bahama Islands. Today, more than five centuries later, Americans continue to celebrate Columbus' bold expedition and recognize his pioneering achievements as an enduring symbol of imagination, courage, and perseverance.

Columbus brought European settlers to North America and helped establish a new era of world exploration during his four journeys to the "New World." In the years following his voyage of discovery, others such as John Cabot, Vasco da Gama, and Ferdinand Magellan followed Columbus' example to explore and discover new lands, peoples, and cultures.

Today, Columbus' spirit of innovation and discovery flourishes in America as we seek to advance knowledge and ensure prosperity and hope for all people. We challenge our young men and women particularly to reach for all their dreams as the great explorers of the past did.

In commemoration of Columbus' remarkable journey 510 years ago, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934, and modified in 1968 (36 U.S.C. 107), as amended, has requested that the President proclaim the second Monday of October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 14, 2002, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.



GEORGE W. BUSH

Note: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 10, and it was published in the Federal Register on October 15.

George W. Bush, Proclamation 7606—Columbus Day, 2002 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/212267>



**GEORGE W. BUSH (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
GEORGE-W-BUSH)**

**Remarks on Signing the Columbus Day
Proclamation**

October 08, 2001

Thank you very much. I'm glad I invited you. *[Laughter]* Thank you all for coming. Laura and I are delighted to have you here to celebrate Columbus Day. Since 1934, when Franklin Roosevelt first proclaimed the national holiday, our entire Nation has observed Columbus Day to mark that moment when the Old World met the New. We honor the man from Genoa and the vision that carried him throughout his 10week voyage. And we recognize—as well, we recognize the unique contributions that people of Italian descent have made here in our country for more than five centuries.

Italian Americans were among the many public servants last month who gave extraordinary service in an hour of dire emergency. Some are with us today. The fire department of Arlington, Virginia, was first on the scene after the attack on the Pentagon. And we're so honored to have Battalion Chief Jim Bonzano with us today.

We have representatives of the New York Police and Fire Departments with us, representatives of people who showed incredible bravery and sacrifice and determination. Please welcome Joe Esposito and Chief Dan Nigro.

Chief Nigro is the successor of Peter Ganci, Jr., whom I had the privilege of meeting 2 years ago. Chief Ganci gave his life at the World Trade Center and was laid to rest on September the 15th. We're so delighted today to have heroes here representing the Ganci family, his wife, his two sons, and his daughters. Welcome, and thank you for being here. I can't remember if it was Chris or Peter III who looked out at the South Lawn and said, "God, I wish Dad were here. He could hit a three wood right over the fence." *[Laughter]* I said, "It might make him nervous; he might shank it into the water." *[Laughter]* He said, "No, you don't know my dad."

I want to thank the Sons of Italy who have joined us today, as well as the leadership of the National Italian American Foundation and UNICO National who are here, as well. Thank you all for coming.

Ambassador Salleo from Italy, we're so glad you're here, and thank you for bringing your wife with you as well. I just got off the phone call with your Prime Minister, Prime Minister Berlusconi, who is a good friend of mine and a good friend of America's. He sends his best, by the way. Welcome.

I want to thank the Members of Congress who are here. Thank you all for coming. And I also am so pleased that the first Italian American to serve on our Supreme Court has agreed to join us as well. Justice Scalia, thank you for being here, sir.

I'm proud to have a number of Italian Americans in my administration. A member of my Cabinet unfortunately is not here, but I can assure you he's doing a great job, and that's Tony Principi—so proud of Tony's service to the veterans of our country. He's doing a really outstanding job.

As you know, that sometimes we have to do battle on Capitol Hill. I try to avoid those battles, but occasionally it has to happen. And therefore, I picked an Italian American to lead that battle for the White House—*[laughter]*—Nick Calio. Where are you, Nick? There you are. I know Congresswoman Pelosi is saying, all you've got to do is do it the way she tells you to, and things will be fine. *[Laughter]* I'm also honored that Gian-Carlo Peressutti of my staff has put this event together, and I want to thank Gian-Carlo as well for his hard work.

Our White House has been—has welcomed many entertainers before. And today we have the honor of welcoming a lady who you all know well, whose mom had entertained at the White House years ago. She entertained the Kennedys. And today, after I sign the proclamation, Liza Minnelli has agreed to entertain us in this beautiful room in this beautiful house of the people.

I was in New York last week. Like all Americans, I am amazed at what a great job the New York City folks are doing, the spirit of New York, the willingness for people to pull together and to help a neighbor in need. And I'm most impressed by the character of the leadership there, two people of Italian heritage, I might add, the Governor—[laughter]—and Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

The evil ones thought they were going to hurt us, and they did to a certain extent. But what they really did was, they enabled the world to see the true character and compassion and spirit of our country, and no finer example than that in New York City.

This Columbus Day should be one of deep pride for all Americans—all Americans—especially those for Italian descent. From the very beginning of our country, the sons and daughters of Italy have brought honor to themselves and have enriched our national life. In the beauty of this Capital City, we see the hand of Italian immigrants who spent more than 10 years carving the great seated figure in the Lincoln Memorial, who adorned the National Cathedral with statues, and who graced the dome and corridors of the Capitol building with magnificent art.

Our freedom itself was gained with the help of three Italian regiments that crossed the Atlantic to fight in the Revolutionary War. Our Declaration of Independence bears the signature of two Italian Americans. In later struggle, dozens of Italian Americans would receive the Medal of Honor. And today, when Americans pay tribute to "The Greatest Generation," we have in mind people like Captain Don Gentile, the fighting ace who General Eisenhower described as a "one-man air force."

Take any field of endeavor, any achievement of this country, and Italian Americans are part of it. For generation after generation, the success of our country has drawn heavily from the industry and resourcefulness of Italian immigrants and their families. The same can be said for the values that make us a great nation. The millions who came here brought with them a distinct strength of character, faith in God, devotion to family, and love of life.

This summer I visited Genoa, where 550 years ago Christopher Columbus was born. All around that vibrant, modern city are glimpses of the ancient civilization that still inspires the world's admiration and always will. In so many ways, that culture has added to our own, first on three small ships, then on many more. It is our good fortune to be an immigrant nation, to be the keepers of traditions and gifts that have come to us from great nations like Italy. More than 15 million Americans claim Italian heritage. And all Americans have reason to be grateful, because we would be poorer without it.

I now have the singular honor of signing the official document proclaiming October 8th, 2001, as Columbus Day in the United States of America.

George W. Bush: The American Presidency Project



NOTE: The President spoke at 3:09 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to James Bonzano, battalion chief, Arlington County Fire Department; Joseph J. Esposito, chief, New York City Police Department; Daniel A. Nigro, chief, Fire Department-City of New York; Kathleen Ganci, widow of New York City Fire Department Chief Peter Ganci, Jr., and their children, Christopher, Peter III, and Danielle; Italian Ambassador to the United States Fernando Salleo and his wife, Anna Maria; Prime

Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy; Gov. George E. Pataki of New York; and Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani of New York City. The proclamation is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

George W. Bush, Remarks on Signing the Columbus Day Proclamation Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/214358>



October 06, 2000

**WILLIAM J. CLINTON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
WILLIAM-J-CLINTON)**

Proclamation 7357 – Columbus Day, 2000

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

During this first year of the new century, the American people have devoted time and thought to the people and events of our Nation's past so that we might better prepare for the challenges of the future. While Christopher Columbus' epic voyage took place almost three centuries before the founding of our democracy, his journey helped shape our national experience and offers important lessons as we chart our own course for the 21st century.

One of the most valuable of those lessons is the importance of sustaining our spirit of adventure, our willingness to explore new concepts and new horizons. Columbus, after careful study and planning, rejected the conventional thinking of his time, sailed for the open seas, and succeeded in opening up a New World for the people of Europe. Like Columbus, our founders rejected the familiar paths of the past and ventured boldly to create a new form of government that has profoundly shaped world history. Explorers, pioneers, inventors, artists, entrepreneurs--all have found a refuge in America and a chance to achieve their dreams.

Today we have other worlds to explore--from the deepest oceans to the outermost reaches of space to the genetic code of human life. The same adventurous spirit that propelled Columbus' explorations will enable us to challenge old assumptions, acquire new knowledge, and broaden the horizons of humankind.

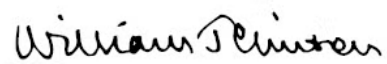
Columbus' story illustrates the importance of diversity. Columbus was born and raised in Italy; he learned much of his seafaring knowledge and experience from Portuguese sailors and navigators; and he put those skills in service to the King and Queen of Spain, who funded his explorations. By establishing a safe, reliable route between Europe and the New World, Columbus opened the door for subsequent explorers from Spain, France, and England and for the millions of immigrants who would be welcomed by America in later centuries. But the encounters between Columbus and other European explorers and the native peoples of the Western Hemisphere also underscore what can happen when cultures clash and when we are unable to understand and respect people who are different from us.

While more than 500 years have passed since Christopher Columbus first sailed to these shores, the lessons of his voyage are still with us. Brave, determined, open to new ideas and new experiences, in many ways he foreshadowed the character of the American people who honor him today.

In tribute to Columbus' many achievements, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), and an Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2000, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William Clinton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'W'.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

William J. Clinton, Proclamation 7357—Columbus Day, 2000 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/227240>



October 08, 1999

**WILLIAM J. CLINTON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
WILLIAM-J-CLINTON)**

Proclamation 7239—Columbus Day, 1999

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Although Christopher Columbus' first voyage to the New World took place more than 500 years ago, the momentous changes it brought about still resonate today. His journey triggered a historic encounter between Europe and the native peoples of the New World; helped open new continents to exploration, trade, and development; established a reliable route to the Americas; and was a major milestone in the inexorable trend toward expansion and globalization.

Columbus could not have imagined the full impact of his arrival in 1492 or how his journey would shape human history. The zeal for trade that motivated the Spanish crown to fund Columbus' voyages still exists today as we work to strengthen our commercial ties with other nations and to compete in an increasingly global economy. Columbus' own passion for adventure survives as an integral part of our national character and heritage, reflected in our explorations of the oceans' depths and the outer reaches of our solar system. A son of Italy, Columbus opened the door to the New World for millions of people from across the globe who have followed their dreams to America. Today, Americans of Italian and Spanish descent can take special pride, not only in Columbus' historic achievements, but also in their own immeasurable contributions to our national life. From business to the arts, from government to academia, they have played an important part in advancing the peace and prosperity our country enjoys today.

We are about to embark on our own journey into a new millennium of unknown challenges and possibilities. As we ponder that future, Columbus' courage and daring still capture the American imagination, inspiring us to look to the horizon, as he did, and see, not a daunting boundary, but a new world full of opportunity.

In tribute to Columbus' many achievements, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), and an Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 11, 1999, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

William J. Clinton



October 09, 1998

**WILLIAM J. CLINTON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
WILLIAM-J-CLINTON)**

Proclamation 7136—Columbus Day, 1998

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Today our Nation stands on the threshold of a new millennium, an uncharted time of great challenge and opportunity. To fulfill the promise of this new era, we must be adventurous, willing to leave known shores, and eager to embrace change. To find inspiration for this momentous journey, we need only look to the example of Christopher Columbus, who helped usher in a similar Age of Discovery more than 500 years ago.

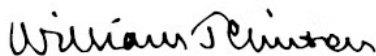
A skilled and experienced seaman, Columbus pushed back the boundaries of the known world and charted a safe course across the ocean to a new continent. He was a master at reading and using the winds and discovered the best westward and eastward passages between Europe and North America. As Daniel Boorstin wrote in *The Discoverers*, ". . . a sailing vessel today, after all that has been learned in the last five centuries, could not do better than follow Columbus' route." Explorers, adventurers, and traders from many nations would follow his lead across the Atlantic, as would millions of immigrants in the centuries following his voyages. Although both a dreamer and a visionary, Columbus—a son of Italy whose enterprise was funded by the Spanish crown—could never have foreseen the multicultural, multiracial Nation that would ultimately emerge in the New World he helped to discover.

As we enter a new era, let us embrace Columbus' spirit of discovery and embrace as well the great diversity of cultures, religions, and ethnic traditions that we enjoy because so many have followed his course to this great land.

In tribute to Columbus' many achievements, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), and an Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 12, 1998, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-third.



WILLIAM J. CLINTON



October 10, 1997

**WILLIAM J. CLINTON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
WILLIAM-J-CLINTON)**

Proclamation 7039—Columbus Day, 1997

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The life and achievements of Christopher Columbus demonstrate how powerful and lasting an influence one individual can have on the course of human history. Although great explorers reached the shores of this continent both before and after Columbus, few have captured the American imagination as he has. Perhaps because we have always been an adventurous people, eager for challenge and change, we feel a special affinity for this extraordinary man who left the safety of known waters to pursue his vision across the ocean to the threshold of a new world.

Although his momentous voyages across the Atlantic took place more than 500 years ago, their impact can still be felt today. Columbus' discoveries in the West Indies brought about substantive and continuing contact between the peoples of the Old World and the New, contact that gave rise to misunderstandings and conflicts that we still seek to reconcile today. He also made possible the exploration and settlement of North America and opened the door to our continent for generations to follow—people of every race and culture and ethnic origin, who have given our Nation its rich and unique diversity.

Christopher Columbus, a son of Italy whose bold enterprise was made possible by the Spanish crown, holds a special place in the hearts of Americans of Italian and Spanish heritage. But, as we prepare for our own voyage of discovery into the next millennium, all Americans can draw inspiration from the character and accomplishments of Columbus. With vision, courage, imagination, and optimism, we can create a future bright with promise and a new world where all of us can pursue our dreams.

In recognition of the enduring achievements of Christopher Columbus, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), and an Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 13, 1997, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-second.

William J. Clinton



**WILLIAM J. CLINTON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
WILLIAM-J-CLINTON)**

Proclamation 6940—Columbus Day, 1996

October 11, 1996

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Throughout our history, America has been inspired by the courage and daring of Christopher Columbus. Like him, we are a people who dare to dream, to chart a bold course, and to surmount formidable obstacles to reach new horizons.

Columbus' arrival in North America not only confirmed his beliefs about our planet, but also initiated an epic struggle between the Old and New Worlds. Yet out of that triumphant voyage and the meeting of many peoples developed a Nation and a way of life vastly unlike those Columbus left behind.

The expedition that Columbus—an Italian supported by the Spanish Crown—began more than 500 years ago, continues today as we experience and celebrate the vibrant influences of varied civilizations, not only from Europe, but also from around the world. America is stronger because of this diversity, and the democracy we cherish flourishes in the great mosaic we have created since 1492. Americans of Italian and Spanish heritage can be particularly proud, not only of Columbus' achievements, but also of their own contributions to our country.

As we honor and remember Christopher Columbus, let us use his example as a beacon to help guide us into the 21st century. His life, his voyages, and—above all—his vision can inspire us as we prepare for the challenges that lie ahead. Let us remember that all of us, regardless of our origins, are important participants in that journey, and that our uncertainty about what lies over the horizon should not shake our faith that, together, we will succeed.

In recognition of Columbus' epic achievement, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), and an Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 14, 1996, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-first.

William J. Clinton



October 06, 1995

**WILLIAM J. CLINTON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
WILLIAM-J-CLINTON)**

Proclamation 6836—Columbus Day, 1995

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

To pursue ambitious goals and to realize great dreams, we must be willing to venture away from the familiar and comfortable. We must show the strength of our convictions to tackle the challenges, known and unknown, that stand between us and our hopes for the future.

Today, Christopher Columbus' extraordinary journeys stand as inspiring examples of such determination. This renowned explorer braved the open sea, so feared by his contemporaries, and revealed the splendors of the New World to Renaissance Europe over 500 years ago. He discovered the best use of the North Atlantic wind system, first described the Equatorial Current, and initiated the succeeding rapid exploration and settlement of the Americas.

During the course of his first transatlantic voyage, Columbus' bold convictions overcame the resistance of the faint-hearted members of his crew. He led them to the Canaries, the Bahama Islands, Cuba, and Haiti, and subsequent sailings took him to other Caribbean islands, Central America, and Venezuela. As with many pioneers throughout history, Columbus' limited understanding of other cultures led to conflicts and controversies—struggles similar to those that challenge our world even now. But the enduring fame of his travels and the opportunity he sought across uncharted waters remain a call to all who seek adventure.

A native of Genoa, Columbus' courage and commitment led him to leave safe shores in pursuit of his goals. But he could not have made his trips without the support of the Spanish crown. People of Italian and Spanish descent continue to energize communities across our Nation, enhancing every occupation and sector of American society. We are grateful for their tremendous contributions and for the ingenuity of spirit that is Columbus' enduring legacy.

In tribute to Columbus' many achievements, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), and an Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do here by proclaim October 9, 1995, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

William J. Clinton, Proclamation 6836—Columbus Day, 1995 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/219930>



**WILLIAM J. CLINTON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
WILLIAM-J-CLINTON)**

Proclamation 6737 – Columbus Day, 1994

October 07, 1994

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

At a time when experienced sailors navigated only within sight of shore whenever possible, Christopher Columbus conceived of a route no other had and sailed boldly into the open seas. Columbus' example reminds us that we must be willing, even eager, to leave the comfortable but often limiting shores of yesterday and journey toward the difficult and unmet challenges of tomorrow.

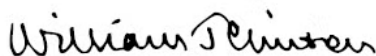
Exploring the frontiers of the new world, Columbus set the stage for the encounter between Europeans and Native Americans, an encounter whose impact continues to be felt today. It is particularly important to recognize anew the sacrifices and hardships suffered by both sides as a result of this meeting and to salute the rich cultural heritage each group has bestowed upon its descendants. Through time and tears, exchanges between these two cultures have led to greater understanding and rich opportunities for harmony and healing.

This year, as we celebrate the founding of a new world that is finally learning the infinite value of diversity, we continue to take an important lesson from Columbus' travels. In his great spirit of adventure and discovery, I encourage all Americans today to let the quartering winds of change propel us into the 21st century. Facing the future with courage and openness, as Columbus did in his day, we must strive to meet the challenges of the future with logic and foresight and with the certainty of moving ever forward.

In tribute to the many achievements of Christopher Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), and an Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 10, 1994, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.



WILLIAM J. CLINTON



October 08, 1993

**WILLIAM J. CLINTON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
WILLIAM-J-CLINTON)**

Proclamation 6608—Columbus Day, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

During 1993 the world has embarked on new trails to expand humanity's horizons and to promote the betterment of the human condition. As we look with hope to the future, we also pay homage to our past and to those who have helped shape our Nation and continent. It is therefore fitting that the voyages of Christopher Columbus be remembered. I welcome this opportunity to salute this man of great courage, who, in defiance of popular myth and hardship, had the vision to explore the unknown.

Even though the Quincentennial celebrations of Columbus' landfall are past, it is still our duty to promote understanding between the old and new worlds. It is important to commemorate the mutual discovery of Europeans and Native Americans and the transformations, through toil and pain, that gave birth to brave new hopes for a better future.

For the United States, it is especially significant that we recognize the daring voyages of Christopher Columbus. As a people whose land was founded on dreams, we proceed today, just as Columbus did, with courage to overcome obstacles and search for new paths to lead us into an unknown, but promising, future.

Many people in the United States have special reason to remember and celebrate the histories of the old and new worlds. America, a Nation of diverse peoples, has been enriched by the blending of many heritages. Americans of international descent, along with Native Americans, have contributed mightily to molding the framework of our great land, united by our allegiance to the principles of equality, democracy, and freedom. We all take justifiable pride in our accomplishments and dedicate ourselves to the pursuit of our dreams.

In tribute to Columbus' achievement, the Congress of the United States by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), and an Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 11, 1993, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

William J. Clinton

William J. Clinton, Proclamation 6608—Columbus Day, 1993 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/227366>



October 01, 1992

GEORGE BUSH (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/GEORGE-BUSH)

Proclamation 6484—Columbus Day, 1992

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

A half-millennium ago, one man who dared to defy the pessimists and naysayers of his day made an epic journey that changed the course of history. That man was Christopher Columbus, and the account of his first voyage to the Americas provides us with timeless lessons about faith and courage in the face of the unknown, about the power of individuals to make a difference, and about the rewards of cultural and commercial exchange among nations.

Behind the larger-than-life legends that have evolved around Columbus is an ordinary, fallible man who achieved extraordinary, unforgettable things -- and through qualities that any of us might well emulate today.

As with all progress, Columbus' great journey began with learning and hard work. Before he became a master mariner, Columbus was first a diligent student and deckhand who gained his knowledge and skills in Lisbon, then Europe's leading center of overseas exploration. Thus it was with both a strong foundation and a profound sense of higher purpose that Christopher Columbus set sail toward the horizon. If we are to continue to cross new frontiers today, we must not only cherish knowledge and learning, as did the peoples of the Renaissance, but also have faith and courage in the face of the unknown.

Although Columbus was slow to shrink from ridicule and adversity, he was quick to seize an opportunity; and when the Spanish monarchs Ferdinand V and Isabella I agreed to support his daring enterprise, this brave son of Genoa quickly readied the *Nina*, the *Pinta*, and the *Santa Maria* for their long ocean voyage. The story of Columbus is, therefore, a fitting prologue to our American narrative, for the history of the United States is filled with accounts of individuals who made a difference because they had the freedom, the opportunities, and the wherewithal to do so.

Columbus' first voyage to the Americas took just 33 days, yet it refuted centuries-old myths and transformed the lives of generations to come. The great encounter that was made possible by Columbus and his crew linked peoples on both sides of the Atlantic in a long and fruitful exchange of knowledge, resources, and ideas that continues to this day. Hence, on Columbus Day we celebrate both the rich heritage of America's native peoples and the development of the United States as a Nation of immigrants.

Finally, I am pleased to note that in many schools, teachers and students are planning to observe this Columbus Day with a special celebration of the 100th anniversary of our Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Written in honor of Columbus Day a century ago, the Pledge has inspired generations of Americans to a greater love of country. As we celebrate the legacy of Columbus and the diverse cultural heritage of the United States, it is fitting that we also recall our many blessings -- and responsibilities -- as "one Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 12, 1992, as Columbus Day. I encourage all Americans to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of

the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Bush". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of the first name being a large capital 'G' and the last name starting with a capital 'B'.

GEORGE BUSH

George Bush, Proclamation 6484—Columbus Day, 1992 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/268645>



October 10, 1991

GEORGE BUSH (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/GEORGE-BUSH)

Proclamation 6354—Columbus Day, 1991

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As we approach the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' first landing in the New World, renewed attention is being focused on this celebrated Admiral of the Ocean Seas in both Europe and the Americas. During our annual observance of Columbus Day, we celebrate all that this master mariner has symbolized to our Nation. For generations, Christopher Columbus has embodied the spirit of exploration and discovery -- and the beginning of America itself.

When Columbus began his first bold transatlantic voyage in 1492, he was pursuing both a theory and an opportunity. The journey promised as much risk as reward, and it required substantial courage, initiative, and resolve on the part of Columbus and his crew. These qualities have been shared by virtually every great pioneer. Thus the story of Christopher Columbus reminds us that all fruitful exploration and discovery begins with a willingness to set one's sails higher, to seek new horizons, and to follow wherever one's imagination and experience might lead. It also reminds us that industry and labor are the foundation of learning and progress.

On this occasion, however, we celebrate not only the spirit of learning but also the story of our Nation. The meeting of cultures that was made possible by Christopher Columbus marked the beginning of a new chapter in history. The subsequent exchange of knowledge, resources, and ideas between the Old World and the New led to the development of two entire continents and to the birth of a Nation committed to liberty and opportunity.

Columbus Day has long been a special occasion to Italian Americans and to Americans of Spanish descent. Yet as we remember the brave son of Genoa who, with help from the Spanish monarchs Ferdinand V and Isabella I, linked two hemispheres, we know that this day holds meaning for us all. It is a time to recall the many pioneers who, like Columbus, have challenged the unknown and carried humankind further along the path of progress. It is a time to celebrate the rich heritage of America's native peoples, as well as our strengths as a Nation of immigrants. On this day, we also celebrate the close ties we share with our neighbors in Central and South America and the Caribbean, as fellow heirs of Columbus' voyages. Our Administration is working hard to develop these ties even closer through the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative. Most important, perhaps, Columbus Day is a time for us to do some exploring of our own -- to study and learn from the past so that we might appreciate more fully the blessings of freedom and the principles that unite all Americans today.

In tribute to the legacy of Christopher Columbus, the Congress, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 14, 1991, as Columbus Day. I call on the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. Bush". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of the first name being a large capital 'G'.

GEORGE BUSH

Note: This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on October 15.

George Bush, Proclamation 6354—Columbus Day, 1991 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/265698>



October 04, 1990

GEORGE BUSH (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/GEORGE-BUSH)

Proclamation 6195—Columbus Day, 1990

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Christopher Columbus' epic voyage nearly half a millennium ago marked more than the triumph of a daring and determined navigator over skeptics and naysayers. It also marked a turning point in human history.

In 1492, when the crews of the *Nin56a*, *Pinta*, and *Santa Maria* raised sail and set out toward the western horizon, few of their fellow Europeans saw anything but folly in the plans of Columbus. Still fewer could have envisioned the magnificent New World that he would soon discover across the vast, uncharted waters of the Atlantic. Seizing an opportunity to pursue his dreams and theories and to expand the realm of the known, Christopher Columbus not only introduced European culture and technology to the native peoples of the Western Hemisphere but also obtained for his countrymen an alluring glimpse of their rich lands and exotic customs. In so doing, he began a long, fruitful exchange of knowledge, resources, and traditions between the Old World and the New. Through his difficult yet fateful journey across the Atlantic, the bold Admiral of the Ocean Seas also demonstrated for all posterity the power of faith, courage, and individual initiative.

The annual observance of Columbus Day is a time of celebration for all those who treasure the spirit of learning and discovery. However, this occasion holds special meaning for Americans of Italian and Spanish descent. Christopher Columbus was the first of many Italians to chart a course for the New World and to exchange with its peoples a wealth of skills and experience. As we commemorate the seminal journey of this brave son of Genoa, a journey made possible by the generous support of the Spanish monarchs Ferdinand V and Isabella I, we are also mindful of the many contributions that men and women of Spanish descent have made to the social, cultural, and economic development of the Americas.

In just 2 years we will mark the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' arrival in the New World. Members of the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission -- a body established by the Congress in 1984 and assisted by representatives from Spain, Italy, and many nations of this hemisphere -- are planning an exciting series of educational and commemorative events to celebrate this milestone. These events, to be held throughout the United States and around the world, will enable participants to learn more about the master mariner who defied the odds and opened a new chapter in the history of mankind. On this Columbus Day, as we look forward to the Quincentenary Jubilee, let us also celebrate the timeless spirit of learning, exploration, and discovery that has so enriched us all.

In tribute to Christopher Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 8, 1990, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of the INdependence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifteenth.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "George Bush". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

GEORGE BUSH

George Bush, Proclamation 6195—Columbus Day, 1990 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/268366>



October 06, 1989

GEORGE BUSH (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/GEORGE-BUSH)

Proclamation 6040—Columbus Day, 1989

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On Columbus Day, we pause as a Nation to honor the skilled and courageous navigator who discovered the Americas and, in so doing, brought to our ancestors the promise of the New World. In honoring Christopher Columbus, we also pay tribute to the generations of brave and bold Americans who, like him, have overcome great odds in order to chart the unknown.

For nearly half a millennium, Americans have followed the example of this great explorer, challenging the frontiers of knowledge. Throughout our Nation's history, the spirit of discovery has been demonstrated by scholar and student, expert and novice, alike. While the efforts of men such as Lewis and Clark, Thomas Edison, Eli Whitney, and Alexander Graham Bell are well known, we should also remember the thousands of pioneers who quietly tamed the American wilderness. With courage, ingenuity, hard work, and sacrifice, these men and women helped to build a Nation.

Generations of American entrepreneurs and business people have likewise accepted great risks in order to pursue their dreams. Their vision and initiative, allowed to flourish in this land of liberty, have helped the United States grow strong and prosperous.

From test pilots and astronauts to scientists and researchers in virtually every field of endeavor, Americans have continued to explore not only the wonders of our planet, but also the great mysteries of space. Like Christopher Columbus, all of these Americans have faced the unknown, not with a reckless sense of adventure, but with a great sense of purpose and opportunity.

Just a few years from now, in 1992, the United States will commemorate the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Columbus on these shores and proudly participate in events honoring this great explorer. A number of educational and commemorative events and programs are also being planned by the members of the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission, which was established by the Congress in 1984.

Americans of Italian and Spanish descent will have special reason to join in this quincentenary celebration. As we reflect on the achievements of this famous son of Genoa, and the generous support he received from Spanish monarchs Ferdinand V and Isabella I, we are also reminded of the many contributions that men and women of Italian and Spanish descent have made and continue to make to our Nation.

In tribute to Christopher Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution of April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 9, 1989, as Columbus Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher

Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Bush", with a stylized, cursive script.

GEORGE BUSH

George Bush, Proclamation 6040—Columbus Day, 1989 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/268106>



October 03, 1988

**RONALD REAGAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RONALD-REAGAN)**

Proclamation 5878—Columbus Day, 1988

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

We Americans proudly set aside time as a Nation each October to pay tribute to Christopher Columbus, whose voyage to the Americas in 1492 inaugurated communication between worlds old and new. Today, nearly 500 years after his epochal discoveries, Columbus remains for us a giant of exploration and of the human spirit—a man whose faith, vision, courage, and perseverance have won him an imperishable place in the history of America and the world.

The qualities Columbus exhibited so well have always made him a kindred soul to pioneering and individualistic Americans, who to this day confidently set sail in their own way toward far horizons in every area of achievement. Not for us the discouraging word, but rather the desire to do and to dare for a great good. Generations of Americans recall the lines of Joaquin Miller's poem, "Columbus": "'Now speak, brave Adm'r'l, speak and say'—He said: 'Sail on! sail on! and on!'" and its final lines, "He gained a world; he gave that world its grandest lesson: 'On! sail on!'" That was the spirit of Columbus, and it is the American spirit.

Today, our homage to Christopher Columbus includes recognition of the accomplishments of the many Italians who have followed him to America and of the achievements of their descendants. Columbus remains an inspiration for them and for all Americans, and a source of comity between the peoples of Italy and the United States.

The same is true for Americans of Spanish descent. Support by the Spanish monarchs Ferdinand and Isabella made the discoveries of Columbus possible and led to Spain's later cultural and economic contributions to the New World and the development of the heritage we share with our Spanish-speaking neighbors throughout the Western Hemisphere.

As we approach the 500th anniversary of the first voyage of Columbus to the New World in 1492, observances in his honor are growing in number and significance. The Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission, a group of Americans assisted by representatives from Spain, Italy, and the Bahamas, has made recommendations for our Nation's celebration of the Quincentenary. The Commission is planning educational and commemorative programs that will take place across our land. We can all look forward to an appropriate, enjoyable, and truly memorable jubilee.

In tribute to Christopher Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 10, 1988, as Columbus Day. I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies in honor of this great explorer. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 3rd day of Oct., in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

Ronald Reagan

RONALD REAGAN

Ronald Reagan, Proclamation 5878—Columbus Day, 1988 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/253110>



**RONALD REAGAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RONALD-REAGAN)**

Proclamation 5716—Columbus Day, 1987

October 01, 1987

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Every October the people of the United States celebrate the day nearly 500 autumns ago when Christopher Columbus and the crews of the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria found a New World. That world is our Western Hemisphere, and we in the United States trace the history and development of our country and our culture back to Columbus and his daring exploration, his initiative, his faith, and his courage.

Columbus continues to inspire the United States and the rest of the world for almost half a thousand years because of his great understanding and vision and because of his single-minded determination to let no disappointment, ridicule, or risk keep him from a goal he knew to be sensible, feasible, and of great promise. He viewed the unknown as an opportunity, not as a danger.

The Admiral of the Ocean Seas is remembered as well for challenging the horizons of his time and place, for his spirit of reaching beyond the obvious, for defying the pessimists and expanding the frontiers of knowledge. That spirit animated those who followed him to the New World through the centuries and brought untold energy, boldness, and ingenuity with them. We Americans are risk-takers; like Columbus, we have a vision of the world as it can be, and of the future as an opportunity and a challenge.

Italian Americans have special reason to celebrate Columbus Day with great pride. Columbus was the first of many Italian travelers who have made contributions to the New World. Columbus is one of many links binding the United States and Italy in a special relationship.

This tribute also has special meaning for Americans of Spanish descent. Without Spanish support, Columbus's voyage of discovery would not have been possible. Spain's contribution to the New World and to its cultural and economic heritage went on to be even larger, as the recent visit by Their Majesties King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain to the American Southwest reminded us.

The year 1992 will be the 500th anniversary of Columbus's first voyage to the Americas. The Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission, a distinguished group of Americans aided by representatives from Spain and Italy, prepared a report that I transmitted to the Congress in September of this year, making recommendations for our Nation's observance of the Quincentenary, including themes that embody the broad significance of this anniversary and suggestions for Quincentenary programs that will extend to communities, organizations, and institutions around the United States.

In tribute to Christopher Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 12, 1987,

as Columbus Day. I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies in honor of this great explorer. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twelfth.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald Reagan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.

RONALD REAGAN

Note: The proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 2.

Ronald Reagan, Proclamation 5716—Columbus Day, 1987 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/251609>



**RONALD REAGAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RONALD-REAGAN)**

Proclamation 5541 – Columbus Day, 1986

October 08, 1986

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Each year, we are privileged to honor Christopher Columbus, whose epic voyages of discovery shaped the development of the Western Hemisphere. This great explorer won a place in history and in the hearts of all Americans because he challenged the unknown and thereby found a New World.

Columbus remains loved today. With his faith, vision, and courage, he could navigate beyond his world's horizons. He left a wide wake for all those to follow who would dream as he dreamed, who would defy the naysayers and dare to strive for new goals. Follow him they did; and may they ever do so, those who would make the New World ever new with all the ingenuity, energy, and boldness they have.

Americans of Italian descent are proud to say that Columbus, a son of Genoa, was the first of many Italians to come to America and a powerful reason the United States and Italy share the unique friendship they do. Those of Spanish descent likewise point out that Spain made Columbus's voyages possible and that he is the first link in the friendship of the United States and Spain. All Americans share in this just pride.

We are nearing the year 1992, when the world will celebrate the 500th anniversary of Columbus's first voyage to the Americas. The Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission, a distinguished group of Americans aided by representatives from Spain and Italy, held its initial working sessions in Chicago, Miami, and San Juan, cities that are planning major commemorative events in 1992. It also began a report to the Congress, to be delivered in September 1987, that will make recommendations about our Nation's observance of the celebration.

The passage of time—nearly half a millennium—has not dimmed the glory of the Admiral of the Ocean Seas, nor could it ever.

In tribute to Christopher Columbus, the Congress, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as "Columbus Day."

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 13, 1986, as Columbus Day. I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies in honor of this great explorer. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eleventh.

Ronald Reagan

Ronald Reagan, Proclamation 5541—Columbus Day, 1986 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/255616>



October 04, 1985

**RONALD REAGAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RONALD-REAGAN)**

Proclamation 5376—Columbus Day, 1985

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

We are privileged each year to pay honor to the great explorer whose epic voyages of discovery led to the development of the Western Hemisphere. Christopher Columbus won an imperishable place in history and in the hearts of all Americans by challenging the unknown and defying the doubters. In doing so he set in motion a chain of events which transformed the world and led to the birth of the great country in which we live.

Columbus' achievement lies not only in his daring navigational exploits but also in the practical outgrowth of his efforts. More than a great seaman, he was a man of vision who could see the opportunities that lay beyond the horizon. Indeed, the results of his quest were far grander than he could have envisioned. Those who followed in the path he had opened built a new world whose economic, political, and social development have been marvels of human energy and ingenuity. People from across the globe have come to America to find freedom, justice, and economic opportunity.

Columbus exemplified a spirit which still inspires all Americans—a spirit of reaching out, expanding the frontiers of knowledge, a spirit of undaunted hope. In the words of Joaquin Miller, "He gained a world; he gave that world its grandest lesson: 'On! Sail On!'" Like Columbus, we Americans are ready to take risks in pursuit of our goals. We understand that boundless opportunities await those who dare to strive.

Our tribute to Columbus has special meaning to Americans of Italian descent. This son of Genoa was the first of many great Italian travelers to the New World. Millions of his countrymen would later settle in the new land, adding their precious contribution to the developments that stemmed from Columbus' voyages. Columbus was the first link in a chain which today binds the United States to Italy in a special relationship.

This remembrance is also particularly important for those of Spanish descent. Columbus' achievement depended on the vision and energy of a newly united Spain. This was only the first of Spain's many cultural and economic contributions to the New World. We share with our Spanish-speaking neighbors this heritage and our debt of gratitude to Spain.

In the coming years this commemoration of the voyage of 1492 will take on heightened significance, because we are approaching the 500th anniversary of that great event. The Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission, a distinguished group of Americans assisted by representatives from Spain and Italy, will plan, encourage, and carry forward the commemoration of Columbus' great voyages of discovery. The Committee held its initial meeting on September 12, and will report within two years its recommendations for observance of the celebration.

In tribute to Columbus' achievement, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 14, as

Columbus Day. I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of this great explorer. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and tenth.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald Reagan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.

RONALD REAGAN

Note: The proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on October 5.

Ronald Reagan, Proclamation 5376—Columbus Day, 1985 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/258715>



September 21, 1984

**RONALD REAGAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RONALD-REAGAN)**

Proclamation 5237 — Columbus Day, 1984

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

In October of each year, we are privileged to honor Christopher Columbus, the Italian explorer whose epic voyages to the New World still excite the imagination.

Columbus challenged the unknown when he sailed westward in 1492 with his tiny fleet of ships. Others had preceded him; some indeed may have visited the Western Hemisphere. Yet his discovery of the New World stands as a unique and momentous achievement. His voyages ushered in a new phase in history and enriched mankind with new opportunities. They revolutionized the way man thought of himself and his world. This New World that Columbus revealed to Europe soon came to symbolize hope, freedom, and opportunity for all. A stream of settlers arrived to build a new society out of their dreams of liberty, justice, and economic opportunity.

We Americans will always feel that we stand at the frontier. Today our voyage of discovery continues—to the vastness of outer space, to the depths of the sea, to the mysteries of life itself. The willingness to strike out in new directions and to take risks is still at work. This spirit has enriched our lives and expanded our horizons. Thus, it is appropriate that we, both as Americans and as Columbus' spiritual heirs, should take inspiration from his blend of daring, skill, enterprise, and imagination.

All Americans share in admiring Columbus' achievement. But those of Italian descent can take particular pride in honoring this bold son of Genoa who set forth in the service of Spain in search of the unknown. A host of other Italians have followed Columbus to this land, lending their talents and helping to create an unparalleled society of freedom and opportunity. This day is one of justifiable pride for Italy and Italians everywhere, and it symbolizes the respect we Americans have for our rich inheritance from the Old World.

In tribute to Columbus' achievement, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 8, 1984, as Columbus Day. I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of this great explorer. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and ninth.

A handwritten signature of Ronald Reagan in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style, with the first letters of 'Ronald' and 'Reagan' being capitalized and prominent.

RONALD REAGAN



September 06, 1983

**RONALD REAGAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RONALD-REAGAN)**

Proclamation 5089—Columbus Day, 1983

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

It is fitting that Americans honor those individuals who have altered the course of history in this country by exhibiting great moral character and courage—men and women who have contributed to the development of personal liberties we enjoy today. Thus, it is especially appropriate that I urge all Americans to honor one of those individuals, Christopher Columbus.

Columbus was a bold and adventurous navigator who left Europe in 1492 in search of new lands and first recorded the sighting of the North American continent. In this sense he personifies the courage and vision so many explorers exhibited during this period. Yet he is more than this. He represents a spirit, the spirit of the Renaissance which contributed to the development of America. Along with Galileo, Copernicus, and others, Columbus symbolizes a quest for knowledge, a willingness and fortitude to go beyond what is accepted as truth in the name of progress. Columbus did not fall off the face of the earth; rather, through daring, risk, and innovation, he discovered new horizons.

Since Columbus discovered America, numerous families have exhibited that same courage and fortitude in setting sail across the seas to become American citizens. By taking that step into the new and unknown, those same families created an opportunity to realize increased prosperity and greater freedom here in these United States. The accomplishments and contributions of Christopher Columbus provide an example of the rewards that can come from taking initiatives. Today Americans have the opportunity and freedom to make accomplishments and contributions of their own and to enjoy the feelings of accomplishment which follow.

Of course Columbus Day is a day of special importance to Americans of Italian heritage. It is a day when all Americans should join in recognizing the great contributions of Italian-Americans to this country's cultural, scientific, athletic and commercial achievements, and religious vitality.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 10, 1983, as Columbus Day. I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of this great explorer. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of Sept., in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eightythree, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighth.

Ronald Reagan

Ronald Reagan, Proclamation 5089—Columbus Day, 1983 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/245820>



**RONALD REAGAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RONALD-REAGAN)**

Proclamation 4962—Columbus Day, 1982

September 08, 1982

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Nearly five centuries ago, an Italian navigator in the service of Spain opened the way to the founding of these United States. In this historic feat, Christopher Columbus embodied for us the qualities which we Americans hold dear and which are representative of us as a people: daring, determination, vision, and the courage to pursue a dream.

Although Columbus undertook his epic voyage long ago, his adventurous spirit continues to inspire us. As we reflect on the elements which made this journey one of the finest moments in history, it is fitting that we rededicate ourselves to our search for new horizons, ever mindful of Christopher Columbus and those brave seafarers on the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), asked the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 11, 1982, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of Sept. in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

Ronald Reagan

RONALD REAGAN



October 09, 1981

**RONALD REAGAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RONALD-REAGAN)**

Proclamation 4873—Columbus Day

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Christopher Columbus, whose life and exploits we commemorate each October, is one of the true heroes of our Nation's history.

He is justly admired as a brilliant navigator, a fearless man of action, a visionary who opened the eyes of an older world to an entirely new one. Above all, he personifies a view of the world that many see as quintessentially American: not merely optimistic, but scornful of the very notion of despair.

Nearly five centuries have passed since the fateful day on which Columbus changed the course of history. But his adventurous spirit lives on among us, challenging us to emulation and abiding with us as we too press forward on our voyage of discovery.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus and to the many sons and daughters of Italy who have helped to shape our life and destiny as a people, the Congress of the United States of America has requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 12, 1981, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in his honor.

I also direct that the flag of the United States of America be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixth.

A handwritten signature of Ronald Reagan in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

RONALD REAGAN



August 29, 1980

JIMMY CARTER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/JIMMY-CARTER)

Proclamation 4788—Columbus Day, 1980

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On October 12, 1492, an Italian sea captain and his crew, having sailed into the western void in three fragile craft, touched land and revealed a New World to the astonished eyes of the old.

The Genoese Christopher Columbus, sailing for his royal Spanish patrons in search of fortune, glory and the validation of his dream, found these and more.

Today, almost five centuries later, we still honor Columbus for the stout heart and tenacity of purpose that sustained his exploits. He inspired an age of exploration and a continuing era of victory over the forces of complacency and ignorance.

As we prepare to commemorate the four hundred eighty-eighth anniversary of Columbus's historic landfall, we of the New World can pay no greater tribute to his memory than to keep alive that spark of hope and nerve that never failed him and has never failed us.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States of America, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Jimmy Carter, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 13, 1980, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in his honor.

I also direct that the flag of the United States of America be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifth.

A handwritten signature of Jimmy Carter in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style, with the first name 'Jimmy' and the last name 'Carter' clearly legible.

JIMMY CARTER



August 29, 1979

JIMMY CARTER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/JIMMY-CARTER)

Proclamation 4676—Columbus Day, 1979

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Four hundred and eighty-seven years have passed since an Italian navigator in the service of Spain left the Old World to find the New. Christopher Columbus was determined to test an audacious theory: to reach the East, sail west. On the morning of October 12, 1492, with ninety men in three small ships, he sailed into immortality.

The voyage of this intrepid explorer marked the convergence of American and world history. His discovery opened a new age—an age that gave the world a new center.

We are the inheritors of Columbus' legacy. As a nation which has always striven for the same qualities as the Great Navigator, we must continue the search for new horizons.

It is fitting that, on the observance of this October 12, we once again recall to mind Columbus' extraordinary voyage and, in the spirit of that undertaking, rededicate ourselves to that which is best and most courageous in us.

In tribute to Columbus' achievement, the Congress of the United States of America, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Jimmy Carter, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 8, 1979, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in his honor.

I also direct that the flag of the United States of America be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourth.

A handwritten signature of Jimmy Carter in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style, with the first name 'Jimmy' and the last name 'Carter' clearly legible.

JIMMY CARTER

Note: The text of the proclamation was released on August 30.

Jimmy Carter, Proclamation 4676—Columbus Day, 1979 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/249326>



August 17, 1978

JIMMY CARTER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/JIMMY-CARTER)

Proclamation 4586—Columbus Day, 1978

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Nearly five centuries ago an Italian navigator in the service of Spain gazed beyond the wisdom of his time and sailed west to rap at the portals of the New World. Yearly, in gratitude, we celebrate this incomparable achievement of Christopher Columbus. We honor too the courage, self-sacrifice, and perseverance that propelled him on that voyage.

These qualities can fairly be held as a standard for the people of the United States of America. When they have been foremost in our spirit, they have produced the finest moments in the history of our Republic. Let us continue to hold them fast so that we may always be open to new wisdom, but courageous and persevering in defense of the ideas we hold dear.

On October 9 we again honor the memory of Christopher Columbus and the ever-young promise of the New World.

In tribute to his achievement, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), asked the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Jimmy Carter, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 9, 1978, as Columbus Day. I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in their schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies to commemorate his great adventure.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.

A handwritten signature of Jimmy Carter in black ink. The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name 'Jimmy' and the last name 'Carter' clearly legible.

JIMMY CARTER



JIMMY CARTER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/JIMMY-CARTER)

Proclamation 4527—Columbus Day, 1977

September 28, 1977

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On October 10 we once again pay tribute to the great Italian mariner and explorer whose historic voyage of discovery led to the permanent settlement of the New World by the Old.

With the support of the Spanish Crown, Columbus journeyed across uncharted waters to open the way for future generations of immigrants who would found the new nations of the Americas.

As his heirs, we take pride in commemorating the spirit of Christopher Columbus as part of our national heritage.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Jimmy Carter, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 10, 1977, as Columbus Day and invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

A handwritten signature of Jimmy Carter in dark ink. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style, with the first name 'Jimmy' and the last name 'Carter' clearly legible.

JIMMY CARTER



September 07, 1976

**GERALD R. FORD (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
GERALD-R-FORD)**

Proclamation 4455—Columbus Day, 1976

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

In this our Bicentennial year, we owe special tribute to the great Italian explorer whose historic voyage to the new world opened the way to the founding of these United States.

Sustained by the vision and financial support of Queen Isabella I of Spain, Christopher Columbus established the first permanent European settlement in the Americas, paving the way for the generations of immigrants from all over the world who came to build a new nation. This great achievement marked the beginning of a new era in the history of mankind.

As the heirs to the spirit and determination of Christopher Columbus, we are proud to honor his memory and unshakable courage and faith which made his epic journey a reality nearly five centuries ago.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657, 36 U.S.C. 146), as modified by the Act of June 24, 1968 (82 Stat. 250, 5 U.S.C. 6103(a) and note), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Gerald R. Ford, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 11, 1976, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and first.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

GERALD R. FORD



September 10, 1975

**GERALD R. FORD (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
GERALD-R-FORD)**

Proclamation 4388—Columbus Day, 1975

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On October 13, we honor the great Italian navigator whose historic westward voyage blazed the way for the settlers from many lands who followed to build a new world.

Our admiration for the achievement of Christopher Columbus has not dimmed over the span of nearly five centuries. Sailing in the service of the Spanish Crown, whose vision and support made his journey possible, Columbus pursued his dream in the face of enormous challenges with an unshakable courage and faith that set an example for future generations of Americans.

We can all take great pride, as we look forward to our Bicentennial celebrations, in honoring the memory of the epic accomplishments of Christopher Columbus which led to the development of the Americas and the founding of this great Nation.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657, 36 U.S.C. 146), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250, 5 U.S.C. 6103 (a) and note), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Gerald R. Ford, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 13, 1975, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

GERALD R. FORD



August 20, 1974

**GERALD R. FORD (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
GERALD-R-FORD)**

Proclamation 4308—Columbus Day, 1974

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On Columbus Day, 1974, we again celebrate the historic achievement of the Italian sea captain whose courage and determination led him across uncharted oceans to a New World.

Sailing in the service of the Spanish crown, the voyage of Christopher Columbus marked one of history's most challenging and rewarding explorations. He opened this continent to the migration of settlers who created an enduring nation. The United States of America still carries forth his spirit of exploration as part of its national heritage.

Americans of the twentieth century strive to follow the vision and unshakeable faith of Christopher Columbus by seeking to discover a "New World" of peace and cooperation among all men.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Gerald R. Ford, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 14, 1974, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twentieth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-ninth.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

GERALD R. FORD



August 14, 1973

**RICHARD NIXON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RICHARD-NIXON)**

Proclamation 4231 – Columbus Day, 1973

By the President of the United States Of America

A Proclamation

The pages of history teach us that it is the extraordinary man who has shaped our past and thus determined much of what we are today. Such a man was Christopher Columbus, son of Italy and explorer of the New World.

Columbus launched the great age of discovery in the Americas. For five centuries, the spirit of discovery has continued to flourish here. On this Columbus Day, we can usefully reflect on the many ways in which that spirit still lives on, not only in our efforts to expand our physical horizons but in everything we do which helps us broaden our understanding of our world and of ourselves.

In recognizing our debt to the great navigator, we are mindful that his most enduring legacies to us are those qualities of vision, faith, and boldness without which progress can never take place. His determination to seek the truth against great odds continues to inspire our efforts to achieve a better and more peaceful world.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Richard Nixon, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 8, 1973, as Columbus Day. I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-eighth.

A handwritten signature of Richard Nixon in dark ink, written in a cursive style.

RICHARD NIXON



October 03, 1972

**RICHARD NIXON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RICHARD-NIXON)**

Proclamation 4161—Columbus Day, 1972

By the President of the United States Of America

A Proclamation

On Columbus Day, 1972, we once again celebrate the memorable achievements of the great navigator and explorer whose vision and daring led to much of the permanent settlement of the Americas by the peoples of Europe.

When Christopher Columbus, a son of Italy sailing in the service of Spain, crossed the uncharted ocean sea in 1492, he helped to open a new chapter in the history of mankind. Columbus was among the first in a long series of courageous trail blazers who have moved us forward across perilous areas of sea, land, and space in pursuit of greater knowledge of the globe and its surroundings.

All Americans take pride in recalling the accomplishments of Columbus. We count the memory of his courage in confronting unknown dangers and his indomitable faith in overcoming the setbacks which preceded his voyage as among the ideals which helped to shape the American character.

In tribute to the achievements of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Richard Nixon, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 9, 1972, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-seventh.

A handwritten signature of Richard Nixon in dark ink, written in a cursive style.

RICHARD NIXON



August 31, 1971

**RICHARD NIXON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RICHARD-NIXON)**

Proclamation 4078—Columbus Day, 1971

By the President of the United States Of America

A Proclamation

On Columbus Day, 1971, we honor once more the memory of the great captain whose historic voyages led to the migration of peoples to the New World and brought fresh promises of liberty and freedom to the Old.

In this present age of epic journeys in space, we can appreciate more than ever the great achievements of Christopher Columbus. An intrepid explorer, a supreme navigator, but above all a man of unshakeable faith and courage, this son of Italy sailed in the service of the Spanish crown on a mission that forever broadened man's hopes and horizons.

We take pride in commemorating the vision and determination of Christopher Columbus, and carry forward his spirit of exploration as part of our national heritage.

In tribute to the achievements of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Richard Nixon, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 11, 1971, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this 31st day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-sixth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Richard Nixon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

RICHARD NIXON

NOTE: Proclamation 4078 was released in San Clemente, Calif.



September 18, 1970

**RICHARD NIXON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RICHARD-NIXON)**

Proclamation 4004—Columbus Day, 1970

By the President of the United States Of America

A Proclamation

On Columbus Day, 1970, we celebrate once more the historic achievement of the great Italian navigator and explorer whose vision, courage and skill led to the enduring settlement of the new world by the peoples of the old.

Sailing in the service of the Spanish Crown, Christopher Columbus established the first permanent European colony in the Americas, and heralded the great migration of peoples to this hemisphere. Many men and women have come and settled here from Italy, the native land of the great Captain, as so many others have come and settled from places throughout the world.

In the United States we are justly proud to count ourselves heirs to the spirit and determination of Christopher Columbus. We rightly honor the memory of that indomitable faith which sustained him on his historic voyages and resulted in the development of this great nation of ours.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to proclaim October 12 of each year as Columbus Day.

Now, Therefore, I, Richard Nixon, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 12, 1970, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this eighteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-fifth.

A handwritten signature of Richard Nixon in dark ink, written in a cursive style.

RICHARD NIXON



September 11, 1969

**RICHARD NIXON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
RICHARD-NIXON)**

Proclamation 3929—Columbus Day, 1969

By the President of the United States Of America

A Proclamation

On October 12 we again celebrate in honor of the great sea captain and explorer whose historic westward voyage across the Atlantic led to the permanent settlement of America.

Respect for the achievement of Christopher Columbus is especially appropriate this year when we have witnessed an epic journey of discovery, the journey to the moon. Both the voyages of Columbus and those of our modern astronauts are expressions of man's great ambition to confront the unknown, and to master the challenges of distance and space.

We remember also that Columbus was a man of Italy, a noble example for the many other men of Italy who have come to our country and to so many other lands of the new world. Sailing in the service of the Spanish crown, which had the vision to support his courage and initiative, Christopher Columbus opened America for all the people of the world.

In tribute to the memory of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to proclaim October 12 of each year as Columbus Day for the observance of the anniversary of the discovery of America.

Now, Therefore, I, Richard Nixon, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Sunday, October 12, 1969, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-fourth.

A handwritten signature of Richard Nixon in dark ink, written in a cursive style.

RICHARD NIXON



September 30, 1968

**LYNDON B. JOHNSON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
LYNDON-B-JOHNSON)**

Proclamation 3873—Columbus Day, 1968

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On October 12, we honor the memory of the great Italian navigator, Christopher Columbus, who sailed forth on uncharted seas in a voyage that was to change the history of the world.

The breadth of his imagination, the force of his determination, and the magnitude of his achievement have not dimmed with the passing of time.

We are all spiritual heirs of Christopher Columbus. His unbounded faith and courage are a part of the patrimony of every American.

In recognition of our debt to Columbus the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to proclaim October 12 of each year as Columbus Day for the observance of the anniversary of the discovery of America.

Now, Therefore, I, Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Saturday, October 12, 1968, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this thirtieth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-third.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON



October 09, 1967

**LYNDON B. JOHNSON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
LYNDON-B-JOHNSON)**

Proclamation 3813—Columbus Day, 1967

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Four hundred and seventy-five years ago, Christopher Columbus set off from Spain through perilous seas on one of history's most challenging—and most rewarding explorations. His perseverance through storms and testing is part of the living legend of the man and the heritage of this Nation, whose gates he opened.

Like Columbus, we are constantly seeking new paths to the future. At home, we seek to fulfill our dreams of a society of prosperity and justice for all Americans. Abroad, we strive to build a new world of peace, with freedom and dignity for all men.

In acknowledging our legacy from the great explorer, Christopher Columbus, we also honor the Italian nation from which he came. Millions of his countrymen have followed him to the New World. They have helped to forge the cultural, economic, and political strength of this Nation. America is proud of Columbus. America is proud of its people of Italian ancestry who have given so much to make our Nation great.

In tribute to that great Captain, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to proclaim October 12 of each year as Columbus Day for the observance of the anniversary of the discovery of America.

Now, Therefore, I, Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Thursday, October 12, 1967, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON



September 22, 1966

**LYNDON B. JOHNSON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
LYNDON-B-JOHNSON)**

Proclamation 3748—Columbus Day, 1966

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

There is something of Christopher Columbus in every American. Secure and prosperous as the nation is, it nevertheless retains something of the adventurous spirit which inspired the great mariner to explore the mystery of unknown seas.

We no longer brave the sea in frail wooden ships. We no longer face the hostility of superstitious men convinced the world is flat. Yet not all our frontiers are conquered. The American adventure is not over.

New shores of promise await those who, like Columbus, push on undaunted by the failures of the past or fear of the uncharted future.

Columbus's vision and daring, and that of the courageous men who followed him, brought European civilization to the New World. His conquest of the Atlantic—the "outer space" of the fifteenth century—is as meaningful to Americans of the space age as it was to our forefathers who pushed across the vast expanses of this continent.

Thus we honor Columbus not only as a voyager but also as a symbol of the long tradition of Italian enlightenment. From Galileo to Enrico Fermi, Italians have been in the vanguard of those dedicated to expanding man's knowledge of his universe.

Millions of Americans are bound to Italy by ties of blood, and all Americans are the spiritual heirs of the Italian genius which has enriched the quality of our national life.

As we honor the first Italian-American, we honor all the others who came after.

In recognition of our debt to Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934, requested the President to proclaim October 12 of each year as Columbus Day for the observance of the anniversary of the discovery of America:

Now, Therefore, I, Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Wednesday, October 12, 1966 as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of this great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this twenty-second day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-first.



LYNDON B. JOHNSON

By the President:

Secretary of State

NOTE: Proclamation 3748 was not filed with the Office of the Federal Register before the cutoff time of this issue. As printed, it follows the text of a copy made available by the White House.

Lyndon B. Johnson, Proclamation 3748—Columbus Day, 1966 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/306082>



September 22, 1965

**LYNDON B. JOHNSON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
LYNDON-B-JOHNSON)**

Proclamation 3673—Columbus Day, 1965

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas Christopher Columbus four hundred and seventy-three years ago journeyed westward across forbidding and unknown seas to open the way for the eventual establishment of our Nation and its free institutions; and

Whereas the compelling drive of Columbus to seek new horizons has been an inspiration through the centuries to millions with the same enterprising spirit; and

Whereas the persistence and daring of Columbus has left a heritage which sustains us now as we explore the unknown reaches of outer space; and

Whereas the Congress, in recognition of our indebtedness to Christopher Columbus, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Tuesday, October 12, 1965, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the memory of Christopher Columbus.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on Columbus Day.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this twenty-second day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninetieth.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

By the President:

DEAN RUSK

Secretary of State



October 03, 1964

**LYNDON B. JOHNSON (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
LYNDON-B-JOHNSON)**

Proclamation 3621 – Columbus Day, 1964

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas four hundred and seventy-two years ago Christopher Columbus embarked on a daring voyage into an unknown sea and discovered a new world; and

Whereas, in the ensuing centuries, the continents of the world have been brought closer together in time and space by means of modern communications and transportation; and

Whereas closer relationships between the peoples of the world have increased our awareness of the need for a just and lasting peace; and

Whereas the vision, courage, and dedication of Columbus are a constant inspiration to us, both as individuals and as a Nation, as we seek a new world of peace and understanding; and

Whereas, in recognition of our debt to Columbus the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to proclaim October 12 of each year as Columbus Day for the observance of the anniversary of the discovery of America:

Now, Therefore, I, Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 12, 1964, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in churches, schools, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the memory of Christopher Columbus.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings, on Columbus Day in honor of the great explorer.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this third day of October in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-ninth.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

By the President:

DEAN RUSK,

Secretary of State.

Lyndon B. Johnson, Proclamation 3621—Columbus Day, 1964 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/275737>



JOHN F. KENNEDY (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/JOHN-F-KENNEDY)

Proclamation 3555—Columbus Day, 1963

September 17, 1963

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas the vision, courage, and dedication of Christopher Columbus destined him to be the discoverer of the New World; and

Whereas his voyage, under the Spanish flag, across uncharted seas to an unknown land, will forever stand for us as a symbol of the zeal for new ventures which has characterized our Nation; and

Whereas we continue to honor Columbus' daring as we search out the far reaches of space and of human possibility; and

Whereas the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President of the United States to proclaim October 12 of each year as Columbus Day for the observance of the anniversary of the discovery of America:

Now, Therefore, I, John F. Kennedy, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Saturday, October 12, 1963, as Columbus Day, commemorating the four hundred and seventy-first anniversary of the sighting of land in the New World by Columbus and his crew.

I invite the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies in their churches, schools, and other suitable places.

I also direct the appropriate officers of the Federal Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on that day, and I request the appropriate officers of the State and local governments likewise to display the flag to mark the anniversary.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 17th day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-eighth.

A handwritten signature of John F. Kennedy in dark ink. The signature is stylized, with 'John' and 'Kennedy' clearly legible, and a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the name.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

By the President:

DEAN RUSK,

Secretary of State

John F. Kennedy, Proclamation 3555—Columbus Day, 1963 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/270076>



JOHN F. KENNEDY (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/JOHN-F-KENNEDY)

Proclamation 3498—Columbus Day, 1962

October 03, 1962

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas four hundred and seventy years ago Christopher Columbus set sail from Spain into an unknown sea on a voyage to increase the opportunities for commerce and on October 12, 1492, sighted the land of a new world; and

Whereas his westward course was followed by millions of others from the Old World who came with the same enterprising spirit to build this Nation and other nations in this hemisphere, and to create an indestructible bond between the two hemispheres which continues to grow closer and stronger as a result of both the increasing dangers and constructive opportunities of our modern age; and

Whereas in our own uncertain world Columbus' courage and strength of conviction inspire us as we work toward world community among all nations based upon the principles of a lasting peace, freedom, justice, and the dignity of man; and

Whereas the Congress of the United States, in recognition of our indebtedness to Christopher Columbus, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, John F. Kennedy, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Friday, October 12, 1962, as Columbus Day.

I direct the appropriate officers of the Federal Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on that day; and I request the appropriate officers of the State and local governments likewise to display the flag on that day.

I also invite the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the memory of Christopher Columbus and his daring achievement.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this third day of October in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-seventh.

A handwritten signature of John F. Kennedy in dark ink, written in a cursive style.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

By the President:

DEAN RUSK,

Secretary of State

John F. Kennedy, Proclamation 3498—Columbus Day, 1962 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/269457>



JOHN F. KENNEDY (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/JOHN-F-KENNEDY)

Proclamation 3432—Columbus Day, 1961

September 21, 1961

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas the vision, courage, and daring of Christopher Columbus led to the discovery of a new continent; and

Whereas our Nation has grown on this continent and has attained to a position of world leadership, having as its foundation the great principles of democracy, including personal freedom and the dignity of the individual principles which are shared today by free peoples everywhere; and

Whereas the intrepid spirit and steadfast faith which sustained this great explorer on his venture into the unknown are a constant inspiration to us as we seek to achieve ever greater accomplishments in every field of human endeavor and strive to help create a better world community; and

Whereas, in recognition of our debt to Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day and calling for the appropriate observance of that day:

Now, Therefore, I, John F. Kennedy, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Thursday, October 12, 1961, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in churches, schools, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in commemoration of the four hundred and sixty-ninth anniversary of the discovery of America.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on Columbus Day in honor of the great explorer.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this twenty first day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-sixth.

A handwritten signature of John F. Kennedy in dark ink, written in a cursive style.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

By the President:

CHESTER BOWLES,

John F. Kennedy, Proclamation 3432—Columbus Day, 1961 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/268861>



September 23, 1960

**DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
DWIGHT-D-EISENHOWER)**

Proclamation 3373—Columbus Day, 1960

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas four hundred and sixty-eight years ago Christopher Columbus, with vision, faith, and the courage of his convictions, sailed out from the port of Palos, Spain, to cross the uncharted Atlantic; and

Whereas on October 12, 1492, Columbus discovered the land of the New World; and

Whereas Columbus' achievement opened the Western Hemisphere to settlement and development by our forebears, whose vision, faith, and courage were akin to his own; and

Whereas in this present day of challenge we can find inspiration, both personally and nationally, in the example of this great figure in American history; and

Whereas the Congress of the United States, proud of this history, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Wednesday, October 12, 1960, as Columbus Day.

I direct the appropriate officers of the Federal Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on that day; and I request the appropriate officers of State and local governments likewise to display the flag on that day.

I also invite the people of the United States to observe the day in their homes, schools, churches, and other suitable places with ceremonies and with thoughts expressive of our admiration for the man who discovered America and of our gratitude for his daring achievement.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this twenty-third day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-fifth.

A handwritten signature of Dwight D. Eisenhower in dark ink. The signature is cursive and reads "Dwight D. Eisenhower".

By the President:

DOUGLAS DILLON,

Acting Secretary of State.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, Proclamation 3373—Columbus Day, 1960 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/307700>



October 09, 1959

**DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
DWIGHT-D-EISENHOWER)**

Proclamation 3319—Columbus Day, 1959

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas in the year 1492 Christopher Columbus sailed westward across an uncharted sea and planted his banner on the shores of the New World; and

Whereas this intrepid explorer, whose voyage opened the way for the eventual establishment of our Nation and its free institutions, symbolizes the American heritage of discovery and daring achievement; and

Whereas the qualities of Columbus—his courage, his vision, and his loyalty to a great cause—are a constant inspiration to us as we seek to reach ever higher levels of accomplishment, both as individuals and as a Nation; and

Whereas, in recognition of our indebtedness to Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 12, 1959, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in commemoration of the four hundred and sixty-seventh anniversary of the discovery of America.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of the memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this ninth day of October in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-fourth.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Dwight D. Eisenhower". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President:

CHRISTIAN A. HERTER,

Dwight D. Eisenhower, Proclamation 3319—Columbus Day, 1959 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/307965>



October 07, 1958

**DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
DWIGHT-D-EISENHOWER)**

Proclamation 3259—Columbus Day, 1958

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas men of good will everywhere are seeking a new world of peace and cooperation where peoples and nations will live together in amity; and

Whereas we who long for the attainment of this goal may draw inspiration from the vision and courage of Christopher Columbus, who sailed across an uncharted sea and found a western continent and opened a new world; and

Whereas the strong faith of this man of destiny moved the Spanish court in 1492 to furnish him men and ships to aid in his venture, thus leading to the discovery of America and, ultimately, to the birth of our Nation; and

Whereas, in acknowledgment of our debt to Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Sunday, October 12, 1958, as Columbus Day; and I invite our people to observe the day in schools and churches, or in other suitable places, with ceremonies expressive of the public sentiment of gratitude on the anniversary of the discovery of America and the promise of new life and liberty which it has brought us all.

I also direct the appropriate officials of the Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on the appointed day in honor of the memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this seventh day of October in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-third.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Dwight D. Eisenhower". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President:

JOHN FOSTER DULLES,

Dwight D. Eisenhower, Proclamation 3259—Columbus Day, 1958 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/307749>



September 21, 1957

**DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
DWIGHT-D-EISENHOWER)**

Proclamation 3203—Columbus Day, 1957

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas Christopher Columbus, on his voyage of discovery, made known the existence of a new and wondrous land, with matchless opportunities for mankind; and

Whereas throughout the ensuing centuries the continents of the world have moved closer together in time and space, by means of modern communication and transportation, thus becoming ever more interdependent and aware of their critical need for a just and lasting peace; and

Whereas the imagination and daring of Christopher Columbus aroused the interest and enlisted the aid of many long ago, and continue to encourage all who believe in freedom and in the promise of distant horizons; and

Whereas, in commemoration of the life and work of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do by this proclamation designate Saturday, the twelfth day of October, 1957, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies in commemoration of the four hundred and sixty-fifth anniversary of the sighting of land by Columbus and his crew on October 12, 1492.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on that day in honor of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 21st day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-second.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Dwight D. Eisenhower". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President:

JOHN FOSTER DULLES,

Dwight D. Eisenhower, Proclamation 3203—Columbus Day, 1957 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/308014>



September 26, 1956

**DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
DWIGHT-D-EISENHOWER)**

Proclamation 3159—Columbus Day, 1956

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas four hundred and sixty-four years ago Christopher Columbus, seeking a short route to Asia, fearlessly set sail from Spain, crossed an uncharted and unknown sea, and found instead a vast new world; and

Whereas the passing of the centuries has not dimmed the glory of his exploits, which continue to inspire and encourage all of us who are his heirs to seek broader fields of endeavor and new ways of understanding our planet and its peoples; and

Whereas, in recognition of the vision, the daring, and the achievements of Christopher Columbus, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby set aside Friday, October 12, 1956, as Columbus Day, and I invite the people of this Nation to observe the day with ceremonies commemorative of the sighting of land by Columbus and his crew on their westward voyage in 1492. I also direct the appropriate officials of the Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on Columbus Day in honor of the great discoverer.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 26th day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-first.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Dwight D. Eisenhower". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President:

JOHN FOSTER DULLES,

Secretary of State



October 10, 1955

**DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
DWIGHT-D-EISENHOWER)**

Proclamation 3115—Columbus Day, 1955

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas Christopher Columbus, with a fleet of three vessels, daringly set sail upon an unknown sea and persevered until he landed upon a strange shore, thus discovering a new continent and a new world; and

Whereas appropriate recognition should be given to the memory of this great navigator, whose exploits have inspired other brave men throughout the centuries to seek those opportunities which lie beyond the horizon; and

Whereas October 12, 1492, the date of the sighting of land by Columbus' intrepid crew, marks the beginning of a new epoch in mankind's ever-widening search for a freer and a richer life; and

Whereas a grateful Congress, in appreciation of the debt we owe to Christopher Columbus, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Wednesday, the twelfth day of October, 1955, as Columbus Day, and I direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings on that day. I also invite our citizens to observe this anniversary with ceremonies designed to honor the discoverer of America.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this tenth day of October in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eightieth.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dwight D. Eisenhower".

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President:

JOHN FOSTER DULLES,

Secretary of State



**DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
DWIGHT-D-EISENHOWER)**

Proclamation 3068—Columbus Day, 1954

October 01, 1954

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas the courageous voyage on which Christopher Columbus embarked over four and one-half centuries ago opened to our ancestors the untold opportunities of this new Continent; and

Whereas the discovery of Christopher Columbus led to the settlement of our land and, ultimately, to the birth of our nation; and

Whereas it is therefore especially fitting that the memory of this great Admiral be accorded appropriate recognition each year by the people of this Nation; and

Whereas, in commemoration of the achievement of this intrepid explorer, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year, the anniversary of the discovery of America, as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Tuesday, October 12, 1954, as Columbus Day, and I invite all the people of our Nation to observe this anniversary with appropriate ceremonies. I also call upon officials of the Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on all public buildings on the twelfth day of October in honor of the memory of Christopher Columbus.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 1st day of October in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-ninth.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dwight D. Eisenhower".

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President:

JOHN FOSTER DULLES,

Secretary of State



September 22, 1953

**DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
DWIGHT-D-EISENHOWER)**

Proclamation 3033—Columbus Day, 1953

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas four hundred and sixty-one years ago Christopher Columbus sailed out toward the setting sun on a quest that culminated in the discovery of a new continent; and

Whereas the supreme faith and resolution which brought this intrepid explorer to the Western Hemisphere may serve as a challenge to all who aspire to larger fields of human endeavor; and

Whereas the Congress of the United States, in recognition of the unique accomplishments of Christopher Columbus, authorized and requested the President, by a resolution approved on April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year, the anniversary of the discovery of America, as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 12, 1953, as Columbus Day, and I invite the people of the Nation to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies in their homes, their schools, and their churches, and in other suitable places. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings on Columbus Day in honor of that great Admiral who opened the door of a new territorial world and a new world of opportunity.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this 22d day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-eighth.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Dwight D. Eisenhower". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President:

WALTER B. SMITH,

Acting Secretary of State



September 25, 1952

**HARRY S TRUMAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
HARRY-S-TRUMAN)**

Proclamation 2990—Columbus Day, 1952

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas Christopher Columbus, after sailing many weeks on a vast and unknown sea, found a western continent and a new world on October 12, 1492; and

Whereas the daring and resolution of this man of destiny have encouraged in every generation the perseverance of those who seek the truth beyond the horizon; and

Whereas the Congress of the United States, mindful of the rich heritage left us by Christopher Columbus, provided, by a resolution approved on April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), that the anniversary of his epochal discovery should be commemorated each year:

Now, Therefore, I, Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Sunday, October 12, 1952, as Columbus Day, and I invite the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies in their homes, their schools, and their churches, or in other suitable places. I direct the officials of the Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on all public buildings on October 12 in honor of the man whose discovery gave democracy a new birthplace.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 25th day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-seventh.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry S. Truman". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

By the President:

DEAN ACHESON,

Secretary of State.



August 23, 1951

**HARRY S TRUMAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
HARRY-S-TRUMAN)**

Proclamation 2940—Columbus Day, 1951

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas, over four and a half centuries ago, Christopher Columbus, with undaunted courage, traversed the uncharted Atlantic and discovered a new world; and

Whereas the saga of his exploits has stirred the imagination of men throughout the centuries and has inspired many other quests for larger horizons; and

Whereas, in the present century, the new and old worlds, to whose unity Christopher Columbus contributed so much, are striving toward further unity through the closer association of free peoples; and

Whereas in the exploration of uncharted ways toward such unity we may take guidance from the life and deeds of Christopher Columbus; and

Whereas the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657()), authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, by this proclamation designate Friday, October 12, 1951, as Columbus Day, and I direct the appropriate officials to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on that day. I also invite the people of this country to observe the day with ceremonies designed to honor the discoverer of America.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 23d day of August in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-sixth.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry S. Truman". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

By the President:

DEAN ACHESON,

Secretary of State.

Harry S Truman, Proclamation 2940—Columbus Day, 1951 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/287441>



October 03, 1950

**HARRY S TRUMAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
HARRY-S-TRUMAN)**

Proclamation 2904—Columbus Day, 1950

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas free investigation and unhampered exploration of the unknown are all-important factors in our constant striving to build a better world; and

Whereas four hundred and fifty-eight years ago Christopher Columbus, through his bold and free inquiry into what lay beyond the ocean, found a new continent; and

Whereas inspiration for our present endeavors may be found in the tenacity of purpose and the unswerving quest for truth of the discoverer of America; and

Whereas, in order to perpetuate the memory of this daring explorer and his glorious feat, the congress by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Thursday, October 12, 1950, as Columbus Day; and I direct that on that day the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings. I also invite the people of the United States to observe the anniversary in their homes, schools, churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this third day of October in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-fifth.

A handwritten signature of Harry S. Truman in dark ink. The signature is cursive and stylized, with the first name 'Harry' and last name 'Truman' clearly legible.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

By the President:

JAMES E. WEBB,

Acting Secretary of State.



September 22, 1949

**HARRY S TRUMAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
HARRY-S-TRUMAN)**

Proclamation 2857 – Columbus Day, 1949

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas men of good will everywhere are seeking the way to a new world, in which lasting peace will prevail and all nations will work and live together in friendly accord; and

Whereas all who have this hope may draw inspiration and courage from the superb resolution and infinite faith of Christopher Columbus, who found a new world beyond uncharted seas; and

Whereas, in appreciation of the achievement of Columbus in discovering this new world of opportunity, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Wednesday, October 12, 1949, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of the United States to observe the day with ceremonies commemorative of the anniversary of the sighting of land by Columbus and his crew on their westward voyage in 1492. I also direct the appropriate officials of the Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on that day.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this the 22d day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and forty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-fourth.

A handwritten signature of Harry S. Truman in dark ink. The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name 'Harry' and last name 'Truman' clearly legible.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

By the President:

JAMES E. WEBB,

Acting Secretary of State.



September 13, 1948

**HARRY S TRUMAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
HARRY-S-TRUMAN)**

Proclamation 2813—Columbus Day, 1948

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas four hundred and fifty-six years ago Christopher Columbus broadened the world's horizons through his keen vision, his indomitable spirit, and his unflagging persistence; and

Whereas the old world which gave him birth and the new world which he discovered are now joined in closer relationship not only through modern miracles of speed but also through mutual need for the achievement of lasting peace and a higher civilization; and

Whereas it is fitting that the exploits of this gallant navigator, who has enriched the lives of all peoples by showing the way to a land of unparalleled opportunities, should be commemorated on the anniversary of his finding that land; and

Whereas the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Tuesday, October 12, 1948, as Columbus Day, and I invite the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies in their homes, their schools, their churches, and in other suitable places. I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings on that day.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 13th day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and forty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-third.

A handwritten signature of Harry S. Truman in dark ink. The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name 'Harry' and the last name 'Truman' clearly legible.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

By the President:

G. C. MARSHALL,

Secretary of State.



October 06, 1947

**HARRY S TRUMAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
HARRY-S-TRUMAN)**

Proclamation 2749—Columbus Day, 1947

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas, in this era of challenging scientific discoveries, new lanes of thinking are needed to reach understanding of undreamed-of forces, to solve new problems of world community living, and to bring to bear upon human relationships in new and more effective ways the positive potentialities of our progress; and

Whereas inspiration in the quest for these new goals may be taken from the life and achievement of Christopher Columbus, who sought and who succeeded in finding new lanes across the ocean, new vistas for navigation, and new ways of understanding our planet; and

Whereas, in recognition of the vision and superb accomplishment of that admiral, who dared and strove and opened a new world, the Congress of the United States, by a joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year, the anniversary of the sighting of land by Columbus's intrepid crew, as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, by this proclamation designate Sunday, October 12, 1947, as Columbus Day, and I invite the people of the United States to observe the day in their homes or churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies. I call upon officials of the government to have the flag of the United States displayed on public buildings on Sunday, October 12, 1947, and I urge the school authorities and civic leaders of the nation to organize Columbus Day exercises appropriate to commemorate that day.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 6th day of October in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and forty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and seventy-second.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry S. Truman". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

By the President:

ROBERT A. LOVETT,

Acting Secretary of State.

Harry S Truman, Proclamation 2749—Columbus Day, 1947 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/287898>



September 25, 1946

**HARRY S TRUMAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
HARRY-S-TRUMAN)**

Proclamation 2705—Columbus Day, 1946

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas Christopher Columbus is to be remembered as a man who " * * * found a world, and had no chart, Save one that faith deciphered in the skies;" and

Whereas we who are even now engaged in searching out a new world of peace and justice and respect for human rights should endeavor in a thousand and one ways to emulate that magnificent faith which brought Columbus to the Western World; and

Whereas by a joint resolution of Congress approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Saturday, October 12, 1946, as Columbus Day. I direct, also, that on that day the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings; and I invite the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies expressive of the public sentiment befitting the anniversary of the discovery of America.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 25th day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and forty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-first.

A handwritten signature of Harry S. Truman in dark ink. The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name 'Harry' and last name 'Truman' clearly legible.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

By the President:

W. L. CLAYTON,

Acting Secretary of State.



September 28, 1945

**HARRY S TRUMAN (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
HARRY-S-TRUMAN)**

Proclamation 2665—Columbus Day, 1945

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Whereas Christopher Columbus with courage and daring sailed an uncharted sea and found a new world which became the haven of millions who sought freedom from oppression and want; and

Whereas we, the spiritual and material heirs of Columbus, have through valiant effort and heroic sacrifice preserved our country from those who would have enslaved us and have given strength to all people who have struggled against tyranny; and

Whereas we, with the resolute faith of the discoverer of America, have determined that through international organization the freedoms for which this Nation and other nations have waged victorious war shall flourish in peace and security; and

Whereas, at this period, the Italian people with fortitude and courage are striving to rid their country of the last vestige of fascism, to establish liberty, and to regain an honorable place in the family of nations, it is peculiarly appropriate that we honor the courage and vision of a great Italian, whose discovery gave a birthplace for democracy; and

Whereas Public Resolution 21, Seventy-third Congress, approved April 30, 1934, provides:

That the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day and calling upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on said date and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies expressive of the public sentiment befitting the anniversary of the discovery of America:

Now, Therefore, I, Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Friday, October 12, 1945, as Columbus Day. I direct, also, that the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings on that day; and I invite the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies in schools and churches or other suitable places.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 28th day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and forty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventieth.

A handwritten signature of Harry S. Truman in dark ink. The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first name 'Harry' and the last name 'Truman' clearly legible.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

By the President:

DEAN ACHESON,

Acting Secretary of State.

Harry S Truman, Proclamation 2665—Columbus Day, 1945 Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/287790>



**FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
FRANKLIN-D-ROOSEVELT)**

Proclamation 2595—Columbus Day, 1943

October 05, 1943

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Whereas we who are determined to seek and to find highways to a new world of peace and cooperation may take inspiration from the faith and courage of Christopher Columbus, who sailed across an uncharted sea and found a western continent and a new world; and

Whereas at this time, when the Italian people are striving to win back for themselves an honorable place in the family of nations, it is especially fitting that we honor the vision and achievement of a great Italian; and

Whereas Public Resolution 21, Seventy-third Congress, approved April 30, 1934, provides:

"That the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day and calling upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on said date and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies expressive of the public sentiment befitting the anniversary of the discovery of America";

Now, Therefore, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Tuesday, October 12, 1943, as Columbus Day; I direct that on that day the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings; and I invite the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies in schools and churches, or other suitable places.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 5th day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and forty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-eighth.

A handwritten signature of Franklin D. Roosevelt in cursive script.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

By the President:
CORDELL HULL
Secretary of State.



**FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
FRANKLIN-D-ROOSEVELT)**

Statement on Columbus Day.

October 12, 1942

It is 450 years since Christopher Columbus first saw the new western world off his bow. He and his followers found a great expanse where new beginnings could be made, where men could steer their courses free of the fetters of tyranny and the encompassment of outworn institutions. In the wake of his courageous and unprecedented voyage there came to the Americas the seeking people of many countries—people who sought liberty, democracy, religious tolerance, the fuller life.

This was the American experiment, a bold experiment and successful. Our immigrant ancestors, yours and mine, made it successful.

But now the free Nations we created on two continents, the very liberties we made law, are endangered by destructive forces from without. We are in the midst of mankind's greatest war, a war to determine whether the march of progress shall proceed or be halted by the totality of conquest.

Our cause is not only liberty for ourselves but liberation for others. An American victory will be a United Nations victory and a victory for oppressed and enslaved people everywhere. I like to remember on this significant anniversary the words of a contemporary poet:

"Columbus found a world and had no chart, save one that faith deciphered in the skies."

We have faith; deeds will implement it.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Statement on Columbus Day. Online by Gerhard Peters and John T. Woolley, The American Presidency Project <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/node/209989>



**FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
FRANKLIN-D-ROOSEVELT)**

Statement on Columbus Day.

October 12, 1940

The voyage of Christopher Columbus and his diminutive fleet toward the unknown west was not only a prelude to a new historical era. For the brave navigator it was the culmination of years of bold speculation, careful preparation, and struggle against opponents who had belittled his great plan and thwarted its execution.

Expounding the strange doctrine that beyond the ocean stood solid, habitable earth, Columbus had first to make his views plausible to his doubting patrons and then to overcome the seemingly endless array of obstacles with which men of little minds barred the way to the fitting out of a fleet. Even when the three small ships were well away on their epoch-making course the crews mutinied and demanded that he turn back. Columbus, however, held to his course and on the morning of October 12, 1492, the welcome land was sighted.

The courage and the faith and the vision of the Genoese navigator glorify and enrich the drama of the early movement of European people to America. Columbus and his fellow voyagers were the harbingers of later mighty movements of people from Spain, from Columbus's native Italy and from every country in Europe. And out of the fusion of all these national strains was created the America to which the Old World contributed so magnificently.

This year when we contemplate the estate to which the world has been brought by destructive forces, with lawlessness and wanton power ravaging an older civilization, and with our own republic girding itself for the defense of its institutions, we can revitalize our faith and renew our courage by a recollection of the triumph of Columbus after a period of grievous trial.

The promise which Columbus's discovery gave to the world, of a new beginning in the march of human progress, has been in process of fulfillment for four centuries. Our task is now to make strong our conviction that in spite of setbacks that process will go on toward fulfillment.



September 18, 1937

**FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
FRANKLIN-D-ROOSEVELT)**

Proclamation 2253—Columbus Day

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Whereas Public Resolution 21, Seventy-third Congress, approved April 30, 1934, provides:

That the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day and calling upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on said date and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies expressive of the public sentiment befitting the anniversary of the discovery of America.

Now, Therefore, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, under and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the aforesaid public resolution, do by this proclamation designate October 12, 1937, as Columbus Day and do direct that on that day the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings; and, further, I do invite the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies in schools and churches, or other suitable places.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 18th day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-second.

A handwritten signature of Franklin D. Roosevelt in dark ink.

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

By the President:
CORDELL HULL
Secretary of State.



**FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
FRANKLIN-D-ROOSEVELT)**

Proclamation 2197—Columbus Day

September 22, 1936

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Whereas Public Resolution 21, Seventy-third Congress, approved April 30, 1934, provides:

That the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day and calling upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on said date and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies expressive of the public sentiment befitting the anniversary of the discovery of America.;

Now, Therefore, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, under and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the aforesaid public resolution, do by this proclamation designate October 12, 1936, as Columbus Day and do direct that on that day the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings; and, further, I do invite the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies in schools and churches, or other suitable places.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 22nd day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and sixty-first.

A handwritten signature of Franklin D. Roosevelt in dark ink.

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

By the President:
CORDELL HULL
Secretary of State.



September 30, 1934

**FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (/PEOPLE/PRESIDENT/
FRANKLIN-D-ROOSEVELT)**

Proclamation 2101—Columbus Day

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Whereas Public Resolution 21, Seventy-third Congress, approved April 30, 1934, provides:

"That the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation designating October 12 of each year as Columbus Day and calling upon officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on said date and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies expressive of the public sentiment befitting the anniversary of the discovery of America.";

Now, Therefore, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, under and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the aforesaid public resolution, do by this proclamation designate October 12 of each year as Columbus Day and do direct that on that day the flag of the United States be displayed on all Government buildings; and, further, I do invite the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies in schools and churches, or other suitable places.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this 30th day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fifty-ninth.

A handwritten signature of Franklin D. Roosevelt in dark ink.

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

By the President:

CORDELL HULL
Secretary of State.