

The Spanish Armada

Key facts:

- The enmity between Spain & England
- Spain – a Catholic Country (King Philip II)
- England – a Protestant Country (Queen Elizabeth)
- Spain was dominating the sea (trade, travel, journey)
- Spain had a great fleet compared to England
- English pirates tried to attack the Spanish ships on sea.

Introduction:

The Spanish Armada was a fleet of 132 ships assembled by King Philip II of Spain in order to invade England in 1588. The Royal Navy of Elizabeth I of England met the Armada in the English Channel, thanks to superior planning, better firepower, and bad weather, the Spanish were defeated.

Reasons for the Armada : There are four reasons why Philip launched the Spanish Armada and these are Religion, Politics, Events, and Reaction.

- 1. Religion:** England was a Protestant country under Elizabeth, and Philip II as a Catholic wanted to restore Catholicism to England. He had the support of the pope in his efforts
- 2. Politics:** Philip II wanted to increase his power significantly, so adding England to the Spanish Empire would be a great asset. Moreover, Queen Elizabeth executed her cousin Mary, the Queen of Scots who was also a catholic.
- 3. Marriage proposal :** Philip II sent a marriage proposal to Queen Elizabeth of England. She rejected the proposal. She never said yes to any of the kings who made marriage proposal to her. This action of the Queen angered Philip II
- 4. Spanish fleet:** Spain was proud of its Fleet. For a long time, Spanish ships only were dominating the sea route. The English did not have enough ships to face the Spanish Armada on sea.

The Secret plan of the English

On the night of 7 August Sir Francis Drake, second in command of the English fleet, sent in eight small ships packed with inflammables, known as fire-ships. They were set alight amongst the anchored Spanish fleet which caused great confusion, forcing the Spanish ships to cut their cables in order to save themselves.

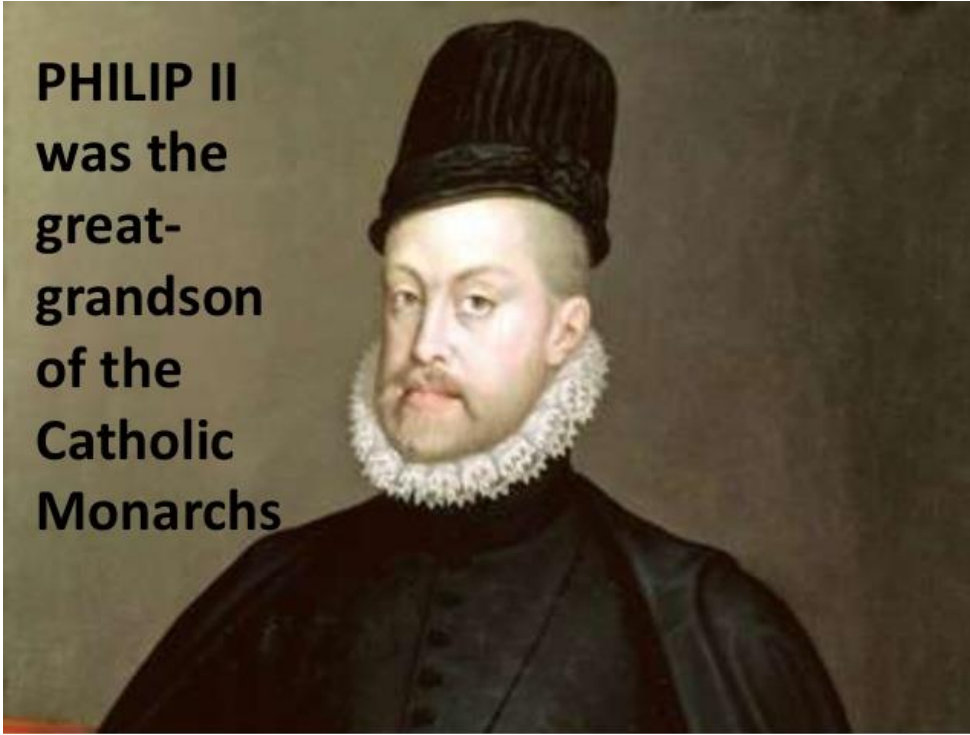
The remains of the Armada were then obliged to sail around the dangerous shores of Scotland and so more ships and men were lost until only half of the fleet eventually made it back to Spanish waters.

**In the late 16th century,
Spain was the most
powerful empire. Spanish
king, Philip II, ruled much
of the New World and
much of Western Europe.**

- Philip II
- The Philippines are named after him



**PHILIP II
was the
great-
grandson
of the
Catholic
Monarchs**



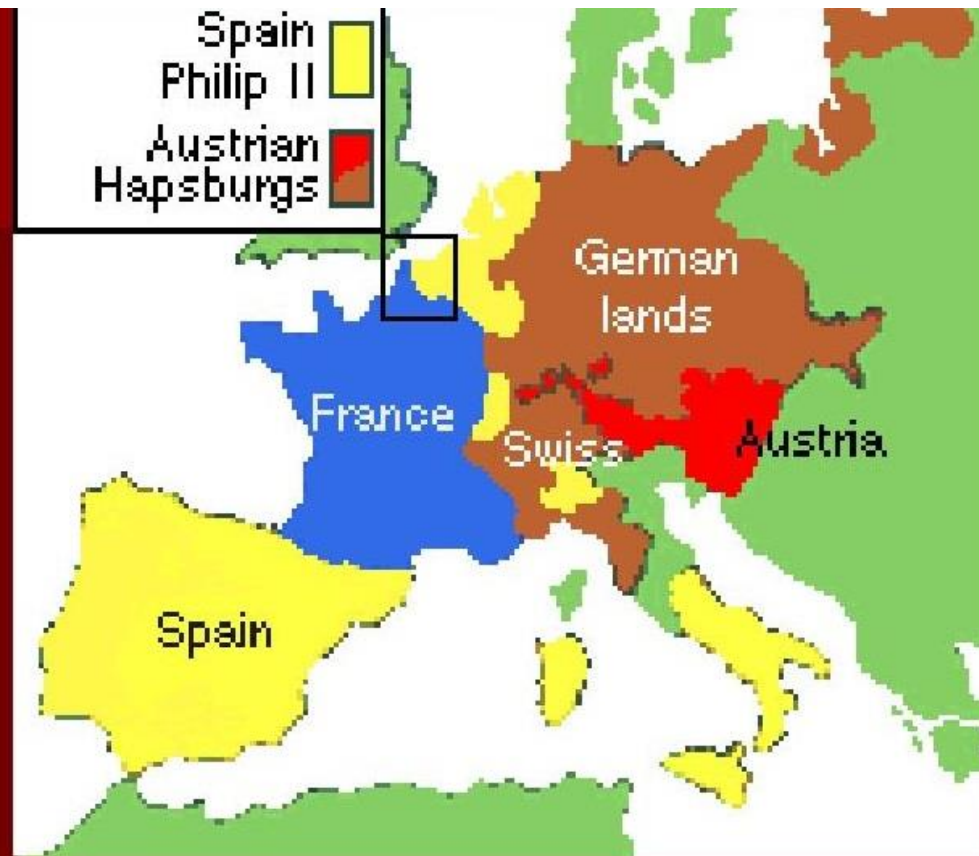
**Elisabeth I was the Protestant queen of England
and Philip's enemy**



Philip was a devout Catholic. He felt it was his duty to invade and conquer England to convert the country back to the Church of Rome.



- In 1588, Philip II of Spain sent a fleet of ships to invade England
- Consisted of 130 ships and started with 17,000 men
- Another 18,000 would be picked up in the Spanish Netherlands
- This was part of an undeclared Anglo-Spanish War (1585-1604)



- The Spanish Armada sailed in a crescent shape



(Slower ships were inside the crescent and faster ships were outside. Troop transport ships were in middle. Usually no less than four miles long)

- The English sent 8 fire ships into the Spanish Armada while they were anchored in a shallow port (20 meters)
- The Spanish panicked, cut anchors and broke ranks
- The English ships were faster and heavily armed; the Spanish were easy targets; unprepared (Battle of Gravelines)

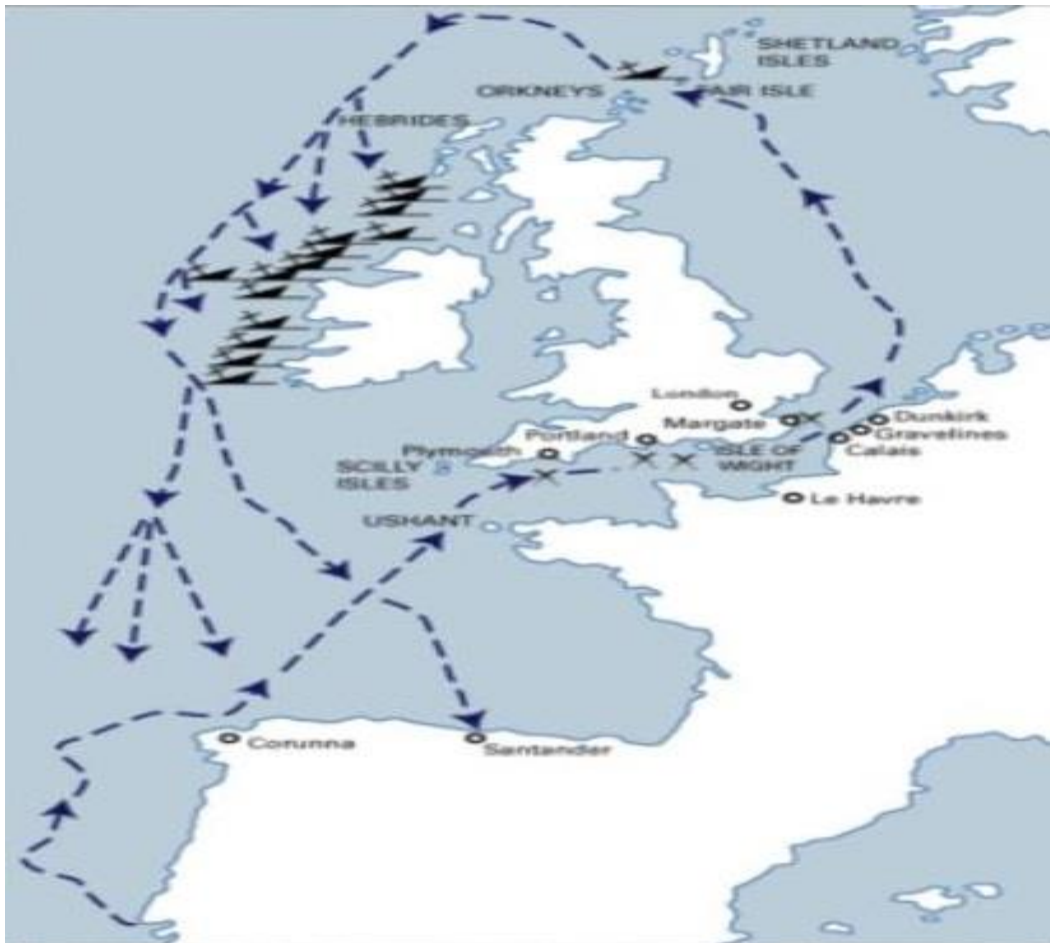


Results of the Spanish Armada

- 67 ships and about 10,000 men returned to Spain
- This marked the beginning of the end of Spain's golden age
- England emerged as a dominant power, and attempted an English Armada in 1589

**The route of
The Spanish
Armada
July-October
1588**





ROUTES OF THE ARMADA
 X Fights in the channel
 X Wrecks

