

Bermuda Triangle

What you need to know



Facts and Stats

Bermuda is one of the few places in the modern world that still remain wrapped in an aura of superstitious mystery. The Bermuda Triangle -- sometimes called the Devil's Triangle, Limbo of the Lost, the Twilight Zone, and Hoodoo Sea -- covers some 500,000 square mi of the Atlantic Ocean.

Long before the myth of the Bermuda Triangle became popular, Bermuda had already earned a reputation as an enchanted island. It was nicknamed "The Devil's Islands" by early sea travelers, frightened by the calls of cahow birds and the squeals of wild pigs that could be heard on shore. But perhaps the most damning tales were told by sailors terrified of shipwreck on Bermuda's treacherous stretch of reefs.

The early origin of the Triangle myth stretches as far back as Columbus, who noted in his logbook a haywire compass, strange lights, and a burst of flame falling into the sea. Columbus, as well as other seamen after him, also encountered a harrowing stretch of ocean now known as the Sargasso Sea. Ancient tales tell of sailboats stranded forever in a windless expanse of water, surrounded by seaweed and the remnants of other unfortunate vessels. It is true that relics have been found in the Sargasso Sea -- an area of ocean in between Bermuda and the Caribbean -- but the deadly calm waters are more likely the result of circular ocean currents sweeping through the North Atlantic rather than paranormal activity.

Fact or fiction, the Bermuda Triangle is a part of local lore that won't disappear anytime soon. But don't let the legend scare you away -- the Triangle isn't the only thing that makes this island seem magical.