

*Saturday, 8 September 1492*

At 3 o'clock this morning the NE wind began to blow, and I set my course to the west. The *Santa María* took in so much water forward that my progress was impeded, and I only made 27 miles last night and today.

*Sunday, 9 September 1492*

(Most of this entry [except for course, speed and distance notations] has been interpolated from Fernando's Historie.)

This day we completely lost sight of land, and many men sighed and wept for fear they would not see it again for a long time. I comforted them with great promises of lands and riches. To sustain their hope and dispel their fears of a long voyage, I decided to reckon fewer leagues than we actually made. I did this that they might not think themselves so great a distance from Spain as they really were. For myself I will keep a confidential accurate reckoning.

Tonight I made 90 miles at a speed of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  knots. The helmsmen steered badly, letting the ship get off course to the west by north and even to the WNW. I reprimanded them several times for this.

*Monday, 10 September 1492*

Today I made 180 miles at a speed of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  knots. I recorded only 144 miles in order not to alarm the sailors if the voyage is lengthy.

*Tuesday, 11 September 1492*

I held to my westward course and made 60 miles saw a large piece of a ship's mast from a vessel of tons. I tried to haul it aboard but was not able to made another 60 miles, but recorded only 48

*Wednesday, 12 September 1492*

I continued to the west and made, by day and night again reckoning less.

*Thursday, 13 September 1492*

I sailed 99 miles, but recorded 10 less, holding my the west by day and by night. The currents are c sunset the needles of our compasses declined to th in the morning they declined to the NE

*Friday, 14 September 1492*

I sailed day and night to the west for 60 miles. I lo what less. The men of the *Niña* saw a tern and a ri birds that are never seen over 75 miles from

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1. *Rabo de junco* in the Log.  
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*Saturday, 15 September 1492*

I sailed to the west day and night for 81 miles, or this morning I saw a marvelous meteorite fall into