



Introducing the Columbus IPA

(December 5th, 2014)

The Beer: We are pleased to introduce our latest IPA, the Columbus IPA. Our Columbus IPA is a nice balanced blend of CTZ for bittering and lots of Columbus hops for amazing flavor and aroma.

The Dedication: Normally, we dedicate our IPA series to significant American Revolutionary War battles. However, occasionally we honor other significant events in American history. It is hard to imagine a more significant event than the discovery, by Europeans, of the “New World.” Presenting our Columbus IPA with Columbus Hops in memory of Christopher Columbus.

The Event: Traditionally observed on the second Monday in October, Columbus Day commemorates the landing of Christopher Columbus in the “New World” (on a small island off Florida) on October 12, 1492.

Although Christopher Columbus clearly was not the first European to visit the “New World” (Vikings had traveled here centuries earlier), he first widely publicized, and thus “discovered,” its existence to the Europeans.

Christopher Columbus was born in Genoa Italy in 1451 and died on May 20th, 1506. In all, he made four expeditions across the Atlantic in search of a western sea route to China. Columbus correlated Toscanelli’s data with ancient and medieval sources in an attempt to estimate the distance to his destination but, in the end, arrived at a colossal miscalculation, having grossly underestimated the distance by about 7,500 miles.

Columbus undertook his first voyage facing the prospect of great danger. The professional opinion of that day not only assured him of the impossibility

of his proposed endeavor, but it also warned him that dragons and death awaited him beyond the charted waters. With such advice coming from the intellectual leaders of his day, his decision to embark on this unprecedented journey must have been difficult. So, then, why did he set out? Columbus himself answered that question in his own writings:

“[O]ur Lord opened to my understanding (I could sense His hand upon me) so it became clear to me that it [the voyage] was feasible. . . . All those who heard about my enterprise rejected it with laughter, scoffing at me. . . . Who doubts that this illumination was from the Holy Spirit?”

Columbus set sail on 3 August 1492 from Palos with the Santa Maria, the Pinta, the Niña (totaling 450 tons) and touched land on 12 October on a little island in the Bahamas that was called Guanahani by the natives. Christened San Salvador by Columbus, it was later renamed Watling Island by the British.

Columbus made extensive discoveries among the islands on the southern edge of the Caribbean Sea, to include, Haiti, the Leeward Islands, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and Cuba. On 28 June 1504, Columbus returned to Spain from his fourth and final expedition. Columbus died ignorant of the full extent and impact of his discoveries

We tip our hat to that bold adventurer, Christopher Columbus, whom we honor with our new Columbus IPA.

