

Bubonic Plague Map

Trace the Route of "Black Death"

Instructions: You will be tracing the route of the plague by drawing arrows alphabetically. Then, fill out the blanks and answer the questions below:



Word Bank:

Russia Ireland France Genoa Venice London
Atlantic Sicily Aegean East Rats Constantinople
Silk Spain Scandinavia

Fill in the Blanks:

- A – The Plague travelled from the East, carried by the fleas of Rats along the Silk Road.
- B – The Plague entered Europe here at the ancient port city of Constantinople.
- C – From there, the Plague was transported by rats aboard cargo ships from the Bosphorus through the Aegean Sea to Crete.

- D – From Crete, the Plague was carried across the Mediterranean to the Italian island of **Sicily** .
- E – From Sicily, the Plague travelled in two directions – both to Naples and to Duprovnik in Croatia.
- F – From Croatia, the Plague landed in **Venice** , the city on the sea. From Naples, the Plague devastated **Genoa** , the hometown of Christopher Columbus.
- G – Rats continued to infest port cities throughout Europe, landing next at Marseilles in **France** .
- H – The Plague continued on to hit Barcelona in **Spain** .
- I – Bordeaux would be next, as the Plague was up and down the coast of the **Atlantic** Ocean.
- J – **London** in England would not be spared either.
- K – From London, the Plague travelled to **Ireland** in the West and **Scandinavia** in the North.
- L – The Plague would then travel throughout the Baltic Sea.
- M – Finally, the Black Death would make its rounds through the heart of **Russia** .

Questions:

1. Why did the Bubonic Plague travel mostly by sea?

Rats like water, and they infested the port cities and cargo ships of major trade routes throughout Europe

2. What parasite carried the plague?

The fleas found on rats

3. Why was the plague called the “Black Death?”

The infected would develop large pain buboes that would turn black.

4. Why do you think the Mediterranean was the first region afflicted in Europe and Russia was among the last?

The Mediterranean was the sea trade hub of the world, so naturally it became the first majorly affected area. Russia is deeper inland and harder for the disease to penetrate.

5. Approximately how much of Europe was killed by the Bubonic Plague?

25 million were killed in the Plague, or 1/3 of the entire population.

6. Explain several significant effects of the Black Death.

Major population drops, better economy and conditions for peasants. Better wages for workers.