

## Santa Cruz de Tenerife

In XVI century, Canary Islands became a valuable stopping point between the New World and Spain, soon after the conquest of America by Christopher Columbus. Santa Cruz was indeed a strategic port of call to the Spanish Fleet on its way back towards mainland with their ship's holds full of goods.

A Pope Alejandro´s VI bull gave Spain the sole right to trade with the West Indies, as a tribute to its remarkable feat, expanding Catholicism. Therefore, any other country who may breached this agreement would be considered as a smuggler. However, this concession was not entirely accepted by countries like England, France or Flanders.

Robert Blake, commander of the George, in 1657 and Horatio Nelson, commander of the Theseus, in 1797, both officers of the powerful Royal Navy, tried to conquer Santa Cruz city in their purpose to control the Spanish routes from America.

It was in 1959 when Sir Winston Churchill visited the city sailing on the Christine yacht of Aristotle Onassis, along with his wife Clementine and his daughter Diana for staying on the island for two days holidays.

For more than 40 years London and Santa Cruz have been connected by ship because of the tomato trade business with a quite special way of doing. The Londoners were established in Santa Cruz to check the ripening processes of the fruit in its origin and the Canaries went to London for living to check the produce at destination. Today, the Canary Wharf building at East London pays tribute to that ever since successful business.

The seaside city of Santa Cruz offers a great varieties of places to visit that you cannot miss. It is a charming and fascinating city where locals have always welcomed everyone from abroad with open arms. Just, in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, Santa Cruz it is a well known city by its lovely weather, beautiful gardens full of exotic trees and flowers and a lot of attractions to be visited.