

Shipwrecks Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Shipwrecks trivia explores the mishaps, storms, battles, and navigational errors that have sent vessels to the bottom across centuries of maritime history. It offers a family-friendly mix of funny surprises, challenging facts, and well-known disasters, giving readers a lively way to learn how shipwrecks shaped trade, exploration, and legend.

HARD SHIPWRECKS TRIVIA

1. Which wreck was discovered by sponge divers in 1900?

Answer: The Roman wreck at Antikythera.

2. Name the shipwreck excavated mainly during the 1980s off Turkey's southern coast.?

Answer: The Uluburun shipwreck.

3. Trickier than it sounds: which famous vessel was found abandoned in 1872, even though it was not technically a wreck when discovered?

Answer: The Mary Celeste.

4. At Spithead in 1782, which warship sank during a heeling operation for maintenance?

Answer: HMS Royal George.

5. Which vessel capsized in the Chicago River in 1915 before it had even left the dock?

Answer: The SS Eastland.

6. Which ship was sunk in the Baltic Sea in 1945?

Answer: The Wilhelm Gustloff.

7. After colliding with Storstad in 1914, which liner sank in the Saint Lawrence River?

Answer: The Empress of Ireland.

8. Which White Star Line ocean liner sank off Nova Scotia in 1873?

Answer: The Atlantic.

9. Off Anglesey during a storm in 1859, which ship met its end?

Answer: The Royal Charter.

10. Which steamship sank in 1854 after colliding with the Vesta?

Answer: The Arctic.

11. Which vessel went down in a hurricane in 1857 while carrying California gold?

Answer: The SS Central America.

12. Which English slave ship wrecked near the Florida Keys in 1700?

Answer: The Henrietta Marie.

13. One of La Salle's ships was found in Matagorda Bay in 1995. Which one?

Answer: La Belle.

14. Near Lisbon in 1606, which Portuguese carrack sank?

Answer: Nossa Senhora dos M^ãrtires.

FUNNY SHIPWRECKS TRIVIA

1. Which Dutch vessel managed to sink in 1771 while hauling artworks purchased for Catherine the Greatâ basically turning a delivery into an underwater gallery?

Answer: Vrouw Maria

2. What warship was so top-heavy that its first voyage lasted less than a mile before becoming an unintended swimming lesson?

Answer: Wasa

3. Which wreck in the Thames Estuary still contains wartime explosives, making it a very committed holder of dangerous cargo?

Answer: SS Richard Montgomery

4. At Tobermory, which schooner is parked so close to shore that tourists can see it from above the water without even getting their socks wet?

Answer: Sweepstakes

5. What name is given to the collection of dozens of derelict wooden ships in the Potomac River at Mallows Bayâ a place that sounds like history hosted a ghost convention?

Answer: Ghost Fleet of Mallows Bay

6. Which Clyde wreck earned the nickname 'Sugar Boat' because, for once, the nickname was exactly what was in the cargo hold?

Answer: MV Captayannis

7. Which wreck later became a rusting landmark on Fraser Island after a cyclone shoved it ashore in 1935?

Answer: SS Maheno

8. In the Costa Concordia disaster, what recorded order became infamous for sounding like the world's angriest return-to-work memo?

Answer: "get back on board"

9. The Whydah Gally sank only months after being captured by which pirate, proving ship theft is no guarantee of long-term ownership?

Answer: Black Sam Bellamy

10. Which schooner sank in Lake Erie in 1901 after colliding with a vessel named Ohioâ a spelling that sounds like the accident came with extra surprise?

Answer: Zelda

11. Which barge was left high and dry by the 1900 Galveston hurricane, as if the storm had decided to redecorate the shoreline?

Answer: Berwind

12. True or false: The Molasses Reef Wreck got its name because it was carrying molasses when it sank.?

Answer: False

13. Which ship shot to fame in 1951 because its captain stayed aboard the listing vessel for nearly two weeks, apparently taking 'stick with the ship' very seriously?

Answer: Flying Enterprise

FUN SHIPWRECKS TRIVIA

1. Which filmmaker basically turned himself into a frequent deep-sea commuter by making 33 dives to the Titanic wreck while producing his 1997 movie?

Answer: James Cameron

2. How many Academy Awards did the 1997 film 'Titanic' collect?

Answer: 11 Academy Awards

3. Which 1977 movie gave treasure-diving wreck adventures a big pop-culture splash?

Answer: The Deep

4. If you wanted to dive among famous warship wrecks at a site later used for nuclear tests after World War II, where would you go?

Answer: Bikini Atoll

5. What Scottish anchorage became the mass parking lot for the scuttled German High Seas Fleet in 1919?

Answer: Scapa Flow

6. True or false: The German High Seas Fleet at Scapa Flow was sunk by enemy attack rather than by its own crews.?

Answer: False

7. Which famously unlucky warship managed to sink on its maiden voyage in Stockholm harbor in 1628?

Answer: Vasa

8. Which Tudor warship made a dramatic comeback when it was raised from the Solent in 1982?

Answer: Mary Rose

9. Which Swedish warship met a fiery end by exploding and sinking in the Baltic Sea in 1676?

Answer: Kronan

10. In what year was Shackleton's ship Endurance finally located?

Answer: 2022

11. Who directed the expedition that found Endurance in 2022?

Answer: Mensun Bound

12. Which fishing boat from 'The Perfect Storm' was lost at sea in 1991?

Answer: Andrea Gail

13. What book-and-film title is based on the Essex disaster?

Answer: In the Heart of the Sea

SHIPWRECKS FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Which lighthouse heroine became famous for helping rescue survivors from the Forfarshire in 1838?

Answer: Grace Darling

2. What was the name of the paddle steamer that wrecked near the Farne Islands in 1838?

Answer: Forfarshire

3. Who was known for lifesaving rescues from wrecks near Newport, Rhode Island?

Answer: Ida Lewis

4. Which woman survived the sinkings of both Titanic and Britannic?

Answer: Violet Jessop

5. On Titanic, what job did Harold Bride hold?

Answer: He was the junior wireless operator aboard Titanic.

6. Which poem mentions the 'quinquireme of Nineveh' and a 'stately Spanish galleon'?

Answer: Cargoes

7. Who wrote 'The Swiss Family Robinson,' the story of a shipwrecked family?

Answer: Johann David Wyss

8. Which famous castaway novel was written by Daniel Defoe?

Answer: Robinson Crusoe

9. What was the name of the whaleship that sank in the Pacific after a sperm whale struck it in 1820?

Answer: Essex

10. When the Essex sank, who was serving as its first mate?

Answer: Owen Chase

11. Who wrote the survival classic 'Endurance' about Shackleton's lost ship?

Answer: Alfred Lansing

12. Whose famous Kon-Tiki raft journey ended on a reef in Polynesia in 1947 instead of in a typical shipwreck?

Answer: Thor Heyerdahl

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/shipwrecks>