

Sir Walter Raleigh



Before his execution for treason, Sir Walter Raleigh won fame as an explorer of the New World, both for voyages to Roanoke Island in present-day North Carolina (whose capital is named after him), and to Venezuela in search of El Dorado, the mythical city of gold. Also a scholar and a gifted lyric poet, Raleigh brought glory to Elizabethan England along with the potatoes and tobacco he is said to have introduced there.