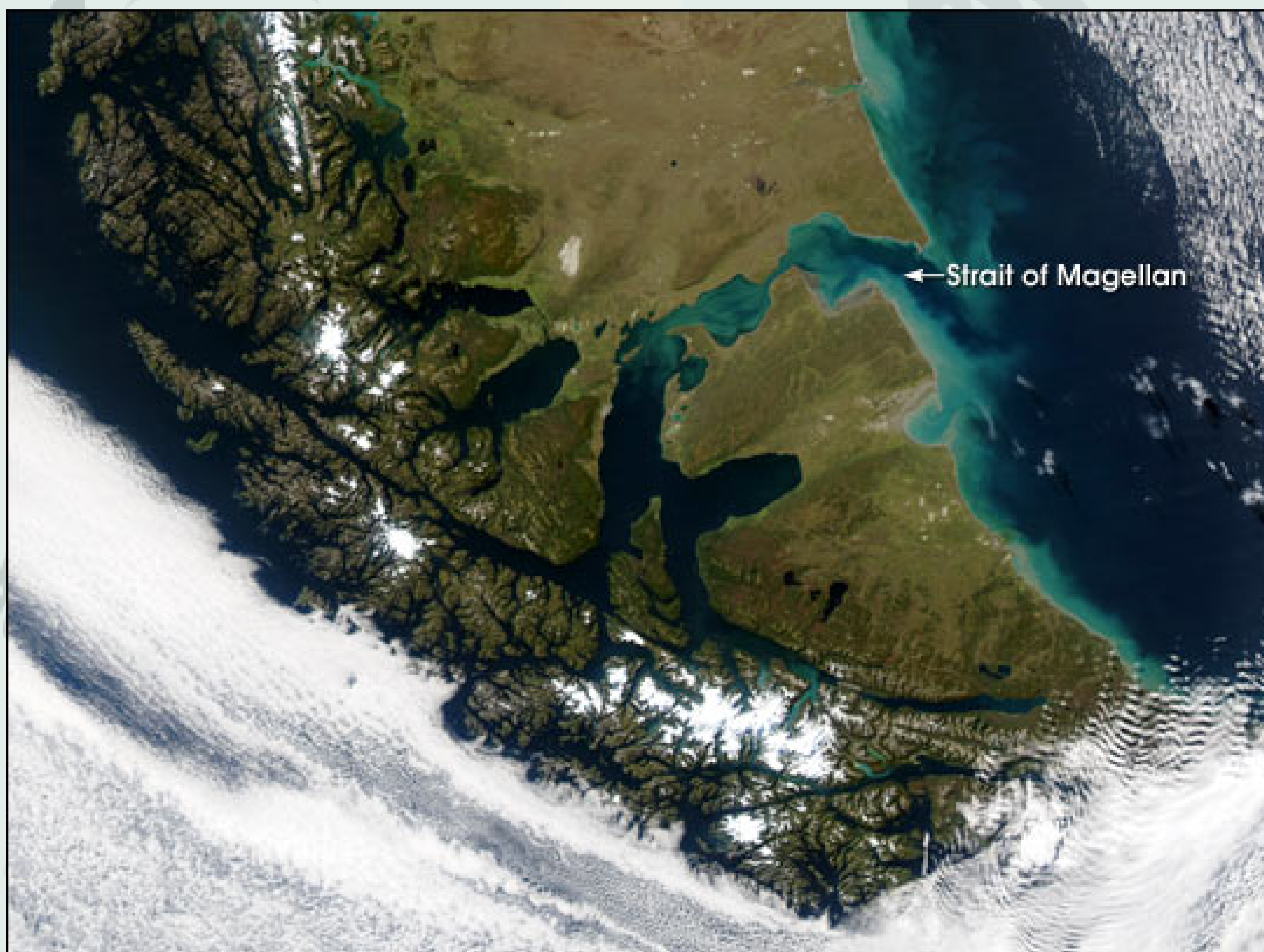


# The Strait of Magellan



The Strait, named after the explorer Magellan, is a waterway linking the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean. Magellan discovered the strait in October of 1520. It took a month for his ships to pass through the strait. Positioned mostly in the territorial waters of Chile, the strait is about 350 miles long and anywhere from 2 to 20 miles wide.



## Bio

Fernão de Magalhães (Ferdinand Magellan) was born in Portugal around 1480. Sailing for the King of Spain, he became the first person to circumnavigate the globe. He died in 1521 following a fight with natives on the Pacific island of Mactan.



Magellan gave the name "Pacific" (Spanish for 'peaceful') to the ocean he saw when he came out of the strait.



A map from 1590 detailing Magellan's Ship "Victoria"

## Tierra del Fuego



Magellan originally called the strait the "Strait of Saints." One late October night, he saw fires burning on the shore and named the land Tierra del Fuego, which means "Land of Fire."

Sources:

**Detail from Magellan's Ship Victoria [Public Domain]**

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Detail\\_from\\_a\\_map\\_of\\_Ortelius\\_-\\_Magellan%27s\\_ship\\_Victoria.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Detail_from_a_map_of_Ortelius_-_Magellan%27s_ship_Victoria.png)

**Satellite Image of the Strait of Magellan [Public Domain]**

<https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=3335>

**Map of Tierra del Fuego Library of Congress [Public Domain]**

[https://blogs.loc.gov/maps/files/2016/02/Whatintheworld\\_map\\_example.jpg](https://blogs.loc.gov/maps/files/2016/02/Whatintheworld_map_example.jpg)

**Ferdinand Magellan Compton's by Britannica (Reference Book)**

[http://elibrary.bigchalk.com/elibweb/elib/do/document?set=search&searchType=natural&dictionaryClick=on&secondaryNav=advance&groupid=1&requestid=lib\\_standard&resultid=14&edition=&ts=5A9E575E596CD679F84AFC4FB3E5EACC\\_1505479261848&start=1&publicationId=&urn=urn%3Abigchalk%3AUS%3BBCLib%3Bdocument%3B165551435](http://elibrary.bigchalk.com/elibweb/elib/do/document?set=search&searchType=natural&dictionaryClick=on&secondaryNav=advance&groupid=1&requestid=lib_standard&resultid=14&edition=&ts=5A9E575E596CD679F84AFC4FB3E5EACC_1505479261848&start=1&publicationId=&urn=urn%3Abigchalk%3AUS%3BBCLib%3Bdocument%3B165551435)

**Ferdinand Magellan Biography for Beginners (Reference Book)**

[http://elibrary.bigchalk.com/elibweb/elib/do/document?set=search&searchType=natural&dictionaryClick=on&secondaryNav=advance&groupid=1&requestid=lib\\_standard&resultid=17&edition=&ts=5A9E575E596CD679F84AFC4FB3E5EACC\\_1505479261848&start=1&publicationId=&urn=urn%3Abigchalk%3AUS%3BBCLib%3Bdocument%3B155085430](http://elibrary.bigchalk.com/elibweb/elib/do/document?set=search&searchType=natural&dictionaryClick=on&secondaryNav=advance&groupid=1&requestid=lib_standard&resultid=17&edition=&ts=5A9E575E596CD679F84AFC4FB3E5EACC_1505479261848&start=1&publicationId=&urn=urn%3Abigchalk%3AUS%3BBCLib%3Bdocument%3B155085430)