

# Bermuda Triangle



Even though you won't find it on a 1. , the Bermuda Triangle is a very real place. In the past there have been many stories of disappearing ships, planes and people. Although there is a 2.

explanation for many incidents, some are still a mystery.

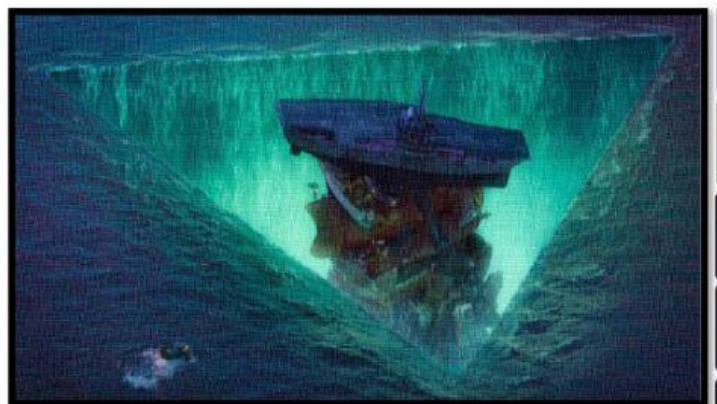
The Bermuda Triangle is 3.  off the coast of Florida between Miami, Puerto Rico and the Bermudas. It covers about 500 000 square miles of the Atlantic Ocean. It is also known as the Devil's Triangle because Bermuda was once called Islands of the Devils. The coasts around the island are 4.  by dangerous reefs that ships ran into throughout the centuries.

5.  events around the area go back to the voyages of Christopher Columbus. He sometimes reported that compass readings were wrong. Many journalists have tried to prove that a number of 6.  and unusual things have happened in the region. Some cases show that there are no explanations for them.

One of the best-known incidents is the disappearance of Flight 19 during a training exercise of the US Navy. In December, 1945 five American bombers left Fort Lauderdale, Florida on a routine mission. 14 crew members 7.  after sending several radio messages. When a rescue plane went to 8.  for the Navy bombers it also vanished.

What went wrong during the mission is not fully known. Compasses showed wrong directions and visibility was bad so the flight leader decided to navigate by landmarks which he saw 9. . Then there was a 10.  storm and radio contact broke off. Wrecked parts of Flight 19 have never been recovered.

Ships have also disappeared in the Bermuda triangle. Among them is the Mary Celeste, an American merchant ship, in 1872. The ship was sailing from New York to Genoa but was later found off the 11.  of Africa without any crew members on board.



Although there is no evidence that the Mary Celeste even entered the Bermuda Triangle there are many who connect its mysterious disappearance with the area.



There are many theories about why so many airplanes and ships have disappeared in the Bermuda Triangle. Some suggest that there are special magnetic fields that cause 12.  physical forces. Others say that the lost continent of Atlantis sank in the region causing mysterious events. There is even a theory about unknown chemicals in the waters of the Atlantic.

Some experts, however, point 13.  that the region north of the Caribbean is not as 14.  as it may seem. It is one of two places on Earth where the compass points to the geographic North Pole. It is also a region in which the 15.  is unpredictable and where storms can emerge quickly. There are strong currents because of shallow places and deep trenches in the ocean. These factors can 16.  even experienced sailors.

Over 1,000 people were killed in The Bermuda Triangle during the 20th century. Scientists have concluded that this figure is normal and most disappearances have a logical explanation. The myth of the Bermuda Triangle, however, remains.

1.	A. plot	B. diagram	C. map	D. card
2.	A. reasonable	B. usual	C. moderate	D. normal
3.	A. site	B. located	C. placed	D. founded
4.	A. bounded	B. bordered	C. limited	D. surrounded
5.	A. Unusual	B. Frequent	C. Funny	D. Common
6.	A. troubles	B. emergencies	C. accidents	D. mistakes
7.	A. faded	B. passes away	C. withdrew	D. disappeared
8.	A. seek	B. search	C. research	D. finds
9.	A. underneath	B. at the bottom	C. under	D. below
10.	A. quick	B. sudden	C. rapid	D. instant
11.	A. coast	B. water	C. seaside	D. beach
12.	A. famous	B. well - known	C. ordinary	D. unknown
13.	A. for	B. out	C. up	D. in
14.	A. protected	B. careful	C. harmful	D. safe
15.	A. weather	B. condition	C. climate	D. surrounding
16.	A. confuse	B. amaze	C. combine	D. complicate