Pirates and Piracy
Bibliography
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A History of Pirates, Past and Present

The following is a selected list of books, videos, and websites that will help you learn more about pirates throughout history and the present. All books and videos are available at the Norfolk Public Library, and the databases and websites may be viewed online at any of the public computer stations located in the library or from home.

Nonfiction

**Blackbeard: America's Most Notorious Pirate** by Angus Konstam.

Of all the colorful cutthroats who scoured the seas in search of plunder during the Golden Age of piracy in the early eighteenth century, none was more ferocious or notorious than Blackbeard. As unforgettable as his savage career was, much of Blackbeard's life has been shrouded in mystery-until now.

**Blackbeard: The Real Pirate of the Caribbean** by Dan Parry.

Blackbeard's extraordinary life of excess during the Golden Age of piracy ignited a reputation that struck terror into men's hearts from Virginia to Barbados. Leading a flotilla of ships through the clear waters of the Indies he left in his wake an image of a 'ranting, roaring, swaggering, swearing' sea-captain that is still remembered today. Blackbeard's life on the high seas, chasing wealth, freedom and power, ended in a bloody battle that ultimately marked a turning-point in history.

**Buccaneers of the Pacific** by George Wycherley.

Covers who the buccaneers were, why they were buccaneers and their fleets. Special attention is attributed to Sir Francis Drake, Thomas Cavendish, Morgan, Sawkins, Sharp, Cook, and Harris.

**Chesapeake Bay in the American Revolution** by Ernest McNeill Eller, editor.

Contains information about privateering on the bay, including admiralty courts and Tory as well as Patriot operations.

**Empire of Blue Water: Captain Morgan's Great Pirate Army, the Epic Battle for the Americas, and the Cata** by Stephan Talty.

Chronicles the real-life adventures of Welsh pirate Henry Morgan and his exploits in the Caribbean in the service of the English, from his attacks on Spanish merchant ships to his final assault on Panama that ended Spanish domination of the New World.

**The End of Barbary Terror: America's 1815 War against the Pirates of North Africa** by Frederick C. Leiner.
Uses ship logs, journals, letters, and government documents to tell how American naval officers and diplomats reacted to the Barbary pirates' capture of an obscure Yankee sailing brig off the coast of North Africa in 1812.

*The Last Days of Black Beard the Pirate: Within Every Legend Lies a Grain of Truth* by Kevin P. Duffus.

Researcher Duffus uncovers and disputes the many myths surrounding Blackbeard with new and shocking information in which the author describes as more interesting than the myths.

*Out of the Sea: A Pirate Story in 13 Parts* by Diane Tennant.


Examines the role of citizen privateers, seamen who raided British trade ships around the Atlantic Ocean, in America's battle for independence from Britain, detailing their strategic and political significance, as well as the part they played in the slave trade.

*Pillaging the Empire: Piracy in the Americas, 1500-1750* by Kris E. Lane.

An account of maritime predation in the Americas from the age of Columbus to the reign of the Spanish King Philip V, detailing privateering (state-sponsored sea robbery) and genuine warfare carried out by professional navies. Surveys Dutch, French, and English predators, discusses famous and lesser known pirates, including two female pirates, and a look at sailors' diets, navigation, and leisure activities.

*Pirates: A History* by Tim Travers.

A comprehensive study of piracy from ancient times to the Golden Age.

*Pirates and Privateers of the High Seas* by Laura Lee Wren.

Describes the lives of the pirates Sir Francis Drake, Sir Henry Morgan, Henry Avery, Samuel Bellamy, Edward Teach, Anne Bonny, Mary Read, Bartholomew Roberts, John Paul Jones, Jean Laffite, and Cheng I Sao.

*Pirates of Colonial Virginia* by Lloyd Haynes Williams.

Virginia has a long history of pirates and this title covers colonial vessels, pirate rules and customs, trials at Elizabeth City County and appendix covering various acts and proclamations.


From previously undiscovered archives in England, the Carolinas, Rhode Island, Jamaica, and elsewhere, Douglas Burgess has synthesized a fascinating
retelling of the Golden Age of piracy, from 1660 to 1725. Pirates needed patrons, the fragile American colonies needed maritime wealth and coastal protection, and everyone except the English crown benefited from untaxed and unregulated black-market profits.

**Pirates: Predators of the Seas** by Angus Konstam.
Looks at the real life of pirates from ancient times through the present day, discussing why they became pirates, how they lived, and life aboard ship and how they died.

**The Republic of Pirates: Being the True and Surprising Story of the Caribbean Pirates and the Man who Brought them Down** by Colin Woodard.
Describes how a group of powerful pirate captains joined forces to create a powerful den of thieves, which led to a distinctive form of democracy in the Bahamas, one that ultimately was destroyed by a merchant fleet owner and former privateer.

**Shipwrecks and Lost Treasures, Outer Banks: Legends and Lore, Pirates and More** by Bob Brooke.
History and folklore abound in these twenty-five true stories about lost ships along North Carolina's storm-washed Outer Banks. Learn the haunting tales of wrecked vessels such as the steam packet *Pulaski* in 1838, the *Pocahontas* in 1862, the *Virginia* in 1900 and, of course, the ongoing search for the pirate ship of Blackbeard, among many others.

**The Templar Pirates: The Secret Alliance to Build the New Jerusalem** by Ernesto Frers.
When the Vatican condemned the Templars in 1312, many of those who escaped took to the sea. Their immediate objective was to take revenge on the Church. The Templar Pirates is the story of the birth and actual conduct of piracy on the seas of the New World and of the influence the Templars had on the governments of nations old and new.

**Terror on the Seas: True Tales of Modern-Day Pirates** by Daniel Sekulich.
A title examining modern day pirates with particular attention to Somali pirates as well as other information including what motivates crimes of piracy.

**A Treasury of Foolishly Forgotten Americans: Pirates, Skinflints, Patriots, and Other Colorful Characters Stuck in the Footnotes of History** by Michael Farquhar.
Covers many individuals and groups who contributed to the history of the country in less than standard ways.

A true treasure trove of maritime history. The Way of the Pirate is a fascinating account of the men, women, kings and countries that aided, supported, hunted and condemned the most romantic of adventurers in maritime history. It contains a fascinating and full account of the life and times as well as the distinction between pirates, buccaneers, and privateers. The Way of the Pirate is certain to be a benchmark reference to this great era in maritime history.
Witches and Ghosts, Pirates and Thieves, Murder and Mayhem: Scary Tales from Colonial Williamsburg compiled by John P. Hunter.
Scary stories from the eighteenth century that amused and frightened Virginians more than two hundred years ago.

**Juv and YA Nonfiction**

This Atlas features spellbinding accounts of 40 of the most significant shipwrecks of all time. These accounts reveal how and why the ships sank and describe the often extraordinary feats of salvage accomplished through the centuries.

*Avast, ye Slobs: Virginia Pirate & Treasure Trivia* by Carole Marsh.
Combines pirate information with Virginia Standards of Learning.

*Blackbeard, the Pirate King: Several Yarns Detailing the Legends, Myths, and Real-life Adventures of History's most Notorious Seaman: Told in Verse* by J. Patrick Lewis.
The real-life adventures and the myths of the 18th-century pirate have inspired this thrilling collection of biographical poems, compiled in a picture-book format that combines history, adventure, geography, and poetry.

*Caribbean Pirates: A Treasure Chest of Fact, Fiction, and Folklore* by George Beahm.
Drawing from key people, places, and things seen in the Pirates of the Caribbean movies, author George Beahm gives readers a unique and entertaining look at the rise of the pirate craze and separates pirate fact from fiction. Caribbean Pirates features a reader-friendly format, covering all aspects of pirate life and the folklore surrounding the notorious mariners.

*Pirate* by Deborah Lock.
Discusses pirates of the past, their ships, their battles, their spectacular treasures, and how piracy continues today.

*The Pirate Code: Life of a Pirate* by Liam O'Donnell.
Describes the daily lives of pirates, the code of conduct they lived by, and the punishments they faced if they broke the rules.

*Pirate Gear: Cannons, Swords, and the Jolly Roger* by Liam O'Donnell.
Presents the tools and equipment pirates used for daily life at sea, as well as the weapons used for their deadly raids on merchant ships.

*Pirate Hideouts: Secret Spots and Shelters* by Allison Lassieur.
Describes the places that pirates used as hideouts.

*Pirates* by John Matthews.
Presents a variety of information about pirates, including who the first pirates were, what pirate ships looked like, what life was like to be a pirate, and how pirates are represented in pop culture.

**Pirates** by Neil Morris.
Discusses what pirates do, what life was like on a pirate ship, and covers pirate weapons, punishments, treasure, women pirates, and modern pirates.

**Pirates of the Carolinas for Kids** by Terrance Zepke.
A collective biography of famous pirates who plied the waters off of the Carolinas during the Golden Age of piracy.

**Pirates: Poems** by David L. Harrison.
This collection of poetry reveals the true nature of pirates, who were really a bunch of misfits, thugs, and ne'er-do-wells whose craving for excitement and treasure led to danger, and even death.

**Sea Queens: Women Pirates around the World** by Jane Yolen.
Yolen chronicles 13 women pirates dating from ancient times while dispelling misconceptions about pirates and piracy.

**You wouldn't want to Explore with Sir Francis Drake! A Pirate you'd Rather not Know** by David Stewart.
An addition to a humorous series that looks at the darker side of exploring the world with Sir Francis Drake, a dangerous voyage that would last for three long years.

**Women of the Sea: Ten Pirate Stories** by Myra Weatherly.
Includes maps, bibliographies, timelines, lines and improved, colorized images.

**DVD**

**Bicycling Through History. Disc 7, 18th Century Pirates.**
Pirates were able to travel far and wide at a time when most people rarely went more than 50 miles from their homes. Music was also an important tool to keep the ship's crew synchronized. Careful research and visits to specific locations remaining today offer the best way to understand those desperate individuals who sailed off the coasts of America.

**The Black Swan** by Twentieth Century Fox.
Pirate Morgan is pardoned and made the new governor of Jamaica on one condition, he must stop his fellow pirates from doing their criminal actions.

**Captain Blood** by Warner Bros. Pictures.
Errol Flynn stars as a gentleman pirate who sails the waters of the Caribbean.

**Captain Kidd** by United Artists.
Pirate Captain Kidd tricks King William III into giving him royal orders, but enemies (whom he believes to be dead) return to see him hanged.

*A High Wind in Jamaica* by Twentieth Century Fox.
Concerned that their children aren't growing up as civilized as they would in their native England, a couple decides to leave Jamaica and return home with their family. However, when they inadvertently find their way onto a pirate ship, the children befriend, outwit and even frighten their shipmates.

*Hook* by TriStar Pictures.
A high-flying adventure from the magic of Steven Spielberg, *Hook* stars Robin Williams as a grown-up Peter Pan and Dustin Hoffman as the infamous Captain Hook. After Granny Wendy Darling convinces the middle aged lawyer Peter Banning that he was once the legendary Peter Pan, the adventure begins anew.

*Pirates of the Caribbean* by Disney.
After Elizabeth, Will, and Captain Barbossa rescue Captain Jack Sparrow, who is trapped in Davy Jones' Locker, they must face their foes.

*The Pirates of Penzance* New York Shakespeare Festival Production.
Gilbert and Sullivan's raucous and comedic operatic tale of Frederic, a “slave to duty” pirate, and the lowly band of orphaned pirates, is captured in all its fun and glory.

*Peter Pan* by Universal Pictures.
In stifling Edwardian London, Wendy Darling mesmerizes her brothers every night with bedtime tales of swordplay, swashbuckler skills and the ever fearsome Captain Hook. But the children become real heroes of an even greater story when Peter Pan flies into their nursery one night and takes them on a journey over moonlit rooftops to the lush jungles of Neverland.

*The Pirate Ships* by the History Channel.
An installment of the *Great Ships* series covering cinema and the history of pirate ships.

*Pirates of Treasure Island* by Asylum Home Entertainment.
An innkeeper's life of monotony suddenly changes when he comes into possession of a treasure map. Enlisting the help of Long John Silver and his band of cutthroat pirates, he sets off in search of the cursed Skeleton Island. (Rated PG-13).

Young Jim Hawkins works on the ship known as the *Hispaniola*. Posing as a cook, one-legged Long John Silver joins the crew seeking to steal the treasure and ship.

*Treasure Island Kids* by Porchlight Entertainment (JUV).
A wacky inventor trying to find treasure on an island turns it into a camp for kids when he goes broke. Now an evil pirate's descendant arrives to take over the island. It's up to the kids to save the island and the summer camp.
Music: CD, Music Scores and Nonfiction Shanty Titles

*An American Sailor's Treasury: Sea Songs, Chanteys, Legends, and Lore* by Frank Shay (Nonfiction).

Formerly published in separate volumes as *American Sea Songs & Chanteys and a Sailors Treasury*, this title contains many legends and folklore of the seas in addition to chanteys.

*American Sea Songs & Shanties* by Rounder Records (CD).

Classics sea songs including *Haul the Bowline, Sailor's Alphabet, Rolling Home* and *Homeward Bound*.

*Chanteying Aboard American Ships* by Frederick Pease Harlowe (Music Score).

Contains sea music of the nineteenth-century from a first-hand source. This score gives insight to how shanties worked for the ship and sailor.

*Closehauled on the Wind of a Dream* by Bob Zentz (CD).

Bob Zentz, local folk singer, sings sea shanties including *Ships and Folks, Sea Dream, Bosun's Story, Ships that Pass*, and *Racing Clippers*.

*Hove To and Drifting* by Bob Zentz (CD).

More traditional sea shanties by local folk singer Bob Zentz including *On Board a '98* and *Good Ship Calibar*.

*Music of the Sea* by David Proctor (Nonfiction).

A book covering the history of sea music, carefully researched at Maritime museums all over the world.


An anthology of 126 sea songs that cover the seven seas, ranging in dates from the 1560’s to 1979.

*Sea Music: A Gathering of Sea Songs* by Dan Zanes & Festival Five Folk (CD).

Popular kid’s performer Dan Zanes uses various instruments and styles to sing shanties in a unique down-to-earth way.

*The Sea, Ships and Sailors; Poems, Songs and Shanties* by Robin Jacques. (Nonfiction- Juv).

A comprehensive collection of verse from varied sources such as Shakespeare, Tennyson and Kipling in addition to traditional songs of the sea.

*Shanties from the Seven Seas: Shipboard Work-Songs and Songs used as Work-Songs from the Great Days of Sail* collected by Stan Hugill (Music Score).

Over 400 American and British work-songs of sailors with biographical information about the author’s life as a sailor.
**Songs of the Sea: the Tales and Tunes of Sailors and Sailing Ships** by Stan Hugill (Music Score).

A book of music scores that contains shanties with background information describing the folklore surrounding the songs.

**Online Databases**

Contains information about current day piracy as well as historic information. For remote access, go to [http://www.npl.lib.va.us](http://www.npl.lib.va.us) and use your 13-digit library card number as your password.

**Biography Resource Center.**

Includes full-text articles from hundreds of periodicals. Search for people based on one or more personal facts such as birth and death year, nationality, ethnicity, occupation or gender, or combine criteria to create a highly-targeted custom search.

**E-Library** (search pirates and piracy).

Full-text of the Virginian-Pilot from 1990 to the current edition. Searches magazines, books, Virginia and international newspapers, pictures, maps, TV and radio transcripts, and reference books.

**General Reference Center Gold.**

A general interest database that integrates a variety of sources in one easy-to-use interface. Use General Reference Center Gold to find articles from newspapers, reference books, and periodicals, many with full-text and images.

**Infotrac Kids Edition.**

Formerly PrimaryTOM, this periodical database is designed for elementary school students, with easy access to full-text magazines, newspapers and reference books for information on current events, history and more.

**Netlibrary.**

A full-text database with over 16,000 eBooks.

**World Book Online Reference Center.**

Containing every article from the 22-volume print set plus thousands more. This database has state-of-the-art multimedia, maps, editor-reviewed Web sites, and more. *Includes World Book Online for Kids.*

**Websites**

**Famous Pirates.**

A site with historic information about pirates.

**History of Pirates.**

A History Channel site about pirates. Contains links to trivia, video galleries, games, a quiz on notorious pirates and a blog.
Library of Congress Pirates Pathfinder.
A keyword searchable pathfinder (use keyword Pirates in Search Full Text box)

Live Piracy Map (PBS)
Shows the location of acts of piracy in 2008.

Maritime Administration: Horn of Africa Piracy.
Information to inform the public and maritime industry about piracy off of the coast of Somalia.

Pirates in the Atlantic World (Smithsonian Institute).
An insight to a pirate’s life with information and artifacts about pirates of the Atlantic.

Pirates or Privateers? (Library of Congress).
Online viewable information from the Kislak Collection including rare books, maps, documents, paintings, prints and artifacts.

Pirates Theme Page (Juv).
A comprehensive site for students and teachers covering all aspects of pirates and piracy.