



# THE HISTORY OF TREASURE AND TREASURE HUNTERS



Treasures and treasure hunting have captivated people for centuries. These treasures, from ancient artifacts to lost gold, are remnants of human history and tell us about the early stages of civilizations. Just as astronomers explore celestial bodies, treasure hunters seek these hidden relics, uncovering stories and insights from our past.

## Ancient Egypt

Treasures in Egypt, from the Great Pyramids to the tombs in the Valley of the Kings, have fascinated historians and treasure hunters for centuries. These ancient artifacts are remnants of Egypt's rich history and tell us about the early stages of one of the world's most remarkable civilizations. Just as astronomers study celestial bodies, these explorers delve into Egyptian treasures, uncovering secrets from a past that continues to captivate the world's imagination.



## THE PYRAMID OF GIZA

## Sir Francis Drake

Sir Francis Drake, a celebrated English explorer, is renowned for accumulating substantial treasure during his voyages. His most famous exploit, circumnavigating the globe, resulted in the seizure of vast wealth, mainly from Spanish ships and settlements. These treasures, including gold, silver, and jewels, epitomize the era's maritime pursuits and European explorers' quest for riches. Drake's successes in treasure hunting significantly contributed to England's wealth and his lasting legacy as a legendary figure in history.



## THE GOLDEN HIND



# The Mayans

The Maya Empire, known for its advanced achievements in Central America, captivates historians and treasure hunters. Famous for their pyramids, art, and artifacts, these remnants offer insights into their complex society.

Treasures from the Maya, found in regions like Mexico and Guatemala, reveal details about their rituals and social structures, making the study of the Mayan civilization both intriguing and valuable.



Inside the Pyramid of Kukulcán at Chichén Itzá, a smaller pyramid was discovered, containing a red jaguar throne inlaid with jade, symbolizing the wealth and craftsmanship of the Maya civilization. This hidden chamber reflects the Mayans' deep connection to their spiritual and material treasures.

## RECORDS!



1. **The Cuerdale Hoard:** One of the largest Viking silver hoards, found in England in 1840, containing over 8,600 items including coins and jewelry from the 9th century.
2. **The Nuestra Señora de Atocha:** A Spanish galleon sunk in 1622 off Florida, discovered in 1985 with a treasure worth around \$400 million, including gold, silver, and gems.
3. **The Staffordshire Hoard:** The largest hoard of Anglo-Saxon gold and silver artifacts, discovered in England in 2009, consisting of over 3,500 items valued at about \$4.1 million.



The "Welcome Stranger" gold nugget, unearthed in 1869 in Victoria, Australia, was the largest ever found. Its estimated worth today, based on a \$1,800 per troy ounce gold price, is around \$4.1 million, making it a legendary symbol of hidden treasures.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS



## SET 1 (EASY)

1. What has captivated people for centuries, similar to how astronomers explore celestial bodies?
2. What do treasures, from ancient artifacts to lost gold, tell us about?
3. Which ancient civilization in Egypt left behind treasures that have fascinated historians and treasure hunters?
4. What do the treasures in Egypt, such as the Great Pyramids, reveal about the civilization?



## SET 2 (MEDIUM)

1. What has captivated people for centuries, similar to how astronomers explore celestial bodies?
2. What do treasures, from ancient artifacts to lost gold, tell us about?
3. Which ancient civilization in Egypt left behind treasures that have fascinated historians and treasure hunters?
4. What do the treasures in Egypt, such as the Great Pyramids, reveal about the civilization?



## SET 3 (HARD)



1. What has captivated people for centuries, similar to how astronomers explore celestial bodies?
2. What do treasures, from ancient artifacts to lost gold, tell us about?
3. Which ancient civilization in Egypt left behind treasures that have fascinated historians and treasure hunters?
4. What do the treasures in Egypt, such as the Great Pyramids, reveal about the civilization?