# A BRIEF HISTORY OF PIRATES

## BREVE HISTORIA

### Silvia Miguens

From Greek mythology, the Vikings, and the pillage of the galleons of the West Indies Fleet to the most famous Caribbean privateers and buccaneers, you will learn about the adventures of sea plunderers who – filled with greed and equipped with well-armed ships – killed, robbed, and kidnapped in their search for treasure.

## **Synopsis**

Many pirates destroyed the Mediterranean waters in the ancient period by assaulting the Phoenicians, fighting the Persians, and keeping the Roman Empire in check. In the 7th century, the fast Viking drakkars or long-ships and the Arab dhows first appeared. Later, in the Orient in the 12th century, the terrible Japanese pirates (the Wokous) took control of the Chinese and Korean coastal waters. However, the glory days of piracy did not arrive until the 16th and 17th centuries, when the warm Caribbean waters were the scene for many pirate encounters and when piracy was sanctioned and even used as a weapon by England, France, and Holland against Spain's colonial activity.

# **Biography**

Silvia Miguens (Buenos Aires, Argentina) has participated in International conferences on gender, literature and history and has taught courses, workshops, and seminars at universities in Argentina and Columbia on a topic that intrigues here: the intersection and harmony between history and fiction and the special role of women in history. Her first novel, *Pollerapantalón*, was a finalist for the Emecé Prize 1994-1995. In 1996, Tusquets Publishing printed her book Lupe, a novel that earned her the Ricardo Rojas Prize (1995-1997) from the Secretariat of the Government of the City of Buenos Aires. In 1998 she published *Ana y el virrey* (Planeta-Argentina), another success in terms of sales and critical praise. For Nowtilus Publishing, she has written *Catherine the Great* (2006) and *Isabel II of Spain: Queen of Misfortune* (2007).

### Sales pitch

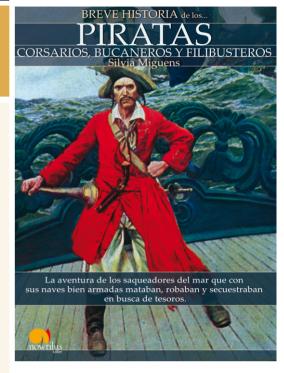
ORIGINS AND HISTORY OF PIRATES: This book looks at the origins and development of sea piracy and examines pirates' lives, customs, and methods.

**SAME OBJECTIVE, DIFFERENT METHODS:** The author emphasizes the difference between pirates, privateers, buccaneers, and freebooters, concepts which are normally believed to be the same despite some real differences between these figures.

PIRATES IN LITERATURE: You will learn about the most important pirates in history.

**FEMALE PIRATES:** This work is unique in that it mentions female pirates, many of them unknown by the majority of readers.

FEW BOOK OF THIS KIND IN SPANISH LANGUAGE MARKET: Few informative books of this kind exist in the Spanish language market.



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