

The History of Chocolate

The first people to make chocolate were the ancient tribes of M_____ and C_____. A_____, including the Incas, A_____ and Mayans. They mixed ground cacao seeds with various seasonings to make a spicy, frothy drink which they called chocolatl.

Despite C_____ C_____ bringing the cocoa bean back to Spain, the King and Queen never realised how important cocoa beans was to be. It was left to the great Spanish explorer, Hernando C_____, to realise the commercial possibilities of this 'Food for the Gods'. During his conquest of Mexico, Cortez noticed that the Aztec Indians used cocoa beans in the preparation of the r_____ drink of the realm, "chocolatl", meaning warm l_____. It was reported in 1519, that Emperor Montezuma, who drank 50 or more portions daily, served chocolatl to his Spanish guests in golden goblets, treating it like a food for the gods.

Montezuma's chocolatl was very bitter, and the Spanish did not appreciate its taste. To make the drink more to the liking of the Europeans, Cortez and his countrymen sweetened the Aztec Chocolate with cane sugar.

In 1519, Hernando Cortez had the idea of establishing a c_____ bean plantation. It was the beginning of what was to be a very profitable business. In 1528, Cortez arrived back in S_____ where he presented the Spanish King, Charles V with cocoa beans from the N__ W_____. No doubt Cortès also taught him how to make the Aztec chocolate drink, Chocolatl.

Central America	Cortez	liquid	cocoa	Spain
Aztec	Mexico	royal	Christopher Columbus	New World

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