

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

SETTING SAIL TO THE LAST GOODBYE

Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition Opens at The Henry Ford, March 31,
Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Ship's Ill-Fated Voyage

April 2nd, 1912, 8:00 pm: The crew of *Titanic* participates in sea trials before leaving Belfast, where the Ship was built, for Southampton.

April 10th, 1912, 6:00 am: Just after sunrise the first members of the crew began to board *Titanic*. All of the officers except Captain Smith had already spent the night on board. Captain Smith arrived later that morning around 7:30.

April 10th, 1912, 12:00 pm: *Titanic* starts maiden voyage, leaving Southampton and ventures to Cherbourg, France, and Queenstown, Ireland (this is the official sailing date for the Ship).

April 11th, 1912, 1:30 pm: *Titanic* raises anchor for the last time and leaves Queenstown.

April 14th, 1912, Morning: Lifeboat drills were neglected after church services, although the crew has to complete the procedure

April 14th, 1912, 10:55 pm: *Californian*, completely surrounded by ice, stops for the evening and warns the *Titanic* of the impending danger

April 14th, 1912, 11:40 pm: Frederick Fleet sights an iceberg.

- First Officer Murdoch gives the "hard a-starboard" order while having the engines stopped and reversed; activates lever that closes watertight doors.
- The Ship, traveling at approximately 20 knots (26 mph), turned slightly to the left, avoiding a head-on collision. Below the water the iceberg punctures the hull.
- Five, possibly six of the *Titanic's* watertight compartments flood.
- Captain Smith assesses the damage and orders his telegraph operators to send the distress signal, "CDQ," after estimating the ship will remain afloat for two hours.

April 15th, 1912, 12:15 am: Captain Smith assesses the damage.

- He orders his telegraph operators to send the distress signal, "CDQ," after estimating the ship will remain afloat for two hours.
- He gives the order to uncover the lifeboats and evacuate the women and children.

April 15th, 1912, 12:45 am: First lifeboat leaves the Ship with only 19 aboard, although it could carry 65.

April 15th, 1912, 2:05 am: *Titanic's* bow begins sinking as the last of the lifeboats are lowered into the water. An estimated 1,500 people were left stranded on the sinking boat

April 15th, 1912, 2:20 am: *Titanic* sinks.