## Beagle voyage

Charles Darwin spent almost five years on board HMS Beagle as it sailed around the world. The purpose of the voyage was to map navigation channels around the coast of South America. Darwin was the ship's naturalist and companion to the captain.

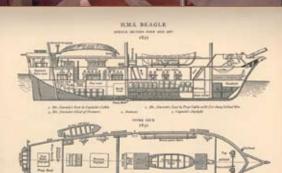
The young Darwin in his cabin, as recreated at Down House

The Beagle was just 30 m in length

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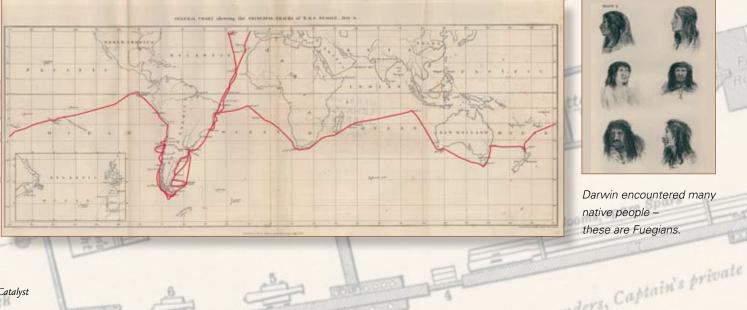
Robert Fitzroy, captain of HMS Beagle



- from the Galapagos, a key clue to the idea of natural selection.
- Darwin collected fossils – this is the skull of an extinct ground sloth from Argentina.



HMS Beagle in the Magellan Straits, observed by native people of Tierra del Fuego.





Darwin encountered many native people these are Fuegians.