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# Half Moon

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Dutch exploration ship captained by Henry Hudson in 1609. The Half Moon (Halve Maen) was built by the Dutch East India Co in Amsterdam in 1608. It was about 65-70 feet (20-21 m) in length and had a carrying capacity of nearly 80 English (long) tons (81 MT). It was square-rigged with a probable sail area of 2,757 [feet.sup.2] (256[m.sup.2]). On 4 Apr 1609 Henry Hudson set sail from Amsterdam with the Half Moon on the voyage that eventually brought the ship to North America. It was with this ship that he explored New York Bay and navigated the Hudson River near the later site of Albany. After Hudson's voyage the ship was captained by Laurens Reale, who departed for the East Indies in 1611. The ship's fate is not absolutely known, but it likely was destroyed in the East Indies sometime by the early 1620s. Full-size replicas of the Half Moon were constructed in 1909 and 1989. Although the 1909 replica no longer exists, the 1989 replica is used in annual re-creations of Hudson's trip up the river and in educational programs while under sail and in ports on the Hudson River and elsewhere.

Hendricks, Andrew A. "Construction of the 1988 Half Moon," *de Halve Maen* 66 (Fall 1993): 42117

Johnson, Donald S. *Charting the Sea of Darkness: The Four Voyages of Henry Hudson* (Camden, Maine: International Marine, 1993)

New Netherland Museum, <http://www.newnetherland.org>

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