

Napoleon's Downfalls that cost him his empire.



1802 - The slave revolt in Saint Domingue (Haiti) by Toussaint L'Ouverture

1805 – The sinking of the French naval fleet off the coast of Spain by Rear Admiral Horatio Nelson at the Battle of Trafalgar. Any plans Napoleon had of invading Britain were now lost and the British would control the high seas for the next hundred years.

1806 – Napoleon's failed blockade of Britain under the Continental System. He tried to stop all ships from entering Britain. Britain blockaded France and was much more successful.

1806 – 1813 The failure of the Peninsular War against Spain and Portugal. The Portuguese and Spanish troops used guerilla warfare against Napoleon to push his soldiers back into France. By the time the campaign had finished it is believed that Napoleon had lost another 300,000 men!

1812 – The invasion of Russia. Napoleon invaded Russia because they refused to stop selling wheat to Britain. He was defeated by Russia's Scorched Earth tactics as they burnt all of their fields and buildings as they retreated to safety leaving Napoleon's armies stranded. The Russian winter left the French exposed to extreme conditions. Napoleon and his 500,000 army were defeated.

1814 – Napoleon was defeated and captured as he tried to return to Paris. He was forced to surrender. He was then exiled to the island of Elba in the Mediterranean.

1815 – Napoleon escaped from Elba and returns to France to raise another army. This would be known as Napoleon's 100 Days.

1815- In June, once again Napoleon tried to re-conquer Europe. He was defeated by a British led coalition of armies at the Battle of Waterloo in Belgium as he tried to advance forward. He was now the prisoner of Great Britain. They sent him to St. Helena, a small island in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean where he was left to die a lonely man.

