

# THE BLACK DEATH & ITS AFTERMATH

**1347**

## **The Arrival**

Plague arrives in Sicily via merchant ships from the Black Sea, quickly spreading to mainland Italy.

**1348 - 1349**

## **Peak Continental Spread**

The pandemic ravages France, Spain, and England. Major cities lose 30-50% of their populations.

**1351**

## **Eastern Reach**

The first major wave reaches Russia and Scandinavia before temporarily subsiding.

**1381**

## **Social Upheaval**

Labor shortages lead to the Peasants' Revolt in England, signaling the decline of serfdom.

## **ECONOMIC SHIFTS**

- Collapse of the Manorial System
- Significant increase in per-capita wealth
- Rise of the middle class and artisan guilds

## **CULTURAL LEGACY**

- Obsession with "Memento Mori" in art
- Loss of faith in traditional institutions
- Advancements in public health and sanitation