



# The Story of the America's Cup 1851-2024

**Ranulf Rayner**

**Tim Thompson**

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- A stunning illustrated tribute to the world's most prestigious yacht race
- This fully updated new edition includes the 2024 race at Barcelona, which produced one of the best contests yet, including the first British team to compete in the finals for 60 years
- Tells the story of the Cup, and the battles of the finalists (both on and off the water) from the very first race between America and Great Britain in 1851, to the most recent in 2024
- A unique collection of beautiful paintings depicting dramatic scenes from every match since 1851, all re-scanned to capture the subtle colors and details of the originals
- Gives detailed descriptions of the boats, including the latest technologies used to create the sensational racing machines of today

The America's Cup has been the world's most prestigious yacht race for over 170 years. This beautifully illustrated and fully updated new edition tells the story of the cup from its inception through to the most recent race, held in 2024.

Named in 1851 in honor of the first winner (New York pilot, 'America'), the Cup was dominated by American yachts for well over a century. At last, in 1983, Australia II wrestled the trophy away from the USA, albeit briefly. At Barcelona in 2024, the Cup produced one of the best contests yet, with the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron winning the race for a fifth time, and a British yacht, Britannia, competing in the finals for the first time in 60 years.

With a painting of each race since 1851, by marine artist Tim Thompson, and detailed descriptions of the boats involved, ***The Story of the America's Cup 1851-2024*** is an elegant, insightful celebration of a storied contest.

A former cavalry officer, inveterate traveler and eternally keen yachtsman, **Ranulf Rayner** spends much of his time sailing or carrying out historical research. He lives in the beautiful Ashcombe Valley, South Devon, UK. The fine paintings in the book are by **Tim Thompson**, a leading marine artist. Tim spent much of his childhood on the tiny island of Herm in the Channel Islands where, intrigued by the changing moods of the sea, he taught himself to paint. Now based in Cornwall, he has held several successful exhibitions.