

The town of Santa Cruz is famous in our naval history. On the 20th April 1657, Admiral Robert Blake attacked and utterly destroyed the Spanish fleet, strongly placed under the batteries, and, aided by a sudden shift of the wind, was able to draw his ships off with comparatively little loss.

It was here also that Nelson (July 24, 1797) undertook his expedition against Teneriffe, which, although unsuccessful and disastrous, displayed great heroism and bravery. The two flags captured on this occasion are retained in the church, and the inhabitants still bear in mind the attack and repulse relating to their capture.