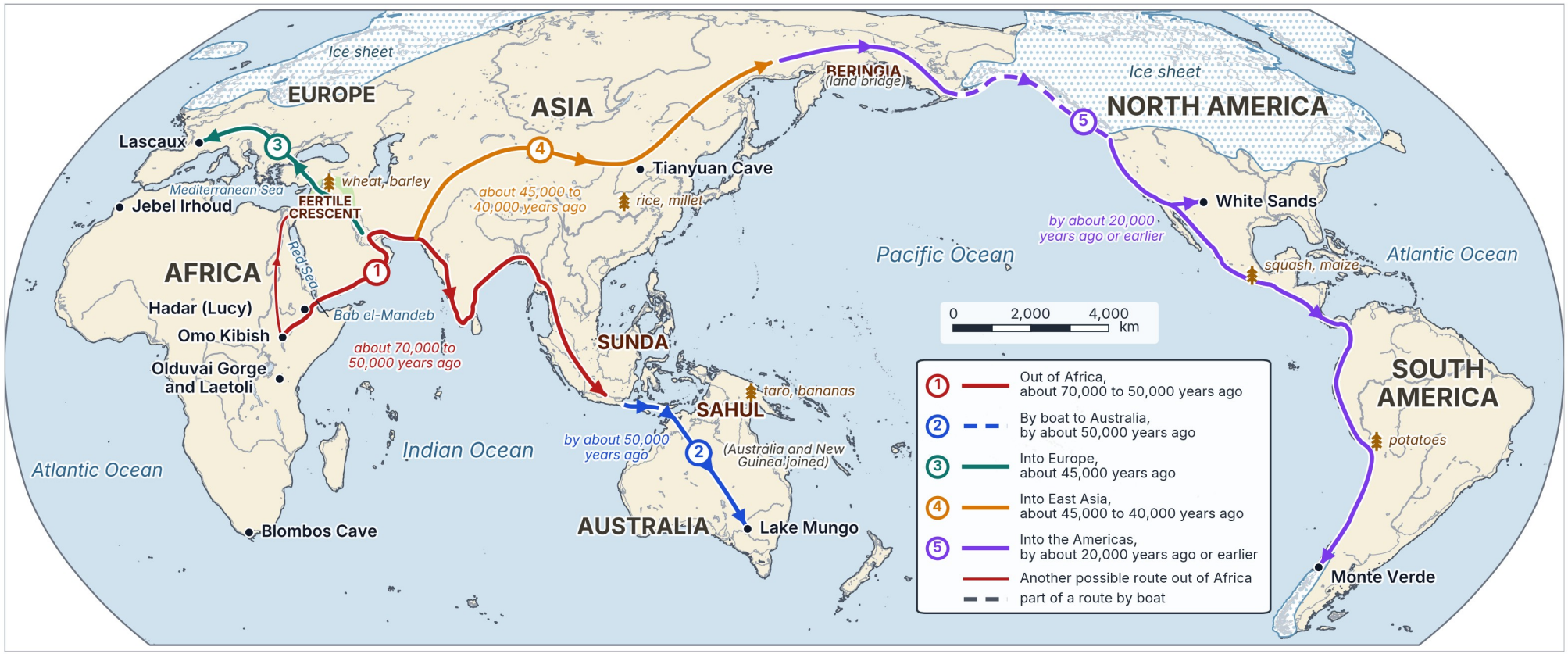
Early Human Migration

How modern humans spread out of Africa (dates are scientists' estimates, in years ago)



Land shown as it was about 20,000 years ago, when the sea was about 120 m (400 ft) lower; today's coastline is the thin line. Routes and ice sheets are approximate.

The routes

1 Out of Africa, about 70,000 to 50,000 years ago: from East Africa across the Bab el-Mandeb strait and along the coasts of Arabia, Iran and India to Southeast Asia.

2 By boat to Australia, by about 50,000 years ago: from island to island across the sea to Sahul, where Australia and New Guinea were one land.

3 Into Europe, about 45,000 years ago: through the Fertile Crescent and Anatolia into Europe.

4 Into East Asia, about 45,000 to 40,000 years ago: across Central Asia to China and north-east into Siberia.

5 Into the Americas, by about 20,000 years ago or earlier: across Beringia, then probably down the Pacific coast past the ice sheets (partly by boat) to North and South America.

- Another possible route out of Africa: through the Nile valley and the Sinai into the Levant. Scientists still debate which way people first left Africa.

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• early human site Early farming began here Ice sheet, about 20,000 years ago Today's coastline

Ice sheets after Dalton et al. 2020 and Hughes et al. 2016 (DATED-1), approximate · Ice-age land from Mapzen terrain tiles (ground and sea floor) · Today's coastlines and rivers: Natural Earth