



FAMOUS MIGRANTS

Bob Marley

He's a Jamaican reggae singer-songwriter, musician and guitarist. He was known for his band "The Wailers" from the middle of the 1970s on.

Robert Nesta "Bob" Marley, was born in St. Ann Parish, Jamaica on 6th February 1945. Marley spent his childhood in the town Rhoden Hall before aged twelve he followed his mother to Trenchtown, a district of the Jamaican capital Kingston in which they hoped to find work. With 16 years he left school, on request of his mother he became a mechanic. He didn't like the job so he decided to quit that too to make his dream of being a musician come true.

Besides he became a Rastafari, got many children. Many of his children are singers or songwriters. Suffering from cancer he died in Miami, Florida, on May 11, 1981. Today there is a statue of him in Kingston to remember him.



Bob Marley in Zurich 1980
Von Ueli Frey - <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1899036>

Early life in Jamaica

Marley was very poor but at 11 o'clock in the morning of February 10, just four days after his 21st birthday, Bob walked into his office of the Justice of Peace in Trench Town. He was wearing a black suit and the fancy shoes that music producer, Coxsone, bought for him.

His bride (Rita) was wearing a borrowed mother-of-pearl tiara and a white wedding dress made by her aunt. A few hours after the marriage, Bob and his band "The Wailers" opened for the Jackson Five at the National Stadium in Kingston. Two days later, he left Jamaica for Delaware.



Marley's house in Nine Mile
https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Bob_Marley_house_in_Nine_Mile.jpg

Emigration

Three years earlier his mother, Cedillia Malcolm Marley, had immigrated to America. She had filled in papers for him and his wife to come to America. When the papers came, he said he would not leave Jamaica unless Rita would follow him. He married her because he was afraid that she would find another boyfriend when he was gone. But when it worked he came to America alone. Bob worked in a Chrysler factory. He also worked at Hotel DuPont in Wilmington. He did not like life in America but had to earn money. After a few days he wrote a letter to his wife saying that he's sick. So Bob returned to Trench Town and continued to work on his music.



Bob Marley's statue in Kingston
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/f8/Bob_Marley_-_Statue_-_Kingston_-_Jamaica.jpg/220px-Bob_Marley_-_Statue_-_Kingston_-_Jamaica.jpg