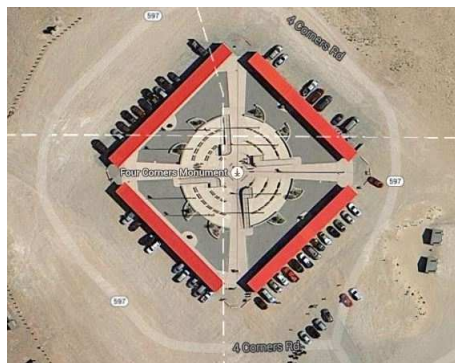


World Wide Treasures 4 - Gone Surfin' - Solution

In the story Martin finds a little box made of sandstone, and the photo on the first page shows a stone surrounded by sand. This should give you a first idea of what you're looking for.

On the second page there are two maps. The first one is showing various clues to sights in the general area, while the second one is a detailed map of the treasure site. The four letters on the first map depict the Four Corners monument, where Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona meet. The blue line is the Colorado River, the straight lines are the state lines



Four Corners

The pictures on the first map symbolise, from east to west:

Mesa Verde (Spanish for "green table")

Shiprock (a big rock in the desert that looks like a ship, and a town with the same name)

The Mittens (two famous rock formations in Monument Valley)

Rainbow Bridge (a sacred Navajo site along the Colorado river)

Labyrinth Bay (in Lake Powell)

Horseshoe Bend (a narrow bend of the Colorado River)

House Rock Road (which goes north-south at the Utah/Arizona border)



Horseshoe Bend



Mittens in Monument Valley

Once you've found these places, you can work out where exactly the area on the detailed map is. It is called Coyote Buttes (the box Martin finds has a coyote engraved into the lid), and the most famous rock formation in the area is called The Wave. The title of the hunt, Gone Surfin', is a confirmer for it, as is the little surfer on the map.



The Wave

The Vigenere cipher below the maps can be solved by using "sandstone" as the keyword. It translates to:

Leave behind the fiery water and find the secluded pocket south of the musical window. Your treasure awaits you in the upper of the two caves in the corner.

The “fiery water” is the Wave, made of red sandstone. The “musical window” is a formation called Melody Arch, which you can find when you zoom into the area and look at some of the photos available for it. When you go to the area of the red X on the map, you can see two caves, and the upper one is where the treasure is hidden.



The Wave can only be visited if you are lucky enough to win a permit in the lottery held by the local Bureau of Land Management. The number of permits is limited to 20 per day in order to protect the area from too much damage.

Seven club members managed to find the treasure. Well done! Aptly, the winner was selected by a draw.

The prizes are: the little book “Canyon Wilderness of the South West” and two US Quarters with an Arizona theme.



The competition was run in parallel on our Facebook site with a prize of a year's club membership. Five correct answers were received, with the winner being Suzanne from Portland. Congratulations.