Peter Apian Encyclopedia Article

Peter Apian

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Peter Apian

1495-1552

German astronomer and geographer best known for noting comet tails point away from the Sun (1531). Apian's first major work, *Cosmographia seu descripto totius orbis* (1524), describes the use of maps and surveying techniques, defines weather and climate, and suggests lunar distances be used for calculating longitude. In *Instrumentum sinuum sive primi mobilis* (1534) he published the first table of sines calculated for every minute. Apian also produced the first large-scale map of Europe (1534).