



## THE TALL SHIPS RACES 2018: KEY MESSAGES

### ABOUT THE EVENT

**Sunderland, UK** (11 – 14 July 2018) – this is Sunderland’s first Tall Ships event and the port celebrated its 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017.

**RACE 1** – the first race leg will be approximately 410 nautical miles and will take trainees on an invigorating four day voyage across the North Sea to Esbjerg, Denmark.

**Esbjerg, Denmark** (14 - 17 July 2018) – this will be the fourth time that Esbjerg has welcomed the Tall Ships fleet. The port celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018, so there will be plenty of celebrations to mark this milestone.

**Cruise-In-Company** (21-25 July 2018)— the cruise in company will be a relaxing voyage across five days, starting in Esbjerg, Denmark, taking in scenery and various stop off ports along the way before arriving in Stavanger, Norway.

**Stavanger, Norway** (26-29 July 2018)- Stavanger will also be hosting the Tall Ships Races for the fourth time. Stavanger’s waterfront comes alive during the summer, providing plenty for visitors to see and do.

**RACE 2** - the second and final race leg provides five days of racing crossing a distance of approximately 370 nautical miles, sailing south through the North Sea, between Stavanger and Harlingen.

**Harlingen, Netherlands** (3- 6 August 2018) – the fleet will spend four days in Harlingen, the final port of the Tall Ships races 2018. Harlingen welcomed the Tall Ships fleet previously in 2014 and will do so for a second time in 2018. It’s one of the oldest seaports in the Netherlands.

## KEY EVENT MESSAGES

**The Tall Ships provide a maritime spectacle and family fun atmosphere;** free public access ensures visitors can get up close and personal to the fleet and be participants in the event

**The trainees provide an international festival of youth;** the whole event is organised to support youth development, outdoor adventure and challenge at sea

**International friendship and understanding is at the core of the event;** Tall Ships Races and Regattas put the host cities and ports on the world stage and ships and trainees come from all over the world. Sail Training International was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007.

**In most years Tall Ships Races and Regattas attract millions of international visitors, making the event a privilege for us all to help build a better world;** some 8.6 million people came to see the ships, crews and trainees at Tall Ships Races and Regattas in 2017, more people than those who went to the Rio Olympics and the last UEFA European Cup combined.

**The event is a civic showcase driving tourism and delivering economic impact;** it promotes the city's brand and demonstrates world class event delivery capability. Proven economic return on investment lies at the heart of the rationale for staging Tall Ships Races and Regattas.

**The Tall Ships are One Ocean Ambassadors;** around 70 vessels have signed a Sail Training Blue Flag voluntary pledge to follow environmental best practise standards and educate trainees

### Who organises the Tall Ships Races and Regattas?

Sail Training International (STI) – a registered charity established to develop and educate young people – regardless of nationality, culture, religion, gender or social background – through the sail training experience.

STI works with the world's sail training Tall Ships, national sail training organisations and host ports, to help young people benefit from the sail training experience. It's the world's leading provider of Tall Ship races and events.

### What is sail training?

- Sail training is a great fun, outdoor adventure activity for people of all ages and abilities.
- Sail training uses the experience of being at sea to help people learn about themselves, discover hidden strengths and talents and understand the value of working as a team

- Sail Training is an activity that inspires self-confidence and personal responsibility.
- It promotes an acceptance of others, whatever their social or cultural backgrounds, and develops a willingness to take controlled risks.
- Those who undertake sail training on Tall Ships generally find it a positive life-changing experience.
- Sail Training has a record of considerable success in developing men and women of character and ability for the challenges of life.

### **What does sail training involve?**

- Sail training takes place all over the world and on many different types of vessel.
- It includes instruction in all aspects of sailing, but its purpose goes far beyond this.
- Voyages on small vessels benefit from the intimacy of working on board within a small team.
- Different challenges confront those who undertake sail training on the square-rigged ships, with much demanding work aloft as well as on deck.

### **Who provides sail training?**

Most sail training vessels are owned and operated by charities or foundations, schools or universities, governments or other institutions. Many have funding programmes to subsidise people taking part who could not otherwise afford it. Some also run special programmes for those with physical disabilities, mental or social difficulties.

### **How much does it cost?**

The cost of sail training varies between organisations, ships and countries. Bursaries and funding are available through Sail Training International and many of the national Sail Training Organisations.

### **How can you take part in The Tall Ships Races 2018?**

For The Tall Ships Races 2018 at least 50 per cent of all those on board must be aged 15-25 years inclusive as of 14 July for Race 1 and 29 July for Race 2, officers and permanent crew members older than 25 years are excluded from this calculation. No more than 50% of the total complement on board may be under 16 years at the beginning of the race or cruise-in-company and no person under the age of 15 is allowed on-board.

To take part visit [www.sailonboard.com](http://www.sailonboard.com) and book directly with the vessel.

[www.facebook.com/SailTrainingInternational](https://www.facebook.com/SailTrainingInternational)

[www.instagram.com/tallshipsraces/](https://www.instagram.com/tallshipsraces/)

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