



Tall Ships Experience - FAQ's

How old do I need to be to go on the trip?

You need to be aged at least 14 on 25 July 2019.

What will I be doing?

You will get involved in all aspects of sailing the ship, including stowing and handling sails, helming, working in the galley (helping prepare meals and washing up) and "Happy Hour" (cleaning the ship). Some of the work will be physically demanding so you must be prepared to work hard and you will soon appreciate what good team work can achieve. Be under no illusions though, there are no passengers on this trip, everyone is expected to take a full and active part to ensure the smooth running of the ship. It will not be all work though, you will get free time to relax and time ashore to explore when we are in port.

Who else will be on the ship?

The ship is run by experienced, skilled and knowledgeable seafarers - a skipper, mate and 4 watch leaders. The voyage crew will be split into two watches - you will find out more about watches on the voyage but they enable the ship to function 24 hours a day.

What will I get out of this adventure?

- A fun, amazing and exhilarating experience with a sense of achievement and increased self confidence through acquiring new skills
- An unusual physical environment which requires you to adapt your normal pattern of behaviour
- The need for team work
- A challenge
- You must be prepared to be taken out of your comfort zone and to be challenged - are you happy to get up in the middle of the night to go on watch to help sail the ship?

I have a medical condition/disability, will this stop me from being able to go?

The Tall Ships Youth Trust looks at each case individually and if they can offer a quality experience in a safe environment then they will consider the situation. They can usually consider people who have sight and/or hearing impairments, coordination problems, learning and behavioural problems. They are unable to take anyone who has epilepsy though. Please make contact with Girlguiding North West England Boating Advisers as detailed on the flyer before booking if you are unsure about your suitability for the voyage.



What are facilities on board like?

Your bed will be a snug, comfortable pipe cot and you will have a cubby hole and a plastic box to store your belongings. Berths are located in cabins shared with other voyage crew members. There are no plug sockets on board so hair dryers and straighteners are out of the question and there are no facilities on board for charging mobile phones. You need to make sure you can live without electrical items for a week, otherwise this voyage may not be for you!

What would I need to bring with me?

Apart from your personal kit (a kit list will be provided) you would need to bring a sleeping bag, pillow case (pillows provided) and a towel. Sailing gloves are really useful and either a pair of sailing wellies or an old pair of trainers you don't mind getting wet - there is a chance your feet will get wet while sailing!

What will the food be like?

The Tall Ships Youth Trust will endeavour to meet any special dietary requirements you have which they are informed about beforehand. When sailing, meals may be served in two sittings, allowing one watch to be on duty at all times. Hot and cold drinks, biscuits and fruit are available at all times on a self-service basis.

What is provided?

Waterproofs, safety equipment and life jackets.

What about fundraising?

This event will be self funded but that doesn't stop you fundraising and also approaching your county/division/district to see if they would give you a donation. Your unit might also help you fundraise for this once in a life time opportunity.

What about seasickness?

You are advised to bring your own seasickness medication if you are concerned. Medication needs to be taken at least two hours before sailing to be effective as once you feel sick, it is too late! Seasickness does pass in a day or so though and is soon forgotten about! You would be advised to consult your pharmacist or doctor before sailing if you are concerned.

What about alcohol (if I am over 18)?

The Tall Ship Youth Trust policy is "voyage crew are forbidden to bring alcohol on board or drink alcohol on board. When ashore excessive drinking and underage drinking will not be tolerated". As this is a Guiding event, we would expect everyone to behave in a suitable manner, particularly when on shore as you will be representing Girlguiding. Non-prescription drugs are not permitted. The Tall Ship



Youth Trust reserve the right to remove people from the yachts if they are putting themselves or others in danger.

I have some questions that are not answered above - what should I do?

Please contact the Girlguiding North West England office as detailed on the flyer and they should be able to find out the answers to your questions.