

Pure sail. Pure bliss.

THE MAINE
WINDJAMMER
ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER OF THE MAINE WINDJAMMER ASSOCIATION • 2017 SEASON

What to Expect on Your Windjammer Cruise

While every day is different, here's a sneak peek at what you might expect!

Morning

Awaken to the smells of fresh coffee and muffins baked from scratch in the galley. Early risers can grab a mug and head up on deck to enjoy the sunrise over Maine's rocky, spruce-clad coast and islands. As the sky brightens, harbors come alive with lobstermen heading out to inspect their traps. A full breakfast comes next—perhaps a delicious omelet, home fries and fresh fruit salad. With time for a walk on the beach or a row around the harbor, by mid-morning the focus shifts to getting the windjammer sails up and underway. Everyone's invited to help, and with canvas flying, the sailing adventure begins.



photo: Courtesy Stephen Taber

Noon

With no schedule or itinerary to keep, guests are treated to a relaxing sail through the bays and inlets that surround Penobscot Bay. New scenery awaits around every bend, including lighthouses, summer "cottages," fishing boats, classic yachts and a wide variety of wildlife. A buffet lunch appears midday and might include a mouth-watering, full-bodied soup along with a crisp salad, fresh rolls and more than

one pan of delicious brownies, all served underway. Time is unstructured and guests are free to join in the sailing, keep a watch for birds and seals, or just curl up with a good book or take a nap.



photo: Randall Webber

Evening

Late in the day, the captain and crew anchor in a protected harbor for the night. Some of the guests might opt to row ashore and explore a tiny village. Others are content to spend time getting to know their fellow shipmates or perhaps take a swim or try out a stand-up paddle board. Once back aboard, everyone enjoys a hearty and satisfying dinner—this time maybe it's roasted vegetables, lamb that's been cooked to perfection, homemade mint jelly and fresh, crusty bread. Now that the sails are furled and the decks are cleared, guests settle down to stargaze or listen to someone picking out beautiful melodies on the guitar, while friends exchange stories and laughs. Later, the gentle rocking lulls everyone to sleep. Having lost track of time and with all cares and worries gone, everyone relaxes deeply.



photo: Courtesy Stephen Taber

photo: Jessi Tran



photo: Jamie Hyatt



A Blanket of Stars



photo: Diane Dudeck

Far away from nightclubs, movie theaters and the perpetual glow of bright city lights, Maine's windjammer passengers have the best nighttime activity on Earth... and all they have to do is look up! Whether there's a full moon with the option of a moonlit row around the harbor or a new moon when stargazing is at its best, the velvety night sky never disappoints. And, on certain cruises, passengers are even treated to meteor showers. During these celestial events, passengers often choose to stay up late on deck watching meteors streak across the black night sky.

photo: Tracy Sheppard



What's the Weather?

Here's Our Best Guess

- June: Longest days of the year mean more time to sail. Average daytime temperature is 64°. Plenty of sunlight, lupines and lilacs.
- July: Daytime temps in the 70s. First blueberries of the season. Not too humid.
- August: Best swimming conditions. Not much rain, abundant berry picking and best chance to spot whales as they head south.
- September: Crisp air, fresh sailing breezes, shorter days, first fall foliage.
- October: Height of foliage season, exhilarating sailing, cool nights. Some of the trees are starting to turn and the landscape looks as though it's on fire.

photo: Andrew Durfor



Windjammer Activities

But what is there to DO on a windjammer?

Plenty! The best part of a cruise is the R&R you experience away from your busy, work-a-day lifestyle. No phones, TV, fax machines or computers; sailing aboard a windjammer is a true get-away-from-it-all vacation. There's incomparable scenery, wildlife sightings, conviviality with shipmates, reading, knitting and sun bathing. If you like to be active, you're encouraged to help out! Lend some muscle to the hauling of the anchor and the trimming of the sails, polish brass, get a lesson in navigation from the captain, take a turn at the helm, join the always-busy galley crew for a day, practice rope splicing and

photo: Sam Dow



knot tying, fish over the side of the boat. Once at anchor, there are chances to swim and to row ashore for exploring and hiking. In the evenings after dinner there's music and storytelling, and identifying the constellations in a thick blanket of stars; or playing games by the cozy wood stove below deck. You'll be surprised at how quickly your days aboard a Windjammer "sail" by!

photo: Charles Durfor



Lobsters Galore!

Just imagine... more than 10 tons of lobster are cooked every year by the Maine Windjammer Association's fleet. That's right, 10 tons! Every cruise includes a traditional lobster feast!

photo: Dana Freeman



Flotsam and Jetsam – 2017 Facts on the Fleet

- The Maine Windjammer Association includes nine traditional tall ships, ranging in size from 64 to 132 feet on deck. Five are National Historic Landmarks. All of the vessels are privately owned and operated.
- Each windjammer carries between 16 and 40 guests and four to ten crew members. Windjammer cruises are for people of all ages.
- The windjammer fleet hails from the ports of Rockland and Camden, located in mid-coast Maine.
- Windjammer vacations are affordable: three- to six-night cruises range from \$595 to \$1,988 per passenger, all meals included. Charter groups and families are welcome.
- The Maine coast, with more than 3,000 islands, is considered one of the most beautiful sailing areas in the world. Each night the windjammers drop anchor in a peaceful port or harbor, usually between Boothbay and Bar Harbor, where guests may go ashore and explore.
- “Schooner-cooked” meals are served family style. Menu items include fresh seafood, roasts, garden salads, chowders and homemade breads and desserts. A lobster bake on a Maine island is featured on every trip.
- Accommodations are simple, consisting of single, double and triple cabins, all with comfortable mattresses, fresh linens and plenty of warm blankets. All the vessels offer hot showers.
- Seasickness is rarely a problem, due to the easy motion of the vessels and the protected waters they cruise.
- All vessels undergo rigorous U.S. Coast Guard inspections and carry ship-to-shore radios and other electronic navigational devices.
- The vessels sail the coast of Maine from late May to mid-October.
- Voted “Best Value in New England” by Society of American Travel Writers, 2009. Voted #1 New England Attraction, About.com’s Readers’ Choice Awards, 2013.
- 2015 recipient of Maine’s Tourism Excellence Award.

Specialty Cruises –

For anyone with a passion they’d like to cultivate during their windjamming adventure, Maine’s windjammer captains offer specialty cruises that allow passengers to combine a gorgeous windjammer sail with photography, knitting, wine tasting and more. Here are a few examples of what’s offered:

Music Cruises

To cater to guests who like to hear or even make music, many captains offer special cruises ranging from blues and rock to blue grass and celtic. On every trip, guests are encouraged to bring their small, acoustic instruments along. Last season we counted 28 different instruments plus a professional opera singer!

Lighthouses

Maine’s 65 lighthouses attract visitors from all over the world, and there’s no better view than from the decks of a windjammer. Special lighthouse cruises offer guests a chance to view a dozen or more!

Photography

Most of the captains offer cruises with professional photographers who share their expertise photographing Maine’s coast and wildlife.

Here’s the 2017 line-up of Specialty Cruises:

Acadia National Park Cruises
Beer & Wine Tasting Cruises
Downeast Maine and Beyond Cruise
Foliage Cruises
Foodie Cruises
Full Moon Night Sailing
Gloucester Schooner Race
Guest Musician Cruises
Kids and Grandkids Cruises
Knitter’s Cruise
Lighthouse Trips
Maine Humorist Cruise
Naturalist Cruises
Photography Cruises
Pirate Adventure
Sail Boston Cruise (NEW!)
Seamanship Cruise
Whale/Puffin Watching Cruises
Yoga & Wellness Cruises

photo: Mark Mitscher



photo: Susan Land



photo: Jean Sikora



photo: Janina Joiner



CALL 1-800-807-WIND (9463)

to request your free brochures from the entire fleet, or visit
www.sailmainecoast.com

Wild About Wildlife!

The Gulf of Maine is home to seals and porpoises and is on the migration route of a number of whale species including the Humpback, Finback, Right Whale and Minke. Because Maine is located on the Atlantic Flyway, visitors can expect to see many of the more than 330 bird species that either make Maine their home or pass through each year.

The windjammers offer the perfect perch to view birds in their natural habitat as they wing their way along this ancient migration route. Spring brings first-of-the-season sightings of warblers, vireos, orioles, flycatchers and other seasonal visitors. During the summer months passengers can see an even greater variety of birds. As fall approaches, flocks of birds reverse their spring routes, starting the long journey back south to warmer climates. Some of the windjammers offer cruises specializing in wildlife sightings that feature professional on-board naturalists.



photo: Captain Jen Martin



Extend Your Visit:

See More of Maine

There's a reason Maine is called "Vacationland," which is why the captains encourage their guests to spend a few extra days taking in the sights either before or after their cruise. Here are just a few ideas:

- Acadia National Park offers hiking, biking, kayaking, horseback riding and more!
- Art museums are located throughout Maine, including the world-famous Farnsworth Art Museum, home to many Wyeths, and the Portland Museum of Art.
- "Shop 'til you drop" at one of the world-famous outlet towns located in Maine.

photo: Kai Singer



- The Maine Lighthouse Museum in Rockland is home to the largest collection of lighthouse and U.S. Coast Guard artifacts in the nation.
- Antiques fans, you're in luck! Endless antique shops where you can hunt down hidden treasures!
- Wine tasting in Maine?! You bet! We've got beer tasting, too!

Windjammer Weddings

photo: Joyce Nichols

All the Maine Windjammer Association captains are licensed to perform weddings and these beautifully maintained historic vessels are the perfect venue to create memories-of-a-lifetime for friends and family. Dotted with more than 3,000 islands, sheltered bays and spectacular vistas, Penobscot Bay in the Gulf of Maine is the ideal place to tie the knot.

A windjammer cruise provides an incredibly relaxing way for new families to become acquainted.

There are plenty of opportunities for family members to socialize, go ashore and explore or help raise sails. Without any of the stress of the outside world, where the price is all-inclusive and the details are handled easily, a windjammer is the perfect place to make the commitment of a lifetime.



MWA Code of Excellence

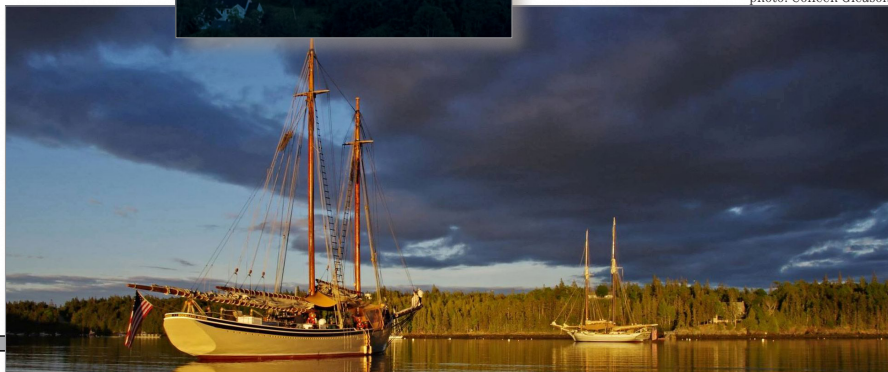
The members of the Maine Windjammer Association have developed a Code of Excellence that expresses the values of its membership and defines the hallmarks of an

MWA windjammer cruise. Key points range from being owner-operated and offering round-trip cruises to hiring practices and the guarantee of a lobster bake on every trip. Located on the MWA website, the eight-point Code of Excellence reflects the most important aspects of windjamming that its members hold dear, and every bullet point is about enhancing the guests' experience, and ultimately ensuring the fleet remains strong for future owners, crews and guests to enjoy.

photo: Charles Dufor



photo: Colleen Gleason



Who's Who in the Maine Windjammer Association

AMERICAN EAGLE

Captain John Foss
Homeport: Rockland
Guests: 26
Built in 1930 • Length: 92'
Telephone: 800-648-4544

The *American Eagle* was built in Gloucester, Massachusetts. For 53 years she was a working member of the famed Gloucester fishing fleet before becoming a Windjammer. National Historic Landmark.



ANGELIQUE

Captain Dennis Gallant & Candace Kuchinski
Homeport: Camden
Guests: 29
Built in 1980
Length: 95'
Telephone: 800-282-9989

The ketch-rigged *Angelique* was built for windjamming in 1980. Patterned after the 19th-century sailing ships that fished off the coast of England, the *Angelique* offers the unique feature of a deckhouse salon.



HERITAGE

Captains Doug & Linda Lee
Homeport: Rockland
Guests: 30
Built in 1983
Length: 95'
Telephone: 800-648-4544

The *Heritage* was built in 1983 by her owners in Rockland, Maine. Designed with the comfort of her passengers in mind, the vessel was built in the tradition of a 19th-century coaster.



ISAAC H. EVANS

Captain Brenda Thomas
Homeport: Rockland
Guests: 22
Built in 1886
Length: 65'
Telephone: 877-238-1325

The *Isaac H. Evans* was built in Mauricetown, New Jersey. After spending 85 years working on Delaware Bay as an oyster schooner, she joined the Windjammer fleet in Maine. National Historic Landmark.



LADONA

Captain J.R. Braugh
Homeport: Rockland
Guests: 16
Built in 1922
Length: 82'
Telephone: 800-999-7352

Fresh from an extensive rebuild, the *Ladona* (ex. *Nathaniel Bowditch*) offers a windjamming experience that hearkens to her vintage pedigree as a 1922 racing yacht.



LEWIS R. FRENCH

Captains Garth Wells & Jenny Tobin
Homeport: Camden
Guests: 21
Built in 1871
Length: 64'
Telephone: 800-469-4635
Launched in Christmas Cove, Maine, the *French* is the oldest Windjammer in America. For over a century, she has freighted fish, coal, lime, bricks and now passengers. National Historic Landmark.



MARY DAY

Captains Barry King & Jen Martin
Homeport: Camden
Guests: 28
Built in 1962
Length: 90'
Telephone: 800-992-2218

The *Mary Day* was the first schooner built specifically to carry passengers in the Windjammer trade. She was also the first pure coasting schooner built in Maine since 1930.



STEPHEN TABER

Captain Noah & Jane Barnes
Homeport: Rockland
Guests: 22
Built in 1871
Length: 68'
Telephone: 800-999-7352

Built as a coasting schooner in Glen Head, New York, the *Stephen Taber* is the oldest documented sailing vessel in continuous service in the United States. National Historic Landmark.



VICTORY CHIMES

Captains Kip Files & Paul DeGaeta
Homeport: Rockland
Guests: 40
Built in 1900
Length: 132'
Telephone: 800-745-5651

Built in Bethel, Delaware, to carry lumber, the three-masted *Victory Chimes* is the largest passenger schooner in America. Find her on every Maine State quarter. National Historic Landmark.



photo: Gareth Goodchild



photo: Ken Bowman - Grand Prize Winner, 2016 Photo Contest

Calling all Shutterbugs!

What: 8th Annual Windjammer Photo Contest! Submit up to five shots.

Winning Photo: First-place winner will receive a free windjammer cruise during the 2018 season. Runner-up prizes will also be awarded.

When: The Photo Contest runs from May 15, 2017 through November 1, 2017. Winners will be announced in November.

How: All entries must be submitted online at www.sailmainecoast.com. No more than five entries per person, please. A panel of judges comprised of windjammer captains will select the winning photos during the month of November.

Congratulations: Ken Bowman took first prize in the 2016 Photo Contest and will be sailing as our guest this season! This newsletter features many of the images submitted by last year's winners.



photo: Thomas L. Shunklin

Call today!

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Request free brochures from
the entire fleet, or visit

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P.O. Box 1144 • Blue Hill, ME 04614



photo: Susan Land

2017 Gatherings of the Windjammer Fleet

Schooner Gam: June 12

Some come for the history, others for the festive atmosphere, but there's only one place on the planet where travelers can tour a nation's oldest fleet of traditional sailing ships at sea. This early-season raft-up includes live music, tours, toasts and unlimited photo opportunities.

Windjammer Days: Week of June 26

Participate in a sail parade through picturesque Boothbay Harbor. Majestic windjammers come from up and down the coast to participate in this exciting early-season event. Fireworks!

Great Schooner Race: Friday, July 7

Maine's tall ships gather for an exciting all-day race from Islesboro to Rockland. This year marks the 41st anniversary of the Great Schooner Race, North America's largest annual gathering of tall ships!

Maine Windjammer Parade:

Friday, July 14, 2–4 pm

The windjammer fleet participates in an afternoon Parade of Sail past the mile-long Rockland Breakwater, providing spectators with stunning, close-up views of Maine's fleet of tall ships. A perfect photo opportunity for guests and spectators alike.

Camden Windjammer Festival: Sept. 1–2

The fleet gathers in picturesque Camden Harbor for festivities reminiscent of the days when hundreds of coastal schooners lined the waterfront. Festivities include a parade of sail, flag-raising ceremonies, live music, fireworks.

WoodenBoat Sail-In: September 12

The fall gathering of the fleet takes place in Brooklyn, headquarters of *WoodenBoat* Magazine and WoodenBoat School. Live steel drum music, local refreshments, tours. Spectacular views of the entire fleet.



photo: Charles Durfor