



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE FOR 2018 SAIL PHILADELPHIA FESTIVAL PRESENTED BY BANK OF AMERICA**

*Experience the Only **Tall Ships America**® Event on the East Coast on Land, on Deck, and on Water*

**PHILADELPHIA (March 9, 2018)** – On Thursday, **May 24**, a fleet of majestic ships will sail into Philadelphia for a five-day celebration honoring the sailing community and Philadelphia’s maritime heritage. Beginning with the Parade of Sail on Thursday, the festival will offer waterfront fun, ship tours, and sailing excursions throughout Memorial Day weekend, with festivities concluding on the evening of **May 28**. Philadelphia will serve as the **only East Coast port** to host the **TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE**® race series in 2018. Festival tickets, which range from \$7 (adult Waterfront Festival ticket) to \$150 (Sail Away tour during the Parade of Sail) per person and include admission to the Independence Seaport Museum, are now on sale via [www.sailphiladelphia.org](http://www.sailphiladelphia.org).

Sail Philadelphia 2018 is produced in partnership by the **Delaware River Waterfront Corporation** and **Independence Seaport Museum** along with **presenting sponsor Bank of America**. The organizations are working in conjunction with **Tall Ships America**® to bring the TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® (a series of Tall Ships® races and port festivals) back to Philadelphia.

“We are thrilled to extend our commitment as presenting sponsor for the 2018 Sail Philadelphia festival, as this partnership will signal the start of the exciting summer season for the Philadelphia region,” said Jim Dever, Philadelphia Market President, Bank of America. “As an organization, Bank of America actively invests in initiatives that enliven and enrich the community, and Sail Philadelphia is poised to do just that. We look forward to celebrating Philadelphia’s nautical heritage with family-friendly entertainment and the return of the Tall Ships.”

Sail Philadelphia will provide locals and visitors alike the opportunity to experience working wooden ships that exemplify maritime traditions and the craftsmanship of building ocean-faring vessels. From international military ships to teaching crafts from U.S. ports – festival-goers will discover a diverse fleet of ships, learn about life on the water, and enjoy family-friendly entertainment on land, on deck, and on the water.



## **ON LAND**

### **Parade of Sail and Waterfront Festival**

#### **Parade of Sail**

**Thursday, May 24**

**3 – 5pm (time subject to change)**

**Price: Free**

The Parade of Sail is a stunning display of maritime pageantry as the ships sail into Philadelphia's waterfront along the Delaware River. The Parade kicks off at (approximately) 3pm as the ships approach Penn's Landing, each providing their own unique version of showmanship before docking. No tickets required, the Parade of Sail is free and open to the public.

### **Sail Philadelphia Waterfront Festival**

**Friday, May 25 – Monday, May 28**

**11am – 7pm**

**Price: adults, \$7; seniors, military, and children ages 12 – 3, \$5; children 2 and under, free**

The festival experience, located along the waterfront on Penn's Landing (between the Blue Cross RiverRink Summerfest at Market Street and Spruce Street Harbor Park), will offer four days of nautical-themed celebration featuring educational and interactive programming, family-friendly experiences, food and beverage offerings, and of course – land-side views of the ships. The festival will be a ticketed event. Tickets for the Waterfront Festival are \$7 for adults and \$5 for seniors, military, and children between the ages of 12 and 3. Admission to the Independence Seaport Museum is also included with each ticket purchase. Tickets can be purchased online in advance, or onsite the day of the festival.

## **ON DECK**

### **Ship Tours**

**Friday, May 25 – Monday, May 28**

**Noon – 7pm**

**Price: adults, \$10; seniors and military, \$8; children ages 12 – 3, \$7; children 2 and under, free**

Daily self-guided ship tours will be available on a timed schedule for designated tall ships. Tours allow guests to board the vessels of their choosing (each ship requires a separate tour ticket) to get a first-hand look at how the ships were crafted, how they function, and how their crews live and work. Adult ship tour tickets are \$10; seniors and military, \$8; and children between the ages 12 and 3, \$7 (per ship). Each Ship Tour ticket purchased includes admission to the Waterfront Festival and the Independence Seaport Museum. Sail Philadelphia recommends that visitors pre-purchase tour tickets and plot their festival course in advance. Timed tour tickets are designed to minimize wait times and optimize enjoyment.

### **Early Entry Tickets**

**Friday, May 25 – Monday, May 28**

**11am – Noon**

**Price: adults, \$65; seniors and military, \$55; children 12 – 3, \$50; children ages 2 and under, free**

Early Entry tickets allow guests to beat the crowds and tour the ships with fewer people and more time to explore. Early Entry tickets provide access to ship tours between 11am and noon (for one day) prior to general boarding. Guests should plan to board at least two ships during the preview hour. These



tickets also include non-timed entry on all touring ships from noon – 7pm (on the same day of purchase) and admission to the Waterfront Festival and Independence Seaport Museum. Early Entry tickets are limited in availability each day to provide more time for guests to enjoy the ships without large crowds.

Ships available for tours include:

- *Oliver Hazard Perry*- Named after a hero of the War of 1812, Oliver Hazard Perry is the first ocean-going full-rigged ship to be built in the US in 110 years. She resides in Newport, RI.
- *Sagres*- Sailing in from Lisbon, Sagres is one of the international ships attending the festival as well as one of the largest vessels in the festival.
- *Spirit of Bermuda*- As her name suggests, the Spirit of Bermuda will be sailing to Philadelphia from the Caribbean. She's a Bermudian training ship modeled after the schooners constructed on the island during the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- *Lynx*- Sailing from Portsmouth, NH, Lynx is a topsail schooner modeled after a naval schooner from the War of 1812. The original Lynx was an armed "letter of marque" clipper, commissioned during the opening days of the war.

## **ON WATER**

### **Sail Away Cruises**

**Thursday, May 25 – Monday, May 28**

**Price: \$90 for Day Sails, \$125 for Twilight Sails**

Sail Aways provide the most immersive experience aboard five of the magnificent tall ships. Guests are offered an engaging cruise along the Delaware River and can choose between a Day Sail (90 minutes) or Twilight Sail (120 minutes), which includes a complimentary glass of wine and snacks. Day Sails are \$90 per person and Twilight Sails are \$125 per person. Each Sail Away ticket also includes admission to the Waterfront Festival and the Independence Seaport Museum.

Sail Away tickets are also available for the **Parade of Sail**, offering guests an exclusive three-hour experience on the water complete with VIP views of the arriving ships and a chance to participate in the event. Parade of Sail tickets are \$150 per person. Due to limited availability, Sail Philadelphia recommends purchasing Sail Away tickets in advance, prior to visiting the festival.

Ships available for Sail Away experiences include:

- *A.J. Meerwald*- New Jersey's official tall ship, docked in Gloucester City, NJ.
- *North Wind*- As a school ship, North Wind (also docked in Gloucester City, NJ) provides underserved students with an education outside of the traditional classroom setting.
- *America 2.0*- Scarano Boat Building incorporated decades of experience when building America 2.0, creating the sleek and beautiful ship en route to Sail Philadelphia from New York City.
- *When and If*- Commissioned in 1939, When and If is sailing around the world from her home port in New York City.
- *Thomas E. Lannon*- A schooner built in 1997 (in Essex, MA), the Thomas E. Lannon is a family-owned and operated vessel that focuses on keeping the history of schooners and the Gloucester fishing industry alive.



Spend Memorial Day Weekend in Philadelphia for five days of waterfront festivities, ship tours, and sailing excursions. Sail Philadelphia festivities will take place rain or shine. Don't miss the opportunity to view these majestic ships and create your own sailing adventure. Complete details, including ticket sales and attending ships are available at [www.sailphiladelphia.org](http://www.sailphiladelphia.org). Begin planning your Sail Philadelphia experience and follow along on social media at #sailphilly.

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#### **About the Sail Philadelphia Partners**

***Delaware River Waterfront Corporation (DRWC)*** is a 501(c)(3) created in January 2009, exclusively for the benefit of the City of Philadelphia and its citizens. The fundamental purpose of DRWC is to design, develop, program and maintain public amenities such as permanent and seasonal parks, trails, and streetscape improvements to transform the waterfront into a vibrant destination for recreational, cultural, and commercial activities for the residents and visitors of Philadelphia as is consistent with the goals of the Master Plan for the Central Delaware. Daily programming throughout the entire year is changing the way Philadelphians see and converse about the waterfront, and is helping to create spaces and communities that connect residents and visitors to the waterfront.

***Independence Seaport Museum*** deepens the understanding, appreciation, and experience of the Philadelphia region's waterways through history, art, science, and connecting with communities. With National Historic Landmark ships Cruiser Olympia and Submarine Becuna, a boatbuilding workshop, small boat rentals, hands-on exhibits, a Citizen Science Lab, one of the largest maritime art and artifact collections in North America and more, the Museum is the premier, year-round destination on the Penn's Landing waterfront. Visit daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and see our full schedule of programs and events at [phillyseaport.org](http://phillyseaport.org).

***Tall Ships America*** is a non-profit educational membership organization, with diverse vessel and program members, each dedicated to providing hands-on experience and training in seafaring skills and the nautical sciences, and is recognized by Congress as the national sail training organization representing the United States; and North American Marine Environment Protection Association (hereinafter NAMEPA), a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware and qualified as tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States. Visit us at: [www.sailtraining.org](http://www.sailtraining.org)