

GUIDANCE NOTES

Sail Training Opportunities in The Tall Ships Races 2023



PURPOSE

These notes are intended to give guidance for anyone completing an application form to apply for one of the Taster Day Sails and sail training placements being offered by Sail Training Shetland for The Tall Ships Races 2023.

The process will result in giving applicants a Taster Day Sail experience, from which young adults will be selected with a view to being offered a placement in The Tall Ships Races 2023.

During their participation in a sail training adventure, trainees will have full opportunity to take part in any events organised by guest harbours or host ports.

WHAT IS SAIL TRAINING?

The following information is an extract from Sail Training International's website:

www.sailtraininginternational.org

“Sail training requires participants to confront many demanding challenges, both physical and emotional. It is an activity that inspires self-confidence and the acceptance of personal responsibility, promotes an acceptance of others whatever their social or cultural backgrounds, and develops a willingness to take controlled risks. For most who undertake sail training on Tall Ships it is a positive life-changing experience.

Sail training is an adventure activity for people of all ages and abilities. It includes instruction in all aspects of sailing, but its purpose goes far, far beyond this. Sail training uses the experience of being at sea principally to help people learn about themselves, discover hidden strengths and talents, and understand the value of working as a team. In some programmes today it forms the setting for much wider aspects of education at sea.”

AGE LIMITS

Applicants must be 15 years of age on 1 July 2023, the start of The Tall Ships Races 2023 event series. The upper age limit is 25 years at the time of travel.

Applicants under the age of 18 years old must ensure their applications have the consent of a parent and/or guardian to confirm they are happy for their child to take part in any placements offered by Sail Training Shetland.

If selected, a more detailed consent will be requested, including details from the parent and/or guardian, for successful trainees who are under the age of 18 years old, before the voyage begins.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process for Tall Ships placements is in two stages but you only need to submit one application.

Applicants are required to participate in the Taster Day Sails onboard Swan, which is part of the selection process for deciding on successful applicants.

Online submissions are being invited via www.sailtrainingshetland.com/apply-now

Applicants under the age of 18 years old must ensure they have obtained parental/guardian consent to confirm they are happy for their child to apply for a placement.

Sail Training Shetland

Sail training opportunities for young people in The Tall Ships Races 2023

If selected, a more detailed parental/guardian consent may be required for successful applicants who are under the age of 18 years old, prior to placement.

The closing date for applications is 5pm, Friday 31 March 2023.

EXPERIENCES ON OFFER

STAGE 1 - TASTER DAY SAILS, SHETLAND ONBOARD SWAN.

Thursday 13 to Wednesday 19 April 2023

These trips form part of our selection process for those that will be offered a Tall Ships Races placement and offer just a small taste of a longer passage at sea, enabling you to learn about working a boat, including working sails, watch systems, taking the helm, and basic navigation.

There will be seven days of sailing so we will ask you in your application form to select which days you are available to attend.

There are no costs involved for taking part and if applications exceed available placements, we reserve the right to select participants for the Taster Day Sails.

Trainees will learn new skills and have had a good taster of what a trip on Swan/a tall ship would involve. Specific outcomes include:

- Teamwork
- Sails, and how they work
- Watch systems
- Taking the helm
- Food preparation and cleaning rotas
- Basic navigation

Taster Day Sail Itinerary	
0900hrs	Note: If needed, you may be asked to undertake a Covid-19 Lateral Flow Test at home in the morning and take a picture of your negative result to show the skipper. Start time to be confirmed once transport requirements are known. Conduct safety briefings. Issue lifejackets, plus foul weather gear (if needed).
0945hrs	Slip lines and hoist sails. Sail Training Shetland committee member will give a talk during the morning sail.
1300hrs	Lunch will be supplied. Dietary requirements will be confirmed in advance. Former sail trainees will talk about their Tall Ships experience.
1700hrs	Return to berth. Tie up alongside. Trainees help clean and put the boat to bed. Final debriefs from the day with question-and-answer time. Trainees will be asked for their feedback on their trip.
1800hrs	Trainees disembark.

Sail Training Shetland

Sail training opportunities for young people in The Tall Ships Races 2023

Immediately following the Taster Day Sails, Sail Training Shetland will select successful applicants to go onto Stage 2, being offered a Tall Ships Races placement to become trainee crew for each leg offered.

STAGE 2 – THE TALL SHIPS RACES

There is huge excitement building for the return of The Tall Ships Races 2023 when the international fleet of Tall Ships and Small Ships will return to Lerwick. The legendary Tall Ships Races offers international fun, friendship, action-packed racing, and festival experiences.

There are two incredible adventures on offer, the first taking you on a leisurely Cruise in Company from Fredrikstad, Norway, visiting guest harbours along the Norwegian and Scottish coast before arriving at Lerwick. The second is a livelier ocean race between Lerwick and Arendal in Norway.

Cruise In Company

Fredrikstad, Norway to Lerwick, Shetland onboard [Eendracht](#), [Christian Radich](#) and [Swan](#).

Sunday 16 July to Friday 28 July (12 nights)

Eendracht



With a length of almost 60 metres, a width of 13 metres and a draft of 5 metres, this sailing ship is the largest clipper sail ship in the Netherlands. Sailing ship Eendracht belongs to the A-class sailing ships and can accommodate 36 trainees and 18 crew.

Sail Training Shetland

Sail training opportunities for young people in The Tall Ships Races 2023

Christian Radich



Christian Radich is a class A Tall Ship built in Norway in 1937. A regular visitor to Lerwick, the ship's home port is Oslo. Christian Radich is a white, steel hulled ship measuring 62 metres in length, with a total length of 73 metres including the bowsprit, it can carry 85 trainees and 30 permanent crew.

Race 3

Lerwick, Shetland | Arendal, Norway onboard [Swan](#).

Friday 28 July to Thursday 10 August (13 nights)



Shetland's very own Tall Ship - Swan - is a Class B, Gaff Ketch. The vessel was launched in 1900 in Lerwick, originally built as a Fifie herring drifter. Swan has a 20.4 metre long, green wooden hull, the total length being 26.10 metres. Swan's homeport is Lerwick, Shetland and the vessel can carry 10 trainees and 5 crew.

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Sail training opportunities for young people in The Tall Ships Races 2023

TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

You **must** hold a passport for travel which is valid to at least 10 November 2023. If you do not have a valid passport, we are unable to accept your application. There will be immigration checks during the voyages and therefore it is essential applicants have a valid passport at the time of travel. Please [check your passport validity](#) prior to sending your application.

Successful applicants may require travel both via ferry and/or flights to meet their ship. Although it is likely trainees will be travelling as part of a small group, they will nonetheless need a degree of self-reliance during the trip. Trainees under the age of 18 years will be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Except for some minor transfers that cannot be booked in advance, all other costs of travel will be met by Sail Training Shetland. The bookings required for your voyage will be arranged in advance by Sail Training Shetland, including the logistics of getting to and from the ship, the ship placement and insurance. You will be provided with a comprehensive information pack containing an itinerary with tickets and given a full briefing before you leave where you will meet your fellow crew mates.

TRAVEL INSURANCE/HEALTH CARE ABROAD

Sail Training Shetland will provide comprehensive Tall Ships group insurance cover for all successful applicants. Details of the Policy will be provided with your information pack.

Please note, the Policy we offer may exclude treatment or cover for pre-existing medical conditions, so you will require to arrange your own Policy before you travel and provide us with evidence of cover.

You cannot use a GHIC or an existing EHIC in Norway. You will need [travel insurance with healthcare cover](#).

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

Applications from anyone who meets the age criteria will be welcomed. You will be asked for details of any additional support needs, and this will not prejudice the consideration of any application.

All reasonable support will be given to aid trainees with additional support needs to take part and match them with a placement and ship that is suitable for their needs. It should be borne in mind however, that by its very nature, sail training can be a physically and emotionally demanding activity.

For placements onboard Swan, the ship is often accessed from ground level down a vertical pier ladder, and there are steep stairs to access the main saloon and toilets, you do need to be fit enough to descend a vertical ladder to access the boat and its facilities.

Applicants who may have difficulty with reading and writing are welcome to have their application scribed and sent by another person on their behalf.

COSTS AND FUNDRAISING

In recognition of what is an exceptional year in hosting The Tall Ships Races, the cost of the Taster Day Sails and Tall Ships placements will be fully funded by Sail Training Shetland.

Sail Training Shetland

Sail training opportunities for young people in The Tall Ships Races 2023

All applicants will be expected to take part in any fundraising activities organised by Sail Training Shetland.

The cost of Race Entry Fees, ship bookings, plus any travel for taking part in the Tall Ships Races will be met through fundraising, sponsorship and grant funding attracted by Sail Training Shetland. Any occasional personal expenses other than those set out above will be the responsibility of the trainee.

AFTER YOU HAVE APPLIED

Sail Training Shetland will contact you after the closing date to advise if you have been placed on a Taster Day Sail.

We are expecting an unprecedented level of interest this year, and placements are limited, therefore it may not be possible to offer spaces to everyone that applies.

We require to have several candidates on standby that could step in at short notice if more funding becomes available, or if other applicants pull out, so please do not be discouraged if you are not successful on the first attempt.

Immediately after the Taster Day Sails, a decision on the placements to be offered and reserve candidates will be made, and participants will be notified in writing of the outcome of their application. The committee of Sail Training Shetland reserves the right to decide the successful applicants and any ship or voyage they will be offered.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any specific queries, please contact us on 01595 692991 or email sailtrshetland@gmail.com

