



SET COURSE FOR NEW HORIZONS

 International Exchange

VEGA GAMLEBY: TURKU (FI) - KLAIPÉDA (LT)

22 JULY - 31 JULY 2017
TURKU (FI) - KLAIPÉDA (LT)

15-25: € 700,00

> 25: € 840,00

Tall Ships Races 2017 – Race 2. The second race of the 61st Tall Ships Races will take you from across the Baltic from Finland to Lithuania. Expect a great time in port, together with the crews of over 70 other vessels and a festive goodbye with many spectators wishing you luck from land. Then set the sails and race as fast as the winds allow all the way to Lithuania where you are sure to experience a warm welcome. Finish the journey by celebrating on Crew Parties and exchanging sailing stories with trainees from other Ships. Open for trainees aged 15-25 years, age 25-28 at request.

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

The Tall Ships Races is the biggest annual sailing race of the year. The 2017 edition will be the 61st event and is scheduled to take place on the Baltic Sea, in 5 ports in 4 different countries. Join Race 2 across the Baltic Sea from Finland to Lithuania for amazing views and exciting sailing race. Ships from different countries are scheduled to take part, making it a truly multicultural event and a great place to make sailor friends from all over the world.



WIETZE (16) NETHERLANDS
"TEAMWORK IS THE KEY"





As a Windseeker Trainee on board Vega Gamleby you will be a part of the crew, meaning you will join your peers on watches day and night, and take active part in sailing the ship. You'll be hoisting sails, steering, climbing the masts (voluntarily) practicing seamanship skills and learning the art of navigation, guided by the professional crew. And you will sail to win the race!

Windseekers know no borders! By entering the International Exchange program not only will you sail the high seas with your peers but you will also learn about other cultures. With many nationalities on board you will enjoy national dinner parties, debates, games to bridge the cultural differences. Aside from the professional sailing Crew, during International Exchanges there are mentors on board who will organize your activities and be there for you if you need someone to talk to.

You will be divided into watches and work on the Ship in shifts of 4 hours on, 8 hours off. That means two watches per day: one in daytime and one in the night, as the Ship doesn't stop sailing when it gets dark! Don't worry, your sleep pattern will soon adjust. You will stand lookout, navigate, man the helm, climb the masts (voluntarily), cook and clean – and you do it all as a team. By the time you reach the destination port you will be like a family. Warning: saying goodbye won't be easy!

PORTS

Turku is a Finnish city dating back to the XIII century. Join in the ships' spectacular route through the Turku Archipelago before being brought right into the middle of the city on the banks of the Aura River. Walk the cobblestone streets, visit the medieval castle, Forum Marinum maritime centre, or one of many art museums. Take a stroll down the river bank to find your favourite little restaurant or cafe.

Klaipėda is a city in Lithuania on the Baltic Sea coast. The city has many maritime traditions – it even hosts its own Sea Festival in July! – and its architecture bears influences from several different cultures (French, German, Swedish). Take a walk down the Friedricho pasažas, visit the reconstructed Meridianas ship, find the quirky Golden Mouse sculpture and visit the Clock Museum.



BARNABAS (22) HUNGARY

"IT WAS AN ABSOLUTE JOY TO STEER FOR HOURS WHEN THE WIND WAS BLOWING AND EVEN WHEN IT WAS COMPLETELY DEAD. I LOVED TO SEE THE SEA, I LOVED THE SILENCE OF THE OCEAN."

SPONSORSHIP AND COSTS

The youngster price (age 15-25) will be € 700,-

If you have not sailed Tall Ships Races before, please contact us for fundraising possibilities and bursaries.

LIFE ON BOARD

Wake up, and smell the coffee! A day in the life of a Windseeker starts with a hearty breakfast. With the ship as your home, you'll need those calories!

No day will be the same. From lazy sunny afternoons with Bob Marley swaying on deck, to wind filled rainy nights with one eye on the ship's radar and the other checking the jib.

This is life to the max. Life brought down to it's essence. Wood, steel, lines, wind, waves, yes, no. One watch checks the oil in the engine room, the other takes a well deserved hot shower after that chilly morning sunrise at sea.

There's laughter in the galley. Someone cracked a dirty joke. Serene silence on the aft deck. A group of young Windseekers soaking up the moments.

Wind seems to be shifting. Time to trim the sails. Together, as a team. Apple in mouth, zipping up your jacket you move forward. Pull the sheet just a bit tighter, or keep it loose for a while longer and see what she does? Only six miles to port. What do you think?

Then, everything moves. The deck is buzzing. Lines lying around, sails flapping as your fellow Windseekers turn the bough into the wind. It'll be easier for you and your team to take them down this way. Fenders out!

The engine roars. Forward, back, forward, manouvring alongside the quay. The lights of the harbor inn glisten invitingly over the water. A line is thrown to the old fisherman standing ashore. And another. Until a clenched fist is raised to the wheelhouse and the roaring stops. Fast!

Time to get the ship organized again, before a well deserved meal together. A meal prepared by those guys who said they couldn't cook. It tastes great.

Playing cards come out. Impressions are shared. The girls from the other cabin do a quick batch of laundry. Someone yawns, more follow. It's the cue to hit the bunk for a good night's sleep.

Because tomorrow will be a completely new day. A new day, with new horizons.

KEY POINTS

- Dates: 22 July 2017 - 31 July 2017
- Embarkation: 17:00 / Disembarkation: 9:00
- For Windseekers 15-25 years, age 26-28 at request
- Windseekers joining: maximum 36
- No sailing experience required!
- Official language on board: English
- Price includes: accommodation and meals, excludes drinks at the bar
- Price excludes transportation costs to-and from the ports. Our travel counsellor can advise you and book your transfers
- One-off registration fee €25
- Windseekers need to have a health insurance and a travel insurance
- Need to take with you on board: sleeping bag, pillowcase, sheets and towels
- French Windseekers need to become member of Les Amis des Grands Voiliers
- Contact your fellow-Windseekers via Windseeker facebook
- You will sleep in a hammock/bunk/cabin

SET COURSE FOR NEW HORIZONS
BOOK YOUR JOURNEY AT WWW.WINDSEEKER.ORG

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