

## GUIDANCE NOTES FOR APPLICANTS TASTER DAY SAILS 2022

### Purpose

These notes are intended to give guidance for anyone completing an online application for one of the taster day sail placements being offered by Stornoway Port Authority.

Lerwick Harbour, in the Shetland Islands, is a Host Port for The Tall Ships Races in 2023. Stornoway Port Authority is collaborating with Sail Training Shetland (a charity registered in Scotland, no: SC041182) and The Swan Trust to provide opportunities for young people to take part in these Taster Day Sails, as part of the build up to the event returning to Scotland. Sail Training Shetland is currently the only recognised youth sail training provider in the Northern Isles.

This partnership will encourage community engagement in the lead up to the event which will include a Cruise in Company along Scotland's north coast and will help inspire young people from the Western Isles to take part in a tall ships sailing adventure in 2023.

### What is Sail Training?

The following information is an extract from Sail Training International's website [www.sailtraininginternational.org](http://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 as a means 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."

### Overview

Stornoway Port Authority is offering taster day sail experiences onboard Shetland's tall ship, *Swan*, across the dates of Friday 10th and Saturday 11th June.

The taster day sails are aimed at young people who are considering taking part in the Tall Ship Races in 2023, and will give an experience of sailing a working tall ship and an opportunity to meet former trainees and crew members that have been involved with Tall Ships previously.

### Outcomes

Trainees will learn new skills and have had a good taster of a tall ships experience and what a trip on *Swan* would involve.

Specific learning outcomes include:

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

- Basic navigation
- More about the Tall Ships Races and the importance of promoting 2023 now to encourage youth involvement.
- Learn about opportunities to become a sail training ambassador for 2023

<b>Proposed Itinerary</b>	
0900hrs	Trainees to arrive.  Issue lifejackets, and foul weather gear if needed, and carry out half hour safety briefing.
0945hrs	Slip lines and hoist sails. Stornoway representative can undertake a talk/presentation to trainees during the morning on opportunities for 2023.
1300hrs	Lunch. Trainees to prepare lunch: split trainees into watches, with one watch preparing and serving lunch, and the other watch tidying up after.
1700hrs	Tie alongside and involve the trainees in a clean and putting the boat to bed like we would on Tall Ships. Split into watches again and the watch that did the dishes can do the on deck hose down and the watch that made lunch can do the down below clean so they're doing something different.
1730hrs	Final debrief from the day, question and answer session. (Outside if at all possible)
1800hrs/1830hrs.	Trainees disembark/finish.

### **Eligibility**

No previous experience is necessary.

We are particularly interested in hearing from those who have not had a sailing experience with Sail Training Shetland before and those who could benefit from a sail training experience.

Applicants must be between 14 and 24 years of age and have an interest in learning more about sail training and the Tall Ships Races.

Only those aged 15 - 25 at the time of the races in July 2023, will be eligible to apply for a tall ships placement then.

### **Additional support needs**

Applications from anyone who meets the age criteria will be welcomed. Applicants will be asked for details of any additional support needs they have and this will not prejudice the consideration of applications. All reasonable support will be given to assist trainees with additional support needs to take part.

It should be noted however, that by its very nature, sail training can be a physically and emotionally demanding activity. Also, as the *Swan* 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 submitted by another person on their behalf.

### **Funding**

In recognition of what has been a difficult time for young people throughout the pandemic, the day sails will be fully funded by Stornoway Port Authority.

Any additional or occasional personal expenses to participate, other than those set out above, will be the responsibility of the successful trainees.

### **Application process**

Submissions can be made by completing the application form and consent form found on the Stornoway Port Authority website.

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.

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

The closing date for applications is **31/05/2022**

Applicants will be notified by Stornoway Port Authority if they have been successful after the closing date.

The committee of Stornoway Port Authority reserve the right to decide the successful applicants and the day sail date offered.

### **Transport**

Successful applicants must organise their own transport to join *Swan*, for a prompt start.

### **Further Information**

For more details or if you have any specific queries, please contact [kirsty.hutchison@stornowayport.com](mailto:kirsty.hutchison@stornowayport.com)