

Classic Sailing



Advice on Giving a Sailing Holiday

Surprise Presents

It is best to give a Gift Voucher as it allows the recipient to choose the voyage they most want to do when it convenient for themselves.

If you are booking the voyage as a surprise for someone else, please bear in mind you are committing yourself to booking a holiday that you may not simply “take back for a refund” or change if your friend does not like it or is unable to take up the voyage. If we have plenty of notice we can usually fill a cancelled place and refund it less an admin charge, but the nature of surprise presents is that the person often doesn’t know until just before the voyage, so any cancellation could result in no refund.

Therefore it is really important you go through this checklist.

- 1 Will the person sailing be available for the dates you booked (leave from work etc)?
- 2 Can you vouch for their medical fitness – or have detailed knowledge of any medical conditions?
- 3 Are you aware what sailing as hands on crew involves? (see voyage notes)
- 4 Are you aware of the size of the vessel and the communal living conditions? (see voyage notes)

Fitness For a Voyage

A few days at sea for most, leaves people feeling rejuvenated, healthy and free from the stresses of the world ashore. However, sailing traditional sailing boats is quite physical and the sea is potentially a dangerous environment. Here is the nitty gritty without the sales pitch. The voyager will be expected to take part in steering the ship, hoisting sails using blocks and tackles (no winches on board) being on watch for at least 3-4 hours outside in the elements and often helping keep the ship clean or helping with washing up. Sleeping is not as peaceful as at home as you are could be in a communal area with bunks with between 5 and 15 other voyage crew – depending on the vessel (some people love the rocking of the ship and sleep better aboard than at home!). On the larger tall ships engine noise may be a low but a constant noise when below decks.

The following medical conditions could restrict them from sailing: diabetes, asthma, recent heart surgery or problems; Epilepsy, Aids or Communicable diseases, pregnancy, dementia or mental illness, blindness, vertigo or balance problems, susceptibility to illness due to recent operation. Hearing or sight problems.

We will need to know if someone is on any medication in case anything happens to them whilst at sea. Also if they have a condition which requires regular medication, or have to keep up blood sugar levels, or anything which might be adversely affected if they become cold, seasick or de-hydrated.

Age: Some tall ship voyages have age restrictions. Voyagers over 69 and under 76 may be charged double premiums on their travel insurance.

Agility: A good guide is – do they have any problem climbing up a short vertical ladder, getting over stiles on a countryside walk and can you imagine them pulling on ropes or getting from a moving dinghy up a ladder onto a yacht or small ship.

What you need to know (Gift Voucher Terms and Conditions)

1. Classic Sailing Vouchers are valid for three years.
2. Classic Sailing Gift vouchers are transferable for a £20 fee.
3. No need to select a particular voyage on purchase of the Gift Voucher.
4. The person you are buying for needs to be in normal health, if in doubt please give us a ring on 01872 580022.
5. Minimum age is 18 for gift vouchers.
6. Maximum age depends on fitness and type of voyage, for over 65's please give us a ring on 01872 580022.
7. Additional payments can be made to meet exact voyage prices.
8. The value of any gift voucher can be used towards any voyage on any vessel promoted by Classic Sailing.
9. There are booking fees of £10 for a day sail. Longer voyages include all food and accommodation and have a £20.00 booking fee or €30 Euro booking fee dependent on the currency price of the voyage. See our Terms and Conditions. There are no hidden charges for the use of credit cards etc.
10. All voyages are subject to availability.

If in doubt talk to the Skippers – 01872 580022

Classic Sailing office is normally manned by one of 'Eve of St Mawes' skippers, who are also familiar with all the vessels we promote. So if you are thinking of booking a sailing holiday or course as a present for a friend or relative we can help you find the best voyage to meet their interests and experience.

If this is a new experience for them and they have never sailed before we strongly recommend you choose a short 3 day voyage, a beginners RYA course like Start Yachting or Competent Crew, or give them a gift voucher to spend as they like.

Booking Form Conditions for the Payee

We require a completed booking form before we can confirm a place on a voyage, as some health and medical conditions may preclude us accepting a booking, as the customer forms a part of the active crew that sail the boat or ship.

As payee, the booking conditions regarding customer cancellation on the back of the form will affect your money.

Classic Sailing
01872 580022

[Online Gift Voucher Purchase](#)