

CHARTER CLEARWATER INFORMATION SHEET

Sailing aboard an authentic tall ship provides a unique and unforgettable experience for you and your guests, and the perfect backdrop for your special event. Our professional staff and crew can help you navigate the limitations of holding an event on a working sailing vessel. Please review our event guidelines, and let us know how we can help you!

FOOD

We do not sell refreshments onboard, but you are welcome to bring food with you, or to arrange for a caterer of your choice. We recommend boxed meals or platters of cold foods set up on deck. Our crew can work with you to make sure that your refreshments are arranged to perfection, and that your guests are able to relax and enjoy their sail.

NOTES ABOUT ALCOHOL:

All alcohol consumption takes place at the captain's discretion. If the weather becomes severe, the captain may withdraw permission to consume alcohol. Clearwater cannot purchase or serve alcohol to passengers, and is not responsible for ensuring that underage guests do not consume alcohol. If underage guests are found to be consuming alcohol, your group will be immediately returned to the dock.

NOTES ABOUT MUSIC:

It's a good idea to have your musicians tour the boat prior to your event. Please contact the Sail Logistics Manager to set up an appointment.

- There is limited deck space where musicians can set up. Since the crew will need to be able to move freely around the deck, your **musicians should be flexible about moving to different spots on the deck as necessary, and should also be flexible about seating needs.**
- Amps are very rarely needed onboard, as sound carries very well. Should your musicians require amplification, they will need to provide their own battery-powered amps. There is **no power source onboard** that musicians will be able to plug into while the vessel is sailing.
- Due to restrictions on space, we recommend bringing **3 or fewer musicians.**
- **Any musicians who will be onboard during your sail count towards your total number of passengers.**

NOTES FOR CATERERS:

If you choose to hire a caterer, it's a good idea to have them tour the boat prior to your event. Please contact the Sail Logistics Manager to set up an appointment.

- There is **very little prep room** available for use onboard. As much as possible, prep work should be done prior to arriving at the vessel. There is **no refrigeration** available: We are able to store your coolers below-decks, and there is limited space there to use for staging.
- Any **cooking/re-heating should be done before your arrival** at the boat: The galley stove will not be available for use.
- Caterers are not usually able to drop items at the boat and begin setting up until one hour or less before the sail time.
- The **use of glassware is prohibited**, although wine and beer bottles are allowed.
- **No open flames are allowed** on deck (for décor or for use with chafing dishes).
- The group chartering the boat is responsible for taking all trash and recyclables with them at the end of their sail.
- **Any catering staff who will be onboard during your sail count towards your total number of passengers.**

Music

Music is part of all Clearwater sails. In most cases, the music is provided by a member of the crew at the end of the moment of silence held during each sail. If you would like to have music feature more prominently in your event, you are welcome to bring your own musicians onboard to play. Our staff can recommend musicians to you, or we can work with you to arrange for musicians of your choice.

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Please do not bring the following:

- Umbrellas
- Balloons
- Streamers
- Glitter
- Silly String
- Any substance that could stick to or damage the decks or other parts of the boat
- Any substance or item that could be blown off the boat and into the river

GUEST SPEAKERS

Many groups are interested in bringing a guest speaker with them to address their guests. Please let us know what your needs are, and please have a look at the 'Notes on Music' section for information about sound and power needs.

DECORATIONS

Clearwater is a working vessel, so most areas of the boats are in use while sailing and are unable to hold decorations. In addition, the changing winds and weather make decorating the boat difficult. Most of our guests find that the combined majesty and beauty of the Hudson River and the vessel provide ample ambiance for their special event. If decorations are a key part of your event, we ask that you not bring items that will fly away in the wind or hinder the visibility and mobility of the captain and crew.

WEATHER & CANCELLATION POLICY

Sails cancelled with fewer than 8 weeks' notice are subject to a penalty fee of 30% of the sail price; sails cancelled with more than eight days but fewer than 3 weeks' notice are subject to a 50% penalty fee; and sails cancelled within eight business days are not eligible to receive a refund. Sails cancelled with greater than 8 weeks notice are eligible to receive a full refund and/or the opportunity to reschedule. *Clearwater's* captains always err on the side of safety and have an eye to providing our passengers with the best sailing experience possible. However, should you decide to cancel due to weather when our captains have decided that it is safe to sail, you will not be eligible to reschedule or to receive a refund.

Our vessels sail under most weather conditions, so you and your guests should be prepared to hold your event rain or shine. Should we need to cancel your sail due to severe weather (thunderstorms, sheeting rain, extremely high winds) you will be contacted as soon as the captain has made the decision to cancel. In these cases, you are entitled to a refund of the sail fee, or a credit towards a future sail date.

For weddings or events that cannot be rescheduled, we *strongly* recommend that you have an alternate location reserved at which to hold your event in case of a last-minute cancellation.

The Sailing Classroom

When you book a sail with *Clearwater*, you have the option- at no extra cost- of participating in elements of our award-winning onboard environmental education programming. Our educators and crew can teach your guests traditional sea chanteys, how to tie knots, how to identify fish, and much more! Our education programs can add a touch of nautical authenticity to your event, and put your guests in touch with *Clearwater's* mission to protect the Hudson River. We are happy to work with you to customize a program for your guests.

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