



Sail Training International

*... the international voice of sail training
... changing young people's lives*

Sail training facts and figures (*last updated November 2014*)

General

- The Tall Ships Races is Europe's largest, free family festival
- Sail Training International was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 for its work in promoting international understanding and friendship.
- Our 29 Members are the National Sail Training Organisations of:

Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States of America

Other countries that have sail training vessels and participate in events organised by Sail Training International include:

Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cayman Islands, Chile, China, Columbia, Faroe Islands, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Romania, Uruguay

In 2014

- Over 9,000 people enjoyed a sail training experience at an STI event in 2014
- Over four million visitors attended a Tall Ships Race or Regatta in 2014.
- Over 150 registered Tall and Small Ships took part in the Tall Ships Races and Regattas in 2014.
- Over 1,000 international broadcast, print and online media covered the Tall Ships Races and Regattas in 2014.
- Over 175,000 different news articles and stories and thousands of breath taking images which were wired and shared around the globe

**Sail Training International. Charity number 1096846. A company limited by guarantee (Registered in England No 4686048)
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Members: the national/representative sail training organisations of Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, UK, USA

Probationary Members: Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, India

- If the media coverage generated in 2014 had been paid for advertising it would have cost over €22 million
- The Tall Ships Races and Regattas generated over 67,000 new Facebook fans

History

- The Tall Ships Races have been running since 1956.
- In 1964 the division of the fleet into classes A and B was introduced.
- In 1968 a 'Rule of Rating' was introduced to give an even chance to every competitor
- In 1972 the idea of a crew interchange was introduced to mix nationalities and different sized vessels. It was also the year Cutty Sark Whisky sponsored the Races.
- In 1973 the then USSR entering its first ships.
- In 1978 the American Sail Training Association (ASTA) affiliated itself to the then Sail Training Association, inspired by its ethos, and organised annual races in North and South American waters; plus a number of transatlantic races to join up with the European races. From there similar associations were born in Australia and New Zealand.
- In 1980 the use of VHF radios was introduced to the Races as a compulsory piece of equipment, for safety and keeping in contact with competitors. It also worked as an incentive to the trainees, as they were now aware of the position of their rivals and created a competitive environment between the vessels and crews.
- In 1992 a record was set for the Columbus Regatta when 32 Class A's and some 160 ships set off from Cadiz to San Juan in Puerto Rico
- In 2002 Sail Training International (STI) was founded as the organisers of The Tall Ships Races and Regattas we see today.

Quotes for use in stories:

Doug Prothero, Chairman, Sail Training International said:

“Sail Training International’s Races and Regattas have brought the sail training experience to thousands of young people internationally and undoubtedly changed the lives of many of them.”

“We’ve enabled events to happen which have attracted millions of visitors to European and Russian ports - which have not only significantly boosted their economies but also helped deliver our valuable message of international friendship and understanding.”

“STI is very proud of the work it does to help deliver the very unique experience of The Tall Ships Races and my special thanks go to all the Tall Ship operators who work tirelessly to deliver sail training, and inspire awe and joy to the many families who visit them.”

If you would like more facts, information or quotes from the Chairman, Race Director or Commercial Director at Sail Training International email: sally.titmus@sailtraininginternational.org