



2/2018

For Immediate Release

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A SEASIDE DELIGHT – TALL SHIPS SAIL INTO VENTURA HARBOR
Adventure & Lore - Historical Tall Ships Sail into Ventura Harbor
February 13-March 5, 2018

VENTURA, Calif. – Back by popular demand, Tall Ships, *Hawaiian Chieftain* and *Lady Washington*, commence their annual voyage along the California coast and sail into Ventura Harbor on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at noon until Monday, March 5, 2018. The historical vessels will dock in front of the Ventura Harbor Village Promenade.

Catch the mystical sight of the Tall Ships Grand Arrival in full parade-style entrance, as the crew “manning the yards” at noon on Tuesday, February 13, 2018. A photographer’s delight, the ships depart for Battle Sails throughout February and March, 2018 out of the Ventura Harbor. The best viewing locations are at Harbor Cove Beach, Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center, Rhumbline –the Sunset Restaurant, and Ventura Harbor Village.

The visiting Tall Ships are rich in history and seaside lure. *Hawaiian Chieftain* was built in Hawaii in 1988 and originally designed for cargo trade among the Hawaiian Islands. Launched in 1989, *Lady Washington* is a full-scale reproduction of the original *Lady Washington*, which was built in 1750s and was one of the first U.S. flagged ships to explore the west coast of North America.

Tuesday, February 13, 2018 the Ships arrive and Dockside Tours are available from 4-5 p.m. From February 13 – March 5 Dockside Tours are made available to the public weekdays Tuesdays through Fridays from 4- 5 p.m., and 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on weekends, Saturday and Sundays, to visit *Lady Washington* dockside. Generally the ships are closed for staff maintenance Mondays. There will be no tours on Tuesday, February 20.

Open to the public, the Dockside Tours (Vessel Tours) offer a living history experience. The tours focus on an authentic 18th Century sailor’s view of traveling by Tall Ship, as well as a chance to meet the ship’s crew and learn what it took to adventure to new lands. Take a Dockside Tour and dine for breakfast, lunch, or dinner at one of the Ventura Harbor Village’s seaside restaurants overlooking the Tall Ships and the boats. Also, enjoy live entertainment along the promenade on select weekends, including extra festivities on President’s Day weekend. Grays Harbor Historical Seaport recommends a \$5 donation for Dockside Tours; additional donation amounts support educational programs.

*Note: Only *Lady Washington* will be available for Dockside Tours on select dates.

Looking for more adventure? Three-Hour Battle Sails or Two-Hour Adventure Sails, complete with firing cannons and hoisting of the main sails are just the ticket! Battle Sails are available every weekend day from 2 p.m. -5 p.m. and feature a recreation of a naval skirmish with close quarter maneuvers. Adventure Sails take place on Sundays from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. out in the channel to experience life on the high seas. For Battle and Adventure Sail ticket reservations call 800-200-5239 or visit www.historicalseaport.org. Tickets are on sale now.

New in 2018! In celebration of a classic seafood foodie favorite, Ventura Harbor Village honors National Clam Chowder Day on Sunday, February 25 from 11 AM – 1 PM with a Taste of Chowder featuring handcrafted clam chowders at seven of the waterfront Ventura Harbor Village restaurants. Bring the family and friends for this fun and delish event! With the \$5 a Chowder Taste punch card, guests stroll to each restaurant to chowder taste with seaside views. Punch cards are sold on the Village Promenade by the new Seaside Promenade Stage on Sunday, February 25 starting at 10:30 AM (Punch cards are limited).

In addition, live entertainment and roaming pirates can be enjoyed throughout Ventura Harbor Village on select days, and visitors can also send a Tall Ships postcard for free, join in a Tall Ship Scavenger Hunt, get a henna tattoo and more over President's Day weekend!

Added to the Ventura Harbor visit, a special **Valentine's Day Tall Ship Sail** on Wednesday, February 14 from 4 to 6 p.m. will be offered to the public. This special sail is reserved for adults only, and will highlight festive sea shanties and desserts for ticketed guests. Tickets are \$55 per person, but couples can save \$10 by purchasing tickets in pairs for a flat \$100! Tickets are available by calling 800-200-5239 or visit www.venturaharborvillage.com for more details.

In celebration of the Tall Ships arrival, several Ventura Harbor Village restaurants and attractions will debut special offerings:

- **The Greek Mediterranean Steak and Seafood** will promote its "Under the Sea" theme throughout the restaurant with new Happy Hour selections gearing up to March Mermaid Month. Mirrors and windows have been professionally painted by local artist Lisa Kelly, and specialty food items are being created for the Valentine's Day menu on Wednesday February 14, 2018. www.thegreekventura.com.
- **The Ultimate Escape Room** will open its newest Escape Room "Mermaid's Curse," a family friendly attraction that takes place on a shipwreck. www.theultimateescaperooms.com
- **Harbor Village Gallery & Gifts** will offer art classes and activities for all ages and a "Tea for the Sailors" on Tuesday, February 20 from Noon – 3 p.m., with details listed on the Calendar of Events at www.venturaharborvillage.com.
- **Plein Air Artists** will be on the Village Promenade on Tuesday, February 27 from 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

The Hawaiian Chieftain and Lady Washington travel down the West Coast stopping in ports and harbors for historical and educational visits. These ships host over 8,000 school children a year. Educators should contact the Historical Seaport education office, 1-800-200-5239 to arrange dockside, or on-the-water programming while here in Ventura Harbor February 13- March 5, 2018.

Tall Ship schedule can change due to weather and unforeseen circumstances, please check VenturaHarborVillage.com for the most up to date information.

Share your Tall Ships photos @VenturaHarbor on Instagram! For more Tall Ship information visit www.venturaharborvillage.com or Facebook Ventura Harbor. Admission and parking free daily at Ventura Harbor Village. For a complete schedule: www.historicalseaport.org or call [800-200-5239](tel:800-200-5239)

About Ventura Harbor Village:

Located on scenic Highway 101, Ventura Harbor Village is 30 minutes South of Santa Barbara and one hour North of Los Angeles. Ventura Harbor Village is a vibrant, working harbor village and fishing marina boasting 35 shops, galleries, restaurants and waterfront activities including a Village Carousel & Arcade, Comedy Club, Harbor Cove Beach and Surfer's Knoll Beach, dive and fishing boats, harbor tours, boat, kayak and peddle boat rentals, and a beautiful walking Promenade, live entertainment, dog-friendly facilities, soft adventure, and spectacular sunset views of the Pacific coastline. Home to the Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center, (open seven days a week with free admission and parking and within walking distance to the Village), this National Park features its own viewing tower, exhibits and bookstore, boat tours to visit the five islands right off the Ventura coast. It is here that visitors can experience world-class island diving, snorkeling, hiking, kayaking, sea cave exploration, photography, camping and wildlife viewing.

For visitor information, contact **Ventura Harbor Village** at [805-477-0470](tel:805-477-0470), online at www.VenturaHarborVillage.com. Ventura Harbor Village is located at 1583 Spinnaker Drive in Ventura. Post, share, and like #VenturaHarbor

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