Let your spirit set sail



A typical itinerary

... what to expect from a sailing trip with Eye of the Wind ...

The Eye of the Wind sails the North Sea and Baltic Sea, the Mediterranean, the North Atlantic, and the Caribbean all year round. But as different as the sailing areas may be, the individual cruises have many aspects in common with regard to the procedures on board. On the following pages, you will find an exemplary itinerary and some useful information for all our (future) fellow travelers.

Your first evening on board: arrival, getting to know each other, and dinner together

Embarkation usually begins at 7 pm with a welcome drink and dinner. You will first get to know the crew and your fellow passengers. On board, a relaxed and friendly tone is cultivated from the very beginning. You will quickly feel very comfortable in the cozy salons, in your air-conditioned single or double cabin and on the deck planks.

The first day at sea: start of the trip and safety briefing

A detailed sailing and safety briefing by our competent crew will quickly familiarize you with the ship. You will get to know the Eye of the Wind as a seaworthy and reliable ship that has proven itself in all weather conditions. Of course, you are welcome to join the crew in their daily sailing operations yourself – previous experience is not necessary, and active participation happens on a voluntary basis at any time. But even if you don't stand at the helm yourself, but prefer to enjoy the trip on deck or inside the cozy saloon, the setting and trimming of the sails will always be a fascinating spectacle from a long-gone seafaring era over the next few days.





Left: "Cast off!" for the first leg of the cruise.

Right: Safety first! The day begins with a briefing on the functioning of the survival suits and all other life-saving equipment.

Days and nights: "training course" first, then "setting the course", then shore leave

Most trips are designed in a way that we are at sea during the day and spend the nights in a harbor or at a sheltered anchorage. This does not apply to the so-called ferrying trips, where a distance "from A to B" needs to be covered within a given period. On these transfer trips, we usually spend several days at sea in succession; stops in port and shore leave are then rather the exception.

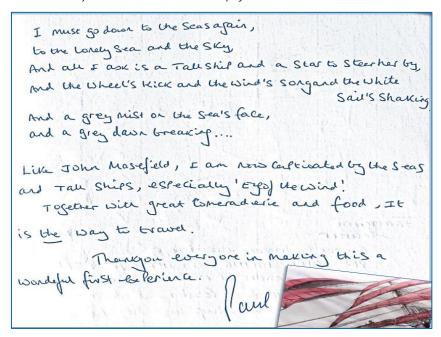
The daily planning is clearly explained by the ship's captain with the help of the nautical chart. The functioning of the individual sails and ropes is also explained in short "theory lessons". The vast majority of our fellow sailors find this assistance very useful in order to gain an insight into the procedures on deck themselves and to understand the schedule better.

Shore excursions offer an exciting change to life on board. The captain decides the course of each day's leg and especially the choice of an accessible harbor or anchorage for the night, often on the same day, based on the current wind and weather conditions and — whenever possible — of course taking your wishes in account. In this way, you will experience the trip as a pleasant mixture of active holiday, relaxation, adventure, sail training, enjoyment, and nature.





Left: By using the nautical chart, the current position, the planned course and the day's destination are explained. Right: A small lesson in sailing theory is also part of the program – the position of the sails in relation to the wind is clearly illustrated with the simplified wooden model.



Above: one of many entries into the guest book on board

Daily routine on board: setting sails, steering the course and engine maintenance

Which sails are being set depends on the force and direction of the wind only. The decision about setting and trimming the sails changes almost daily.







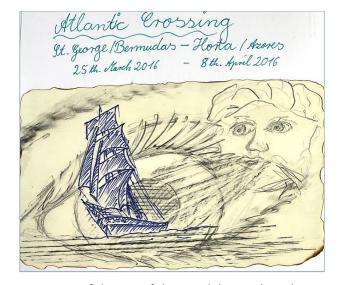
Photo series above: Preparations for setting sail. The work high up in the rigging and forward on the jib boom is the job of the regular crew. As a fellow sailor, you are welcome to help at any time. Wearing safety equipment for climbing is mandatory, harnesses are available on board.







Muscle power is used to set the sails from the deck (left). The ship's course is set at the helm – everyone is allowed to take on this responsible task themselves (center). The short guided tour through the engine room (right) is always a nice varitey on every trip, not only for technology buffs.



Above: Drawing of the Eye of the Wind during the Atlantic Crossing

Delicious surprises from the galley

It's a well-known fact that persistent sailing on the vast ocean makes you hungry, and hard-working sailors need good refreshment – so look forward to the excellent on-board cuisine, which consistently receives the top score of 1.0 in our customer satisfaction surveys. Enjoy your time on board and let us spoil you with culinary delights. From morning to night, the ship's cook will surprise you with varied recipes from his galley cookbook. Depending on the sailing area, local food and ingredients often end up in the cooking pot or on the plate.







Left/center: Preparations for lunch. A fish on the line is a real stroke of luck ... and a welcomed addition to the menu. Right: Well-deserved lunch break – delicious and healthy food ensures a good mood on board.

Plenty of variety in the everyday life on board

Out at sea, you will have plenty of time for yourself and for getting to know the ship as a place of tranquility where you can leave the flood of information and the hustle and bustle of everyday life behind. Stress and hectic won't stand a chance on the ocean. In harmony with the wind and the sea, your individual discovery of slowness is encouraged in everyday life on board.

During cloudy hours, simply make yourself comfortable below deck in the cozy saloon and browse through the extensive on-board library or the DVD collection. A TV set with DVD player is available there. And of course there is always a mug of free tea or coffee available to warm you up.





Occupation in the afternoon: fellow sailors who want to learn the secrets of sailor's knots receive competent instruction from the regular crew (left). Afterwards, they try it out themselves (right).

Even a 100-year-old ship requires care and attention

Wood, brass, canvas, ropes: these materials need regular care. In good weather, the time of free watch is used for mending work. Members of our regular crew carry out these tasks. Fellow sailors and guests are welcome to assist, too, but this work is always done on a voluntary basis. In very rare cases, minor repair work around the ship is unavoidable. However, the regular crew will make every effort to keep the associated noise caused by the work tools down to a minimum.





Traditional seafaring craftsmanship is kept alive on board. Here the base of the compass column is refined with special hardwood oil (left). Sailcloth and rigging yarn are used to make protective sheathing for the mooring lines (right).

End of the day at anchorage or on shore leave

Anchoring in a bay with the opportunity to snorkel and swim, a photo tour with the dinghy around the ship, or an exploration tour while going ashore in the harbor – this is what the evening program may look like. A delicious dinner and a good glass of wine from the on-board bar, perhaps even a view of the sunset, round off the day and whet your appetite for the next day's sailing. We hope that after just a few days you will have discovered the Eye of the Wind as your personal "dream ship".





A quiet evening at the anchorage. Now it is still light enough to practice the traditional method of determining position with the sextant once again. Therefore, this sailing day gradually ends.

The day of departure: a Farewell with a duffel bag full of memories

Our crew is committed to providing you with a great holiday experience full of varied and memorable sailing days. We hope that you will say goodbye to the crew, the ship and your fellow sailors with a collection of lasting memories. The blue of the ocean, perhaps breathtaking impressions of nature or a special discovery during shore leave will hopefully remain in retrospection permanently. We will be happy to assist you in planning your journey home by plane, train or bus – please contact us in good time.

Eye of the wind, whose travelling scross Atlantic Ocean,
Her pleasant charme awakening
The best and high emotion—

Of those who hopeful entering
At harbour of It. Georges,
To have a great time of their life
By heading the Azores.

That eye, who spread her wings to fly
Above the sea so brave,
Did shelter us, as waves were high,
And brought us home so save.

So we were glad, to be a part
Of this amazing union,
of ship-and crew, so well they did,
Wherever we were roamin ?

OP-wing the somous poem
of real D. Sewie)

Above: Poem by Cecil Day Lewis, rewritten by a guest for the Eye of the Wind.

Additional information

For further information about the implementation of our sailing trips, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions section and the Practical Advice section on our website:

www.eyeofthewind.net/en/faq-en www.eyeofthewind.net/en/service/practical-advice

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