

Age & Fitness Requirements

The adult program is for women and men 20 years and older. Participants must be very fit and agile. This is a full hands-on experience and we rely on you to “pull your weight in the boat.” *Brilliant* is a lively boat and requires a lively crew. Please do not underestimate the physical challenge of rough weather. Rough begins when the wind blows more than 20 knots.

Participants should plan to embark at 9:00 am. We return to the dock at the end of the program at approximately 4:00 pm, unless other arrangements have been announced.

Arrival Procedure

Park in the South Parking Lot across from the Museum Store. Proceed with your gear to the Visitor Center where the staff will give you directions to *Brilliant*. You will be required to carry your own gear on and off the grounds. When you arrive at the vessel, you will meet the captain and/or the mate. They will give you a safety briefing, a tour of the below-decks, and a discussion of the operation of the heads and other facilities.

Records

Before you arrive for a program, be sure you have received a confirmation, which serves as a contract and should be kept by you. Also, the signed registration form must be in our office before you depart. You may not sail on *Brilliant* without it.

Keeping in Touch

On passages longer than a day sail ports of call are entirely at the captain’s discretion. When possible, the captain reports to Mystic Seaport during the cruise, so that the vessel’s general location is known. To contact *Brilliant*, in an emergency only, telephone Mystic Seaport Security at 860.572.5310. The Museum will then make every effort to reach the vessel.

What to Bring

1. Bedding – one sleeping bag and one pillow case. We provide pillows.
2. Towels – one washcloth and one large towel.
3. Swim Suit – If you enjoy cold water!
4. Toilet Articles – include sunblock. We recommend against spray-on sunblock and have found it to be very messy and much less effective.
5. Comfortable Clothes – bring jeans or khakis, shorts, shirts.
(Fashionable or expensive clothing and jewelry are best left at home.)
6. Soft-soled Shoes – avoid black rubber soles and please do not bring flip-flops.
7. Cold Weather Clothing – a heavy wool sweater or jacket, heavy socks, warm pants and a windbreaker. Fall and spring sailing can be brisk. Don’t be fooled by warm weather ashore.
8. Foul Weather Gear – seagoing two-piece outfits are best, but if you don’t sail a lot, keep it simple.
9. Other Essentials – sunglasses, hats, and camera.
10. Seasick Medications – Marazine or Bonamine are successful. Marazine is less prone to promote drowsiness.

11. Flashlight

12. Sea or Duffel Bag – all gear (except sleeping bag) is to be packed in one sea or duffel bag of moderate size. No suitcases are allowed, as stowage space is limited. There simply is not room for larger bags and extra clothing. Do not bring extra loose gear. Keep it simple. We provide a safety harness for every crew member in rough weather.

A Brilliant Day

For coastal sailing, on passages longer than a single day sail, we anchor or occasionally lay to a dock at night in different harbors.

Shore Leave

Shore leave may be enjoyed in a variety of harbors if conditions permit. Adults are urged to return to Brilliant at a reasonable hour and in good condition appropriate to the safety of crew and vessel.

Shipboard Life

Facilities for doing laundry or for taking a shower do not exist aboard Brilliant. All hands are expected to turn out to perform necessary sail handling at any time. In breezy weather, a pull on the main sheet is a task for many hands, and such maneuvers as gybing, tacking or taking in sail may require fast work by everybody aboard. Lookouts are placed on bow when underway and keep watch for such objects as lobster pot buoys, logs or boats that might be in a hazardous position.

Smoking and Alcohol

We ask you not to smoke aboard. You may bring alcohol aboard, such as sharing wine with dinner. In general, we ask for moderation for reasons of safety and consideration for your shipmates. Drinking is limited to evenings when we are not under way.