

A white sailboat with a yellow mast is sailing on the ocean. Several young people are on deck, some looking at their phones. The boat is moving through the water, creating a white wake. The sky is blue with some clouds.

BRILLIANT YOUTH

SUMMER SAILING HANDBOOK

**MYSTIC
SEAPORT
MUSEUM**

Policy for Parents/Guardians

Family members may escort you directly to and from the *Brilliant* and are welcome to visit Mystic Seaport Museum for the day at no charge.

Records

Before you arrive for your program, be sure you have received a confirmation, which serves as a contract and should be kept by your parents or guardian, if you are not yet 18. Participants under the age of 18 are required to have their parents' or guardians' permission to participate. Permission and medical forms are sent to individuals and group leaders. Parents or guardians of each participant must fill out these forms. Completed forms should be returned to Mystic Seaport Museum no later than May 1st. You may not sail on *Brilliant* without submitting the following:

1. Parent permission/medical form.
2. Full payment for your program to Mystic Seaport Museum, Inc.
3. Group leaders must send a typed list of participants, including leaders, with names, addresses, and phone numbers. The name, address, and telephone number of an "information officer" should be included to help us relay messages promptly if *Brilliant* is storm-bound or otherwise delayed.

Cancellation Policy and Statement of Responsibility

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Full payment must accompany your registration. Mystic Seaport Museum reserves the right to cancel the program in case of bad weather, mechanical problems or other unforeseen circumstances. In such cases, your payment will be returned. If you cancel 30 days prior to sailing time, your payment, less a 25% administrative fee, will be returned. No refund will be given if you cancel within 30 days of sailing time. Cancellations and requests for refunds must be in writing.

Please send to:

Central Reservations
Mystic Seaport Museum
PO Box 6000
Mystic, CT 06355-0990

or email reservations.desk@mysticseaport.org

Keeping in Touch

Between the beginning and end of a program, *Brilliant* maintains no regular schedule. Ports of call are entirely at the captain's discretion. When possible the captain reports to Mystic Seaport Museum during the cruise, so the vessel's general location is known. You can follow the vessel at marinetraffic.com. Please understand that occasionally it is out of range so does not appear on the website. To contact *Brilliant* in an emergency you may call Security at 860.572.5310. The Museum will then make every effort to reach the vessel. In general, we discourage bringing cell phones on *Brilliant* and prohibit their use aboard the vessel. If circumstances require bringing a mobile phone for your travel to or from the vessel then you should also bring a waterproof container for it.

What to Bring

1. Bedding - one sleeping bag and one pillow case. We provide pillows.
2. Towels - one washcloth, and one large towel.
3. Swimsuit
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 - uniforms are not required; 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
Don't be fooled by warm weather ashore - it may be cold on the water, even in midsummer.
8. Foul Weather Gear - two-piece outfits are best. Unless you plan to sail often, avoid the expensive brands.
9. Other Essentials - spending money, stamps, sun-glasses, hats, small ditty bag for day stuff and for shore leave and camera.
10. Seasick Tablets - Marazine or Bonamine are successful. Marazine is less prone to promote drowsiness. Consult your physician for recommendations. A prescription is required for behind the ear patches.
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 hard-sided suitcases are allowed, as stowage space is limited. There simply is not room for larger bags and extra clothing. Keep it simple.

DO NOT BRING radios, iPods, cell phones (or other electronic devices), scuba equipment, or heavy gear. We provide a safety harness for every crew member. Please leave your cell phones home so you truly have an experience of being away.

Shore Leave

The captain may grant shore leave after supper if conditions permit. You will return to the ship no later than 10:00 p.m., except with the captain's permission. *Brilliant's* welcome at her ports of call and permission to use shore facilities depend on our reputation for bringing well-behaved crews. There will be anchorages that do not offer the opportunities to go ashore.

Cleaning

Before leaving any anchorage in the morning, your bunks must be straightened away. No clothing is to be left lying around. Heads must be scrubbed, decks washed or swept, and brightwork wiped down. Brass polishing is a daily chore. In good weather other cleaning and maintenance is done as needed. The vessel may be wiped down at the end of the day.

Neatness and cleanliness are required, and a group leader is responsible to the mate in this regard. *Brilliant* is a beautiful craft, admired wherever she goes. Your efforts are vital to maintaining this reputation.

Shipboard Life

Facilities for doing laundry or for taking a shower do not exist aboard *Brilliant*. A washcloth can produce excellent results as generations of seafarers have discovered. Group leaders are expected to participate in the physical work of the ship. All hands are expected to turn out to perform necessary work 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. The call for "ALL HANDS!" means exactly that and INSTANTLY!

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. It is sometimes difficult to see these objects from the wheel, and lookouts have a responsibility for safety of the ship and all aboard.

Tips for Shipmates

There are certain things to bear in mind about life in the crowded confines of a ship.

1. Show consideration for your shipmates and “pull your weight in the boat.”
2. Long fingernails get broken, especially when furling sail. A clipped nail is better than a torn nail.
3. You may not bring any food or candy aboard.
4. iPods, radios and other electronic amusements including cell phones are not allowed because we want you to hear the sea and your shipmates. Bring books.
5. Never leave your post without being properly relieved.
6. Sleeping bags and pillows are not allowed on deck.
10. Do not attempt to light the galley stove.
11. Never stand or sit in the companionways.

Drug and Alcohol Policy

Brilliant is a zero tolerance vessel. Students participating in the teen programs are not allowed to use tobacco, consume alcohol, use illegal substances, or misuse prescription drugs. These rules apply both aboard the vessel and during shore leave. Any student caught in possession of, or under the influence of, prohibited substances will be required to leave the vessel as soon as is practical. The student and his/her parents or guardians are responsible for any travel expenses incurred by the early dismissal from the program and are not eligible for any program refunds.

Short History

On 23 April 1932 the schooner *Brilliant* was launched from the yard of Henry B. Nevins at City Island, New York. She was built for Walter Barnum, and at his request the construction details were of the highest standard for a possible voyage around the world. At the present time, *Brilliant* is in every way fit to undergo any of the trials envisioned for her when new. She is a tribute to her designer, builder, and to all those who have owned or cared for her over the intervening years.

Although not primarily built for racing, *Brilliant* can give a good account of herself when there is plenty of wind.

During the summer of 2000, *Brilliant* raced with Tall Ships 2000 from Boston to Halifax and won First in Class and third in a fleet of over 40 vessels. She went on to win the race from Halifax to Amsterdam, First in Class and First in Fleet. She entered the 1932 Bermuda Race soon after being launched, and though she lost her Genoa jib on the first night out, she was not far behind when the Highland Light broke the existing course record.

In 1933, *Brilliant* set a record in elapsed time for vessels of her size when she ran from Nantucket Lightship to Bishop Rock Light, England, in 15 days, 1 hour and 23 minutes.

In 1936, one of the hardest Bermuda Races was run. In a heart-breaking finish, *Brilliant* was becalmed almost at the finish line, and the crew helplessly watched the *Vamarie* catch a breeze, come up from astern, and cross the finish line several minutes ahead. *Brilliant* was thus second over the line. *Kirawan*, a smaller craft, won on corrected time. Henry E. Bodman of Detroit, Michigan, purchased *Brilliant* in 1940 and took her out to the Great Lakes. There she cruised until William W. Spivy bought her in 1942. Mr. Spivy donated her to the Coast Guard for anti-submarine patrol work. In this service she operated out of St. Simon's Island, Georgia, evidently spotting at least one submarine but without mishap.

With the end of World War II, *Brilliant*, along with other yachts that had been pressed into service, was auctioned off. She was purchased by Briggs Cunningham in 1945. Mr. Cunningham riggered her with taller masts and increased sail area with the intention of giving her more speed in light winds. After a poor showing in the 1946 Bermuda Race, she stayed more or less in Long Island Sound.

In 1953, Mr. Cunningham generously donated *Brilliant* to Mystic Seaport to teach young people the art of seamanship. Through program earnings and continued donations by friends of *Brilliant*, this fine schooner has been maintained to a high standard and is admired wherever she goes.

Since 1953, *Brilliant* has sailed the equivalent in nautical miles of five times around the earth with more than 9,000 students setting her sails and steering her course. Caring for this significant vessel and keeping maritime skills alive help Mystic Seaport fulfill its mission as the Museum of America and the Sea.

In October 2000, the American Sail Training Association voted *Brilliant*'s former Captain George Moffett "Sail Trainer of the Year," and in 2011, he was awarded the "Lifetime Achievement Award." *Brilliant* was named "Sail Training Vessel of the Year" in 1997. She has won the famous Nantucket Opera House Cup twice, in 1986 and 1997, and has won many other classic boat races over the past 50 years.

Brilliant's Specifications

Name: *Brilliant*

Built: 1932

Type: Auxiliary Schooner

Designer: Sparkman & Stephens, Inc.

Builder: Henry B. Nevins, Inc.

Length Overall: 61' 6"

Length at Waterline: 49'

Beam: 14' 8"

Draft: 8' 10"

Designed Displacement: 42 tons (Estimated present displacement: 47 tons)

Lead: 33,000 lbs.

Licensed Capacity: 2 crew, 10 passengers

Heads: Two

Electronic Equipment: Radar, GPS, VHF, SSB, Speed/Log, Depth Finder

Water Capacity: 200 gals. In stainless steel tanks under floor

Construction: Teak with bronze fastenings, oak frames

Sails: Dacron, Sail No. 22

Running Rigging: Dacron

Standing Rigging: Stainless Steel

Anchors: 1 Yachtsman; 1 Bruce

Life Raft: Coast Guard approved inflatable, 2 6-man

Engine: #353 G.M.C. Diesel, 1982, 97 H.P.

Cruising Speed: 6.5 knots (under power)

Stove: Force 10, Propane

Lighting: 24 volts, emergency, 12 volts

Fuel Capacity: 130 gals. In bronze tank under engine

Vessel built to highest Lloyd's specifications under their supervision. Vessel licensed as Sailing School Vessel (and Passenger Vessel) under United States Coast Guard regulations and inspection. On ocean passages, *Brilliant* sails as a six-passenger uninspected vessel and on coastal or inland passages she sails as a sailing school vessel or passenger (inspected) vessel. Captain carries Coast Guard issued license as required by law. *Brilliant* is hauled every year and inspected by the USCG for the integrity of her hull, rig and safety equipment. The two six-man life rafts are inspected and tested every year. Radios are also tested and FCC approved.