

The History of Windjammer Days



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The classic windjammers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries were working vessels that required captains and crews of extraordinary skill and courage. Trade was their mission. Today, most windjammers are used for consumer travel, education, as museum exhibits or are privately owned. Therefore, it is a rare privilege to see these remarkable vessels up close and in mass, and a wonderful opportunity to remember their valuable place in history.

On a foggy day in the spring of 1962, Captain David and Captain Marion Dash sat on the porch of their home and noticed a gathering of windjammers tucked into the harbor, patiently waiting for the fog to lift so they could safely return to Sea. It was at that very moment a tradition was born; a festival of sailing ships. Invitations were sent to schooners sailing along the New England coast for the first Windjammer Days Festival in the boating capital of New England, Boothbay Harbor, Maine. And so it began.

Fast forward 50 years, countless volunteer hours and the incredible generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Dash and this 'festival of sailing ships' is now the cornerstone of celebrations in our community. Today, Windjammer Days marks the kick off to summer in our region; A time to reconnect with family, friends and neighbors after the long winter, an opportunity to support local businesses and welcome visitors.

A time to honor our maritime history and celebrate the vital role it plays in the lives of all who live here. And what better way to do this, than to unite as a community, while a parade of majestic windjammers sail into our harbor, reminding us of a simpler time.

So be sure to set your compass for Boothbay Harbor, Maine this coming June, and join us for a weeklong celebration of the 50th Windjammer Days Festival. A variety of family fun events are scheduled throughout the week, to include: a hometown street parade, an antique boat parade, waterfront concerts, museum exhibits, kids tents, pancake breakfasts, golf tournaments, sailing races, boat excursions, live theater, art and craft shows, historic maritime stories and a spectacular firework display over the harbor! A diverse selection of lodging packages will be available around the region to offer visitors the opportunity to extend their stay and take advantage of the festivities.

WINDJAMMER DAYS

50TH ANNIVERSARY

JUNE 26-27, 2012



- _____
- PANCAKE BREAKFAST
- _____
- WATERFRONT CONCERTS
- _____
- KIDS TENTS
- _____
- FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE
- _____
- ANTIQUE BOAT PARADE
- _____
- STREET PARADE
- _____
- ARTIST ALLEY
- _____
- CRAFT SHOW
- _____
- GOLF TOURNAMENT
- _____
- FIREWORKS
- _____
- WINDJAMMERS SAIL INTO THE HARBOR



Sponsored by the Boothbay Harbor Region Chamber of Commerce
 207-633-2353
www.boothbayharbor.com

Windjammer Days is a Boothbay Harbor Region Chamber of Commerce Event.
FMI please visit www.boothbayharbor.com, like us on facebook at Boothbay Harbor Windjammer Days or call the chamber office at 207.633.2353.