



Sail Detroit Festival with Tall Ships Set for August 7-10

Detroit to welcome Tall Ships for the first time since 2001

Detroit. March 13, 2025 – The majestic grandeur of some of the most famous Tall Ships will grace the Detroit Riverfront Aug. 7-10 during the Sail Detroit festival, organized by the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority. This family-friendly event will showcase tall ships ranging in size and style with most of the activities centered at the Port Authority headquarters located between Hart Plaza and the Renaissance Center. Tickets are expected to sell out fast and are now available at saildetroit.com.

Ships will arrive on August 7, traveling along the riverfront before tying up for three days of public access and viewing August 8-10. Accessing Detroit through the St. Lawrence River, Lake Ontario, and Lake Erie, the Port of Detroit is one of several Great Lakes stops in the 2025 Tall Ships Challenge. The ships will also make stops at Duluth, MN and Erie, PA, among other ports.

The return of the ships to Detroit is the vision of the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority. "Sail Detroit 2001 was a monumental moment for our city, and we're so excited to bring tall ships back to Detroit," said John Jamian, Director of Operations of the Port Authority. "As we saw, there is something about the majesty of tall ships that unites us all. And there's nothing quite like seeing these vessels from on board. We can't wait to welcome these ships and crew to our city."

To celebrate Detroit's tricentennial in 2001, more than a million visitors gathered at the waterfront to board and experience an array of tall ships that tied up along the river's edge. The second rendition of Sail Detroit will honor the city's maritime history and highlight a summer calendar of events bringing vibrancy to downtown and its waterfront. A full listing of visiting ships will be announced in the weeks ahead.

"There are so many lessons that can be taught with these ships," said Mark Schrupp, Executive Director, Port Authority. "Our guests will learn about maritime careers, history, sustainability and Detroit as an important port when they come down to see the Ships. The Port Authority footprint on Atwater will be transformed into an amazing hub of fun during this special celebration of Detroit's greatest asset, its water."

Corporate outings, special group tours and a one-of-a-kind Captain's Dinner are being organized around Sail Detroit. For ticket information or to become a sponsor, visit www.saildetroit.com.

About Sail Detroit 2025:

Sponsored by the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority, Sail Detroit is a family-friendly festival that showcases tall ships from around the world. The event honors Detroit's maritime history by providing public access to tall ships, and education about the city's waterfront and its visiting ships. The event will also include food and beverage options from local vendors and branded merchandise. More than one million visitors attended the first Sail Detroit in 2001 as part of the city's tricentennial celebration. For more information, visit www.saildetroit.com.

About Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority:

The Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority (the Port Authority) is a government agency advancing southeast Michigan's maritime and related industries with the purpose of delivering prosperity and economic benefit to our citizens and businesses. The Port Authority oversees the Port of Detroit, which is made up of multiple marine terminals for handling general, liquid, and bulk cargo as well as passengers. For more than 45 years, the Port Authority has worked to build connections between the community and the maritime industry and the Great Lakes region, raising awareness of the importance of the Port of Detroit and how the cargo and vessel activity generates economic impact for the State of Michigan.

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