

Historical Seaport Sending Hawaiian Chieftain Out, Lady Washington Stays in Aberdeen

Local News

Posted by: David Haviland

Posted on : August 28, 2009 at 10:23 am

Lady Washington to remain in Aberdeen for extensive planned maintenance

Aberdeen, Wash. — The Grays Harbor Historical Seaport is pleased to announce the ports of call for its 2009-2010 California tour of the tall ship Hawaiian Chieftain. The tour theme is "California 2009-2010: Hands-on History for Youth." The tour emphasizes the Hawaiian Chieftain's mission of delivering valuable—and in some cases, life-changing—educational experiences for young people, many of whom go on to careers in the maritime trades, the Navy, and the Coast Guard.

Scheduled ports of call include: San Francisco (October [tentative] and February), Sacramento, Antioch, Rio Vista, Santa Cruz, Newport Beach, Oxnard, Ventura, Oakland, Redwood City, Eureka, and Crescent City. At each port, Hawaiian Chieftain will host groups from K-12 classrooms for hands-on living history programs. Educators interested in scheduling one-hour dockside or three-hour sailing educational programs should contact Reasa Shuck, 360-589-2299, rshuck@historicalseaport.org.

Hawaiian Chieftain will also welcome visitors for walk-on tours, three-hour Adventure Sails, and Passages, one-way extended tall ship experiences from one port of call to the next, similar to 18th-century travelers. Passages run from four hours to nine days. The first Passage is scheduled for Oct. 12-20 (Westport, Wash. to San Francisco). (Ocean Passages are recommended for experienced travelers only.) Schedule details and online ticket sales are available at www.historicalseaport.org.

The tall ship Lady Washington, which normally accompanies Hawaiian Chieftain to California, will remain in Aberdeen for planned maintenance. The Seaport will replace the ship's outdated engine with a new engine that meets current environmental standards. The Seaport will also upgrade the ship's rigging.

The topsail ketch Hawaiian Chieftain is a replica of a typical European merchant trader of the turn of the nineteenth century. Launched in 1988, she was originally designed for cargo trade among the Hawaiian Islands. Her hull shape and rigging are similar to those of Spanish explorers' ships used in the expeditions of the late 18th century along the Washington, Oregon, and California coasts. The modern ship was acquired by the Historical Seaport in 2004 after a long career in the San Francisco Bay Area.