

# THE VOYAGE

INFORMATION FOR  
PARENTS AND GUARDIANS



## HELP YOUR TEEN REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

The Young Endeavour Youth Scheme delivers a world recognised sail training program in the brigantine *STS Young Endeavour*. Our voyages help young Australians aged 16 to 23 build confidence, develop resilience, and learn skills in communication, teamwork and leadership.

# AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED YOUTH PROGRAM

*Young Endeavour* undertakes around 20 voyages each year, mostly along the east and south coasts of Australia. As a member of the 24 strong youth crew, each participant will be challenged to sail a square-rigged tall ship, including learning how to navigate, keep watch, cook in the galley, set and furl sails, climb the 30 metre mast, and take the helm.

In learning how to sail the ship they are learning how to work together as a team, and to recognise and appreciate the strengths of a diverse group of individuals. They are supported by our specially trained Royal Australian Navy staff crew and encouraged to step out of their comfort zones, becoming more self-aware and building the confidence to actively contribute and to take on leadership roles amongst their peers.

## UNIQUE ENVIRONMENT

A tall ship at sea provides a powerful setting for experiential learning, as it requires participants to take on responsibilities with real purpose and consequences, albeit with supervision. The immersive nature of the program encourages youth to develop interpersonal, leadership and teamwork skills which they will be able to draw on throughout their lives.

## COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

*Young Endeavour* is traditionally rigged as a brigantine and was designed for sail training.

The ship is a modern sailing vessel, equipped with contemporary navigation, communication and safety equipment. It is maintained by the Royal Australian Navy and certified by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

## PROFESSIONAL STAFF CREW

The program is delivered by Royal Australian Navy personnel who are carefully selected and trained to ensure the highest standards of safety and care. The staff crew encourage each participant to identify and pursue personal and team goals, and provide them with the tools to meet and negotiate the challenges they will face on board.

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

International research shows the *Young Endeavour* program produces significant outcomes, drawing on a purposefully structured program and positive learning environment to develop participants' capabilities - particularly their confidence.

The skills learned during each eleven day voyage are immediately transferable to every day settings at home, at school and at work.



“LUCAS HASN'T STOPPED TALKING ABOUT HIS VOYAGE SINCE HIS RETURN HOME. THIS REALLY MEANS A LOT FOR MY TEENAGER WHO NORMALLY BURIES HIS HEAD IN SOCIAL MEDIA. EACH PHOTO WE SAW SHOWED HIM WITH THE BIGGEST SMILE AND SPARKLE IN HIS EYES, REASSURING US THAT WE MADE THE RIGHT DECISION TO APPLY FOR THE VOYAGE”.

- Svenja, Parent - Voyage 11/23



# AN UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURE AT SEA

Sail Training Ship *Young Endeavour* was gifted to the people of Australia by the United Kingdom in 1988. Since then we have successfully delivered more than 600 development voyages and embarked more than 14,000 youth for a structured adventure at sea. Each participant has the opportunity to step outside their comfort zone and sail remarkable parts of the Australian coast, while building confidence, friendships and skills for life.

Each day on board *Young Endeavour* is different, depending on where the ship is sailing and the prevailing conditions. Youth crew spend several days and nights at sea learning the skills to sail a square-rigged ship, as well as participating in games and team building activities on deck. There are also opportunities to go swimming, play sports, visit islands, spot whales and dolphins, and get to know some amazing people.

Youth crew live 'between decks' in a close community with youth from around Australia. With no Wi-Fi or mobile phones they have the opportunity to be present, focus on the program, build their interpersonal skills and challenge themselves.

Over the course of the voyage they will take on increased responsibility for sailing and maintaining the ship, culminating in Command Day, when they will elect their own leadership team and complete a series of challenges while working together to sail *Young Endeavour* along the coast.



“I DIDN'T HAVE A LOT OF CONFIDENCE BEFORE COMING ON THE SHIP, AND THE EXPERIENCE HAS HELPED ME TO BE MORE COMFORTABLE JUST BEING ME. I WOULD DEFINITELY RECOMMEND TO MY FRIENDS THAT THEY SHOULD APPLY FOR A VOYAGE”  
- Ellie Eather, Voyage 12/22

“ELLIE CAME HOME TO US A DIFFERENT PERSON. SO MUCH MORE RESILIENT, CONFIDENT AND SHE'S MADE A GROUP OF FRIENDS THAT SHE'LL HAVE FOREVER”.  
- Liz Eather, Ellie's Mother



## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Voyages are open to all young Australians. No prior sailing experience is required and most youth crew have never been to sea before. Youth crew come from capital cities, regional centres and rural communities in every state and territory.

To apply you need to:

- be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- be aged 16-23 years when the voyage departs
- weigh less than 120kg and be able to swim 50m
- be in good general health

Please note, certain medical conditions may preclude participation. For details please visit our website.

## WHAT DOES IT COST?

A standard youth development voyage costs \$2,200 (inc GST). Financial assistance fees start from \$650, and may be available for eligible applicants.

The voyage fee includes:

- the Young Endeavour youth development program
- voyage accommodation aboard the ship
- chef cooked meals
- kit bag and voyage handbook
- youth crew shirt, hat and sailing gloves

Travel to and from the ship and travel insurance are not included.

## HOW TO APPLY

Rather than take direct bookings, we allocate berths through the Young Endeavour Ballot - a weighted lottery. This ensures a mix of youth crew join each voyage - which research tells us means better outcomes for participants!

There are no fees to apply, and you can submit or update an online application at any time.



**APPLY  
ONLINE**



[www.youngendeavour.gov.au](http://www.youngendeavour.gov.au)

OR TALK TO OUR TEAM 1800 020 444