



Yacht America to set her course for Salem

Public is invited to visit, learn, and even sail on replica of famous racing schooner when she is docked at Salem Maritime NHS, August 13-14

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Images available: [bit.ly/YachtAmerica Images](http://bit.ly/YachtAmerica_Images)

Salem, MA . . . A replica of the famous racing schooner *America* will be in port in Salem on August 13 and 14. The original *America* won the Royal Yacht Squadron's "100 Guinea Cup" race around the Isle of Wight in 1851, resulting in the race being renamed the "America's Cup." The United States successfully defended the trophy against all challengers until 1983, creating what remains the longest winning streak in sporting history.

America owner and captain Troy Sears has embarked on an extensive tour of the East and Gulf coasts and the Caribbean to raise awareness of the 2017 America's Cup defense in Bermuda. The tour is giving sailing fans of all ages the opportunity to visit the historic 139-foot vessel, learn about the history of the America's Cup, and set sail with the captain and crew. The *America* will be stopping in Salem for the weekend of August 13-14, 2016.

Part of Salem Maritime National Historic Site's Centennial Celebration Programming, the Yacht *America* will be berthed at Central Wharf. She is expected to arrive on the high tide at approximately 8:00 AM on August 13. Other vessels to have visited Salem Maritime NHS this year include the Polynesian Voyaging Society canoe *Hokule'a*, *Schooner Adventure*, and *Lady Maryland*.

In addition to the dockside tours and ticketed sunset sails, owner and Captain Troy Sears will give a presentation about the America's Cup, its past, present, and future. This 166-year-old sporting event is one of the international sailing community's most exciting challenge and coveted award.

Saturday, August 13

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM . . . Free dockside tours of the *America* while berthed at Central Wharf
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM . . . Multimedia Presentation: *Past, Present, and Future of the America's Cup*
St. Joseph's Hall, Salem Maritime National Historic Site
6:15 PM – 8:15 PM . . . Sunset Sail aboard *America* (Tickets: \$85 adults; \$42.50 17 and under)

Sunday, August 14

2:30 PM – 4:30 PM . . . Free dockside tours of the *America* while berthed at Central Wharf
4:30 PM – 5:30 PM . . . Multimedia Presentation: *Past, Present, and Future of the America's Cup*
St. Joseph's Hall, Salem Maritime National Historic Site
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM . . . Sunset Sail aboard *America* (Tickets: \$85 adults; \$42.50 17 and under)

Tickets and details are available at fareharbor/yachtamerica. Please note that space is limited and that tickets are sold on a first come, first served basis.

Learn more: CNN covered the *America* arriving in New York Harbor for the recent America's Cup World Series event: <http://bit.ly/YachtAmericaNY>. For complete information on the vessel and her voyage, visit NextLevelSailing.com.

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About Salem: Salem, Massachusetts, is a destination recognized around the world for its rich history, which includes the tragic Salem Witch Trials of 1692, the glorious maritime era that left its indelible mark on Salem through architecture, museums, and artifacts, and for its month-long celebration of Halloween. Today nearly one million people visit Salem annually, generating more than \$100 million in tourism spending.

About the National Park Service

More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 412 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Visit us at www.nps.gov and on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

About Destination Salem: As the destination marketing organization for the City of Salem, Destination Salem cooperatively markets Salem as one of Massachusetts' best destinations for families, couples, domestic, and international travelers who are seeking an authentic New England experience, cultural enrichment, American history, fine dining, unique shopping and fun. For more information, visit Salem.org.