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Ride waves on a windjammer

SAIL, from Page 28

on the lido deck, but you also won't have to put on a jacket and tie for dinner. Guests are often awakened by the smell of coffee and fresh-baked muffins, prepared right on board. It's small-scale dining prepared using fresh, local ingredients. Most boats source locally, working with CSAs when items like blueberries and strawberries come into season, and everything is cooked from scratch. There are no modern appliances, so ice cream is cranked out by hand, bread is kneaded by hand and meals are often cooked on a wood-fired, cast-iron stove.



ROCK LOBSTERS: Crew members pile up lobsters for a windjammer excursion lobster bake.

Accommodations

The cabins on-board these historic ships (don't call them staterooms) are cozy, which can sometimes be interpreted as "small." Instead, try flexible, more than adequate and most importantly, you'll find running water, showers and bathrooms. Guests in some cabins may share bathrooms, but others have private facilities.

"They're cozy, but you're not spending a lot of time there," Maiden said. "There's room for everything you need — although we advise people not to pack steamer trunks. Duf-

fel bags are a great way to travel. People spend most of the time on-deck, where all the action is, or in the galley where the food is."

Most rooms are double cabins, with upper and lower bunks or a double bed. There are some singles for a slight extra charge,

After dark, captain and crew members often moonlight as the on-board entertainment, weaving stories and pulling out instruments to play and sing songs.

For the particularly wired-in, it might take a day or two to get used to not having flawless cell coverage. It's spotty.

"There are no TVs or faxes and people are pretty discrete with cell-phones," Maiden said. "It's a nice

THE MAINE
WINDJAMMER
ASSOCIATION

providing a great option for solo travelers, and there are a few triple cabins. Some of the boats even have wood stove-fired baseboard heat. All linens and wool blankets are provided.

break from all that."

Rates are different for each ship in the Maine Windjammer Association fleet and depend on the length of the trip. Each ship offers a wide variety of vacation choices. A sample of prices — because these are not each ship's only offerings — range from a one-night cruise aboard the Isaac H. Evans for \$230; a two-night weekend cruise on the American Eagle for \$595; a four-day trip on the Heritage for \$725; a six-night cruise on the Lewis R. French for \$965; or three-, four- and five-day cruises on the Victory Chimes for \$625 to \$900. Partial day sails are also available on some schooners; \$50 to \$70. A complete list of each ship and schedule can be found at sailmainecoast.com.

If you go

Excursions leave from ports in Rockland, Rockport and Camden, Maine. To book a Maine Windjammer Cruise, call 800-807-WIND or go to sailmainecoast.com.

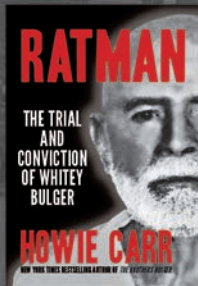
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