

# Ocean Sailing and Navigation

with Dave Badger and Sarah Moretz

Dates of Travel: December 9-December 16, 2016

Travel Fee: \$2900

Open to grades 9-12

**Course Description:** Welcome aboard the 130-foot schooner Roseway for a seven-day adventure sailing in the U.S. and British Virgin Islands. We will be partnering with the World Ocean School (WOS), a leader in experiential training programs, to learn about ocean sailing and navigation. All students will participate fully in the life of the ship, including standing watch with the professional crew and learning the time-honored arts of the seafarer – setting, furling and trimming sails, steering, navigation, line handling and knots, and emergency procedures, as well as the daily operational aspects of the ship including meal prep and cleanup. The emphasis is on learning about the teamwork and leadership skills necessary to create an effective community aboard ship. Prior to our departure to Antigua, we will study a bit of maritime history, reading excerpts from Richard Henry Dana's *Two Years Before the Mast*. Navigation studies begin with basic chart plotting, using many of the tools sailors used prior to the age of electronics. While at sea, students will explore marine ecology, including how pollution and climate change impact the ocean. While on board the Roseway, each student will keep a journal to record their experiences. Our travels will include stops in foreign ports of call, with opportunities for swimming and exploration on land. The trip will culminate in an overnight passage, disembarking in St. Thomas, almost 200 nautical miles from our original starting point.

## **Travel Itinerary:**

The itinerary that follows should give you an idea of the kind of trip we are planning, but it is not an exact itinerary. We are working with World Ocean School to create the best trip for our group. It should be noted that a sailing trip relies heavily on weather conditions, and therefore we may have to make adjustments immediately before or during the trip in order to stay on schedule and maintain safety.

**Days 1-3 ~ Tuesday-Thursday, December 6-8** will be spent at Oakwood preparing for this exciting journey. Students will learn basic sailing terminology, sail theory, and navigation and plotting techniques in anticipation of their sitting watch. Once en route, students will be engaged in three academic goals: Navigation and Seamanship (70%) Oceanography and Ecology (15%) and Maritime History and Culture (15%).

## **Day 4~ Friday, December 9**

LOS ANGELES/ST. THOMAS

Depart LAX at night to fly to St. Thomas, connecting in Newark.

**Day 4 ~ Saturday, December 10**

ON BOARD THE ROSEWAY

Once you arrive, you will board the 130-foot schooner Roseway. Settle in and set up groups for rotating watches. Once at sea, work on basic navigation, including taking bearings and plotting position. Our first afternoon will involve a short sail to a nearby island.

**Days 5-7 ~ Sunday-Monday, December 11-12**

ON BOARD THE ROSEWAY

Wake up for an early breakfast and instruction in basic deckwork, setting & striking sails. Sails up early in the morning. Continued deckwork, lines and pins, and continued navigation, dead reckoning. Sailing in and around the US and British Virgin Islands. En route, participate in navigation lessons. Take advantage of being at sea all night to learn about celestial navigation. There may be opportunities for snorkeling and land exploration based on the various locations visited. We will also explore the effect of pollution on the oceans, including ocean currents and the impact on sea life.

**Day 8-10 ~ Tuesday-Thursday, December 13-15**

ON BOARD THE ROSEWAY

Further Navigation studies, including bearings and plotting positions with a "hands-on" test of skills. These days will include a long passage either around the island of St. Croix or, depending on weather, through an alternate route back to the island of St. Thomas. This part of the journey will include the longest voyages of the trip, and students will be responsible in groups for the various day and night watches.

**Day 11 ~ Friday, December 16**

ST. THOMAS

Dock at ports of call, cleaning and packing. Participate in graduation ceremonies and a celebratory meal before heading to the airport. Fly through Newark and back to LAX for an evening landing.

**WHAT IS INCLUDED**

- 6 nights, 7 days accommodation on board the schooner Roseway
- All meals
- Roundtrip economy class airfare from LAX/ St Thomas/LAX
- All planned activities

**WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED**

- ◆ **PERSONAL ITEMS** such as airport meals, snacks, laundry, and telephone calls.
- ◆ **PASSPORTS** must be carried by each tour member and must be valid six months beyond tour date.