

Welcome on board



Swan is a beautiful, ideal sized boat - small enough to visit unexplored and inshore anchorages, yet large enough to be a joy to sail and provide safe passage on international journeys. Built at Hay's Dock in Lerwick in 1900, and fully restored between 1990-1996, she is a tried and trusted vessel which handles well in livelier weather as well as lighter winds.

Our experienced crew love the sea and will welcome you on board as voyage crew to 'learn the ropes' and play an active part in sailing and working Swan. No prior experience is necessary, just a sense of adventure and a willingness to pitch in.

On board, the atmosphere is relaxed and sociable. Living in close quarters, you will get to know your crewmates well - with many forming long lasting friendships on our trips. As this is a sailing adventure, we always prefer to work with mother nature and so our trips are flexible - going with the weather whenever we can to give the best possible sailing experience for all on board. To allow this flexibility you will often not find detailed itineraries for our trips, but rest assured that wherever we go in Shetland you will find stunning scenery and wildlife, along with the best sailing experience possible for the conditions. Our trips further afield are always planned to make the most of the locations we visit.



Swan Stats

Year Built: 1900

Vessel Type: Fifie

Rig: Gaff Ketch

Vessel Length: 20.42m / 67ft

Waterline length: 20.12m / 66ft

Beam: 6.096m / 20ft

Draught: 2.6m / 8.053ft

Air Draught: 2.43m / 7.97ft
(24.9m with topsail, 21m without)

Gross Tonnage: 59.44

Sails: 5

Total Sail Area: 201.9m² / 2173.85ft²

Berths: 15

**The Swan Trust SCIO is a registered
charity: SC051822**

What to expect on board

On arrival, you will be greeted by our experienced crew and shown the shared living quarters where you can store your bag. As storage space is limited, please take a soft shelled or collapsable bag, no suitcases. For details on what to pack, see our kit list.

Before departure, every trip starts with a comprehensive safety briefing, including how to work the lines on deck and set the sails. Every voyage on Swan is a hands on experience - you are part of the crew and will work as a team to make the voyage happen. All tasks are shared and everyone joins in, from the most to the least experienced. You will take your turn on the helm, in the galley and stand watch, adjusting sails and doing safety checks.

When not on duty you will have plenty of time to relax and get to know your crew mates, look for wildlife and enjoy the scenery, write your own log book or just enjoy getting away from it all.

The main saloon is a cosy social space where meals are served, music is played and stories are shared. Three meals are served daily on extended journeys and the kettle is always on, even on day trips! With all duties being shared, you can show off your culinary skills in the galley, or try your hand at trying to catch fish for dinner. Everyone on board has their own bunk, with a privacy curtain and reading light. There are 8 bunks in the main saloon and 7 bunks aft. As there are no individual cabins, accommodation is usually mixed genders.

Forward of the main saloon is the galley and two toilets with sink, and one shower. Swan also has a 240v electrical system for charging your phone, camera and other electrical items.



Other Useful info

Fitness

Sailing does not require a large degree of aerobic fitness, but can be demanding on upper body strength when helping hoist the sails. The boat is often accessed from the quayside by vertical pier ladder, and there are steep ladder-like stairs down to the main saloon and toilets, so you do need to be fit enough to descend and climb a vertical ladder.

Dietary Requirements

Menus are planned in advance, so please ensure you share any dietary requirements at the time of booking. As galley duties are shared, you may need to advise or assist those on duty if you have particular requirements.

Insurance

Swan is insured for legal liabilities during your stay on board. However, this does not cover travel to or from the boat, or while on shore. Please arrange your own travel insurance for your trip and ensure your policy covers sailing, cruising and yachting, and also cancellation cover. We would also advise appropriate healthcare insurance for your own country for anyone travelling from overseas.

Merchandise

We are pleased to offer a small selection of Swan branded merchandise on board to purchase. This includes clothing and accessories and can be a memento of your trip or a gift for friends or family. Income from merchandise sales helps to cover the running costs of the boat, and your support in this way is appreciated. Card payments can be accepted on board. Please ask your crew for more details.

Watch Duty

On longer trips, everyone is assigned a watch. Each watch has an experienced leader, who will be in charge while your watch is temporarily responsible for the safe operation of Swan.

Watch duty is typically the standard ship system - a four hour on, eight hour off, rota. Swan watches are split into 3 teams, which operate day and night. While exact times will vary, as set by the skipper, an example may be:

Watch A: 1200 - 1600

Watch B: 1600 - 2000

Watch C: 2000 - 0000

This means Watch A will come on duty at 12noon and be in charge of working and sailing Swan until 1600, when Watch B takes over until 2000, then Watch C takes over at midnight. At midnight, Watch A relieves Watch C until 0400 when they are relieved by Watch B, and so on.

While at anchor or in port overnight there are no watch duties for voyage crew.



www.swantrust.com

Health and Safety - the important stuff

The health and safety of all on board is our primary concern on all voyages. Swan is fully insured, compliant with MCA coding, fitted with the latest navigation and safety equipment, and operated by a professionally qualified skipper and mate. Before your journey begins, please note the following safety points:

- **Ship's command:** For everyone's safety, when on board you are under the command of the skipper and, or your watch leader. They will guide you in the safe operation of the boat and their instructions should be followed at all times.
- **Weather:** Due to changing weather and sea conditions, no sailing trip can ever be guaranteed and so the itinerary of any of our trips may be altered or cancelled - this will be at the discretion of our skipper for your safety and comfort.
- **Lif jackets:** Everyone on board will wear a lifejacket at all times on deck when at sea and, when directed by the skipper due to certain conditions, engage safety harnesses.
- **Medical Conditions:** The skipper must be informed of any medical condition and/ or any medication you are taking. You should ensure you have enough medication to cover the duration of your trip.
- **Sea-sickness:** It is advisable to take your own sea-sickness pills, and take a dose before sailing if you have doubts about your sea legs.
- **Tidiness:** Space is at a premium and shared by your crewmates. Therefore it is important to keep all areas tidy and stow your personal belongings appropriately. Hard shell suitcases are not permitted and bags with wheels are not recommended as they cannot be stowed.
- **Alcohol:** We operate a dry ship when at sea, as even if you are off duty, you may be called on deck at any time and must have a clear head. When at anchor or tied alongside, an 'anchor dram' is often enjoyed. In port, conditions are more relaxed but please remember you are sharing your living quarters with others and be considerate of all on board. Please note, we do not sell or supply alcohol on board, so you will need to bring your own.
- **Smoking:** Smoking and the use of electronic smoking materials is strictly prohibited below deck, and only permissible on deck at the discretion of the skipper and provided it does not interfere with the safety or operation of the vessel.

