



# Ports de la Generalitat



Generalitat  
de Catalunya

## **Palamós: Port of Call for The Tall Ships'Races 2007- Mediterranea.**

**15-17 JULY 2007**

### **SUNDAY, 15 JULY**

*From 10 p.m.*      ✓ Arrival and welcome reception for participating ships.

### **MONDAY, 16 JULY**

#### **Throughout the day:**

*10 a.m. to 8 p.m.*      ✓ Open house at the Museum of Fishing for participants in the regatta. The Museum of Fishing is the only of its kind in the Mediterranean, wholly devoted to the world of fishing and fishermen.

✓ "Tourist Train" ride to visit the town's most interesting historical, natural, scenic and shopping sites.

✓ Regional crafts fair at the port.

✓ Sports and games for the crews on the Palamós beach, next to the port.

*At noon.*      ✓ Official reception and wine toast. Gift ceremony to commemorate the stay at Palamós of ships participating in the regatta.

- At 1 p.m.* ✓ Lunch for skippers and port authorities at the S'Alaguer cove, a picturesque point declared a National Asset of Cultural Interest.
- At 8 p.m.* ✓ Wharf-side tasting of traditional seafood dishes for all participants.
- At 10 p.m.* ✓ Crew party next to the port. Glass of cava (Catalan sparkling wine).

## **TUESDAY, JULY 17**

- At 11 a.m.* ✓ Farewell party for the fleet.
- At noon.* ✓ Departure of the fleet, accompanied by crafts from the city's marinas.

## **PORT OF PALAMÓS TO BE A STOP ON THE MOST IMPORTANT TALL SHIPS RACES IN THE WORLD**

### **The Tall Ships' Races 2007-Mediterranea**

THE BULGARIAN SHIP *KALIAKRA*, THE ECUADORIAN *GUAYAS*, THE ITALIAN *PALINURO*, THE CATALAN *FAR DE BARCELONA* OR THE URUGUAYAN *CAPITÁN MIRANDA* ARE JUST A FEW OF THE TALL SHIPS THAT HAVE CONFIRMED THEIR PRESENCE AT THE PALAMÓS PORT ON 16 AND 17 JULY, COINCIDING WITH THE VERGE DEL CARME FESTIVITIES. THE TOWN COUNCIL OF PALAMÓS, IN COLLABORATION WITH PORTS DE LA GENERALITAT AND THE HARBORMASTER'S OFFICE, HAS ARRANGED FOR THE SHIPS' STAY, AS WELL AS AN ACTIVITY AGENDA FOR BOTH THE SHIPS' CREWS AND THE VISITING PUBLIC. FOR THE TOWN AND ITS PORT, THIS EXTRAORDINARY VISIT IS A LANDMARK EVENT, BOTH FOR ITS CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE AND SHEER MAGNIFICENCE.

In honor of the prestigious The Tall Ships' Races 2007 Mediterranea international regatta, to be held from 4 to 31 July between the ports of Alicante and Genoa, with stops in Barcelona and Toulon, the Town Council of Palamós, in conjunction with the El Far Consortium, has invited the ships participating in the unique event to dock at the Port of Palamós on their way from Barcelona to Toulon.

#### **TALL SHIPS IN PALAMÓS**

The reply was short in coming and, to date, several of these long ships have already confirmed their presence at the Port of Palamós. Specifically, they will be in the city on 16 and 17 July, coinciding with the festivities in honor of the Verge del Carme (Our Lady of Carmen), the patron saint of seafarers.

Among the ships that have already confirmed their stay, special attention should be drawn to the Ecuadorian Naval School barque *Guayas*, which has three masts and is 80 m long; the Bulgarian *Kaliakra*, also three-masted and 55 m long; the schooner *Capitán Miranda*, belonging to the Uruguayan Navy, with three masts and a length of 60 m; the barquentine *Palinuro*, belonging to the Italian navy, with three masts and a length of 70 m; the *Idea Due*, a two-masted Italian vessel with a length of 22 m; or the likewise two-masted schooner (a Norwegian jakt) *El Far de Barcelona*, with a length of 33 m, whose home port is the Catalan capital city of Barcelona. Other ships from the Tall Ships' Races 2007 Mediterranea fleet are expected to accept the Palamós invitation in coming weeks.

#### **PORT ACTIVITIES**

To celebrate this exceptional event, which will no doubt evoke Palamós's past as a bustling port city, and which, for the town and its port, is sure to be both a milestone and a privilege as a result of the cultural aspects and sheer magnificence of such a meeting of vessels, the Town Council of Palamós and Ports de la Generalitat (the Catalan regional port authority), in collaboration with the Palamós Harbormaster's Office, the local fishermen's association, shipping agents, yacht clubs and tourism and business organizations from the town, will hold a grand welcome for the ships at the port and sponsor a variety of activities for both the ships' crews and the visiting public.

To this end, the activity agenda will kick off on the morning of Monday, 16 July, date of the Verge del Carme festivities, as the fleet is projected to arrive at the Palamós port between the night of the 15<sup>th</sup> and the morning of 16<sup>th</sup>.

Among other things, the program will include: free public tours of the participating vessels; an open-house day at the Museum of Fishing for the ships' passengers and crews; a regional crafts fair with stands at the fishing port; an official reception for the ships' captains at the Palamós Town Hall; a wharf-side tasting dinner for the crews; and a town-wide party and dance, which will cap off the events of the 16<sup>th</sup>.

The next day, 17 July, the public may take its final tours of the participating ships. This will be followed by a farewell event to see the fleet off as the vessels make their stunning joint departure from the Palamós Bay, scheduled to take place at noon. They will be accompanied by dozens of smaller boats from the Port of Palamós.

#### **OVER FIFTY YEARS OF HISTORY**

The Tall Ships Races are the largest concentrations of period tall ships in the world. The regatta, originally known as the "Cutty Sark", celebrated its fiftieth anniversary last year.

The idea of holding an international tall ships race was first broached in the mid-1950s in order to bring together international crews willing to make the dreams of sailors and sea-lovers a reality.

In 1956, the Sail Training International regatta committee was set up, and the first regatta was held between Torbay (United Kingdom) and Lisbon (Portugal). Twenty tall ships participated in the first race. Fifty years later, more than one hundred classic ships take part in the different concentrations held around the world.

This coming July, the Tall Ships Races will come to the Mediterranean, where the vessels will embark on a route along the Spanish, French and Italian coasts. The regatta will begin on 7 July at the Port of Alicante, where the fleet will be concentrated from 4 July on. The race itself will be held in two parts. The first leg will take place from 7 to 11 July and the second from 24 to 27 July. On the days between the two legs, the ships will visit a variety of ports (Barcelona, Toulon and Genoa). The Town Council of Palamós has proposed that the fleet spend two days anchored in the town's harbor as it makes its way from Barcelona to Toulon between the two stages of the race, a segment of the voyage scheduled to take place from 15 to 20 July.