

Media Advisory
For Immediate Release
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AMERICA'S USCG CUTTER EAGLE TALL SHIP MAKES RETURN VISIT TO NORFOLK



Norfolk, VA – Norfolk Festevents announces the return of the USCG Cutter Eagle Tall Ship. On **Friday, July 22, 2016**, the only active commissioned sailing vessel “**USCG Cutter Eagle**” is scheduled to arrive at approximately 11:00am in Downtown Norfolk, docking at Otter Berth next to the future Waterside District. The ship will depart at approximately 10:00am on **Monday, July 25, 2016**. Arrival and departure times are approximate and are subject to change due inclement weather.

Built in Germany in 1936 and taken as reparation by the United States at the close of World War II, the Eagle is the largest tall ship flying the Stars and Stripes. The majestic sailing ship, the Coast Guard Cutter EAGLE provides the U.S. Coast Guard Academy cadets and officer candidates with their first taste of sea and salt air.

The Eagle's homeport of New London, Conn., on the Thames River neighbors the U. S. Coast Guard Academy. The Eagle's location and design supports its primary mission of training cadets and officer candidates, offering a strong foundation of seamanship and knowledge to up to 150 cadets or officer candidates at a time. Aboard America's Tall Ship, trainees are exposed to the real world workings of America's only active duty square-rigger, as they fulfill duties normally executed by junior officers or junior enlisted persons.

The port visit is sponsored by The City of Norfolk and Festevents, Ltd. Guests are encouraged to witness USCGC Eagle's arrival into port from its international cruise consisting of stops at ports in England, Portugal, and Bermuda on Friday, July 22, 2016, at approximately 11:00am.



Public Visitation Schedule: The ship will be open for public visitation on Saturday (23 July) and Sunday (24 July) from 10 AM - 7 PM. Please contact Festevents at 757-441-2345 or Festevents.org for official updates. Ship tours are **free** and open to the public.

Facts & History: USCGC Eagle

- Sixth U.S. Coast Guard cutter to bear the name in a proud line dating back to 1792
- Built in 1936 by the Blohm and Voss Shipyard in Hamburg, Germany, and commissioned as *Horst Wessel*. (Five identical sister ships were also built.)
- Speed under full sail: 17 knots
- Length: 295 ft.
- Maximum Capacity of 239 people
- A permanent crew of six officers and 55 enlisted personnel

For more information on events, including hours, park regulations and parking please visit www.festevents.org or call 757.441.2345.

Norfolk Festevents Ltd., based in Norfolk, Virginia, is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to creating the most dynamic urban waterfront community in America through innovative programming and imaginative uses of its historic waterfront spaces. An extensive 10 month schedule of diverse outdoor cultural events, festivals, concerts, entertainment, holiday programs, tall ship visits, sports and recreation are presented in two popular and welcoming waterfront environments; Town Point Park located in downtown Norfolk on the banks of the Elizabeth River and Ocean View Beach Park situated on the shore line of the Chesapeake Bay. Norfolk Festevents has served as the City of Norfolk's official event marketing agency since the city's downtown waterfront revitalization initiatives began in 1982. The organization has garnered international acclaim for its advocacy for public access to waterfronts, outstanding quality programming and development of public spaces, transforming Norfolk into one of the most progressive, fun and livable waterfront communities in the country. Residents, workers, and visitors to Norfolk and the Hampton Roads region are invited to experience all the fun and excitement of the 2016 season!

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