

THE SCHOONER STEPHEN TABER

Since 1871



America's Good Luck Ship

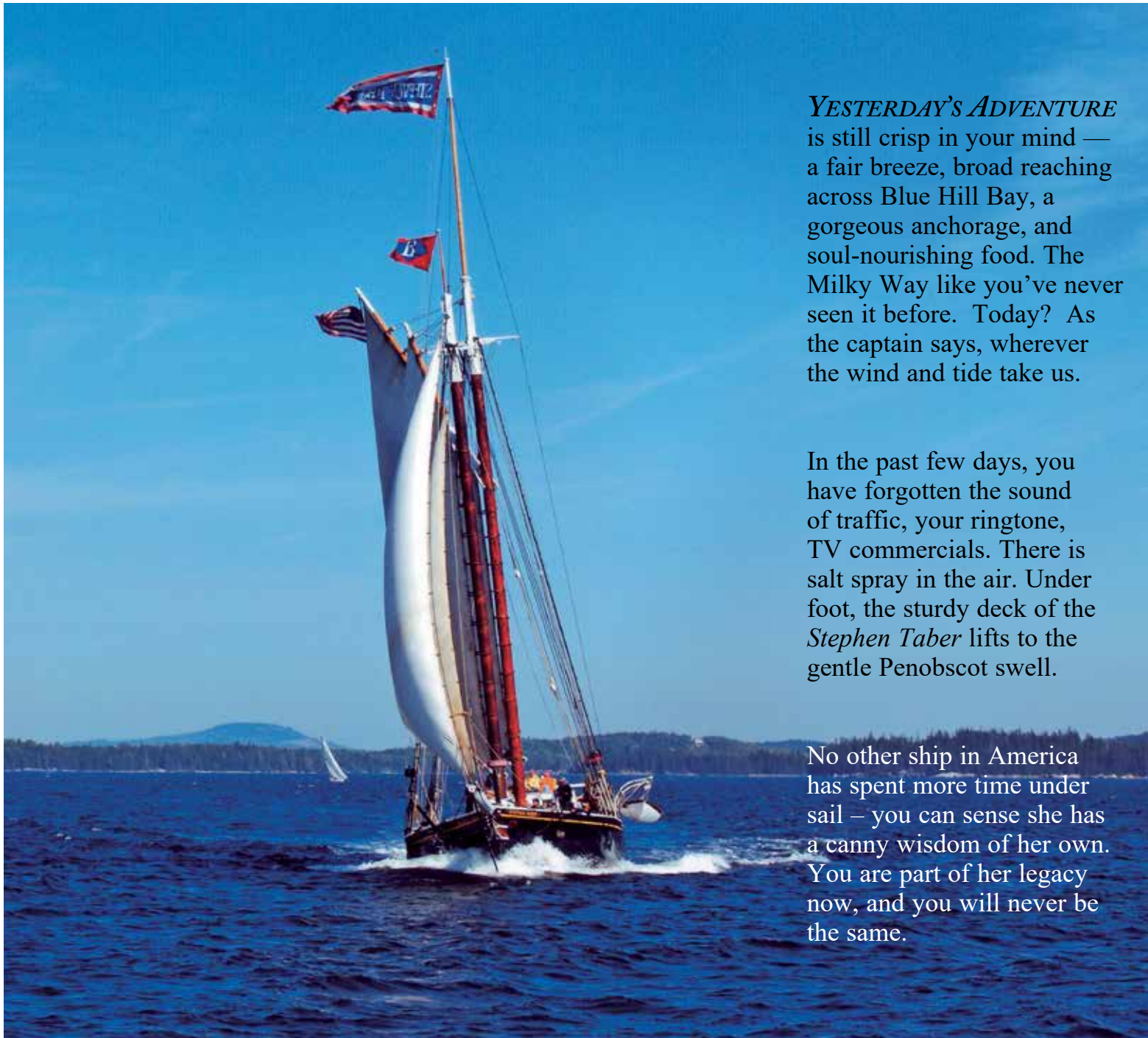


Photo: Captain Doug Lee

YESTERDAY'S ADVENTURE is still crisp in your mind — a fair breeze, broad reaching across Blue Hill Bay, a gorgeous anchorage, and soul-nourishing food. The Milky Way like you've never seen it before. Today? As the captain says, wherever the wind and tide take us.

In the past few days, you have forgotten the sound of traffic, your ringtone, TV commercials. There is salt spray in the air. Under foot, the sturdy deck of the *Stephen Taber* lifts to the gentle Penobscot swell.

No other ship in America has spent more time under sail — you can sense she has a canny wisdom of her own. You are part of her legacy now, and you will never be the same.



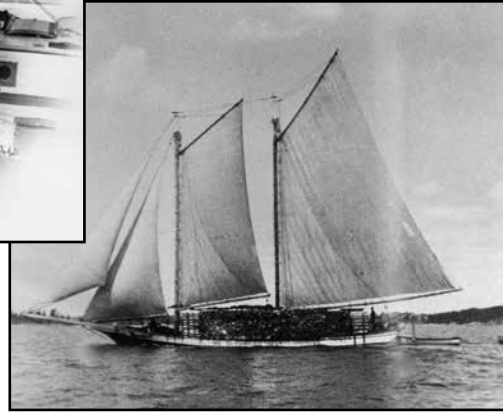
The finishing touch on another delicious meal.



Plenty of time to explore the coast.



Family charter, 1901



Cargo of lumber, 1920's

The Good Luck Ship

Launched in 1871, the *Stephen Taber* epitomizes the classic coasting schooner. Built in an era when highly skilled shipwrights built fine vessels to be aesthetically

beautiful as well as functional, she stands as a proud tribute to American craftsmanship. She is the oldest documented sailing vessel in continuous service in the United States, and is a National Historic Landmark.



The *Stephen Taber* under sail today.

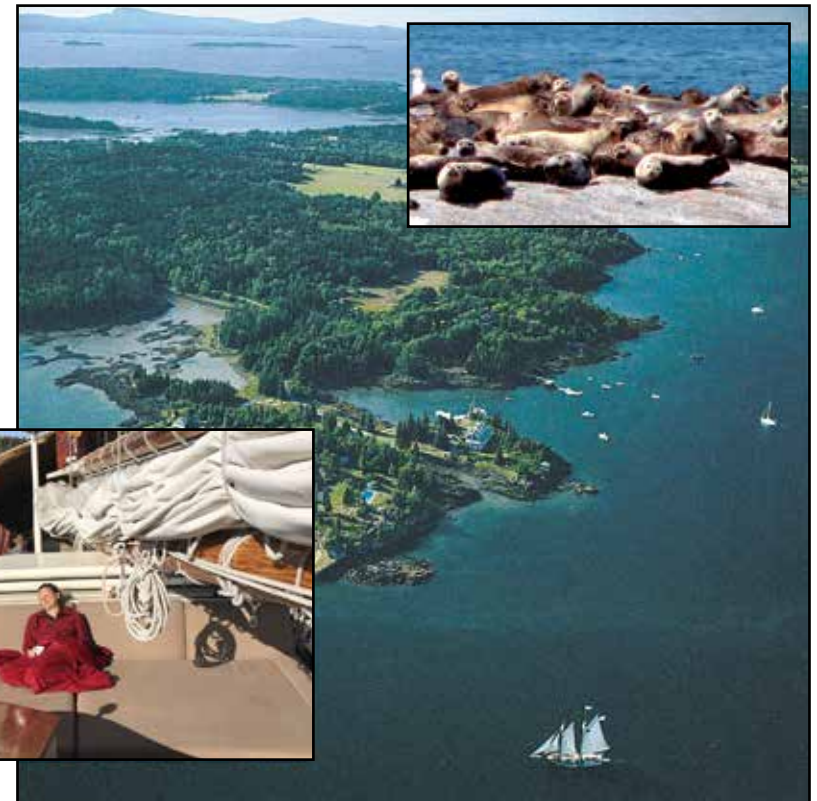
In keeping with history, the *Taber* has no inboard engine, but relies on *Babe*, our trusty yawl boat, to give us a hefty push when ever we need her.

Whether we are charging across the bay with a steady following breeze or just ghosting along with a late-afternoon zephyr, you will thrill to be a part of this extraordinary sailing adventure.

Our Itinerary

Each week from Memorial Day through fall foliage season, we set sail from Rockland Harbor for three to six days of exploring one of the most beautiful and acclaimed cruising grounds on Earth. Your adventure will be spent exploring spruce-fringed islands, gunkholing amongst secluded coves, visiting remote fishing villages, and reaching across the bays that lap the Maine coast. In the tradition of Maine coasting schooners, the *Stephen Taber* determines her course according to the winds and the tide. When the prevailing breezes carry us down east, we head for Stonington and Deer Isle, Mt. Desert Island, or perhaps Sorrento or Isle au Haut. Another day's forecast may offer ideal conditions for a broad reach to Monhegan, summer haven for acclaimed artists, or we may decide to tack past Pemaquid Point for Boothbay Harbor. We have no set itinerary, but dependable winds ensure stops at many a lovely anchorage.

As we breeze along, you'll see lobstermen hauling and setting traps, colonies of harbor and fur seals sunning themselves and cavorting in the water, and the multitude of waterfowl that make Maine their home. And we're always pleased by the appearance of whales and porpoises.



The pristine coast of Maine.

Photo: Benjamin Magro

Food Is Our Specialty

As the cook/owner from 1979- 2003, Captain Ellen Barnes made the *Taber* famous for its galley fare, cooking wholesome and tasty New England dishes. Since her son Captain Noah and his wife Jane took over in 2004, they have built on this tradition, adding such touches as hors d'oeuvres featuring artisan cheeses and cured meats. They delight in sourcing food locally: eggs, vegetables, fish, meat and coffee are all bought from local purveyors. Their intention is to offer the most delicious food without losing the hearty flavors people come to Maine to experience. The *Taber's* food has been continuously featured in the media, including Food Network's The Best Of...series and *Rachael's Vacation*, hosted by Rachael Ray, as well as PBS' *Culinary Travels with Dave Eckert*. Hailing from New York City, Jane has years of experience working in the wine business and has brought her passion for wine to Maine. The *Taber* offers multiple special wine cruises each season with tastings led by Jane each night. The *Taber* also serves wine every night on all trips.

All of our meals, including fresh baked bread and pastries, are prepared on the galley's vintage woodstove.



Fresh Salmon

Breakfasts include wild Maine blueberry pancakes, herb scrambled eggs with locally cured bacon, fresh fruit and our famous *Taber* Granola. Lunch, served on deck, usually consists of hearty soups, chowders, fresh rolls and magnificent salads. Dinner might feature

fresh salmon with toasted hazelnut beurre blanc, braised short ribs, or hand rolled tagliatelle with lamb shank ragu. Rounding out all meals are seasonal vegetables from Hope's Edge Farm located in Hope, Maine and herbs from Jane's garden. Desserts include strawberry-rhubarb pie, flourless chocolate cake, panna cotta and tarte Tatin with brandied cream. The highlight of each trip is a traditional all-you-can-eat lobster bake with grilled meats, all cooked over an open fire and served, weather permitting, on a secluded beach.



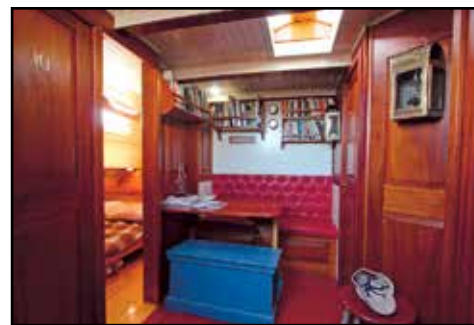
"A meal on the Stephen Taber gives a whole new meaning to a movable feast." – Rachael Ray



Fresh Breads, Enticing Salads



Pork tenderloin, haricot verts



Our library, a great place to sneak away with a book.

"Thank you for a wonderful vacation. You all made us realize what we really need, good friends, great food and a sense of humor. This was a true getaway from our usual routine – a welcome change."

-Linda and Jim, Manchester, CT



Typical cabin (there is another bunk behind the camera)

Our Accommodations

The moment you board the *Stephen Taber*, you'll be aware of the special care and attention we give to both our vessel and our guests. All our cabins are bright and homey, with standing headroom, comfortable beds with crisp sheets, nice pillows, and tartan wool blankets. As is typical with sailboats, cabins are cozy (meaning quite small), but there is room to dress, stow your gear, and get a great night's sleep. **There are no over/under bunk beds on the *Taber*.** You will find that each cabin has its own quirks and charms, but each has the warmth of varnished wood, sinks with running fresh water, electric lights, and reading lights at the head of each bed. Heads and a shower are conveniently located above deck.

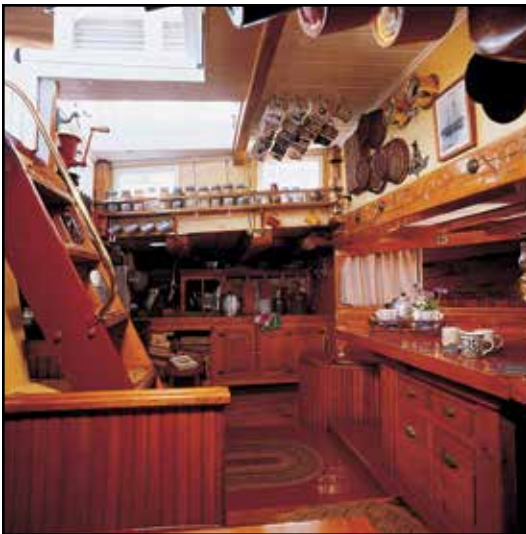




Morbier, Duck Rillettes, Toasted Hazelnuts, etc...

“Thank you so very much for your hard work, delicious food, and always going the extra mile to find the best cove, the most spectacular site for a sunset, the delightful town. This was a birthday present for my husband, but I was surprised and grateful to find out how wonderful it is to sail, eat, sing, and behold the sacred sunset from the ship’s deck.”

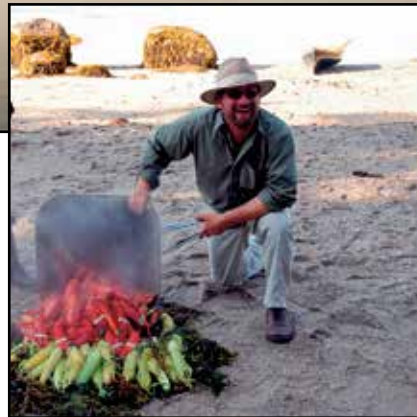
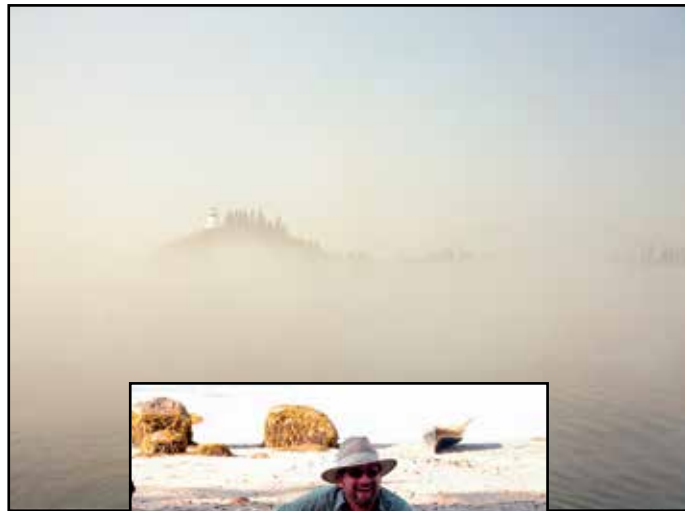
Susan and John from New York City



Our galley



“Everything I read about the Taber promised excitement, adventure, and great food. After spending four days aboard, I find these boasts modest, at best. The experience exceeded all expectations.”
Mike from New Hampshire



Lobster bake on a secluded beach



Wine tasting, always a pleasure!

“Pure bliss!! That’s all I can say about our week on the Taber. Cap’n Noah and Jane—excellent! The crew—stupendous! The Taber—so very fine! The experience couldn’t have been more perfect. Wow, what an adventure this has been – we’ll be back.”

Ed and Cheri from Texas



“Not enough superlatives in Roget’s to describe what a wonderful experience this was! We will be back!”
Larry and Wendy from Wisconsin

What We Do

If you are a seasoned sailor, or want to learn a bit about being one, you are always welcome to help sail the boat. The anchor must be raised; the sails hoisted; lines coiled, made fast, or slacked as we tack up the bay.

Crew members are ready and eager to teach you about sail handling, steering a course, and navigating. Learn the art of tying knots, or how to navigate the fog by listening for sounds emanating from the islands as we pass them. Take a turn at the wheel and feel how this handy vessel responds.

As we sail along, there's always plenty of time for stretching out on the broad deck for a snooze, reading that novel you've been meaning to get to since last year, or chatting with fellow passengers. Bring your camera and binoculars and survey the passing blue-and-green scenery; bring your sketchpad or other handcraft. We always recommend that you bring a journal, too. Even if you've never before kept one, you'll find there's something about sailing along the coast of Maine that makes everyone a little contemplative.

When the day draws to a close, the *Taber* drops anchor in some small harbor or cove where we can explore, jog, or swim. You are welcome to go for a row or sail on our small craft or use one of our stand up paddleboards.



A great day to explore the village of Stonington



Enjoy a morning paddle on our two SUPs

Do bring your instrument if you play one. Noah, your Captain, plays guitar, blues harmonica, and sings, and loves to have company. Even if you're not the sort to join a musical gathering in the galley or on deck, you'll find there's something special about hearing the strains of a folksong in the background as you study the stars or drift to sleep in your cabin.

Above all, the atmosphere on board the *Taber* is relaxed and unstructured. There is no "cruise director" with a long list of scheduled activities. If you're the gregarious type, you'll find plenty of group doings to join. If you prefer spending your time in quieter pursuits, you'll relish the peacefulness of shipboard life.



Team *Taber*, at your service!



Take our wherry out for an evening row or sail.

What to Wear

Bring layers of clothing, so you'll be prepared for both warm and cool temperatures. Sometimes it seems we change layers more often than we change tacks – it all depends on whether or not the sun is behind the sails, whether we're running with the wind or tacking into it, and the time of day. Windbreakers, sweaters, bathing suits, comfortable soft-soled shoes, and casual clothing are the dress of the *Taber*.

Special Seasons

June, September and October are three of the most beautiful months to cruise on the *Stephen Taber*. Nights are cool and wonderful for sleeping under a blanket, and the days are usually clear, bright, and warm. In June, the days are longer, stretching into soft, sun-lit evenings. In late September and early October the hills and islands clad in autumn's palette are a sight you won't soon forget.

Children

Cruises on the *Stephen Taber* are not geared to small children. We request that the minimum age be fourteen.

Smoking

There is no smoking aboard our vessel. You may smoke at the end of the day in the skiff, or during our daily trips ashore.

Fishing

You catch it, and the Captain will cook it! We have gear, but feel free to bring your own.

Reservations

Please call us at 800.999.7352 or write to info@stephentaber.com to check availability. A \$350 deposit is required to save your space. You can call with a credit card or you can mail a check to Captain Noah Barnes PO Box 1050 Rockland, ME 04841.

We urge you to reserve early, as we can only accommodate 22 guests. The balance is due 6 weeks before the posted sail date. If you should have to cancel, your deposit will be refunded less 10% of the full sail cost if we are notified 6 weeks in advance of the trip.

What Does the Cost of the Trip Include?

Everything. The cost includes accommodations for one person and all meals with the exception of dinner on boarding night. There are no additional taxes or fees. Juice is served at breakfast, iced tea or lemonade at lunch and wine with dinner. Beyond that you can bring anything you want to drink and keep it in the passenger ice box. If you have a car, there is a \$20 parking fee per vehicle per trip.



There is plenty of room on the foredeck to relax as we sail to our next destination.

“This tops the best of all my adventures so far! Thanks for a great sail. The crew was superb. I’ll be back!!!”

-Dolores from Fort Plain, NY



Adventurous sails



Breathtaking nights

“Thank you so much for all you do to make it fun to be on the wonderful Stephen Taber – she’s the best. The wine tasting week was sooooo much fun. Jane’s expertise was great...and the meals and good humor; just everything is so ‘Taber’.”

-Bonnie & Bob from Fairview Park, OH



Guests are always welcome to help sail the schooner.

Your Hosts

A second-generation schooner captain, Noah Barnes started sailing aboard the *Stephen Taber* at the age of 7. His parents, Captains Ken and Ellen Barnes, were at the helm for 25 years before their retirement after the 2003 season. Although he spent many years sailing and traveling in other parts of the world, Noah considers the magnificent coast of Maine his true home, and is thrilled to be aboard the *Taber*.



Captain Noah, Jane and Oscar Barnes



Noah and Babe, our trusty motor launch.

A native New Yorker, Jane Barrett Barnes spent many years working in the wine business with industry leaders such as Champagne Veuve Clicquot, the Four Seasons and Terlato Wines International. Although Jane does not go on all trips, she runs the office and will be happy to answer any questions you have via phone or email. She joins

the *Taber* for the wine trips. She has immensely enjoyed getting to know the beautiful coast of Maine.



Noah c. 1976 with his father, Captain Ken Barnes.

The *Taber's* reputation as a musical vessel continues on as well – Noah has spent years as a professional musician and plays several instruments. Acoustic sessions are a perfect way to end a beautiful day's sail.

All of our crewmembers are thoroughly trained sailors and enthusiastic hosts. The *Taber* boasts an impeccable safety record, and has been lovingly restored to her original beauty, grace and speed.

Specifications

Length on deck	68 Feet
Length Over All	110 Feet
Draft	5 Feet centerboard up 14.5 Feet centerboard down
Beam	22.5 Feet
Passengers	22
Crew	5
Commissioned in 1871 at Glen Head, Long Island, New York	
Fully licensed and Coast Guard inspected and approved	
Maintained in compliance with all safety and insurance codes	
Radar, marine radio, and GPS aboard	

Specialty Cruises and Chartering Information

A cruise aboard the *Stephen Taber* is a wonderful setting for group charters and reunions, either for daysails or overnight. Our season tends to book up fast, but give us enough warning, and your group can have a tall ship all to itself! We also can accommodate a host of special interests, such as walking/hiking, biking, birding, team building, historic tours, and many others. Whatever your interest, we can accommodate you. Please call for more information.



Haul away together!



Hiking on Maine's countless islands.

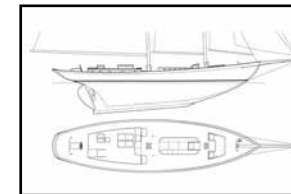


Family Charter

1-800-999-7352 or visit www.stephentaber.com

Our Other Schooner...

Is the newest addition to the Maine Windjammer Fleet: **Schooner *Ladona***. If you are interested in a larger schooner with fewer guests, *Ladona* might be just for you. She's a classic beauty of the Gatsby era – a pedigreed ocean racer freshly rebuilt to carry guests in comfort and elegance. Cruising on *Ladona* offers guests an authentic Maine Windjammer experience while paying careful attention to modern amenities and comfort. State-of-the-art heads, premium linens, select wines, and carefully presented meals on her on-deck dining table are some of the ways *Ladona* will cater to those seeking a more exclusive windjamming experience.



SCHOONER  LADONA



“Few things in life that we look forward to greatly meet all of our expectations. Fewer still exceed them. May the Taber sail forever”!

— Susan from Rexville, NY

Captain Noah Barnes, P.O. Box 1050, Rockland, ME 04841
1-800-999-7352 info@stephentaber.com
www.stephentaber.com

Schooner Stephen Taber 2025 Sailing Schedule



The Taber offers 3-, 4-, 5-, and 6-day cruises. All cruises board in the evening. The ship sets sail the next morning. First meal served is breakfast, the morning we leave. **Book before March 1, 2025 to receive a 5% discount.**

The Taber is available for private charters. Perfect for groups of 17-22 people. For information about booking a trip or chartering the Taber, please contact us by phone, 1-800-999-7352, or by email, info@stephentaber.com.

Board / 4-6pm	Return / 11am	2025 Cruises	Per Person
Thu 5/22	Mon 5/26	4 Nights / <i>Wine, Dine, & Chocolate Cruise / Memorial Day Weekend Getaway**</i>	\$ 968
Tue 5/27	Fri 5/30	Available for Private Charter. Day, overnight, or two-night cruise. Contact us for rates.	
Sat 5/31	Wed 6/4	4 Nights / <i>Booked for a private charter</i>	
Fri 6/6	Wed 6/11	5 Nights / <i>Music + Windjammer Gam w/blues & American house band, The Charlie Nobles</i>	\$ 1,318
Thu 6/12	Mon 6/16	4 Nights / <i>Gourmet Gastropub Cruise w/ Chef James Tranchemontagne of Frog & Turtle</i>	\$ 1,218
Tue 6/17	Sat 6/21	4 Nights / <i>Summer Solstice + Live Music w/Nashville based songwriter Jenn Schott</i>	\$ 1,218
Sun 6/22	Thu 6/26	4 Nights / <i>Culinary Explorations with Fiore Olive Oil & Vinegar</i>	\$ 1,218
Sat 6/28	Sat 7/5	7 Nights / <i>The Great Schooner Race – North America's largest annual gathering of tall ships</i>	\$ 2,238
Sun 7/6	Thu 6/10	4 Nights / <i>Chocolate with Kate Shaffer</i>	\$ 1,398
Fri 7/11	Tue 7/15	4 Nights / <i>Weekend Escape</i>	\$ 1,398
Wed 7/16	Sun 7/20	4 Nights / <i>Four-Night Getaway</i>	\$ 1,398
Tue 7/22	Sat 7/26	4 Nights / <i>Booked for a Private Charter</i>	
Sun 7/27	Wed 7/30	3 Nights / <i>Three-Night Getaway</i>	\$ 1,248
Wed 7/30	Sat 8/2	3 Nights / <i>Three-Night Getaway</i>	\$ 1,248
Sun 8/3	Sat 8/9	6 Nights / <i>Captain's Choice – Celebrating Captain Noah's birthday</i>	\$ 1,848
Sun 8/10	Sat 8/16	6 Nights / <i>Perseid Meteor Shower</i>	\$ 1,898
Sun 8/17	Thu 8/20	3 Nights / <i>Three-Night Getaway</i>	\$ 1,248
Fri 8/22	Tue 8/26	4 Nights / <i>Weekend Getaway</i>	\$ 1,398
Wed 8/27	Sun 8/31	4 Nights / <i>Camden Windjammer Festival</i>	\$ 1,358
Mon 9/1	Fri 9/5	4 Nights / <i>Music w/Chicky Stoltz & Ragged Co.</i>	\$ 1,328
Sun 9/7	Sat 9/13	6 Nights / <i>WoodenBoat Rendezvous</i>	\$ 1,638
Sun 9/14	Sat 9/20	6 Nights / <i>Wine, Dine, and Cheese*</i>	\$ 1,698
Sun 9/21	Thu 9/25	4 Nights / <i>Autumn On the Bay</i>	\$ 1,198
Fri 9/26	Tue 9/30	4 Nights / <i>Autumn On the Bay</i>	\$ 1,198
Wed 10/1	Sun 10/5	4 Nights / <i>Fall Colors & Half Moon Cafe</i>	\$ 1,198
Mon 10/6	Thu 10/9	3 Nights / <i>Fall Colors</i>	\$ 958

* Each night features a selection of four wines with cheeses paired by country of origin.

** Includes four daily wine selections and local handmade chocolates.

○ Full Moon ● New Moon

Visit us at www.stephentaber.com

GREETINGS FROM CAPTAIN NOAH AND JANE BARNES

2025 will mark the schooner *Stephen Taber's* 154th season! Noah has sailed the *Taber* for three decades now and immensely enjoys maintaining and sailing this magnificent National Landmark. We couldn't imagine doing anything more gratifying than taking new friends sailing and being their guides to the incredible natural beauty of Penobscot Bay. Each trip is like a week-long dinner party at sea – great sailing with bountiful food, friends, and laughter. Every day ends with a white and red wine served along with a selection of the world's finest cheeses and charcuterie with traditional accompaniments. All this before an amazing dinner!

Here are a few points that make us special:

- ✦ The oldest sailing vessel in continuous service in the United States, and a National Historic Landmark.
- ✦ Huge percentage of repeat guests. Once you've sailed on the *Taber*, chances are you'll want to come back!
- ✦ Overall length is 110 feet. Length on deck is 68 feet, with a 22 1/2 foot beam. The *Taber* is a very comfortable ride, and provides ample deck space. Seasickness is rare.
- ✦ On the *Taber* wine is served with dinner every night.
- ✦ The *Stephen Taber* has been in the Barnes Family for 45 years. Your host, Captain Noah Barnes, began sailing on the *Taber* at age six, and delights in sharing his intimate knowledge of the Maine Coast. All cruises are OWNER-CAPTAINED.
- ✦ The *Taber* is justifiably famous for our cuisine; our talented galley staff delights in providing guests with a beautifully prepared and presented series of delightful meals, and have been featured over the years in cookbooks, national broadcast and print media.
- ✦ The *Taber* is a centerboard schooner. Our shallow draft allows us access to some of the most secluded and beautiful anchorages.
- ✦ We are a non-smoking vessel.
- ✦ She's known as the "**Good Luck Vessel**" of the fleet.
- ✦ If we don't have room, we will take time to help you find a cabin on another vessel.

We both have an abiding love for the beauty and history of this area, and hope to see you out on the bay this summer.

NOAH & Jane

