

# THE WATCH SYSTEM

Europa is registered as a special purpose sail training vessel and you will be part of the so-called "voyage crew". During these days at sea, the voyage crew will participate in a watch system, sharing sail handling, helming and look-out duties. The permanent crew will be busy with normal ship business, like maintenance, cleaning, keeping inventories, preparing meals, etc., but they will also teach the skills necessary to safely sail the ship and guide you through all the sail-handling.

Although it is a sail training vessels' requirement that we don't pamper you like passengers and have to involve you into the day-to-day running of the ship for safety reason, the watch system is also an important addition to your experience. It will pull you out of your comfort-zone and into the world of tall ship sailing!

## WATCHES

Because the ship sails 24 hours a day, everyone takes turns being awake and sailing the ship, which is called a watch system. The voyage crew will be divided into three watches, colourfully named after the Dutch flag (red, white and blue).

While on watch you will be on watch for 4 hours, after which you have 2 watch periods off to rest, read or just enjoy your always changing surroundings. The other 2 watch teams will take care of the ship and safe navigation while you are resting. Following this system you will have a watch at different times every day so you will see a sunrise one day and a sunset the next.

## POSSIBLE WATCH SCHEDULE

	00:00	04:00	08:00	12:00	16:00	18:00
Day 1	Red	White	Blue	Red	White	Blue
Day 2	White	Blue	Red	White	Blue	etc.

During your 4-hour watch period, you will take turns at the wheel, the look-out or on standby (warming up again in the deckhouse), ready for any sail-handling that may be necessary.

