

**The Bronze Door Society of the Mariners' Museum Presents
A Fantastic Historic Maritime Experience:
Voyage on the World War II
Liberty Ship SS *JOHN W. BROWN***



**Tour of the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis,
Fort McHenry, and the Inner Harbor, Baltimore**

Friday, September 5 – Sunday, September 7, 2014

Trip highlight:

The Saturday six-hour “Voyage into History” on the WWII Liberty Ship SS *John W. Brown* features: continental breakfast; luncheon buffet; afternoon snacks and beverages; live 1940s Big Band music; military re-enactors and other entertainers; fly-bys of vintage World War II aircraft (conditions permitting) with the ship's Armed Guard gunners manning the guns to fight off attacking Axis planes

We will depart from the main parking lot at The Mariner's Museum at 6:30 a.m. on a comfortable motorcoach. Boarding begins at 6 a.m. Snacks will be provided during the trip. There will be “rest stops” during the drive.

Our itinerary will include many fabulous events...

Friday

Our first stop will be at the **U.S. Naval Academy** in Annapolis, where we will tour the campus, including the Chapel and the Academy's museum, which features an exhibit on the War of 1812. We will enjoy lunch at a restaurant on the harbor in downtown Annapolis.

Our next stop is **Fort McHenry**, the star shaped fort that guarded Baltimore, where you can enjoy a 15 minute film, *The Defense of Fort McHenry* and then a (self-guided) walk around the fort. You may be aware that during the War of 1812, Frances Scott Key was onboard a British ship in the harbor as it bombarded Fort McHenry and wrote a poem about the British attack that evolved into “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

Lodging during our visit will be the spectacular Baltimore Marriott Waterfront hotel located on the edge of Baltimore's historic Inner Harbor and just a few steps from restaurants and shops at the Inner Harbor, the National Aquarium, Maryland Science Center, USS *Constellation*, Chesapeake Bay lightship, and an accessible WWII submarine.

Dinner this evening will be at Sabatino's Italian Restaurant in the Little Italy area of downtown Baltimore. A special menu featuring eight dinner entrees and three desserts will be presented at the table.

Saturday

Continental breakfast and buffet lunch will be served onboard the **SS *John W. Brown***, one of two surviving Liberty ships. Please note that Port Security requires that all passengers to have a government-issued photo ID (valid drivers' license is sufficient). Names of all cruise passengers must be provided to gain access to the pier

and names must match photo identification, so be sure to register for this trip using the version of your name that is on your drivers' license (or other government-issued photo ID).

The *John Brown* was launched at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyard in Baltimore, Maryland on September 7, 1942. Six Liberty ships were launched that day from various shipyards around the country, all of them named after John W. Brown, a labor leader. She made 13 transoceanic voyages during World War II. Designed as inexpensive and quickly-built cargo steamers, the Liberty ships formed the backbone of a massive sealift of troops, arms, material, and ordnance to every theater of war. Two-thirds of all the cargo that left the United States during the war was carried in Liberty ships. Two hundred of them were lost, either to enemy action or to a range of maritime mishaps such as collision, grounding, fire, or rough seas. Our voyage on the *John Brown* honors and pays tribute to the shipbuilders who built the Liberty ships, the merchant seamen who sailed them, and the U.S. Naval Armed Guard who defended them.

Virtually the entire ship is open for you to visit! View the magnificent 140-ton triple-expansion steam engine as it powers the great ship out onto the Chesapeake Bay. Tour museum spaces, crew quarters, bridge, chart room, radio room, mess rooms, troop berthing areas, stern gun deck, and much more. And be sure to be up on deck when the ship is attacked by Axis aircraft and successfully defended by crew members manning the WWII anti-aircraft guns.

Arrival back at the dock is scheduled for 4 p.m. (allow 45 minutes to an hour to disembark). We will return to the hotel and freshen up for dinner at the extraordinarily popular McCormick and Schmick's restaurant on the inner harbor

Sunday

The day begins with a buffet breakfast at the hotel. Following breakfast, we will depart for the **National Aquarium**, widely considered to be one of the best aquariums in the United States, if not the world. Explore their Museum on your own and see the dolphin display and show (tickets for the 11:30 a.m. show are included), rooftop rainforest, central ray pool, and multiple-story shark tank. Visit the Observation Deck of The World Trade Center. Tour the inner harbor area and shops; go onboard the 18th century sailing warship USS *Constellation*, a retired Chesapeake Bay lightship, the WWII submarine USS *Torsk*, a retired Coast Guard cutter, and tour the Screw-pile Lighthouse from *Seven Foot Knool*. Lunch is on your own at the Aquarium or at an Inner Harbor restaurant.

We will depart Baltimore at 2 p.m. with an approximate arrival in Newport News at 6:30 p.m.

Details

- **Cost:** includes deluxe roundtrip motorcoach transportation with snacks, water, and soft drinks; entrance fees and tours to all sites listed in the itinerary; hotel accommodations, driver and escort services and gratuity; and all meals and gratuities except lunch on Sunday.
- **Baggage allowance:** One suitcase and one carry-on (must fit under the motorcoach seat) per person.
- **Deposit:** \$150 is due at time of booking.
- **Handicap accessible:** Please note that this trip is **not** handicap accessible.
- **Name tags:** All travelers must wear name tags that will be provided.
- **Final payments:** By August 15.
- **Questions:** Contact Miranda Everett of Groome Transportation at meverett@groometrans.com or 804-338-6432.

Reservation Form
for
Voyage on the World War II Liberty Ship SS *JOHN W. BROWN*,
and tours of Annapolis, Fort McHenry, and the Baltimore Inner Harbor

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____
_____ BDS member _____ Non-member

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____
_____ BDS member _____ Non-member

I will be rooming with: _____

Cost:

Museum members:
_____ \$915 person double occupancy _____ \$1130 per person single occupancy

Non-members:
_____ \$990 per person double occupancy _____ \$ 1205 per person single occupancy

Payment information:

\$150 deposit due at time of booking. Date of deposit: _____ Amount paid: _____

_____ Check made out to Groome Transportation is included, or.....

_____ Credit card: _____ Visa _____ MasterCard _____ Discover _____ American Express

Card Number: _____ Expiration date: _____

Name as it appears on the credit card: _____

Mail to:

Bronze Door Society Trip
The Mariners' Museum
1 Museum Drive
Newport News, VA 23606