



## Ship 550 Catalina Cruise Overview (2025)

The climate of offshore Southern California and our harbors is unpredictable, ranging from hot and balmy to cold and stormy. Rain is not likely, but possible, so be prepared. Winter and Spring sailing can get truly cold. Follow the Boy Scout Motto: Be Prepared. But...pack lightly.

Be sure to have your name on all your clothing and equipment for identification. There is no maid service on board, but a stiff fee applies if the Boatswain or XO provides this service. (Any clothing/items left lying around are picked up and put in the Boatswain Bag and will be "ransomed" for ship duty to get them back.

**Pack light. Don't bring the kitchen sink! Use a duffel bag or other soft luggage.**

**Crew Members, when leaving, arriving, or going ashore, you are required to wear your Ship T-Shirt or POLO. You are the ship and program ambassadors. No non-scouting gear allowed. That includes Sweatshirts.**

**Sailing Uniform for Maui Diamond Crew:** Tan shorts, Blue Ship Polo, Ship Hat, deck shoes. This is for leaving port, entering port, and going ashore. Change into Sea Scout T-shirts, swim gear, etc., once under sail. This is when we are on a visit to the port. Otherwise, Class B is always needed.

**The following are recommendations. Improvise and adjust as needed for season and trip duration:**

- (2) pairs of shorts
- Crew T-Shirt or Sea Scout T-shirts
- (1) pant
- Several changes of dry clothing (At least one change for just an overnight trip)
- Sleeping Clothes
- Swimwear and towel (Ladies should bring a modest tankini or one-piece swimsuit)
- Closed-toe shoes, if going ashore and hiking
- Cap and/or hat (sun protection)
- Warm jacket (think layers)
- Foul-weather gear or a rain jacket if needed
- Polarized Sun Glasses
- +45 SPF biodegradable sunscreen- no sprays
- Toiletries
- Recreational stuff. (i.e., cards, books, snorkeling gear, fishing gear (over 16 license required))
- Seasick medicine (let XO know if you're taking)
  - Start taking it in advance (4 hours is good).
  - Original Dramamine is not recommended.
  - Meclizine (generic), aka Bonine, Dramamine II, or Marezine, often works well.
- Flashlight – headlamp recommended
- Sleeping bag or sleeping sack (and pillow if you like). The sleeping bag must be packed up each morning.
- Sleeping pad, if you want to sleep on deck (air mattress)
- Favorite Cup that reflects your personality. Must be plastic for meals
- Nalgene-style water bottle with carabiner- no-aluminum, no-metal.
- Mess Kit- Plate, Bowl, Spoon, and Fork are not needed. We have our own on the ship.

- If you are taking any medicine (prescription or otherwise) it must be disclosed to the XO before leaving the dock.

#### **What not to bring:**

- No black sole shoes, boots etc. Need to be tennis shoes, sailing shoes.
- \*NO "BOOM BOXES" !! The boat has one. That's enough.
- Hard Luggage is prohibited- All items must fit into a 24" duffle bag. Think Gym bag.
- Framed Backpacks- prohibited
- Spear Guns- prohibited
- Personal music player
- Personal video games
- Valuable or unnecessary items
- Aerosol sunscreen or bug spray prohibited
- Metal Water Bottles

#### **Ship Rules:**

- Maui Diamond Captain has the first and last word. Do not question.
- All phones are stored when underway. Recreation time is the only time a phone can be pulled out or when taking a photo. Otherwise, the phone is stored away.
- Berthing is allowed anywhere on deck with permission. Safety and YPT are enforced.
- No barefoot walking on the deck
- Everyone will have assignments on the boat. The Boatswain will post in the salon.
- You may bring fishing gear. However, you must have a fishing license if you are over 16.
- Current medical forms are required for travel. You don't board if they are not current.
- A copy of the parents' insurance card is required along with medical forms.
- Shirts are required for meals
- No eating or drinking in the berths. We want no bugs!
- Water is a premium. Do not waste.
- Nobody goes into the tool and engine room without the specific permission of the Captain or Engineer.
- All gear must be stored in your bag every morning.
- Bags are stored in the portside forward berth.
- Starboard berths are left open for those not feeling well. THIS IS NOT THE PRIVATE SUITE. Doors remain open during the day.
- Aft cabin mates store your gear in the tub. Beds should be left open.

#### **Head Use:**

- Please do not put anything in the head unless it's the ship's toilet paper. Do not bring your own toilet paper. You will be severely reprimanded if you do!
- To use the head for pee... Sit down (men/boys) on the head and pee. The boat moves, and we don't want you to miss.
- To use the head for poo...Place toilet paper down first in an X pattern. Do your business, then hold the handle down to flush. Make sure it goes all the way down. Release to close. Push the foot pedal down to fill the bowl with water for the next person. This ensures that particles are not left stuck to the bowl. Finally, wash your hands.

#### **Waste:**

- All trash goes into a trash can. Pack it in, pack it out. Do not throw anything overboard.

**If you are not sure about something, ask. This is our home.**