

## ITINERARY FOR RÍAS OF GALICIA CRUISE 17<sup>TH</sup> TO 24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2019

No sailing experience necessary!

### THE RIAS OF GALICIA AN INTRODUCTION

This itinerary is, of course, dependent on the weather. The North West corner of Spain (between Ribadeo and Bayona), is Galicia, a wonderful cruising ground comprising about 180nm of granite coastline deeply indented with steep sided 'Rias', each just a day sail from the next. There is lots of sheltered sailing with good beaches, many anchorages, some interesting pilotage. There are year-round scheduled flights to Santiago de Compostela, Vueling (a low-cost Spanish airline) connects London to Vigo.



The cruising area we have chosen is south of Cape Finisterre. It is known as the "Rias Bajas" and is considered by some to be the best cruising area of all. The weather is usually less exposed than the northern coast and the deep inlets of the Rias give access to sheltered waters, a wide variety of harbours and anchorages. The Galician restaurants are famed for their superb Atlantic fish and specialize in local shellfish. The local wines are renowned for their quality and flavor.

Our Galicia cruise, starts in Portosin, an hour from the incredible historic town of Santiago de Compostela. We sail just over 100 nautical miles and finish in Bayona, a short journey from the international airport in Vigo or at Santiago de Compostela.

We will visit remote anchorages, superb beaches, unique villages and historic towns. Along the way enjoying great food and wines both ashore and onboard Celtic Star!

### 17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST – ARRIVAL 1700

#### RÍA DE MUROS, PORTOSIN



Portosin is a pleasant marina set in wooded hills with good beaches nearby. It is less than an hour from Santiago de Compostella airport along the Atlantic motorway.

We ask that you join Celtic Star by 1700 hours for safety briefing followed by Cava & canapes and a delicious dinner of local fish from the market on the quayside. When you arrive just call Richard on 07976 604297.

We will of course get out the charts and maps after dinner to chat about the cruise!

18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

PORTOSIN TO MUROS 5NM



On the first day, following a comprehensive introduction to our boat and how it works, we plan a short sail so that everyone can get used to being on board. We will cross the Ria de Muros to the pleasant fishing town of Muros. A picturesque old town, with colonnaded pavements, narrow streets, markets, churches, bars and restaurants.

There will be time to explore before choosing a restaurant and dining ashore.

19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

FROM MUROS TO RÍA DE AROSA, ILLA DE AROUSA 40NM



An early start will allow us to sail to Ría de Arosa (or Arousa), the largest of the Galician Rías. In order to safely navigate the rocky coastline we will need to sail briefly into the Atlantic ocean, which will be exciting sailing. Hopefully, spotting some of the dolphins or whales the coast is famous for.

We plan to spend the night at anchor off one of the gorgeous beaches of Illa de Arousa.

Once again, you'll get the chance to sample Celtic Cruising hospitality with good food and fine wines on board

20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

RÍA DE AROSA, ILLA DE AROUSA TO SAN VICENTE DEL MAR 15NM



Today the plan is to explore the Ría further, ending the day sailing at Vincente Del Mar. A small smart marina with good facilities. This is a place to relax, and enjoy the stunning walk to Punta Miranda, or to visit the beach.



21<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST

FROM RÍA DE AROSA TO ISLA DE ONS AND RÍA DE PONTEVEDRA AND COMBARRO 20NM



After a relaxed start to the day, there will be a short sail south to Ría de Pontevedra. We will stop at Isla Ons, which shelters the entrance to the Ría, for lunch and a swim. Followed by a pleasant afternoon sailing down the length of Ría de Pontevedra to our destination Combarro.

This typical Galician gem of a village is picturesque and serves fabulous seafood. The historical part of **Combarro**, which has been preserved perfectly, represents one of the most outstanding examples of the traditional sailor-style architecture that you can find in Galicia.

22<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST

## COMBARRO

Today you will have the opportunity to explore the village of Combarro, and perhaps have a lunch in one of the many tapas bars. Later you can choose whether to explore the Ria further, or perhaps just relax and take in the sights and sounds of the typical Galician village. In the evening we will enjoy some of the local produce for which Combarro is famous, tastily prepared aboard Celtic Star.



23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST

## COMBARRO TO BAIONA VIA ISLA CIES 25NM



The final day of sailing on your Galicia cruise takes us across the entrance of the Ria de Vigo to the sheltered harbour of Bayona. The town is attractive and thriving but also has well protected beaches. Medieval walls surround the Parador Conde do Gondomar and there are pleasant walks among the pine forest to the enormous statue of the Virgen de la Roca. Christopher Columbus made his first mainland landfall here in 1493 after returning from the New World.

In order to get the maximum sailing experience on your final day we have planned a lunch stop at one of the anchorages in the Islas Cies. These are mountainous, wooded and very attractive islands that are a National Nature Park.

24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST - DEPART

BAIONA



After a leisurely breakfast it will be time to pack up and leave us. We ask that you disembark from Celtic Star by 1100am.

THE COST

The charge will be £1050 per person and will include accommodation on board for 7 nights, all food and drink on board. Also included are all fuel fees and harbour dues.