



Dreaming About...

The Sailing Experience of a Lifetime

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Experience is defined as an event or a series of events participated in or lived through. We are experiencing something every moment of our life, but we only have a select few that are worth taking up space in our memories. For many, sailing is a source of paramount living. To tap into that, you must learn the trade and feel confident on the water. OCSC Sailing is there to inspire that confidence. OCSC is a San Francisco Bay sailing school and sailing club. With skills learned in their Basic Keelboat course, you will be able to safely skipper a boat on most waterways and be well on your way to skippering freely on the San Francisco Bay.



San Francisco Bay is notorious for presenting dramatic challenges for sailors, and OCSC thrives on that! Anthony Sandberg, Founder and President of OCSC Sailing, chose this spot for that very reason. Strong, steady winds, swift tidal currents, and seasonal fog combine to offer some of the most stimulating and rewarding sailing in the country. He says, "If you can sail here, you can sail anywhere." They offer many programs and packages, but the Basic Keelboat Week is the rookie's chance for total immersion into the seaman's world. With the largest fleet in a single location on the West Coast, OCSC's primary teaching method is a hands-on experience. From 8:15am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday, with the exception of a short lecture and a 30-minute break for lunch, we were on the boat. There was one instructor for every three students, so I was constantly doing my part to rig the lines, furl the jib, shape the mainsail, and batten down the hatches. The Basic Keelboat program is designed to train and qualify you for the United States Sailing Association's Basic Keelboat Certification. This means, upon completion, you are deemed competent to safely skipper a small sailboat in most protected waters.

Beginning from their location in the Berkeley Marina, a typical day might include a sail to Angel Island for lunch, then over to Sausalito with a reach across the Bay beneath the magnificent Golden Gate Bridge, down the bustling San Francisco city front, ending with a relaxing downwind run back to OCSC. This navigational tour, gave us the chance to practice and perfect the four maneuvers we learned throughout the week: Tacking, Gybing, Heading up, and Bearing away. Make sure to bring a light jacket, sunscreen, sunglasses, and deck shoes. The combination of brisk wind and chilly ocean spray coupled with the warm California sun can give you all the seasons of the year in a four hour period. OCSC Adventures often involve sailing, but not always! Sometimes sailing is just part of



the thrill. OCSC leads expeditions as far away as Kenya, Turkey, Antarctica, close to their harbor in Drake's Bay, and the shark-infested waters of the Farallon Islands. OCSC also has a Corporate Events department that specializes in organizing and hosting a variety of sailing events for corporate teambuilding, employee recognition and reward and client entertainment. Come on, don't you sometimes want to take some of your clients to shark infested waters?

The expression "you live and learn" is one of those thoughtless maxims that we say without ever thinking twice. We have heard it our whole lives, but we usually only reference it when a mistake is made. If you would, for a moment, think about it from an adventurer's perspective. To truly learn something, you must truly live it. Experience is key.



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