

The ship Götheborg of Sweden heads out – Start of the great Asia Expedition 2022/2023

Gothenburg, 8 June 2022 – Today at 3:30 pm, the ship Götheborg of Sweden leaves her home harbour Gothenburg and heads out on the great Asia Expedition 2022/2023. The ship will sail in the Baltic Sea and Northern Europe before heading south towards the Mediterranean. Along the way, she will visit a number of ports and take on hundreds of deckhands who sail along for the adventure and experience. After staying in the Mediterranean during winter, the ship will continue to Asia in spring 2023, to arrive at the expedition's end destination Shanghai in September 2023.

Götheborg of Sweden is the world's largest active, ocean-going, wooden sailing ship and a unique replica of an 18th century Swedish East India Company ship that sank outside of Gothenburg in 1745. Today, the ship, as a symbol for trade and innovation, is used as a unique platform to promote trade relations and create business opportunities.

The last time that Götheborg sailed to Asia, in October 2005, she was followed by thousands of spectators who waved from land, and hundreds of boats that joined her as she headed out of the harbour.

“That Götheborg would once again sail to Asia long felt like an impossible project and hope, but now it's happening”, said Kristoffer Bennis, Expedition Director at Götheborg of Sweden. “We will visit cities across Europe and Asia, and greet thousands of visitors to the ship, hundreds of people will sail along as deckhands for the adventure and experience, and there will be business events on board hosted by our partners. The ship is a symbol for trade and innovation, and a unique platform to create business opportunities and build business relations.”

Today, Wednesday 8 June 2022 at 15:30 the ship will leave the key in Eriksberg in Gothenburg. At 16:00 the ship will shoot a gun salute outside of Eriksberg, before heading out of the harbour.

After the ship leaves Gothenburg it will sail to Helsingborg, Helsinki, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Oslo, London, Bremerhaven and Lisbon. After that it will head in to the Mediterranean and make four more stops before stopping for winter. In spring 2023 it will continue to Asia.

In 2019 the Swedish logistics company Greencarrier acquired SOIC Ship Management, that operates the ship Götheborg, and thereby secured financing of the expedition to Asia. Spring 2020 Greencarrier also acquired the ship. Behind the decision lies a long-term interest in and commitment to the ship Götheborg, and the conviction that the ship is built to sail and therefore should do that.

Partners to the expedition are also EKN (The Swedish Export Credit Agency) and Vinnova (Sweden's innovation agency), along with a great number of suppliers that support the expedition in different ways.

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Asia Expedition 2022/2023

Götheborg will depart from Gothenburg 8 June 2022, and arrive in Shanghai in September 2023. The ship will sail the Baltic Sea and Northern Europe, before it continues to the Mediterranean. During winter 2022/2023 the ship will remain in the Mediterranean. It will sail to Asia in spring 2023. The mission for the Asia Expedition is to promote trade relations and use the ship as a unique platform for businesses and partners, to create business opportunities.

Short facts: The ship Götheborg – history

The Götheborg is a full-sized replica of an 18th century ship, that was owned by the Swedish East India Company, and that ran aground and sank outside of Gothenburg in 1745. In 1984 marine excavation of the original ship Götheborg was initiated and in 1995 the building of a new Götheborg was started. Eight years later, in 2003, the ship was launched, and between 2005-2007 the ship sailed the historical route to Asia and back. After that several expeditions around Europe were carried out, the latest one in 2015. In 2021 the ship sailed from Gothenburg to Stockholm and back.

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