

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

the price is 820USD (900usd from june 2012) (additional person 400USD (430usd from june 2012)). the price includes all immigration works, food (min 3 meals per day) and drinks (ex alcoholic beverages and sodas).

the tour is max 30 hours sailing and all the rest of the time we spend in san blas islands on one of the most beautiful spots anchored in between several little uninhabited palm-tree-covered islands with white beaches and surrounded by wonderful coral reefs. we provide good snorkeling gear, there is fishing equipment on board as well as a floating bar and lots of "noodles" to hang around in the water and you will do the very famous ropeswing and we do a beachparty with BBQ. everybody on board helps with cooking and cleaning and sail-maneuvres.

nobody has to bring any food or drinking water on board! there is no limits for shower and drinking water as we do produce our own water by a seawater-desalinator. we have a stock of beer, sodas and rum on board (beers and sodas 1us per can, rum 12us bottle)

our ship is very big and heavy and especially good for carrying motorbikes because of its plenty deckspace and shelter. we have carried a max of 19 motorbikes at once from san blas to cartagena and we are used to handle the bikes carefully with loading and unloading. we lift the bikes with a 1.5 tons electrical winch and we respond to any damage happened during loading/unloading/as long as the bike is on our ship in the case the damage was caused by our fault (crew of the ship).

if you like to see more information about the ship and us check www.stahlratte.de

you can contact us on board in panama +507 60181613 or +57 3013746596 in cartagena. in cartagena you are always welcome to visit us on board near club nautico (give us a call!)

TOUR SCHEDULE

1st day:

8am meeting at the dock beside club nautico to carry your luggage on board and give you 1 hour for your last shopping in the supermarket around the corner (beer/rum/sweeties)

9am getting you on board and lift anchor and sail out of cartagena port and take course to san blas islands.

2nd day:

12am arriving in "coco bandera cays" in san blas, drop anchor and enjoy paradise. BBQ on one of the fabulous beaches and party into the night

3rd day:

swimming and snorkeling and do the ropeswing (very famous) and hang out on the beach or in a sunchair on deck.

for those are interested there is always a possibility to do a short visit to a close kuna village, to see the indigenous life (4 hours excursion)

4th day:

we lift anchor at 6am and sail through the whole western san blas reef and island system to carti islands.

10am the panamenian immigration will visit us on board and stamp the passports in carti.

11am we dock on the carti airport pier to unload motorcycles and you will have a 3 hours ride max to panama city

you have to do customs for your motorcycle in panama city the day after arriving!

HOW MANY PERSONS ON BOARD/ACCOMODATION/SPACE

the max persons on board can be 22 including the crew of 4-5. everybody gets her/his own bed inside the ship (no bed-sharing) and additional we have several sunchairs and hammocks and deck-matresses for relaxing or sleeping outside. all the sleeping accomodations are equipped with ventilators. we have 5 double cabins and 8 single berths with high quality mattresses and reading lights and space for your backpack/personal luggage for our guests. no bedsharing like on most of the other boats doing these tours!

there is so much space and different rooms and deckspace on this ship that you will always find a quiet spot to relax even when we are full booked.

we have constantly 220/110volt electricity for charging your electronic devices. in cases of emergency there is the possibility to send emails or make phonecalls via satellite-phone.

WHAT DO I NEED FROM YOU FOR THE BOOKING:

1) your passport details: full name, date and place of birth, nationality, passport number wich you please send to info.steelrat@les-raisting.de when booking is made in advance more than 10days before tour, i need you to reconfirm your booking by email so i can be sure your plans have not changed a 5 days before tour beginning.

2) your passport for immigration latest the day before tour beginning at 10am!!!

PAYMENT:

you can pay in cash on board (us-dollars, euro, peso colombiano) exchange rates are the daily official rates. you also can pay via bank-transfer to our associations bank-account in germany (ask for the bank details if you wish to do this)

DISCOUNTS:

for every person you bring=20usd discount,

every person+pushbike=30usd discount

every person+motorcycle=50usd discount

OUR PROJECT/COMPARE WITH OTHER BOATS

its almost impossible to compare what we do offer to you and our ship with any other service and other boats in this area. stahlratte is at least 15 times bigger than the next largest boat on this route wich takes the same amount of passengers. we buy and cook best food because we like to keep a high level of life-quality and not try to feed as much people as possible with less costs. for motorcycle transports stahlratte is a very big difference to all other boats because of its much bigger size and possibility to store the bikes really safe of saltwaterspray and also because of ships-stability because smaller boats (sailingyachts) are not built for deck-cargo and they are not safe with 1 or more motorcycles on deck -- also catamarans are not really built to carry cargo on deck and you are risking your vehicle and your life safety if you carry your 250kg motorcycle (most with several others!) on a yachts deck!

the real difference is that:

SV "Stahlratte" is not a commercial sailingvessel and the owner is a foundation wich was founded in 1984 as a commune and the ships purpose was/is to be a travelling platform for group life/experience. the project is run without any profits and issue is the surviving and maintenance of this historic ship and keep it sailing for many people to have fun and good experiences.

the crew is composed out of volunteers (also backpackers) who work in a rotation system for 3-6 month without being payed. all money earned with guests sailing on "Stahlratte" is exclusively for the maintenance of this vessel and for the living of the 4-5 crewmembers as long as they stay on board.

THE SHIP

STAHLRATTE is a traditional sailing ship built 1903 in Holland and is very well maintained and equipped for worldwide high sea sailing. The ship's dimensions are: 40 meters/120 feet length overall, 6,6 meters beam, 3 meters draft and 235 tons of weight. Safety equipment is always in legal order for max 28 persons and checked every year after the international safety regulations SOLAS for professional operating vessels. Life rafts for 28 persons, life jackets for 28 persons, 2 EPIRB, 1 radar transponder, Inmarsat satellite phone, 2 GPS navigation systems, radar, VHF radio and SSB radio.

The ship is equipped with a saltwater desalination system to produce 120 liters of high quality fresh water per hour.

CREWING ON STAHLRATTE

We are always interested in new crew members as we have a rotation system. The crewing time is between 3 months and 6 months. If you have that time and you are interested, ask and we will send you detailed info.

You can find a lot of info on our webpage www.stahlratte.de and plenty reviews searching "stahlratte" in "adv-rider" and "horizons unlimited" or "stahlratte" and "backpacker" in www (google)

Facebook: stahlratte bremen

SPECIAL NOTE:

Money exchange rates

We do not cheat with wrong exchange rates like many other boats do when you have to pay in COP (peso colombiano) for example: most boats offer tours for 400-450 USD and in the hour of paying in Cartagena they ask you for 900.000 COP which is about 500 USD (that's for only passenger but you can be sure they try this with motorcyclists as well!

We do charge the official exchange rate value and we also change your rest money for the same exchange rate into USD on board