



Baltimore Rally – 20th to 23rd June 2024.

Dear Drascombers,

As we return to Baltimore in 2024, we celebrate 30 years of Drascombe Rallies there. This year we have brought forward the event by 2 months to hopefully avoid the shore side pressures that have been experienced on recent rallies held there in August.

At time of writing, we expect 25 boats to participate over the weekend, so we should have a lot of fun.

Sailing Programme:

Wednesday 19th Launch (HW 16:04, LW 22:31).

Trailers may be stored by kind permission in the field to the rear of Casey's Hotel.

Thursday 20th to Sunday 23rd - Sailing and Social Programme.

The daily programme will be as follows.

- The destinations for the day, routes there/back and any activities (afloat or ashore) will be communicated at the Skipper's Briefing based on the prevailing weather & tides.
- Depending on the destination, there will be one or two breaks for activities & refreshments at anchor or ashore.

09:30 Daily Skippers Briefing at the front of Baltimore Sailing Club (BSC). Will cover weather, tides, destinations, routes out/back, navigation hazards, safe havens, communications, etc.

10:30 Fleet away by 10:30, cruise to destination(s), approx. 1 to 2.5h duration.

Tbc Time for a swim, picnic ashore and a stroll around at destination, approx. 2h ashore.

17:00 Fleet back in Baltimore.

Tbc Evening social event.

The following destinations are typical of those visited during the rally in previous years, the daily destination will be communicated at the Skipper's Briefing:

- East Skeam Island.
- Cape Clear, North Harbour.
- East Calf Island.
- Castle Island.
- Ballydehob.
- Exploration of Hacketts Cut, Heir Island and Sherkin Island anchorages.
- Skibbereen via River Ilen (very sheltered, bad weather option).

The tides for the weekend are:

Baltimore	HW	LW	HW	LW
Wednesday, 19 th June.	03:40	10:10	16:04	22:31
Thursday, 20 th June.	04:28	10:59	16:42	23:17
Friday, 21 st June.	05:13	11:44	17:38	00:03 Sat
Saturday, 22 nd June.	05:57	12:28	18:20	00:44 Sun
Sunday, 23 rd June.	06:40	13:10	19:04	01:28 Mon

Social Programme:

Wednesday 19th:

20:00 Bushes Bar – Meet & greet, rally registration, sale of burgees, polo shirts, discuss sailing plans for the rally.

Thursday 20th:

No organised group dinner that evening, participants are free to make their own arrangements. The Algiers comes highly recommended. However, they do not take reservations and operate on a first come first served basis only.

Friday 21st:

18:00 Gather for dinner at Casey's Hotel, no need to book, settle directly with the venue on the evening.

Saturday 22nd:

19:00 BSC Clubhouse - Rally Dinner (€40 pp. Under 18s €25pp. Book with Zita and pay with cash in advance by Thursday to confirm final numbers).

Sailing Instructions

Sailing Area

Preview Baltimore Bay on Google Earth at 51 deg 29 N and 9 deg 22.5 W.
The Admiralty chart for the area is No 2129.

The eOceanic page on Baltimore is highly recommended for crews visiting Baltimore for the first time: <https://eoceanic.com/sailing/harbours/europe/ireland/cork/46/baltimore>

Communication

Information will be given:

- + At the Briefing at 09:30 at Baltimore Sailing Club on Thursday to Sunday inclusive.
 - + On the water during the day by messages to "ALL DRASCOMBES" on **VHF Ch 77**.
 - + On the water during the day by WhatsApp Group messages to participants' mobile phones.
- Please include your mobile phone number in your registration for participation in the messaging system.

Safety

Each skipper is responsible for the safety of their boat and crew. If conditions are such that you are uncomfortable then decision to sail or not rests solely with you. The rally organizers do not intend to encourage avoidable discomfort by sailing in unsuitable conditions, rather to organize alternative entertainment ashore for participants in the case of inclement weather.

Participants are advised to use the "SafeTRX" phone app and be familiar with its tracking function. On the day of the Cape Clear trip and at the discretion of the organiser, you will be asked to share your track with jack.okeeffe@gmail.com.

If you find you cannot use SafeTRX please use google maps to share your location with jack.okeeffe@gmail.com for the duration of the days sailing.

If you are separated from the fleet or observe a vessel in difficulty, please inform Roy Johnston by SMS at +353 87 238 5389 or on the VHF working channel, **Ch 77**.

On Arrival

Launch on arrival. The organising team will be available for consultation & advice at BSC or in the general pier/harbour area from 16:00 to 19:00 on Wednesday or on VHF Ch 77:

Zita O'Reilly	087 794 4804	Roy Johnston	087 238 5389
Jack O'Keeffe	087 266 3588		

Launch places (refer to the Baltimore map on page 4):

There possible launching options are as follows;

- At the RoRo slipway near the old Baltimore Railway Station, subject to ferry activity.
- In Baltimore Harbour, slipway between the BSC & the Fishing Pier.
- East of the RNLI Lifeboat Station on the beach (within 2 hours of HW)
- In "The Cove" on the beach (within 2 hours of HW)

Tying up, anchoring & mooring:

Many boats tie up on the ponton located inside the South Pier.

Others will anchor in The Cove or off the North Pier, clear of the traffic.

Participants who seek a quiet anchorage are recommended to choose Church Bay.

Any participant seeking a mooring please contact the harbourmaster, Diarmuid Minihane, at +353 87 235 1485 who can offer moorings and a ferry service. VHF ch9. High tide will be in the early morning and evening so there will be drying anchorages in the Cove.

Daily catering and provisioning

Each Day's sailing will include at least one break ashore for a picnic/cookout and for activities and socialising. Bring the food and cooking equipment you need in your boat each day. **The is a small shop that has the basic holiday essentials, but there is no ATM in the town, so bring cash as required. The nearest petrol, oil, etc. will be in Skibbereen. There is a very good chandlery, CH Marine also in Skibbereen.**

Have at least 8 lt. total of petrol and 2 lt. of drinking water per person aboard at the start of each outing.

Registration

Many have submitted intention to participate at www.drascombe.ie (upcoming events). If you cannot successfully do this, then email Zita the details including your mobile phone number.

Each participating skipper is required to complete and sign a Rally Application form. Please understand this minor bureaucratic request. Please download the form from the Irish DA site, complete it, scan or photograph it and email or message the image to Roy Johnston at rkj1mail@gmail.com

Please make payments for Rally Registration (€5) to Roy Johnston via PAYPAL or Revolut in advance or via cash at Registration.

Merchandise

To celebrate the 30th year of Baltimore Rallies, we have produced a commemorative polo shirt, pre-orders have already been taken via our social media channels, a few surplus shirts may be available over the weekend. If there is sufficient interest, a back order will be arranged post the rally.

A new Rally Burgee for 2024 has also been produced, pre-orders have already been taken via our social media channels, a few surplus burgees may be available over the weekend. If there is sufficient interest, a back order will be arranged post the rally.

Please make any payments for Burgees (€15) and Polo Shirts (€20) to Roy Johnston via PAYPAL or Revolut in advance or via cash over the weekend.

Camping & Motorhomes

There is a motorhome / camping site in Skibereen. Wild camping is tolerated, in particular near the Beacon and near the Lifeboat Station. Showers at €3 each use are available in the

toilet block (behind the Harbour Office) (open 07:30 hrs to 21:30 hrs). Families not wishing to wild camp should contact Zita for advice. There is camping on Sherkin. Motorhomes parking is subject to the pressure on designated parking spaces, parking adjacent to the village centre cannot be guaranteed.

Charter

You can charter Drascombe Luggers locally from Ilen Yachts or from Baltimore Yacht Charters.

Thanks

Thanks to Bush's Bar, Casey's Hotel and Baltimore SC, for sponsorship and support, and to Jack O'Keeffe and Zita O'Reilly for juggling and organisation.

OK – let's enjoy!

Roy Johnston

Key points in Baltimore – not to be used for navigation !



Baltimore Rally – possible sailing destinations, ★ not to be used for navigation !

