



Hat Island Ferry Operations, Loading, Departure, and Baggage Rules



PURPOSE: The purpose of these rules is to ensure the safe operation of the vessel and the safety of crew and passengers. These rules are placed in effect to ensure the fair and equitable access to the ferry for all of our owners.

GENERAL: The *Hat Express* is a federally licensed and regulated vessel operating under the parameters of CFR 46 and further regulated by the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission and the state Department of Revenue. It is the legal responsibility of the crew to ensure that the vessel is operated within these regulations. Property owners are responsible for their guests being properly informed of these requirements.

OPERATIONS:

*The vessel Captain is a federal officer, and as such:

has final authority to determine what cargo can be carried on the vessel.

has the final authority to determine if the weather is safe for running *Hat Express*.

has the authority to deny passage if in his/her determination a passenger presents a danger to other passengers or the crew, or refuses to follow crew instructions. If necessary the Captain may seek the assistance of local authorities.

*The Captain's decision on ship's safety, volume or excessive quantity or weight of items brought on board prevails.

*Illicit, contraband substances (marijuana, including medically prescribed marijuana, cocaine, etc.) are not allowed aboard. Hat Express falls under federal Coast Guard regulations prohibiting these substances. Any person having contraband drugs will be denied passage.

*Smoking is not allowed anywhere on *Hat Express*.

*Please stay behind the yellow line/chain on the Bridge. Please do not congregate at the Bridge nor distract the helmsman.

*The forward deck (bow) is a working space. Passengers may move to the bow after the Captain has left the wing station and must remain on the on the bow until docking operations are complete and the vessel is shut down. Please remain behind all marked barriers and chains.

*Children under the age of 6 are not allowed on the forward deck due to safety concerns.

*Children below the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult. The crew cannot be responsible for unattended minors.

*Please remain seated until the Captain has announced arrival and issued disembarking instructions.

*Please do not stand on the stairs or congregate in front of the pay station/concession stand. The crew needs unobstructed access to these areas.

*Pets must be caged or muzzled before boarding and remain so until off the vessel.

*Pets must ride either in the baggage compartment, upper enclosed deck, or upper aft deck.

*To ensure there is an outside space where non-pet owners can sit without pets, there are no pets permitted on the forward deck (bow).

*Please keep pets and feet off the cloth seats.

LOADING AND DEPARTURE: The ferry is the only means of transportation for a large percentage of our owners. They rely on the ferry to arrive and depart on the published schedule in order to arrange appointments and connecting travel.

*All passengers should arrive not later than 20 minutes prior to departure. This is especially important during the peak season.

*To ensure a timely departure, we ask all passengers and baggage to be onboard the vessel at least 10 minutes prior to scheduled departure.

*The ferry departs at its published departure time. Departure means the crew has begun the process of departing by removing the gangway at the published departure time.

*Baggage will not be accepted after the gangway has been taken away.

*Passengers may not board from the stern after the gangway has been removed.

*For the safety of the crew, vessel and passengers on board, once the process of departure has begun it will continue uninterrupted.

BAGGAGE: There is a finite amount of space and weight capacity on the vessel. If a few owners or guests bring excessive amounts of baggage it will cause the vessel to reach weight capacity before reaching passenger limits. This results in passengers being turned away.

Wednesday mornings to the Island are the most lightly traveled runs. If you are returning to the

Island for the summer, preparing for an extended stay or a large gathering please plan to use the Wednesday morning trip to the Island as the Captain has the most flexibility in accommodating more baggage.



Friday evenings are most heavily traveled. Please avoid bringing more than your fair share of baggage on these runs.

*Items brought into the cabin must fit under your seat. Nothing may be stored in the aisles or at your feet.

*Items must not require more than one crew member to lift or handle safely.

*Transportation of unaccompanied items is not permissible. All items brought on board must be under the personal control of a passenger. If you need to send something to the Island you must arrange for a passenger to be responsible for its loading and unloading.

*Larger items, containers and all rolling stock must fit completely under the baggage shelf and not protrude out into the walkway. Large four (4) wheeled wagons or dock carts are not allowed. Folding wagons are allowed but must be unloaded and folded dockside. Rigid wagons are not allowed.

*Oversized ice chests (coolers) are not allowed. Coolers must be 60 quarts or smaller. On Fridays-there is a limit of one cooler per every two passengers, otherwise one per person.

*Light weight folding hand carts are allowed but must fit under the baggage shelf.

*Loose items must be contained in a closed container. Items such as toys, clothing, and bedding must be contained in a closed bag or container.

*Individual grocery store bags (i.e. white plastic bags) are not allowed. Please consolidate your grocery items in larger reusable and durable shopping bags, plastic tubs, or coolers. The vessel has reusable bags available for a modest price.

*Items need to be packaged to be stackable to make optimal use of the space available. The crew/vessel is not responsible for damage to improperly packaged items. The crew will relocate items to maximize available space.

*All containers such as coolers, suitcases, plastic tubs must be labeled with the owner's name or lot number.

*No building materials, ladders, or contractor's equipment are allowed except for Community maintenance work.

*Propane, gasoline, diesel, or other flammable liquids are not allowed. Machinery using any of these liquids must be brand new and in their original packaging. They must also be declared for inspection by the crew for fuel trace.

*Vehicle batteries are not allowed.

*Furniture is not allowed.

*For over-weight or over-sized items the Captain's decision on ship's safety, volume, excessive quantity or weight of items prevails. Certain cargos such as bicycles are on a space-available basis and may be loaded last

*Household garbage only, no construction debris, garbage must be in quality bags. Leaking or torn bags or loose garbage will not be accepted.

*A \$5 freight fee per item will be applied to excess cargo.

Generally Allowable Items:

Pets (must adhere to the published Pet Policy)

Food & Beverage

Luggage, Suitcases containing clothing

Paint & Painting Supplies (1 gallon per person)

Limited Home Décor Items (small pictures, mirrors, drapery rods, lamps & shades etc.)

Small Plants (must be properly contained in cardboard or plastic limited to 1 flat or 1 gallon per person)

Potting Soil (limit up to 2 sq. ft. --must be placed on stern for transit)

Small Automotive Parts & Supplies (in an emergency, 1 tire)

Golf Clubs (1 set per passenger)

Household Items: Bedspreads, Blankets, Pillows, Kitchenware, Garden Hand Tools.

*The above information is not all inclusive. Items may be denied passage in the interest of safety and reliable performance at the discretion of the Captain. If in doubt, ask!

