



Lady Washington, the Official Ship of the State of Washington
Hawaiian Chieftain
Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority

LADY WASHINGTON FUN FACTS AND TRIVIA

- The figurehead of *Lady Washington* was carved by Bob McCausland, a former cartoonist for the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* who retired in Westport, Wash.
- A number of coins are hidden on the *Lady Washington*. Traditionally, each time a mast is “stepped” or fitted onto the keel, a coin is placed at the base of the mast. In 1989, when the *Lady Washington* received her first mast, a silver coin was placed at the base. Later, during routine maintenance and mast replacements, more coins were placed. An estimated \$1.75 in change is at the base of the current mast.
- Laid end to end, *Lady Washington*’s 156 lines of running rigging would extend three miles.
- The *Lady Washington*’s ceiling is under crew and passenger’s feet. On a wooden ship, the “ceiling” planks are horizontal planks of wood covering the inner part of the ship’s ribs from the keel upward along the hull.
- The original *Lady Washington* started out as a single-masted sloop when it was constructed in the 1750s. It was refitted as a two-masted brig before her voyage to the Pacific Northwest in 1787.
- In 1791, the original *Lady Washington* was the first American-flagged vessel to visit Japan and attempt to open trade, 62 years before Commodore Mathew Perry entered Tokyo Bay in 1853 with his US Navy squadron. The original *Lady Washington* was also the first American-flagged vessel to visit Honolulu and Hong Kong.

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*The Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) public development authority based in Aberdeen, Wash. that owns and operates the tall ships **Hawaiian Chieftain** and **Lady Washington**, launched March 7, 1989, now the Official Ship of the State of Washington. GHSA’s mission is to provide educational, vocational, recreational and ambassadorial activities and experiences that promote and preserve the maritime history of Grays Harbor, the Pacific Northwest, and our nation while serving the needs of the community.*