



Discover Cayuga Lake 2024 Charter Prices and Policies for Private Groups

Our Goal is to provide a Great Experience for you on Cayuga Lake!

Thank you for considering booking a private charter with Discover Cayuga Lake (DCL)! We are here to provide you with a wonderful experience cruising on Cayuga Lake, to ensure your safety, and to support our educational programs through your fares.

All of our private charters also include at least 15 minutes of narration regarding the culture, history and ecology of the Cayuga Lake Watershed and can involve some interactive water ecology activities if your group is interested. We will discuss your interests when you book your charter and plan accordingly.

PRICING FOR PRIVATE GROUPS

\$1000 per hour in the months of May - August

\$800 per hour in the months of Sept. and October

Charters generally run from 1-2 hours with some exceptions possible.

Additional fees may be incurred for extra services, such as:

- Location pick up fees: \$150 for Taughannock Park & \$400 for Aurora (No fee for departures from Ithaca locations.)
- Groups over 50 may require an additional crew member, at \$40/hour
- Alcohol Deposit: DCL reserves the right to require clients who wish to consume alcoholic beverages to provide a \$300 security deposit to guarantee adherence to our safety and alcohol policies. See the Alcohol Section below for details.
- Cleanup: When excessive cleanup is required, an additional fee will be charged at \$40/hour/crew member. DCL reserves the right to require additional deposit for cleaning in the amount of \$100.

GRATUITY: Our captain and crew go above and beyond to provide a safe and enjoyable experience. You can show them your appreciation with an automatic 10% gratuity added to your bill. If you would like to provide a larger amount or a cash amount, please let us know at the time of booking.

DEPOSITS & PAYMENTS: A 50% down-payment is due upon receipt of your invoice to secure your reservation. The balance is required before the day of your charter.

CRUISE CANCELLATIONS

- **If DCL cancels:** Although we rarely cancel trips, we reserve the right to cancel a trip for any reason whatsoever, including adverse weather, mechanical failures, unsafe behavior, or circumstances which make the trip unsafe or otherwise inadvisable. If we must cancel a trip in advance of departure, we will refund all payments made to Discover Cayuga Lake. If weather or other circumstances requiring cancellation arise during a cruise, we will try to reschedule your cruise and/or provide refunds minus a 10% administrative fee, as appropriate.
- **If a Private Group cancels:**
 - Cancellations prior to 2 weeks before departure: Deposit refunded minus 10% of the deposit amount
 - Cancellations less than 2 weeks in advance of departure: Deposits refunded minus 50% of the deposit amount

- Cancellations less than 24 hours in advance of departure: Refunds are not to be expected but will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

SAFETY

The Teal is a U.S. Coast Guard certified vessel, operated by a licensed captain and crew. Your safety is our first priority. The Teal is equipped with life jackets for adults, children and infants, and all required rescue equipment. Please contact us at any time with concerns about weather or other lake conditions.

COVID-19

We will continue to monitor Covid-19 regulations and will adjust protocols as needed. Masks are not required.

OUR BOAT, THE M/V TEAL

- The Teal can comfortably accommodate 70 people with plenty of seating available. Only the lower deck is open to the public at this time.
- There is an interior cabin which can fit 30 people, with seating, and a buffet counter that can be raised or lowered. There are two small tables that can be set up.
- There are two bathrooms (marine heads) on board.
- There are speakers and a bluetooth enabled audio system for your use.
- There is a monitor and a microphone for speeches, presentations, etc. available for your use.
- Wheelchair Access:
 - The boat is accessible via a ramp from our Tremen Marina dock location only. Other locations involve stepping up 2-5 stairs.
 - Onboard bathrooms are not wheelchair accessible. Onshore amenities are, however, available at all of our docking locations.

FOOD & DRINK

Clients are welcome to provide food and beverages for themselves, or use a caterer. There is a buffet counter in the cabin of the boat and you are welcome to bring coolers. Current caterers with whom we have enjoyed working (and whose food is delicious) are Serendipity Catering, Ba-Li Catering and Luna Inspired Street Food, all of which have websites with menu options and contact information. Asempe Kitchen offers tasty vegetarian West African food.

ZERO WASTE AND PLASTIC USE

We aim to be as sustainable and environmentally friendly as possible in all of our operations. Please be mindful when choosing your food and drink packaging. Try not to use any single-use plastics. Bring your own water bottle. Help us by recycling paper, plastic, glass and cans on board and/or carrying out what you carry in.

ALCOHOL & SMOKING POLICY

DCL expects guests to comply with all applicable NYS and Federal laws addressing the use of intoxicants and controlled substances during their visit. You are permitted to bring alcohol on the boat via our BYOB (bring your own beverage) policy. While we recognize that moderate consumption of alcohol is a normal part of many recreational and cultural experiences, it is also extremely important to DCL that our guests help us ensure our events are safe, legal, considerate of our neighbors on the lake, and consistent with the mission of DCL as a community organization promoting education and equitable access to Cayuga Lake. For that reason, we may require a returnable advance deposit, and acknowledgement that charter clients have read and understand the following policies, prior to boarding or participating in any other activities that DCL considers relevant. Compliance with these policies will be determined at the end of your cruise, and a complete or partial refund of an Alcohol Deposit will be made.

1. There is no smoking or vaping of any kind on the boat, nor at the marina before or after the cruise.
2. We reserve the right to verify the ages of all guests when alcoholic beverages are present.
3. Beer and wine, or beverages of similar alcoholic content, only.
4. Absolutely no open containers may be brought on board, or taken off board, our vessel. Consumption of alcoholic beverages at the marina before or after cruises is not allowed.
5. Designated drivers should be identified to our crew at the start of your cruise. We will be happy to provide them with complimentary soda or water. We highly recommend arrangements for taxi or ride for hire service in advance, and will be happy to assist you in contacting services during the cruise, should you ask.
6. The Captain and Crew retain the authority to return to port at any time in the event that guests are not complying with DCL's safety policies or staff requests, or are behaving in an unsafe or otherwise unsatisfactory manner. Cruises shortened by guest behavior will not be subject to discount or refund considerations.
7. Groups and organizations affiliated with regional academic institutions will be required to adhere to appropriate chaperone and liquor vendor policies provided by their schools.
8. While the DCL crew will be responsible for cleaning our vessel at the end of any cruise, broken glass/utensils, excessive trash, spilled substances and/or damaged furniture will contribute to a withheld deposit.

DEPARTURES

Please instruct your guests to arrive 20 minutes prior to departure time. Boarding will begin 15 minutes before departure time. While our boat is at your disposal during a charter event, we do try to maintain our schedule and will end the cruise at the pre-arranged time regardless of departure time. There is plenty of parking at the Allan Treman Marina.

WHAT TO BRING

Weather on the lake can be cooler than expected, and variable. We recommend layers, and comfortable footwear (non-skid and non-marking please). In the event of chilly or damp weather, we can enclose our main deck and will make every effort to keep you and your guests comfortable. Don't forget sunscreen!



We look forward to having you on board the MV Teal!

Please feel free to ask if you have any concerns.

booking@discovercayugalake.org

607-327-5253