



## **French ship *Hermione* to visit Yorktown June 5, 6, 7 County launches event website; releases schedule of events**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Last weekend, the replica ship *Hermione* set sail from France on its maiden-voyage to cross of the Atlantic on its way to Yorktown. The ship is scheduled to arrive Friday, June 5, and remain in port through the weekend, departing on the morning of Monday, June 8.

The county has launched a website dedicated to the ship's visit – [www.HermioneYorktown.com](http://www.HermioneYorktown.com). The site contains information about the history of the ship, the Marquis de Lafayette, and Yorktown, as well as a schedule of events, shopping and dining information, and more.

“The county has been working for several months on the events associated with this visit,” said Brian Fuller, York County's Parks, Recreation and Tourism Manager and the event's coordinator. “With plans well underway, the website now will become an important information tool for those interested in visiting Yorktown the weekend of June 5, 6 and 7.”

As her first port of call, Yorktown is planning a full three-day event that will include a variety of programs and activities for the public: deck tours, a Heritage Village traveling exhibit, entertainment, vendors, and more.

In addition to *Hermione*, Yorktown is pleased to announce a visit by the Jamestown Settlement's *Godspeed* that weekend. The *Godspeed*, a replica of one of the three ships that brought America's first permanent English colonists to Virginia in 1607, also will be available for deck tours.

Information about all events associated with the *Hermione*'s visit will be available on the county's event website as well as on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/yorkcountyva](http://www.facebook.com/yorkcountyva)) and Twitter (@yorkcountyvagov). Social media posts associated with the *Hermione* visit will be tagged with #Hermione2015.

For more information, please call the Public Information Office at (757) 890-3300.

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Photos Courtesy of Association Hermione-La Fayette

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In April 2015, after a period of sea trials and training in 2014, the Hermione will set sail for the USA. The journey will start from the mouth of the River Charente, in Port des Barques, where Lafayette boarded on March 10th, 1780. The transatlantic crossing is expected to take 27 days in total, before making landfall at Yorktown, Virginia.

As the Hermione moves up the Eastern seaboard, it will be accompanied by a range of pier side activities. These include in some ports a traveling exhibition and a heritage village that will be accessible to the public. The Hermione Voyage 2015 is part of an expansive outreach program with cultural events, exhibitions, and educational programs that celebrate the trip and mark its progress. A robust digital activation for the voyage expands the reach of the project to millions of people.

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