

Tour Rowing

Since 1971, rowers of all nationalities, ages and abilities have toured lakes, rivers, canals and seas in Europe, the Americas, Australia and Japan as participants in FISA World Rowing Tours. In order to be considered for a place on a FISA World Rowing Tour, participants must be a competent rowers and be able to row with both sweep and scull oars.

The World Rowing Tour in Ireland in 2013 was FISA's 50th World Rowing Tour.
<http://www.worldrowing.com/events/2013-fisa-world-rowing-tour>

While the World Rowing Tour is the showcase event, there is a multitude of rowing tours around the World organised by individuals, clubs and National Rowing Federations. They are conducted in all sorts of boats from wonderful traditional boats with fixed seats to C class touring boats to modern coastal rowing boats - in oceans, protected coastal waters, lakes, rivers and canals all over the World.

For links to some of the World's tour rowing websites, see below.

If you are thinking of a holiday, why not combine it with rowing in some of the World's beautiful places. You will find instant friends. The fraternal bond between rowers is very real. Just go online & make your plans.



Tour Rowing

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Australia

Australia has no tradition of Tour Rowing, however some clubs now engage in Tour Rowing or hold Tour Rowing events. These are conducted in racing boats or coastal rowing boats.

Coastal Rowing Australia conducts regular short rowing tours in Moreton Bay near Brisbane, at Noosa and Townsville in Queensland and annual longer tours at one or more of these locations- www.coastalrowingaustralia.com . In 2014, the following tours are proposed:-

Late April Moreton Bay – 5 days Couran Cove, South Stradbroke Is

August – 1 week South Mission Beach, Great Barrier Reef

Early September Great Sandy Straits, Fraser Island

Clarence River Rowathon – a 40 km event on the Clarence River, Northern New South Wales conducted by the Grafton Rowing Club - www.graftonrowing.asn.au

Head of the Tweed – a 21 km event on the Tweed River, Northern New South Wales - Murwillimbah Rowing Club – www.murwillumbahrowing.com.au

The Flying Doctor Rowathon – a 92 km event held on the Murray River at Robinvale, Victoria or an 82 km event held on the Darling River (the main tributary of the Murray) at Wentworth, New South Wales in October each year. In 2014 it will be held on 18 October - www.murrayrowathon.com

The **3 Rivers Marathon** is a 26 km event staged each year by the Port Macquarie Rowing Club the on the Wilson, Maria and Hastings Rivers in Northern New South Wales - www.portmacquarierowingclub.com.au/3rivers



Austria

Tour rowing is popular in Austria with the Austrian Rowing Federation organising a number of rowing tours each year and individual clubs also conducting tours. Tours are generally conducted in C Class touring boats.

www.rudern.at/ and follow the Wanderrudern link then Wanderfahrten and/ or Fahrtenpläne and or the Wanderfahrt listings under Alle Termine



Canada

Tour rowing is a growing sport in Canada and is primarily promoted through the Ontario Adventure Rowing Association using coxed touring quad sculls. A significant number of tours are scheduled each year – primarily in Ontario Province. <http://adventurerowing.ca/>

Belgium

A number of rowing tours are held on the beautiful waterways of Belgium each year.

A calendar of tours, including an annual tour of the historic Old City of Gent, can be found on the website of the KSRG (Royal Rowing Sport Gent) <http://www.krsg.be/nl-NL/ik-roei-bij-krsg/recreatief-roeien/kalender.html>

Denmark

Denmark has a sea shore of more than 7,000 km and more than 140 local rowing clubs. The clubs undertake tour rowing. Traditionally in in-rigged boats; 2+ or 4+, but more and more often in out-rigged material, such as gig boats and coastal boats. Most clubs organize weekly tour rowing along the shores close to the club, but also longer trips and tours to other shores in- and outside the country. Guests are welcome in Danish clubs, and boats are often lent or rented out for visitors. For further information on a particular shore area, contact the local club. A list of Danish Rowing clubs can be found at: <http://www.roning.dk/Ronetvaerk.aspx>.

The Danish Rowing Federation supports the tour rowing by placing boats in some of the most popular tour rowing areas of the country. These boats are rented out at reasonable fees. Contact and information on the placed boats: Coordinators of out-placed boats, Lise and Allan Pedersen, tel: +45 98 18 27 85 or +45 28 90 49 70, e-mail: lise-p@email.dk and alp@email.dk

As a result of the traditional long distance tour rowing, two long distance competitions have been created; Long Distance Rowing Competition and Marathon.

The Long Distance Rowing Competition is organized as 10 or 25 km races where the teams gather points at five heats taking place during the summer. The Danish Champion is found and celebrated at the final heat in August. For information on the Long Distance Rowing Competition: <http://www.roning.dk/Langdistancekaproning.aspx>.

Two annual marathons are organized. The distance is 42 nautical miles (78 km) that must be executed in a 24 hour time frame.

Contact and information on the long distance rowing competition and marathon: Head of the Long Distance Rowing Competition Committee, Christian Probst, tel: +45 23 63 56 60, mail: chbpr@tdc.dk.



Finland

Finland has a tradition of Tout Rowing, particularly in traditional Church Boats – generally with 14 rowers and a cox. Traditionally Church Boats are fixed seat, but some boats are now made with sliding seats. The boats are sweep oar.

Karelia-Soutu

Karelia-Soutu (Karelia Rowing Tour) is the biggest long-distance rowing event in Finland. It has been held annually since 1985, each year attracting over 1000 participants. The course lies through the heart of the North Karelian Lakeland.

There are classes for all kinds of rowers: solo, pairs, families or even teams. These are divided along two separate routes, one for small boats (203 km) and the other for traditional Church boats - with a crew of 14 rowers plus cox (146 km). The average speed of the church boats is 9.2 kms per hour.

Rowers may participate as a team or single rowers. There are single rowing places available in the church boats, as well as meal packages. Rowing in the small boats and church boats can be combined. The accommodation is organized; rowers may choose between a summer hotel accommodation or camping on the stop over places. There are also transfers organized by bus.

www.kareliasoutu.fi

For rowing events in Finland, generally, see:

www.soututapahtumat.fi

France

France has a long tradition of tour rowing. A variety of boats are used, but the most popular are C Class touring boats, and, on the ocean, coastal rowing boats. Each year the French Rowing Federation publishes a calendar of 50 or so rowing tours in continental France and even French Guiana in the Caribbean.

www.avironfrance.asso.fr/ and follow the links – Pratiquer l'aviron/ L'aviron de randonnée/ Randon'Aviron EDF/ Circuit Randon'Aviron EDF. For 2013 see <http://www.avironfrance.asso.fr/Pratiquer/AvironRandonnee/RandonAviron/CircuitRandonAviron.php>

Jersey – Carteret Coastal Rowing Race

Each year the Carteret Rowing Club in Normanby, France, organises a coastal rowing race over 28 km from Carteret to Jersey in the Channel Islands.

<http://www.aviron-carteret.com/English.html>

Coastal Tour of Brittany

<http://britavirontour.wordpress.com/>



Germany

Germany has a long tradition of Tour Rowing. A variety of boats are used, but the most popular are C Class touring boats. The German Rowing Federation website www.rudern.de lists some rowing tours

<http://www.rudern.de/verband/wanderrudern-breitensport-ruderreviere-umwelt/termine/>

Other relevant links are:

For general information

<http://www.rudern.de/verband/wanderrudern-breitensport-ruderreviere-umwelt/>

For tour rowing experts in DRV

<http://www.rudern.de/verband/wanderrudern-breitensport-ruderreviere-umwelt/ansprechpartner/>

For German rivers and lakes for tour rowing

<http://gewaesser.rudern.de/>

Conditions sites and contacts for use of DRV tour rowing boats

<http://www.rudern.de/nachricht/news/2010/02/10/wanderboote-und-barken/>

Sites and contacts of other organizations with tour boats for competent users

<http://www.rudern.de/verband/wanderrudern-breitensport-ruderreviere-umwelt/wanderruderboote-barken/vereinsboote/>

For DRV rowing tours

<http://www.rudern.de/termine/wanderrudern/verbandsfahrten/verbandswanderfahrten-jahresuebersicht/>

For rowing tours of other German rowing organizations open for guests

<http://www.rudern.de/termine-uebersicht/wanderrudern/gemeinschaftsfahrten/>

<http://www.wanderrudern.de/index.html>

In addition, many German rowing clubs support competent organizers of rowing tours with information and with boats.

A list of the German rowing clubs is found at <http://www.rudern.de/verband/mitglieder/>

Hong Kong

The Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club conducts regular tour rowing around Hong Kong Island and beyond in coastal rowing boats. Each November the club runs the Around The Island Race – 42 km around Hong Kong Island.

<http://www.rhkyc.org.hk/CoastalRowing.aspx>

Hungary

A number of great rowing tours are conducted in Hungary and are published on the Hungarian Rowing Federation's website <http://www.rhkyc.org.hk/CoastalRowing.aspx> and follow the links at the bottom of the page.

Ireland

Tour rowing is gaining popularity in Ireland with a number of clubs conducting tours and making boats available for private rowing tours <http://www.iaru.ie/?q=content/tour-recreational-rowing>

ITALY

The Italian Rowing Federation has established a tour rowing series primarily focussed on tours in coastal rowing boats along the beautiful Italian coastline

http://www.canottaggio.org/web_FIC_2009/sezione/tour_rowing.shtml

Vogalonga

The Vogalonga is an iconic rowing event held in Venice on Pentecostal Sunday each year. Participants row and paddle in all manner of man powered water craft including varieties of gondola and other traditional venetian boats that are rowed with the oarsmen standing. Crews gather in St Marks Basin in front of the ducal palace. The course is scenic 30 kilometers route along the various Venetian canals and historical buildings through the Venetian Lagoon, around the island of Burano and through the Grand Canals of Murano and Venice.

Each participant receives a commemorative medal and a certificate of participation. The numbers of participants has swelled to thousands over the years from all over the world.

www.vogalonga.net

NETHERLANDS

The Netherlands have a multitude of waterways – lakes, rivers, canals and dike canals – on which tour rowing is conducted. One of the most popular tour rowing boat is the wherry – a double scull with a cox and a navigator. There are so many intersecting waterways in Holland that a navigator is necessary. Dutch rowing club organise regular tours, some of which are published on the national website www.knrb.nl – follow the links, in Dutch - Informatie voor/ Toerroeiers / Verenigingstoertochten For 2013 see <http://www.knrb.nl/content.php/nl/715>



NEW ZEALAND

Tour rowing is starting to develop in New Zealand. In 2013 the inaugural Hoea Kaha Tour was held on the Waikato River. The tour is over 160 km over 4 days with many cultural and scenic highlights including the Orakei Korako geothermal area on the banks of the river and rowing with a flotilla of Maori waka canoes. The 2014 event will be held from 3 to 7 April. It is to be an annual event. <http://www.hoeakaha.cer33.com/>

The Row for Roy event is also an annual event that commenced in 2012. It is held on the Queens Birthday weekend each year. In 2014 it will be held in the Rotorua region from 31 May to 2 June <http://158ideas.wix.com/row-for-ray-2013#!itinerary/c1xfq>



PORTUGAL

Most years the Portuguese Rowing Federation conducts international rowing tours.

<http://www.remoportugal.pt/>

Some clubs also organise tours at which international guests are welcome.

Centro Náutico da Fontela – Vila Verde

www.ginasiofigueirense.com

www.portugalrowingtour.blogspot.pt

SOUTH AFRICA

Tour rowing is starting to develop in South Africa with a group of enthusiastic coastal rowers forming Cape Coastal Rowing and organising rowing tours in the ocean around Cape Town and further afield. The plan is to do at least four weekend tours a year - the Melck Run (a 23km pursuit race down the Berg River to a farm near the town of Velddrift), the Flower Run (a 15km crossing of the Langebaan lagoon timed to coincide with the blooming of the wild flowers in the West Coast National Park each spring), the 35km Breede River marathon (with the tide from the mouth of the river at Witsand to the pont at Malgas), and the wine-tasting tour, as well as two coastal regattas in Simon's Bay and regular day tours to places like Cape Point, Hout Bay and Table Bay.

<http://capecoastalrowing.wordpress.com/>
www.facebook.com/capecoastalrowing

SWITZERLAND

A number of Swiss rowing clubs conduct rowing tours some of which are listed on the Swiss Rowing Federation's website on the Fitnesskalender page

http://www.ruderverband.ch/index.php?q=kalender_fitness

Tour du Léman à l'Aviron

The Tour du Léman à l'Aviron rowing racing event, all the way around Lake Geneva, is , with its 160 km course, the longest non-stop rowing event in the world. It generally takes around 12-17 hours to complete depending on the weather conditions.

<http://www.nautique.org/> and follow the link to Tour du lac.



UNITED KINGDOM

Tour rowing is growing in the United Kingdom as a result of British Rowing's Explore Rowing project with a number of clubs hosting rowing tours and the British Rowing Tour held annually.

<http://www.exploreroxing.org/groups/touring-rowers>

A number of Cornish Pilot Gig clubs also host rowing tours in traditional fixed seat Cornish pilot gigs.

<http://www.cpga.co.uk/>

<http://charlestownrowingclub.org/>

Scotland

Clubs affiliated with the Scottish Coastal Rowing Association hold coastal rowing events and long distance races <http://scottishcoastalrowing.org/2013-calendar/>



TOUR INTERNATIONAL DANUBEN

Tour International Danuben is a not for profit organisation that organises annual rowing tours along the Danube River from Ingolstadt, Germany, and ends in Sfantu Gheorghe, Romania. Going through Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania, the length of the tour is 2,516 km with daily distances of 45 to 60 km. Most participants do sections of a week or 2 at a time. Accommodation is in tents that participants must carry in their boats with them.

www.tour-international-danubien.org/

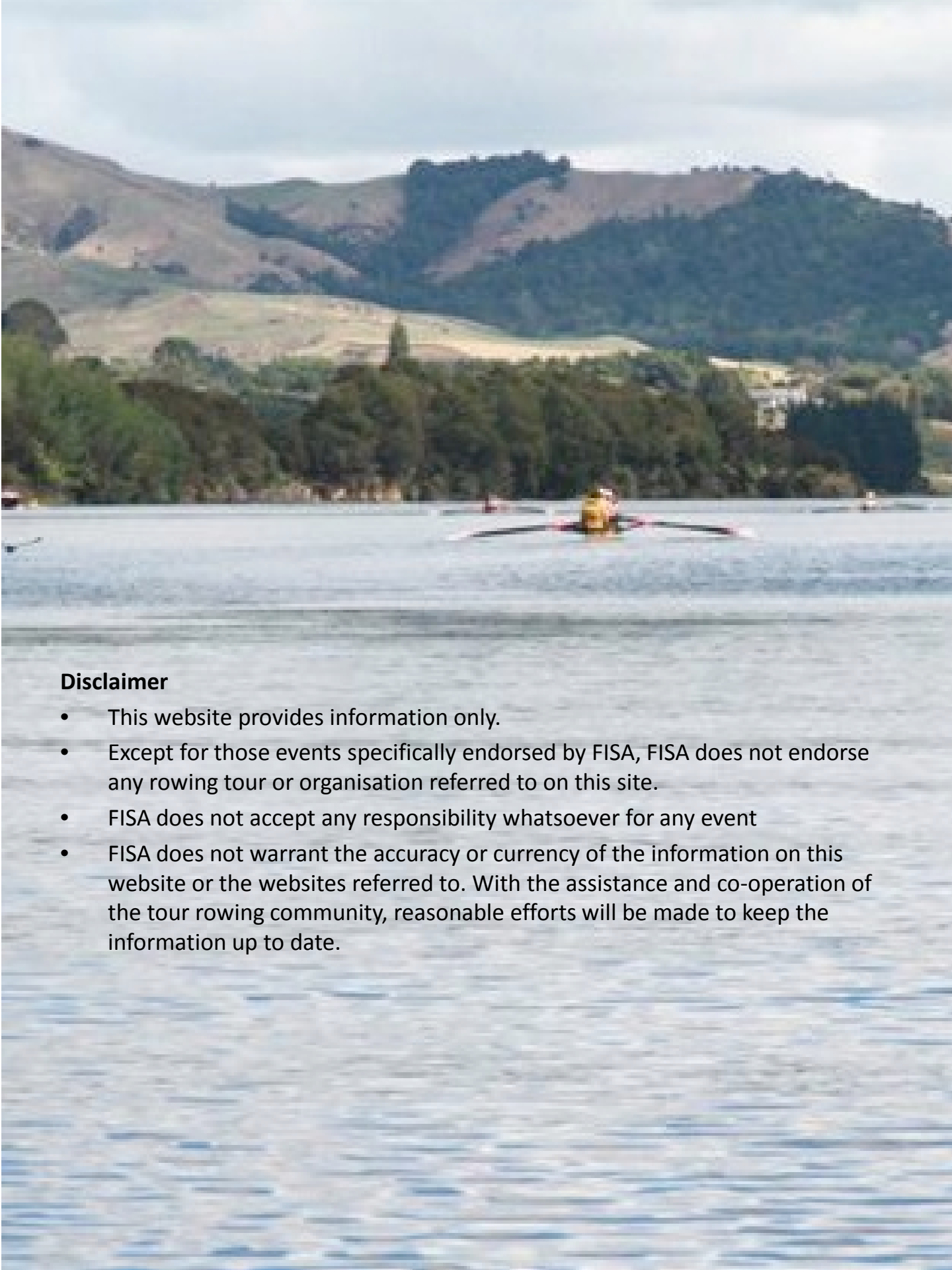
PRIVATE and COMMERCIAL ROWING TOURS

- Many private rowing tours are organised through private rowing networks using private boats or boats borrowed from local clubs.
- There also tour companies offering rowing tours, often combining tour rowing with sightseeing and other leisure activities. These companies can look after all of the logistical issues for a rowing tourist.
- Rowing The World www.rowingtheworld.com has conducted guided rowing tours on the Italian and Swiss Lakes and in Ireland and is developing tours elsewhere in Europe and beyond. The Rowing Concierge is a complimentary part of the business facilitating guest rowing opportunities around the World for travelling rowers.
- Guilin International Rowing Club www.guilinrowing.com offers guided rowing tours on the beautiful Backwaters of Kerala in Southern India between December and March each year.

Contributions

Any Clubs or organisations engaged in Tour Rowing and who would like a link to their website posted on this site are invited to send particulars and photographs of their events to Warwick Marler, FISA Rowing For All Commission - warwick@darvall.com





Disclaimer

- This website provides information only.
- Except for those events specifically endorsed by FISA, FISA does not endorse any rowing tour or organisation referred to on this site.
- FISA does not accept any responsibility whatsoever for any event
- FISA does not warrant the accuracy or currency of the information on this website or the websites referred to. With the assistance and co-operation of the tour rowing community, reasonable efforts will be made to keep the information up to date.