



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 2026

Media Contact:
sail250vainfo@festevents.org

OFFICIAL SAIL250® VIRGINIA MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE NOW — SHOP ONLINE TODAY, OR FIND IT ON-SITE IN JUNE

Collectible Art, Apparel, Accessories & Keepsakes for a Once-in-a-Generation Event

NORFOLK, Va. (May 2026) — With Sail250® Virginia just weeks away, there has never been a better time to gear up, collect a piece of history, or pick up a one-of-a-kind keepsake that marks your place in the Commonwealth’s signature 250th anniversary event.

Sail250® Virginia officially branded merchandise — from limited-edition collectible artwork and fine-art prints to posters, apparel, and branded accessories — is **available for purchase right now**, both online and through select retail partners. The same merchandise will also be available **on-site in Norfolk and at Sail VirginiaSM 2026 Affiliate Harbors** during the event in June.

“We’ll have plenty of locations where people can purchase Sail250® branded merchandise throughout the festival footprint in Norfolk, but we’d hate for them to be disappointed if their favorite items sell out. So, we’re reminding folks to visit our online shop and consider advance purchases just to be sure,” said Karen Scherberger, President & CEO, Sail250® Virginia.

COLLECTIBLE FINE ART — “HISTORY ON THE WIND” by Patrick O’Brien

Available Now: Giclée Prints & Posters. Commissioned exclusively by Sail250® Virginia, “*History on the Wind*” is a sweeping oil painting by Patrick O’Brien — President of the American Society of Marine Artists — that captures the grandeur, power, and centuries-spanning legacy of tall sailing ships in honor of America’s 250th anniversary. O’Brien’s commemorative work features the USCGC Eagle, Godspeed, Amistad, and, representing the U.S. Navy’s original Six Frigates, the Chesapeake.

Giclée prints and 24” x 36” posters are available now for advance purchase exclusively through Harbor Gallery. Pricing: Giclée Prints (signed & numbered): Signed & Numbered: \$175. Unsigned/Unnumbered: \$125. Posters (24” x 36”): Signed & Numbered: \$50; Unsigned/Unnumbered: \$35. Visit the gallery’s newly updated website, which features the Sail250® artwork prominently on its opening page: www.harbor-gallery.com. Or visit: Harbor Gallery, 1508 Colley Ave., Norfolk, VA.

Please note: Unsigned posters will be available for purchase exclusively **on-site** at the Sail250® Virginia official merchandise center at **Town Point Park**, downtown Norfolk waterfront, Friday, June 19 through Sunday, June 21, 2026, during Sail250® Virginia hours.

(continued)

OFFICIAL APPAREL AND BRANDED ACCESSORIES

Sail250® Virginia and its official merchandise partner IIP are proud to offer the complete line of official **Sail250® Virginia** and **Sail Virginia™ 2026** merchandise for boating and sailing enthusiasts, maritime history fans, visitors, and local supporters of this once-in-a-generation commemoration. Full catalog available now at sail250vashop.com.

“Having created the award-winning merchandise line for OpSail 2000 and the official merchandise for OpSail 2012, we’re proud to bring that same creativity and craftsmanship to this historic moment,” said Debbie Higgins, Owner, IIP. “We’re honored to be part of Sail250® Virginia and Sail Virginia™ 2026 and to once again celebrate Virginia’s maritime legacy.”

What’s Available:

- **Branded apparel and activewear** featuring official Sail250® Virginia and Sail Virginia™ 2026 logos and nautical themes – including Helly Hansen men’s & women’s activewear
- **Accessories and specialty gift items** — cups, mugs, perfect for collectors and commemorative keepsakes
- **Limited-edition collectibles**, such as ceramic and enamel drinkware, Yeti® ramblers, insulated travel mugs, and even branded gear for your pet — additional items will be released leading up to and during the event
- **On-site merchandise locations in Norfolk** during Sail250® Virginia will be found at Town Point Park, Freemason, and Front Street venues
- **Merchandise also available at Sail Virginia™ 2026 Affiliate Harbors** in Alexandria, Hampton, Onancock, Richmond, Yorktown, and Smithfield/Isle of Wight, June 12–21, 2026

Don’t miss the limited-edition collectibles — once they’re gone, they’re gone. Shop the official collection now: sail250vashop.com. Fine art prints & posters: harbor-gallery.com. For more event information, visit: sail250virginia.com

Sail250® Virginia support includes:

In Partnership with VA250.

Sponsors: Virginia is for Lovers, The City of Norfolk, Sentara, TowneBank, W.F. Magann Corporation, Crofton, E. G. Middleton, Inc., Dominion Enterprises, McLeskey, VIGOR Marine | MHI Norfolk, The Port of Virginia, Dominion Energy, Robbins Maritime, Hampton Roads Shipping Association, Fairlead, Light Tech, Inc., Colliers, Virginia Pilot Association, Nauticus, Carnival Cruise Line, ICON, Colonna’s, Inc., Perry Family Foundation, Hilton Norfolk The Main, Visit Norfolk, City Cruises, BAE Systems, Coastal Precast Systems, LLC, Elizabeth River Concrete, S. B. Ballard, Bay Power Solutions, Caligari Gerloff Painting Inc., STIHL, Coastal Virginia Tourism Alliance, Rivers Casino Portsmouth, Navy League of Hampton Roads, City of Virginia Beach, Bruce Bishop, Decker Law, Sherwin Williams, Centennial, Schaubach Fund/Suffolk Foundation, Town Point Club, New Journal & Guide, 13News Now, WAVY TV 10. Produced by Norfolk Festevents, Ltd.

WHRO Official Education Media Partner.

Hilton Norfolk The Main – HQ Hotel.

About Sail250® Virginia

Sail250® Virginia, hosted by the City of Norfolk, is part of the United States’ national commemoration of America’s 250th anniversary. This signature event is planned as the largest public event in the Commonwealth for the 250th. Scheduled June 12- 23, 2026, the event will bring a fleet of international tall ships, military ships, historic and character vessels to Norfolk (June 19 – 22, 2026) and Affiliate Harbors (June 12 – 21, 2026) in the Chesapeake Bay Region for multi-day waterfront festivals, featuring ship tours, fireworks, concerts, and educational programming. Sail250® Virginia will showcase Virginia’s role as a maritime gateway to the world, bringing together participants and visitors from around the globe. For more details, visit www.sail250virginia.com, Facebook, and Instagram