



Happy campers find passage to holiday fun

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Land's Edge summer camp students sail aboard The South Passage.

A LUCKY group of campers was given a romantic glimpse of Sydney on Thursday, sailing under the Harbour Bridge on a Tall Ship.

The young people - mostly from the lower North Shore - enjoyed a sail on the Harbour on The South Passage, a 100-foot schooner, courtesy of Land's Edge outdoor recreation company.

It was part of a week's summer camp at Land's Edge, Chowder Bay, which offers camps and activities for groups of all sizes and ages.

The youths were also set to enjoy snorkelling, rafting, kite-making and flying, and exploring the military tunnels around Chowder Bay.

Land's Edge director Michele Naughton said the company had been running in Gerringong in country NSW for more than 10 years, and took over a lease in Building One in the old army barracks at Chowder Bay from the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust about 16 months ago.

There, the company offered accommodation and activities.

"We are open for any type of group, including family groups, yoga and meditation, even kung fu groups have been booking out accommodation," Ms Naughton said.

"We need a minimum of only 16 people to book the whole building."

Ms Naughton said The South Passage was owned and operated by the Sail Training Association of Queensland to provide young people with the Tall Ship experience.

"It helps them to learn independence, teamwork, co-operation, and navigation," she said.

"The captain allowed each of the students to have a turn at triggering the helm - or steering the ship - and they learned the terms 'port' and 'starboard'." On Thursday, sailing was followed by fishing.

"We teach them about fishing guidelines and conservation, licences, bag limits and size limits, and the reasons for them, so they go away with skills and knowledge and a new perspective on the environment," she said.

"And the camp has a healthy lifestyles theme so we only offer healthy food."

Details: Phone Land's Edge on 9969 0038 or visit landsedge.com.au