

**YOUNG ENDEAVOUR YOUTH SCHEME
CEREMONY TO MARK THE FINAL DAY OF VOYAGE 01/26
ON BOARD THE STS *YOUNG ENDEAVOUR*
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
STS *YOUNG ENDEAVOUR*, PRINCES WHARF, HOBART
MONDAY 12 JANUARY 2026**

Good morning, everyone. It is a pleasure to be here to celebrate the completion of the first voyage of 2026, of the Sail Training Ship *Young Endeavour*.

The Young Endeavour Youth Scheme, in partnership with our Royal Australian Navy, has taken thousands of young people on ocean journeys. You are now members of that special group of alumni. Over the last ten days, you have experienced challenges, moments of uncertainty, and discovery. The completion of your intensive journey will be described by many as life-changing.

This voyage also marks the end of an era. Today is the last time that the STS *Young Endeavour* will arrive in Hobart, which we are sad about. The 2026 circumnavigation of Australia marks the last time the STS *Young Endeavour* will sail around the country, ahead of the program's transition to a new sail training vessel, currently under construction.¹ This *Young Endeavour* has been in operation for 35 years and sailed nearly 400,00 nautical miles².

The new ship will have three masts and will be a 'barquentine rig'. The ship will have square sails rigged on the foremast, and fore-and-aft sails on the fore, main and mizzen masts. On each voyage, she will accommodate up to 42 youth crew. This will enable more voyages each year and more young Australians to participate in the Young Endeavour development program.³

¹ <https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/releases/2025-10-20/sail-training-ship-young-endeavour-marks-end-era> accessed 19 December 2025.

² <https://ypungendeavour.gov.au/about> accessed 19 December 2025.

³ <https://youngendeavour.gov.au/NEW-SHIP> accessed 19 December 2025.

All our voyagers have learned that leadership is about working together as a team. You have learned self-discipline and responsibility, and the knowledge that every challenge is best faced together.

My congratulations to you all for completing the voyage. May I also recognise your families for their support and encouragement.

My congratulations also to the Young Endeavour Trust and the Captain and crew who continue to provide a challenging and safe environment for young people to explore their strengths and develop as team members and leaders.

May I wish you all fair winds and following seas.

Thank you.