

## 2020 BBAC Member Discount for Sailings on DFDS Services

I am pleased to advise the **2020 BBAC member discount for sailings on DFDS services** can now be booked through the dedicated hidden web page at <https://www.dfds.com/en-gb/passenger-ferries/exclusive-offers/bbac>

As a BBAC member, you can take advantage of one of these very special, exclusive offers. DFDS have offers on their routes from Dover to Calais, Dover to Dunkirk and Newcastle to Amsterdam. Whether you live in the north of England or Scotland, or further south, you can take advantage of these great deals.

These offers are applicable to BBAC members irrespective of whether you are transporting a balloon or travelling on ballooning related business. Please be aware **the offer is not applicable to Panel Vans** but is applicable to Dual Purpose Vehicles based on a Van body, i.e., factory manufactured or owner converted crew cab vehicles with additional side windows and seating fitted to the rear. Visit Dual Purpose Vehicles at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/car-derived-vans-and-dual-purpose-vehicles/car-derived-vans-and-dual-purpose-vehicles> for further clarification.

DFDS are moving to slightly different products this year which include:

- ◆ Dover to France – save 15% off economy fares for cars only + up to 9 people with a caravan or trailer [book online]
- ◆ Dover to France – save up to 25% off economy fares for cars only + up to 9 people [book online]
- ◆ Dover to France – save 20% off economy fares for cars only + up to 9 people plus free Priority boarding [Call 08712203522 to book and quote code ECPR20POA]
- ◆ Newcastle to Amsterdam – save up to 23% + free breakfast with en suite cabin + 2 people [book online]
- ◆ Newcastle to Amsterdam – save up to 20% on crossings with your vehicle with en suite cabin + 2 people [book online]

2020 will be the 8th year DFDS and the British Balloon and Airship Club membership have benefitted from this partnership introduced in late 2012, with the majority of BBAC members travelling with balloons across the Channel now choosing to travel with DFDS.

Thank you to everyone who has benefited from and travelled with DFDS in 2019. I am pleased to advise I have again not heard of any instances where problems have occurred at check-in by anyone not adhering to the **maximum 47 kg propane or empty petrol can restrictions**.

*Please note that vehicles carrying hot air balloon on the Newcastle-Amsterdam route equipment will have to be booked as freight. You can find more information about freight shipping and contact details for the Newcastle-Amsterdam route at <http://www.dfds.com/freight-shipping>*

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PASSENGERS TRAVELLING WITH A HOT AIR BALLOON EQUIPMENT ON DFDS DOVER-FRANCE ROUTES**

#### **Terms and Conditions**

DFDS procedures have always permitted tourist vehicles to carry up to 47 kg of Propane in any number of cylinders. Following discussions with the British Balloon and Airship Club and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), DFDS have extended this exemption to these tourist vehicles:

Vehicles carrying hot air balloon equipment (for private use) are permitted to carry the following, providing the current BBAC member who made the booking is:

1. Travelling in the vehicle or another vehicle as part of the same trip (DFDS acknowledge that more than one vehicle may be travelling at part of the same group or party) and 2. That BBAC member is carrying their current membership card during both the outward and return sailing:

- Up to 47 kg of a class 2.1 flammable gas (usually propane or butane)
- A small canister of class 2.2 non-flammable gas (usually helium — this is used for weather balloons for assessing the wind conditions before launch)
- Fire extinguishers for use in the operation of the balloon

All of the equipment carried on these vehicles conforms to very strict safety standards as they come under the CAA aviation regulations as they are considered aircraft.

*The MCA Marine Guidance Notice (MGN320) exemption states that the shipping operator should be informed by a customer when carrying the above equipment. Therefore it is important that DFDS is informed at the check-in stage then the loading team can inform the vessel so they are aware (in case of an incident onboard).*

New and unused petrol fuel cans for use with the inflation fan are permitted but **unfortunately petrol cans that have previously contained fuel are not permitted**. Please ensure you respect this decision, as the following *Terms and Conditions apply to all bookings*:

*10. Dangerous goods or luggage - Passengers must comply with all applicable laws and international conventions relating to the transport of dangerous goods or luggage. Goods or luggage which might cause considerable inconvenience to the other passengers or the crew, or endanger the safety or security of the ship, human beings or goods, must not be brought aboard. It is therefore not permitted to carry dangerous or offensive weapons, explosives or drugs, spare cans of fuel (petrol/diesel-cans) or similar items. Paint, chemicals and related products are also considered dangerous goods and are not allowed on board DFDS Seaways' ships. Any passenger not complying with this provision will be refused boarding and no refund shall be given. We are also entitled to, for safety and security reasons, request a search of passengers and inspect their luggage.*

If you have any queries or experience any problems using the hidden web page or when telephoning the DFDS contact centre, please let me know by emailing [davesuch@btinternet.com](mailto:davesuch@btinternet.com)

Dave Such  
26<sup>th</sup> January 2020