The Pirate Code

In all ages, the prevailing Crown slanders any who refuse to swear allegiance, or grovel for licenses. It commissions swarms of officers and privateers to usurp our time, travel, and treasure. The Crown calls it ‘piracy’ to explore frontiers beyond it’s influence. No Crown can be trusted to respect the individual’s natural autonomy, so the responsibility falls upon us to define the conduct among pirates.

First, a pirate is the foremost master of their own actions, and may not be crimped into service.

Second, duties are created by consent. Claims of obligation without consent are invalid.

Third, no pirate or crew, however commissioned, may initiate hostilities against any other.

Fourth, a pirate may, without permission or rank, defend themselves against any hostile party.

Fifth, neither captain nor crew can possess rights exceeding or violating those of an individual pirate.

So, if you agree that the tyranny of the Crown has sailed on sea and land long enough, and wish to shake the shackles of the world, then boldly declare, #APiratesLifeForMe!

Ye Olde Parlance

#Aye, #Arr: Yes (#AyeAye or #Yarr for ‘Heal’ yeah!).
#Nay: No. Nay means Nay. Nacho booty!
#Pirate, #Buccaneer, #Corsair, #Freebooter, #Hacker, #Swashbuckler: Paths of piracy, Commerce, Adventure, Transportation, Energy, Cryptography, and Activism respectively. Not an exhaustive or definitive list.
#Privateer: A mercenary of the crown granted a charter of incorporation. A public/private partnership between crown and contractor. Not a pirate!
#Bucco, #Maty, #Heartie: Escalating terms of affection among pirates.
#Privy, Head, Latrine: Bathroom.
#PrivyMonster a beast that lives in the privy and eats children.
#SeaShanty: Work songs that are sung aboard a pirate ship. (Belay: Halt! To ignore a command as in ‘Belay that order!’)
#Scallywag: A collector of taxes, or any bilge rat who pays them.
#Landlubber: A lazy scoundrel too proud of their flag to live a pirate’s life.
#Barker, #Hawker: A vendor who calls customers to their wares.
#Crimp #Shanghai: To press gang someone into serving the crown against their will, or the one who crimp.
#MonkeyJacket: A short jacket which conceals a pistol.
#ParleyVest: Formal garb to wear during negotiation, especially between enemies over the terms of a truce.
#Keelhauling: Dragging some vile scallywag across the bottom of the ship with a rope to be lacerated by the hull’s barnacles or drowned.
#Booty, #Loot: Treasure, usually liberated from the crown.
#SeaDog, #OldSalt #OG: An experienced pirate.
#Kraken, #Leviathan: Sea monsters.
#Mutiny: A bottom-up resistance against corrupt authority, as in a pirate belaying a captain’s order that violates the pirate code.
#PirateCove: A hideaway where a pirate can make a sweet trade away from the eye of the crown.
#PirateUtopia: A pirate cove where the grog is strong, the markets are free and the associations are voluntary.
#Pillage, #Plunder, #Taxation: Theft.
#PiecesOfEight: One eighth of a Bitcoin, or 0.125 BTC.
#KingsShilling: A dollar, also known as a Federal Reserve Note. To “take the King’s Shilling” is to accept payment to serve the crown’s hostilities.
#Gibbet: A metal cage where scallywags are displayed as a warning.
#SwingThelead: Get to the point. The opposite of ‘bury the lead.’
#Undertow: The demand for goods prohibited by the crown.
#BeachComber: A landlubber who makes their living selling to pirates, or a pirate who makes their living selling to landlubbers.
#Mudhook: Bureaucratic drag. The long delays and surprise fees which characterize all dealings with the crown.
#Slop: Perishables sold to fellow pirates.
#Swag: Merchandise sold to beachcombers and landlubbers.