



Your Ultimate Yacht Charter Guide

From The Charter Experts at SailChecker





The Message From Our Founder

Older boutique yacht charter agents have remained and often thrived. Put simply, technology cannot yet replace the service provided by expert consultants; the data required either change too quickly or does not exist. Yet there was a third way.

What of the technology-driven charter agency, one that still offers the personalized service that is an inherent requirement of complex yacht charter bookings, together with tools and artificial intelligence to enable the consultants to work better and more efficiently.

Why Create Sailing Memories with SailChecker? We Know Our Clients. We focus our efforts on finding the right boat, with the right operator to deliver total peace of mind.

We offer a full range of yacht charter from bareboat and flotilla, to crewed catamarans and exclusive crewed Motor Yachts.

Crafting the perfect yacht charter is much more than a process, it is an Art – The Art of Charter

Christopher Lait
Founder
SailChecker




Yacht Charter The Basics

What is a yacht charter?

Yacht chartering is the practice of renting, or chartering, a sailboat or motor yacht and travelling to various coastal or island destinations. This is usually a vacation activity, but it also can be a business event. Yacht charter means doing things your way – your own timetable, bespoke itinerary, and favorite past-times in absolute relaxation.

What time of year can I charter?

Yachting has two distinct seasons: summer and winter. The summer season lasts from May through October, with July and August being the height of the season (and its highest prices). The winter season lasts from November to April, with the peak season running primarily over the holidays and into New Year.



Pro tip: FOR THOSE LOOKING TO AVOID THE CROWDS IN THE MORE POPULAR CRUISING GROUNDS, LOW SEASON CHARTERS ARE OFTEN A GOOD OPTION, AND YOU MAY HAVE MORE CHOICES IN TERMS OF YACHT.

Where are the most popular places to charter?

The most popular destinations change with the season. The Mediterranean is the most popular vacation spot during the summer (French Riviera, Balearic Islands, Corsica, Sardinia, Greek Isles, and Croatia). s. During the winter months, The Bahamas and Caribbean are the top charter spots.





Yacht Charter The Basics

What type of yacht should I charter?

Consider what kind of boat would best fit the size and personality of your charter party. A sailing yacht would be a terrific choice for a true yachting aficionado, whereas a catamaran is ideal for a family charter with plenty of space. Browse through our selection of yachts to determine which one is best for you and your charter group, or get in touch with a charter broker.

How long should I charter for and how much will it cost?

Most charters last seven to fourteen days, and prices are given per week. Rates are often higher during the peak months of July and August, Christmas, and New Year, however the majority of yachts also offer low season rates for the rest of the year. Prices vary from yacht to yacht and take into account a number of elements, including size, year of construction, and onboard amenities.





Yacht Charter

The Basics

Are there additional expenses beyond the charter rate?

The charter rate generally only covers the hire of the yacht. Everything else is extra, including provisions, mooring fees and fuel. Depending on the destination, other expenses might include taxes, VAT and delivery/re-delivery fees. Ask your charter broker to confirm the expenses that will be associated with your charter.

How far in advance should I book a charter?

We advise booking at least three to six months in advance, and six to ten months in advance if traveling during the prime Mediterranean season (July/August) or over Christmas/New Year. It's crucial to get in touch with your broker early on to ensure a wide range of acceptable yachts to pick from because availability might change quickly. Popular yachts are often booked a year in advance.





GLOSSARY OF YACHT CHARTER TERMS

A

Advance Provisioning Allowance (APA) – an advanced payment made to cover the costs of requested food, beverages, supplies, fuel, dockage, communications, crew gratuities, and so on

Aft – the backend of the yacht

Aft deck – a deck located at the backend of the yacht often found on the main and bridge decks

Anchorage – a location where the yacht will drop its anchor and will stay for a period of time

At anchor – when the yacht is mooring at an anchorage

B

Bow – the very frontend of the yacht

C

Cabin – sleeping quarters for guest or crew (also called stateroom for guests)

Charter agreement – a signed agreement that specifies the particulars of the charter including the payment schedules, policies and defines the rights and obligations of all parties in contingency

Charter rate – the rate at which the yacht is chartered for. Rates vary from yacht to yacht depending on their length, destinations and amenities

D

Day head – a powder room usually found in communal spaces aboard the yacht



GLOSSARY OF YACHT CHARTER TERMS

F

Forward – toward the bow of the boat

Foredeck – is the deck space at the front of the yacht

G

Galley – the yacht's kitchen

H

Head – a bathroom

Helm – where the captain drives the yacht

I

Itinerary – the proposed plan for the yacht charter, complete with destinations and possible activities

K

Knot – the speed at which the yacht is traveling

M

Main salon – the primary indoor guest area on a yacht's main deck

Marina – a place where yachts dock, and generally, where guests will meet their charter yacht

Master cabin – typically the best or largest stateroom aboard a charter yacht

P

Passarelle – the walkway that connects the yacht to the dock

Personal flotation device (pfd) – a safety vest or lifejacket



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Port (direction) – the left side of the yacht when you are facing front toward the bow

Port (place) – a marina harbor or commercial dock

Preference sheet – a document guests fill out before the charter advising the crew what they would like to eat, drink, any medical issues, personal preferences, requested activities, etc

Plus expenses – these are the added costs associated with your charter such as the food, fuel, dockage, etc.

Pullman berth – a twin-size bed that folds out of the wall to provide additional sleeping accommodation

R

RIB (rigid inflatable boat) – an inflatable dinghy or tender used to transportation or water toys

S

Starboard – the right side of a boat when looking forward toward the bow

Swim platform – the space at the back of the yacht from which you typically can go swimming or board a dinghy.

Stern – the back of the yacht

T

Tender – a boat that a yacht carries, or tows used for transfers to and from shore, short day cruises and water sports. Also sometimes called a dinghy

U

Underway – when the yacht is cruising

Why SailChecker?

- ✓ Trust. More than 95% of our guests leave us a 5 Star review on TrustPilot.
- ✓ Honest Value. We offer the same or better deals than booking direct with total Peace of Mind.
- ✓ Transparent Pricing. Every certified boat in every location; lowest price guaranteed.
- ✓ Award Winning Support. We offer fiercely independent advice & support: before, during, and after your charter.
- ✓ World Experience. Our highly network of experienced consultants offer the very best local knowledge.