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CARIBBEAN
SAILING
ASSOCIATION

Technical
Brief



Caribbean Charter

If, like many people, your serious racing hours decrease in direct proportion to the increased hours you spend at the desk, fitting in a winter race escape has become harder than ever. If that sounds familiar then the plug-and-play solution of race charter is a great option for winter re-energising.

If you've already experienced any of the key regattas on the Caribbean circuit you'll know that the charter fleets are expanding in both number and range. Today the wide variety of Caribbean regattas is now well matched by the vast number and variety of boats available for charter – from wallowing to warp speed – from family friendly to first to finish. A range of options is now available throughout the Caribbean regatta circuit.

Crew choice can be just as diverse – from the many bareboat options to an Olympic coach as skipper with a pro crew. Within what is now a relatively mature market all options are now in place. And not only do all options exist at the events themselves – but they are also often available on the far from unpleasant offshore passages between events.

The Caribbean Sailing Association has done a lot of work around easing out the regatta calendar to minimise overlap of similar events on the circuit, primarily to ensure that hardened race junkies can maximise the number of events they can race in a season (check out the full calendar at www.caribbean-sailing.com). So whether you have time for only one event, or plan to head down and pick up two or three regattas around the same window in the calendar there is a lot of well-structured and well-managed racing on offer.

Race charter is the growing trend whether it be whole boat or individual berths (head boat charter), with many mainly UK-based companies now taking in the entire circuit. A substantial proportion of the boats arrive in the Caribbean each winter via the ARC Race, following which they have a few weeks to rest up and get the boat race-ready before receiving guests for the first regatta which is the Mount Gay Rum Race Series in January... There then follows a well-spaced stream of attractive events concluding with Antigua Sailing Week at the end of April.

Although modern charter packages inevitably vary slightly from boat to boat and company to company, generally they all now include one to two training days, entry and berthing fees, yacht, fuel, water and gas costs. Accommodation will depend on the size of the crew and boat type – typically in large crews some will stay onboard and some on shore. All the race charter companies are also now able to organise or certainly recommend great places to stay (and eat), with many companies going as far as to offer completely bespoke packages right down to including customised race gear (you have to have the T-shirt, right?).

It's also worth getting in touch with the regatta offices themselves as many, if not all, already offer a full concierge service and will happily give you the inside scoop on the best marina spots, accommodation, transport and local service providers. Remember their entire objective is to get you to their event and to then ensure you enjoy it so much that you come back and tell your friends to come as well. So be sure to use the support that is on offer (and always provide feedback during and after the event).

Once you have chosen the event or events you wish to compete in, it is then a question of selecting a boat and charter company. Before taking this next step make sure that you have clearly defined your team's priorities and be clear with the charter company on the type of boat you are looking for... and your team's experience level.

Finally, ensure that you enter events where you will find competitive classes of like-minded sailors... after which it is just down to enjoying our consistent trade winds and glorious weather conditions!

On the following pages we've listed some of our charter members that you might like to consider. □

DIY Charters

DIY Charters was founded by Matt and Liz Abbiss in 1998. We have 15 years' experience in the yacht charter business having crewed on various race and cruise charter yachts including the three *Disco Infernos*. We have successfully helped hundreds of clients enjoy their ultimate yachting holiday. We have the yachts, the knowledge and the experience that will allow us to tailor-build your perfect yacht charter holiday be it a relaxing family cruise, a dream passage or an adrenaline-fuelled regatta. Let us help you build your next dream yachting holiday.

We have an amazing X55 available this winter for Antigua Sailing Week, Les Voiles de St Barth, Rolex Cup Regatta & BVI Spring Regatta as well as other yachts from 40ft to 80 ft

Contact us charter@diyachting.co.uk

More details are on our website www.diycharters.co.uk



Dream Yacht Charter

Founded in 2001, Dream is now the largest independent charter provider, offering nearly 600 yachts from 36 bases worldwide.



Within the Caribbean we have bases in The Bahamas, British Virgin Islands (BVIs), Antigua, St Martin, Martinique, Guadeloupe and Grenada. With yachts ranging from a 36ft Jeanneau to a Lagoon 650 – Dream Yacht Charter is the perfect choice, whether competing in Caribbean regattas, spectating from a luxurious base, or simply to explore at your own pace.

For the ultimate holiday consider a Luxury Crewed Yacht charter; Dream provides a skipper and chef, you relax and enjoy the scenery! Or for smaller groups book a By the Cabin cruise in the Bahamas, St Martin and Martinique – a fully catered sailing trip on a luxury catamaran with your own private ensuite cabin.

uk@dreamyachtcharter.com +44 (0)2380 45527

www.dreamyachtcharter.com

Island Yachts

Experience the adrenaline rush of sailing and racing on the TP52 *Conviction*. Whether a taste of racing is a bucket list item, or an idea for a corporate getaway or team-building exercise, the Barbados Offshore Sailing Syndicate BOSS has an action-packed option for you. Share our passion. Two-day pre-event training, entry fee, berthing, fuel and water are included, and Island Villas will give accommodation options.

Tel: +1 246 422 3333 or +1 246 234 5096

www.island-yachts.com www.bossbarbadostp52.com



Miramar Sailing

Miramar Sailing offer a wide range of racing events, sailing on high-performance yachts. The forthcoming Caribbean Regatta Calendar will include: Mount Gay Round Barbados, Caribbean 600, Grenada Sailing Week, The Heineken Regatta, BVI Spring Cup, Les Voiles de St Barth and Antigua Sailing Week. Racing packages are available for whole yacht charter or single crew.

Along with yacht racing, Miramar Sailing also offer RYA Sail Training, Vacation Charters, Day Sailing, Mile building Cruising and Yacht Management.

Tel: +1 268 7213456 Email: info@miramarsailing.com www.yachtracingcharter.com





Monster Project Volvo 70



Experience 400hp sailing – and be first ashore to the parties...

We invite you to come and enjoy the legendary sailing experience of racing a Volvo Open 70, hands-on, aboard the only VO70 available to charter, currently on tour throughout the Caribbean.

The VO70 *Monster Project* (formerly *Kosatka*) is a previous Round Britain & Ireland record holder and current Round Barbados record holder.

Skipper Andy Budgeon is a commercially endorsed Yachtmaster. He has achieved world championship podiums in the 49er and 18ft skiff classes and top 10 in the World Moth Championships. He has also coached Olympic teams as a qualified RYA National Racing Coach.

Whether you fancy adventure sailing or competitive racing, we would be glad to create a charter package that suits you.

www.volvo70charter.co.uk

On Deck



Ondeck Antigua has its headquarters in Falmouth Harbour and offers racing opportunities in all of the Caribbean regattas starting with the Mount Gay Barbados series and finishing with ASW in May.

The fleet includes managed and owned yachts such as Bénéteau First 40.7s, Santa Cruz 37s, Farr 65s, Bénéteau First 50s and Dehler 39s, which are available both on a bareboat basis and with a skipper or owner's representative.

We also offer 'head boats' for individuals and smaller groups to join and still have places for the first three events of the season (Mount Gay Barbados, Grenada and the Caribbean 600).

Clients can have the yacht delivered to the regatta or take part in the deliveries themselves.

In addition to regattas, Ondeck is an RYA and MCA-approved training centre offering year-round training for professional and leisure purposes from Competent Crew to Ocean Yachtmaster as well as radio, sea survival, STCW 10 Safety courses and more.

Contact: pa@ondecksailing.com +1 268 562 6696

www.ondecksailing.com

Sailing Logic

Sailing Logic is the UK's leading yacht racing school with over 11 years' experience of running racing yachts and race campaigns. Sailing Logic offers well-maintained, fully equipped, race-prepared Bénéteau 40.7 (Profile Logic) and First 40 (Lancelot II) yachts for racing charter throughout the Caribbean season on either a skippered or bareboat basis (subject to experience). Full wardrobe of racing sails included.

If you don't have enough crew to charter a whole yacht, Sailing Logic also offers individual race crew places on selected Caribbean regattas, combining high-quality yachts with experienced racing skippers to achieve an impressive race record! All crew need to be able to sail and all packages include race training. **RORC Schoolboat of the Year 2005-2014.**

For availability or a quote, please contact info@sailinglogic.co.uk, call +44 (0)23 8033 0999 or visit www.sailinglogic.co.uk



Sunsail

Here at Sunsail we're ready for the 2015 regatta schedule with the most competitive global bareboat fleet available to charter. With a finely tuned fleet we will provide everything you need to take line honours at the most iconic regattas of the year.

All of our boats are under six years old and can be set up for racing with a full service regatta package available so that you and your crew can arrive at a boat you know is race ready, step onboard and go win some trophies.



www.sunsail.co.uk