

From superyacht charters to private jet transfers... holidays don't have to cost the earth to be out of this world

# PLAIN SAILING

**IF YOUR CITY** bonus is *in absentia* this year, the chances of purchasing a superyacht in order to splash your way around the Caribbean/Mediterranean/Bournemouth are looking pretty slim. Lucky for you then, that these majestic vessels are also available for hire, so you can still party like P Diddy at a mere fraction of the cost. In order to experience the ultimate holiday afloat, you must ensure you have all the ingredients for a successful luxury yacht charter. Our guide to yacht charter is here to help...

**WHERE AND WHEN**

With the ability of modern superyachts to be more than capable of providing luxury charters safely and securely in



all four corners of the globe, choosing where and when to take your charter to ensure it coincides with the right seasons and weather patterns is enormously important. The following is a brief summary of the world's cruising grounds and when's best to go:

- Caribbean, Bahamas, Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand, South America, Seychelles and the Maldives: December to April
- South Pacific and Polynesia: April to August
- The Mediterranean: May to October
- New England and The Baltic: June to August
- Antarctica: July
- Pacific Northwest: July and August

**SELECTING THE YACHT**

The number of guests in your party and the choice between motor and sail will generally dictate the type of yacht most suitable for your charter. The majority of superyachts are licensed to carry only 12 guests. Over 12 you will need to source a yacht licensed to accommodate up to 36 guests with these types of yachts tending to be over 60M in length with a more commercial feel. Specific requirements such as interior design, communications systems, entertainment, security arrangements, helicopter landing capabilities, how child friendly the yacht is, layout and deck space, speed and range capabilities, crew experience and so forth should then be taken into account.

**BOOKING THE YACHT**

This will vary from company to company. Richard Orme of Large Yacht Solutions, a yacht consultancy specialising in the construction, sales & acquisitions, management and refit of luxury yachts for charter explains how they do it:

"This occurs in stages and generally proceeds as follows:

- 1) We will prepare and send you a charter agreement detailing the yacht, your chosen dates, location, cruising area and cost. Large Yacht Solutions also offers the option to include private aircraft charter to fly clients in the utmost luxury to the yachts destination – providing the complete bespoke yacht charter from beginning to end.
- 2) Upon signing this agreement, the first payment – normally 50% of the charter fee – is due to the nominated bank account as per contract, usually a nominated stakeholder's account with the yacht's central agent.
- 3) The charter agreement is then countersigned by the owners of the yacht and a copy returned to you.
- 4) Once the agreements are signed we will then send you a detailed preference sheet requesting information on your travel arrangements, guest lists, likes and dislikes, special requirements, etc. We will then liaise with the yacht's captain so that he/she can pre-book berths, order provisions and arrange for the chef and crew to prepare the yacht for your arrival.



WINGS OF DESIRE: for arriving at your berth in style and speed, a private jet is the only answer

5) If there is no interim payment required the balance of the charter fee is normally due one month prior to the charter commencing. At the same time we will ask you to send us the funds to cover the advance provisioning allowance (APA) plus any taxes, delivery/redelivery, security deposit fees as indicated on the charter agreement.

6) The APA is then sent to the yacht's captain, in order that the yacht can purchase provisions in advance ready for your arrival. All costs incurred by the yacht, which are accountable to the charterer, will be deducted during the cruise and a full set of accounts produced at the end of the cruise with any remaining funds returned to the charterer. Generally the APA amount is 20-25% of the charter fee."

**WHAT'S INCLUDED**

The majority of charter yachts work on charter rates that are exclusive, i.e. the charter fee includes the charter of the yacht, the crew including crew food and the insurance of the yacht. All other expenses such as fuel, consumables, food and drinks, berthing costs, etc. are billed to the charterer's account and are taken from the APA. Gratuities to the crew are discretionary and should reflect the service you have received. If you feel the crew's performance has been excellent, a gratuity of up to 10% of the charter fee may be fair.

**BUYING A SUPER YACHT**

If, however, you are perfectly able and willing to purchase a superyacht, may we suggest the Giorgio Armani designed 50M motor yacht MARIU at €19,950,000? The modern interior of MARIU is custom fitted with Armani Casa furniture and offers a unique insight into the tastes of one of the world's greatest designers. With luxury accommodation for 12 and a cruising range of 4600 miles, MARIU, her captain and his ten-strong crew, will cater to your every need.

For more information on MARIU or chartering a yacht, please contact Large Yacht Solutions on +44 (0)870 850 2317 or visit [largeyachtsolutions.com](http://largeyachtsolutions.com)



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