





YACHT CHARTER 101



What is yacht charter?

Whether you are looking for a family vacation in the Caribbean, an island-hopping adventure, or a safe and secure environment to celebrate with friends, a superyacht charter means doing things your way — your own timetable, bespoke itinerary, and favorite past-times in absolute luxury. The height of escapism, on board a superyacht charter you will experience a level of service and comfort that is unsurpassed, in settings beyond the reach of most.

What time of year should I charter?

There are two main seasons in yachting — summer and winter. The summer season runs from May through October, with the peak summer season (and peak rates) in July and August. The winter season runs from November to April, with peak season running primarily over the holidays and into New Year.

The best time of year to charter in St. Kitts, for example, is late November through to April, with the peak season running from December to February, its National Carnival, known as 'Sugar Mas'. However, during the shoulder months of April and May, when the weather remains pleasant and the shores are less crowded, you may have more choice of yachts.

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



















Where are the most popular places to charter?

The most popular yachting destinations vary by season. During the summer, in the northern hemisphere, the most popular destination is the Mediterranean; locations such as the French Riviera, Balearic Islands, Corsica and Sardinia, Greek Isles and Croatia are favorites. During the winter months, The Bahamas and Caribbean are the top charter spots.

An island like St. Kitts, for example, is extremely popular with the yachting set thanks to its many offerings. Perfectly positioned for a relaxing few days ashore during a cruise through the Leeward Island chain, St. Kitts offers the quintessential Caribbean experience. From its marinas and stunning anchorages, to an abundance of historical sites and a burgeoning gastronomy scene, the island is a great location to build a yachting itinerary around.

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What type of charter experience do I want?

What type of yacht charter experience are you looking for? If you are looking primarily to relax and unwind, then a yacht with a spa and an onboard masseuse would be ideal. Alternatively, if your group is a family needing plenty of activities, then a yacht with plenty of water toys, onboard games and perhaps a dedicated movie room would be great for you. Your charter broker will assist you in identifying the yacht that has onboard all of the amenities that are important to you.



How big are the yachts and how many people can we bring?

Yachts can range in size from 80 feet to 300-plus feet and larger. Charter yachts can carry up to 12 guests maximum.

What type of yacht should I charter?

Think about the type of yacht that would best suit the size and character of your charter party. For example, a modern motor yacht is ideal for a family charter having plenty of space, while a sailing yacht would be a fantastic choice for a real yachting enthusiast. Browse through our portfolio of yachts for a better understanding of the most suitable vessel for you and your charter party, or talk to a charter broker for an informal chat.

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

Most charter durations range between seven and 14 days, with rates quoted by the week. During the peak seasons of July and August and Christmas and New Year, rates are usually higher, while most yachts also have low season rates in effect for the balance of the year. Prices differ from yacht to yacht and reflect a variety of factors such as size, year built and amenities onboard.

When it comes to which cruising grounds lend themselves well to a long weekend charter or a two-week itinerary, there really is no hard and fast rule. In the Caribbean, there are several itinerary options on offer, from a week-long itinerary in St. Kitts and Nevis to 14-nights exploring the entire Leeward Island chain, the opportunities are endless.







Are there additional expenses beyond the charter rate?

Depending on the type of contract used (MYBA and AYCA being the most common), the charter rate generally only covers the hire of the yacht and the crew and the Owner's insurance. Everything else is extra, including provisions and fuel. An Advance Provisioning Allowance (APA) is collected upfront to cover expenses and forwarded to the Captain who is strictly accountable for expenditures. The Captain will present a detailed summary of expenditures at the end of your charter and any unspent APA funds are refunded to you. 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.

► PRO TIP: ADVANCED PROVISIONING ALLOWANCE (APA) EXPENSES GENERALLY RUN 25-30% OF THE CHARTER FEE.

How do I get to my yacht charter?

For those looking to avoid commercial transit and crowds, private aviation is an ideal option for getting to your charter destination. Northrop & Johnson's partner NetJets is the global leader in private aviation for more than 55 years and can get you to your yacht in a safe, hygienic and comfortable way.

St. Kitts offers an exclusive, Kayanjet private air terminal and lounge located adjacent to the main RLB International Airport, allowing yacht owners and charterers a uniquely-crafted door-to-door arrival and departure experience.

► PRO TIP: FROM STRESS-FREE CHECK-IN TO UNRIVALED SERVICE UP IN THE AIR AND THE FLEXIBILITY TO TRAVEL ON YOUR OWN TERMS, THERE ARE MANY ADVANTAGES TO FLYING WITH NETJETS FOR TRAVEL TO YOUR YACHT CHARTER.

How far in advance should I contact a charter broker?

Brokers recommend at least three to six months, and six to 10 months if booking for Christmas/New Year or peak Mediterranean season (July/August). As availability can change quickly, it's important to contact your broker early on to ensure a broad selection of suitable yachts from which to choose. Popular charter yachts book as much as a year in advance.

Are there any specific advantages to chartering with Northrop & Johnson?

Northrop & Johnson's charter brokers are the most professional and knowledgeable in the industry. They utilize industry-leading tools, assets and resources that allow them to assist clients with creating the holiday of a lifetime. Furthermore, they have access to Northrop & Johnson's range of luxury partners, including NetJets, allowing them to enhance charters for guests — a benefit not available with other firms.



QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW TO ASK



Do all yachts come with a crew?

All charter yachts that Northrop & Johnson handles are crewed. Bare-boat charters, as charters without crew are called, are available, however, they are only available on smaller yachts and Northrop & Johnson charter brokers do not handle these types of charters.

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Who purchases the food and beverages on the yacht?

The yacht's chef and stewardess team will purchase all provisions for the yacht. They use the charter preference sheet (guests' likes and dislikes) provided by the charter guests prior to the trip to advise on what to buy, and also will purchase any additional items needed for meals. The food is purchased with funds from the Advanced Provisioning Allowance (APA), an advance payment that will cover things like food, beverages, fuel, dockage, etc.

I've heard you can't wear shoes on the yacht. Is this true?

This is true for most yachts. Some yachts do allow boat shoes onboard, provided they are brand-new are not worn ashore during the charter.











I like to enjoy a cigar after dinner. Will we be allowed to smoke?

There are very few yachts that allow smoking indoors, but some may allow smoking in designated outside areas. If this is an important point for you, please make sure to mention it to your charter broker.



Are the crew always on duty?

Depending on the size of the yacht, the crew are always available to guests throughout the charter, from preparing midnight snacks, to whipping up your favorite cocktail and more. The crew can be as present or as removed (for privacy) as you would like. They work in shifts, so different crew will be available at different times of the day and night.



Can we bring our pets on the yacht?

Some do! This will depend on the yacht. If this is an important point for you, your charter broker can help you identify yachts that will accept all members of your family.

Is there WiFi aboard the yacht and will my mobile phone work?

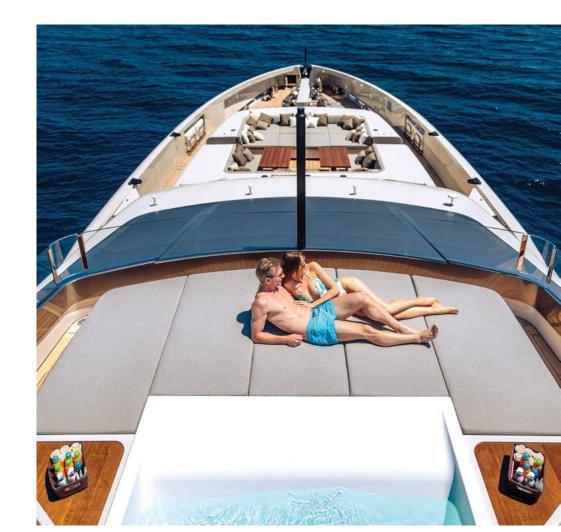
Almost all yachts offer WiFi, but this is something to discuss with your charter broker and confirm with the yacht's captain. As for mobile phone service, your service provider will need to confirm if they cover the cruising destination.

Since we will be out at sea, is it legal to smoke marijuana on the yacht during my charter?

The yacht must follow the rules of its flag state and the local laws where it is cruising. Illegal drugs are prohibited on all yachts, but if marijuana is legal in the flag state and in the cruising destination, it will be up to the yacht owner and captain to dictate if smoking marijuana is allowed aboard.

If we change our minds about the itinerary once we're on the yacht, can we skip a place or stay longer in another place?

This situation happens fairly regularly aboard a yacht, and is subject to the captain's discretion as well as the availability of dockage in the region. Speak to the captain about your changes and he or she will do their best to accommodate.







Is there a minimum age for children on the yacht?

There is no minimum age for charter guests. Yachts are an excellent option for vacationing with children as they offer many different activities and water toys to enjoy and are extremely safe and comfortable. Some yachts are better suited for children than others. Speak to your charter broker about the ages of the children and your plans for the charter and they will help find the best yacht to suit your needs.

What are the cleaning procedures on the yacht, both before we arrive and while we are onboard?

Each yacht has its own protocols for cleaning, disinfecting and hygiene, but as a general rule, yachts are exceptionally clean and held to a rigorous standard. Once you've narrowed down your selections, your charter broker and the yacht's captain will be able to share more information on the exact protocol aboard the yacht.

Will any of the crew be trained in first aid and CPR, and what type of emergency medical supplies are there?

The crew are trained in first aid and CPR, with the Captain having advanced medical training. Yachts carry a vast array of lifesaving equipment and many have telemedicine contracts that connect them to doctors ashore.

What if there is bad weather?

The great thing about a yacht charter is it is often possible to adjust your itinerary and head for the sun. At the same time, a rainy day in port opens up the possibility of exploring local shops, boutiques, bars and restaurants.

What if we want to extend our charter once it is underway?

If during your yacht charter you wish to extend, contact your charter broker who will check the yacht's schedule and availability and prepare the necessary paperwork.

Should I consider trip insurance for my charter?

While not required, a trip protection plan is highly recommended.

► PRO TIP: TRIP CANCELLATION COVERAGE PROVIDES THE CHARTERER PROTECTION IF THEY HAVE TO CANCEL DUE TO ILLNESS OR OTHER CONCERNS.

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Should I tip the crew?

If you enjoy the service provided by your crew, you may wish to offer them a gratuity. While the level is completely at your discretion, it is customary to leave a tip of 10 - 15% of the base charter fee.





ST. KITTS SAMPLE CHARTER ITINERARY





The Caribbean island of St. Kitts is perfect for a first-time charterer looking to experience the laidback charm that the West Indies are known for. With calm waters and safe anchorages all around the island, St. Kitts offers the waterborne the ultimate Caribbean idyll.

DAY 1 St. Kitts

Boasting warm and stead tradewinds, safe harbors and beaches galore, St. Kitts is the winter destination of choice for many supervachts. Arrive in absolute style and take advantage of the private jet terminal with exclusive Kayanjet Lounge facilities. Slowly acclimatize to life in the Caribbean, spending a night aboard your yacht or enjoying one of the luxury properties on the island.

DAY 2

St. Kitts & Nevis (2 nautical miles)

Spend a few days cruising around St. Kitts, dropping anchor for a refreshing dip in some of the finest blue waters in the Caribbean. Late afternoon, head across the Narrows to the island of Nevis for a round of golf at Four Season Robert Trent Jones II-designed course before heading back to St. Kitts to berth at Christophe Harbour. Step ashore to SALT Plage, built on the foundation of an old Salt Factory, for a cocktail with the yachting crowd.









DAY 3

St. Kitts

Anchor in the stunning water of Frigate Bay and spend the afternoon enjoying watersports on "The Strip" and stay into the evening for a true toes-in-the-sand Caribbean-style "jump up".

DAY 4

St. Kitts to St. Eustatius (12 nautical miles)

After exploring St Kitts' many heritage sites, such as the Brimstone Hill Fortress UNESCO World Heritage site, relax onboard as you cruise towards the tiny island of St. Eustatius. Step ashore to experience a laidback Caribbean vibe with a few places to eat and a little bit of history to contemplate.

DAY 5

St. Eustatius to Saba (21 nautical miles)

Cruise towards the island of Saba – as you approach, the volcanic island seemingly rises out of the sea. Perfect for energetic hikers, explore the dramatic scenery inland. Saba doesn't have any beaches but offers plenty of diving opportunities for the skilled scuba divers in the charter party. Spend a peaceful night anchored off the tranquil island.

DAY 6

Saba to St. Barths (31 nautical miles)

Cruise north to the quintessentially chic St. Barths. The Caribbean's take on St. Tropez, this is the place to go for pristine beaches, calm waters and gourmet restaurants. Take the tender to the bustling waterfront at Gustavia before anchoring off Shell Beach. Step ashore for cocktails and canapés at Do Brazil and discover the French island's joie de vivre.

St. Barths to Anguilla (30 nautical miles)

Discover the low-lying coral island of Anguilla, with its 12 miles of blinding white sand beaches and fabulous culinary scene. The most northerly of the Leewards, the island has excellent restaurants with wine lists to please a French sommelier. Spend the day in and around the reef-protected shallows of Shoal Bay East.

DAY8

Anguilla to St. Martin (15 nautical miles)

Cross over to St. Martin/St. Maarten. The island enjoys a dual personality – part Dutch, part French – and has exuberant night spots, duty-free shops and exciting casinos promising an upbeat, cosmopolitan experience.

DAY 9 (OVERNIGHT)

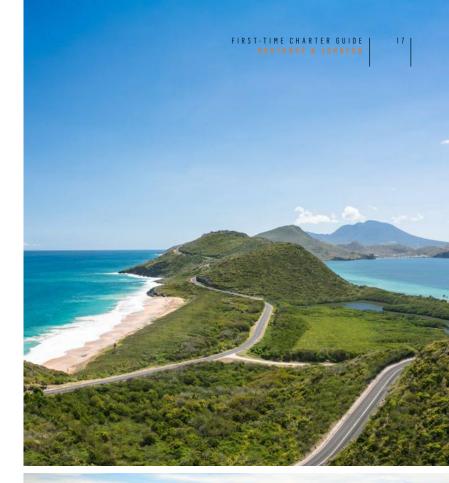
St. Martin to Antigua (90 nautical miles)

Cruise around the beautiful island of Antigua, jumping in to discover some of the finest coral reefs in the Caribbean. The island also boasts a rich colonial past and is steeped in maritime history.

DAY 10 🚾

Antigua to St. Kitts (56 nautical miles)

Cruise back to St. Kitts and spend a few days ashore, relaxing on one of the island's fine beaches and stretching those sea legs with a hike up the extinct volcano and around the wide summit crater of Mount Liamuiga.





AN IDYLLIC CARIBBEAN EXPERIENCE









AN IDYLLIC CARIBBEAN **EXPERIENCE**

For guests looking to explore the island's stunning interior or spend a few nights ashore before or after their charter, St. Kitts offers the quintessential Caribbean experience.



Marinas

St. Kitts specializes in catering to the specific needs of the yachting crowd and boasts two fully-serviced marinas.

- ► Port Zante
- ► Christophe Harbour



Hotels

The island features a wide range of properties located in or close to the bustling area of Frigate Bay, from beachfront villas and condos, to hotels and charming inns.

- ► Park Hyatt St. Kitts Christophe Harbour
- ► St. Kitts Marriott Resort
- ► Royal St. Kitts Hotel
- ► Timothy Beach Resort
- ► Koi Resort Saint Kitts, Curio Collection by Hilton









Restaurants & Bars

Most charters tend to combine dining both aboard and ashore for the duration of a yacht charter. Restaurants are strategically located throughout St. Kitts, the majority of which take advantage of the spectacular sea views from various vantage points.

- ► The Pavilion
- ► Spice Mill
- ► Sprat Net
- ► Coopers
- ► El Fredo's
- ► Mr. X's Shiggidy Shack Bar & Grill
- ► Vibes Beach Bar
- ► Buddies Beach Hut

Golf & Spas

For those seeking laid-back and soothing Caribbean experiences ashore, look no further than St. Kitts' scenic golf courses and full-service spa facilities.

- ► Royal St. Kitts Golf Club, St. Kitts Marriott Resort
- ► Robert Trent Jones II Golf Course, Four Seasons Resort Nevis
- ► Miraval St. Kitts, Park Hyatt St. Kitts Christophe Harbour
- ► Emerald Mist Spa, St. Kitts Marriott Resort

Things To Do

During a yacht charter, you can explore the island from every aspect, dropping anchor in any of the naturally protected coves that dot the coastline. Spend days swimming in the clear blue waters before taking the tender ashore to discover the island's plethora of cultural and heritage sites and natural wonders.

- ► UNESCO World Heritage Site of Brimstone Hill Fortress
- ► St. Kitts Scenic Railway
- ► Fairview Greathouse and Botanical Gardens
- ► The National Museum
- Beaches



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 (I.e. Main Deck Aft, Skylounge Aft)

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

Beach club – an area at the stern (back) of the yacht that guests can swim off of as well as enjoy the yacht's water toys and spa. Some of the larger yachts have lounges, bars and gyms located in their heach clubs



Cabin – sleeping quarters for guest or crew (also called stateroom for guests) **Charter agreement** – a signed agreement the 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

I

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

Ι

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

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., which are paid for through your APA

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



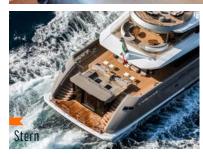














R

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



Skylounge – a salon located on an upper deck of the yacht

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

Stateroom – quest sleeping quarters aboard the yacht

Swim platform – the space at the back of the yacht from which you typically can go swimming or board a dinghy. Lately, these have become entire pool/beach areas on some of the larger luxury yachts

Stabilizers — a feature that helps keep the yacht stable while underway and at anchor

Stern – the back of the yacht

Sundeck – the open-air top deck of a 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



Underway – when the yacht is cruising



VIP cabin – typically the second-largest or second most luxurious cabin aboard a charter yacht