

How does a Skippered Sailing Holiday work?

On a skippered sailing holiday a family, group or couple hire a yacht that is sailed for them by a professional skipper. You don't need to have any specialist knowledge; you can just lay back and enjoy the ride. If you are keen, the skippers are more than happy to teach you the basics and let you take the wheel for a while. It's all part of the fun.

Start your sailing holiday from any of our 15 bases located around the Mediterranean, solely dependent on where you would like to visit. We offer packaged holidays so jump on the plane and we'll be waiting to whisk you to the marina where your yacht awaits. There you'll be introduced to your skipper and shown over the boat. After visiting the local supermarket for supplies to stock up the boat's fridge you either relax for the night or set sail for the nearest island or bay.

With the yacht equivalents of bedrooms, a lounge, bathrooms and toilets, a kitchen and outside space, think of your yacht like a moving villa transporting you from one glorious island to another.



Where and how far do we sail?

If you don't have a destination in mind, we recommend the Dalmatian Islands in Croatia, Saronic Islands in Greece, Marmaris in Turkey and the Ionian Islands in Greece. They aren't too challenging, are easy to get to and have fantastic sailing with lots of variety and short sailing legs.

Before you go we'll provide you with sample itineraries based on whatever you enjoy best. From secluded bays on uninhabited islands to nightclub crawls from island to island, we can offer it all.

During the holiday you meander from one glorious location to another, stopping at bays or coves during the day to picnic, swim off the boat and see historic sites. At night you tie up on a town quay or marina where you go ashore to visit tavernas, restaurants, nightclubs, and markets.

Ultimately the itinerary is up to you, whether taking it easy by meandering and spending several nights in a single location, or visiting a different island every night; it's your choice. You shouldn't need to sail for more than three hours each day, though with four hours sailing split between morning and afternoon, you'll really get see the area in some depth.

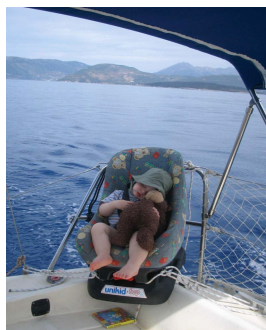
Is a Sailing Holiday Family Friendly?



Yes. A skippered sailing holiday is extremely popular for families with children of all ages. The beauty of a sailing holiday is that it has something for everyone. The more active can muck in and help up with the sailing, while those less inclined can sunbath the days away up on deck.

For families with smaller children, we can put safety netting around the yacht and there are also harnesses and lifejackets to fit even the smallest of little ones.

Don't worry about cabin fever either, the sailing legs needn't be longer than a couple of hours and what's better for keeping the kids occupied than being at a different location each and every lunch and dinner time? Not to mention the thrill of taking the wheel (with suitable oversight of course!)



How do we choose a yacht?

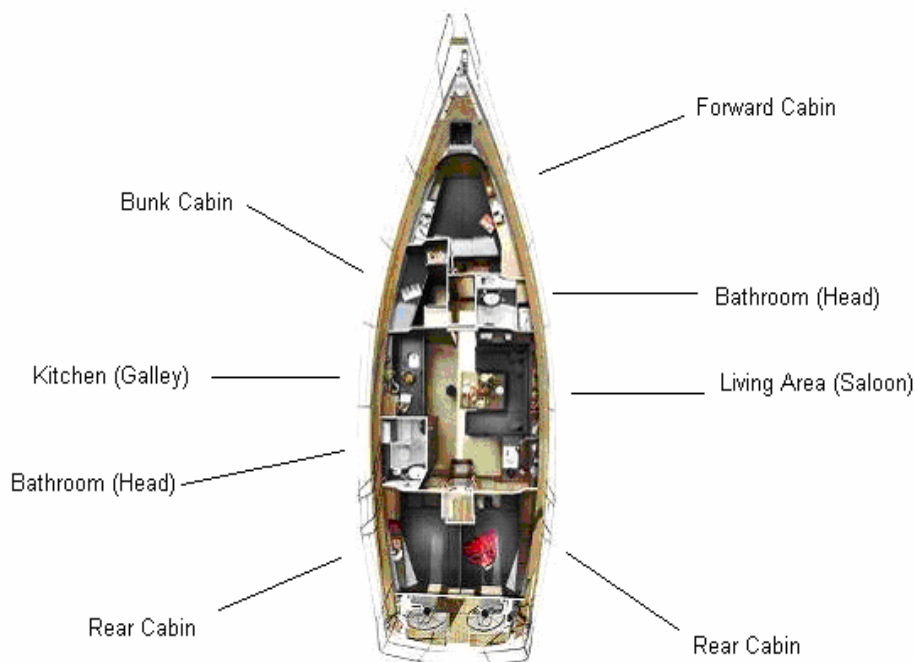
Think of the yacht like a villa, with bedrooms, a lounge area, bathrooms and outdoor space. As with a villa, the yacht size you'll need is dictated by the number of bedrooms you'll need, which are called cabins.

As you would with a villa, establish how many bedrooms you'll need between your group, then remember to add one more for the skipper and that's the size yacht you'll need. For example a group of six people may need three bedrooms between them, add a fourth cabin for the skipper and there you have it – a four cabin yacht. Simple. Here are some suggestions:

Two people plus skipper	– two cabin yacht
Three or four people plus skipper	– three cabin yacht
Five or six people plus skipper	– four cabin yacht
Seven to ten people plus skipper	– five cabin yacht

This is just a guide; you can go slightly smaller or as large as you like to fit your individual budget. Once you've established the minimum number of cabins you'll need you'll see there's still a variety of different yachts. The key determinants to look for are the age, price and length (as a four cabin yacht may be 41 feet long to 49 feet long). The bigger and newer a yacht is, the more expensive it is.

Below is an example layout of a typical 4 cabin yacht:



Who are the Skippers?

We have a pool of professional skippers in each destination to choose from. We select the most suitable skipper for you generally based on age, but also dictated by your own personal preferences. The skippers are professional, friendly, fantastic sailors and also act as your own personal tourist guide with superb local knowledge of the sailing area.

How much does a skippered sailing holiday cost?

It's cheaper than what most people think, especially when you consider that your accommodation is also your holiday activity, so the only extra you're likely to pay is for food and drink (it's generally a mix of self catering and sampling different restaurants and tavernas along the way).



- **The Holiday package** – We offer packages that include flights, transfers and the yacht. The actual cost depends on date and location so the best place to start is our live price search to look for actual holidays with actual prices. Simply select a location, date and the number of people you're likely to have and the system will price it up for you. It's nice and simple; though do remember you need an extra cabin (bedroom) for the skipper.
- **Skipper** - Prices in our search results do not automatically include the cost of a skipper; you need to add around £830 per week in Croatia and £890 per week in all other destinations. When on a skippered sailing holiday you are responsible for providing the skipper's food. Basically cater for an extra crew member during the day and give them €20 to go off and do their own thing at night.
- **Fuel** – Like a hire car, you need to pay for the fuel the yacht uses during your holiday, likely to be around £80-£100 per week.
- **Yacht final cleaning** – End cleaning ranges from €80 to €135 per yacht, depending on its size. Paying for cleaning firstly means the yacht will be clean when you get there and best of all you can walk away at the end without cleaning it yourself.

What now?

As for any holiday, the three key questions are:

- ✓ **Where** would you like to go?
- ✓ What **date** would you like go?
- ✓ How many **people** are in your party?

Where: For your first skippered sailing holiday we recommend the following destinations:

- ✓ **Dalmatian Islands** in Croatia,
- ✓ **Saronic Islands** in Greece
- ✓ **Marmaris** in Turkey
- ✓ **Ionian Islands** in Greece.

These areas are not too windy, have flat seas, are easy to get to and offer fantastic sailing grounds with lots of variety and short sailing legs. This does not mean that other areas are not suitable, these areas just offer a bit of everything.

Date: This of course is up to you. If you are flexible then simply try different dates in our system and see what's available. In terms of pricing, our pricing follows the following pattern:

- Peak season – first three weeks of August
- Shoulder season – 25/6 to 30/7; and 20/8 to 17/9
- Mid-season – 21/5 to 25/6; and 17/9 to 1/10
- Low season – before 21/5 and after 1/10

Number of people: Our yachts can fit groups from two to ten. Cabins fit two people each, and the skipper requires a cabin to themselves so you should be able to work it out from there!

For specific prices, please click on our 'Availability and Pricing' link on the top right of every page of the website.

To really get started, type in your destination, date and likely number of people into our live pricing and availability search box.

If you have any questions or would like us to do the leg work for you, please do not hesitate to call us on **020 8438 1133**.