



Charter World Yachting Holidays
- Australia's original yacht charter specialists

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Dear Charter World,

The milestone birthdays especially the 40's, 50's and 60's are a popular and growing part of our business with a variety of vessels offering the intimate group sizes for those who want to celebrate with their closest friends and family.

Lynn had her 50th last year aboard in Croatia and this November I also will hit the big one, which means that I have been running Charter World for over half of my life! November is a little late for the Med but arguably the best month in the Pacific so Tonga or Tahiti are high on my list.

The US dollar continues its rapid rise at present. In July last year I see it was 86c. By my calculations, importing a boat from the US is 25% cheaper than 9 months ago and a number of our clients are doing exactly this. Have a look at yachtworld.com (no relation to us) there are even websites of repossessed vessels where you can make a bid which are even cheaper.

Not that I really want you to buy a boat and stop chartering, but like all yachties, we always have an eye out for the perfect boat at a bargain price.

• FISH, BIG FISH & MORE FISH!



ONE OF STEVE TONEGATO'S CATCH

Perhaps we should diversify into fishing charters as our charterers in New Caledonia are as excited about fishing as the sailing.

We had three groups sailing over the Easter Holidays, (Steve Tonegato & crew, Wendy Bull & crew, and Liz Bates & crew) charter catamarans in New Caledonia. All of these three catamarans caught a minimum of 6 large fish each including Tuna, Mahi Mahi, and Wahoo in the 4-5' range.

Our charter operators supply the lines, lures and gaffs, and smart charterers (such as Wendy Bull) the lemon, soy and wasabi (from the local supermarche). Fresh sushi and Tuna steaks are always available on the menu. Unlike the Whitsundays, in New Caledonia you sail beside the Barrier Reef and trawling at 6-8 knots which is normally sailing speed usually does the trick.

The only complaint is that our clients cannot get through their provisions as it is prudent to not count on a good catch. In New Caledonia however you have to be very unlucky not to.

Jack and I are heading out for a quick five days in June to arrange a large group departure. I have already packed my lures!

• HARMONY / BAVARIA / ELAN / SALONA



There is (as a by-product of the successful marketing campaigns) an inordinate amount of focus on the French charter yachts, particularly Beneteau and Jeanneau. Arguably these yachts are better finished aesthetically, however in terms of their suitability for charter work, operators around the world tell me that they perform no better than so called cheaper Marques.

Bavaria are the Volkswagen of boating and have achieved huge penetration in European charter fleets most probably due to the price being up to 25% less than the French models.

I would estimate that Bavaria's are the largest offering of vessels in Croatia and possible across the Mediterranean.

Due to their lower purchase costs, similar running costs and possibly lesser following, these vessels are less expensive to charter - at least 10% and possibly 20%.

I recently chartered a Harmony in Croatia and although I found that there were things I would have changed. I believe I could

find these on all yachts.

Harmony (although French) are almost unknown in Australia yet offer ranges of 34, 38, 42, 47 and 52ft yachts across the globe including Tahiti, Thailand, Malaysia, Seychelles, Caribbean and almost all Mediterranean charter areas. Again they offer exceptional value, with list prices from \$490 a day for a Harmony 52 (2010 built) in Tahiti or \$525 a day in Langkawi.

At \$50 per person per day (if you use all 5 cabins before long term or free day discounts) this is exceptional value for a large powerful and well equipped yacht.

We will continue to offer the widest selection of charter vessels to allow you to choose the right vessels for your next charter holiday.

• TONGA



While the world turns and churns at an ever increasing rate the Kingdom of Tonga remains relatively unaffected and still lives up to its timeless reputation.

Virgin have been flying directly between Tongatapu and Sydney for three years now, however the twice weekly route has not been a huge success with demand relatively low. The reason for this are that for mainstream resort tourism Tonga has little to offer and service levels tend to be low with no international hotel chains to train the local service staff.

Not that I really want to see mass tourism succeed in Tonga - in fact the absence of foreign multi-national tourism companies is what keeps the country unique.

The yacht charter operator is the standout in service standards in Tonga with long term New Zealander Shane Walker running an international standard base in the port of Neiafu on the island of Vava'u.

I have a group of clients who have chartered in almost every charter area in the world but rate Tonga their favourite - returning over a dozen times in the last 15-20 years.

In the last two years there have been some changes - it is not

possible for travellers to bring cryovac meats into Tonga now (Tonga recently had Australian customs advised them and this has resulted in stricter importation of goods).

To counter this Shane now imports a refrigerated container each month from New Zealand with some excellent produce exclusively for bareboats.

Travel between Tongatapu and Vava'u is now considerably more reliable with NZ back and Chathams Pacific offering a full schedule of domestic flights. No more DC3's, which is a pity as I am not sure where you can experience these classic aircrafts anymore.

The new airport hotel in Tongatapu is finally open and offers a reasonable nights accommodation if arriving late on the Virgin service.

A new English run resort adds to the half dozen or so restaurant options accessible by yacht - Spanish run La Paella, Kiwi run Fishing Lodge and Mounu, Austrian-run Ferreties and the Tonga Beach Resort remain good places to eat ashore as well as the mandatory Tongan Feast.

Out on the water however things remain the same.

The total cruising area is by no means large, yet offers plenty of variety for up to 14 days cruising. If you want to go for a long sail, it's easy to just head out into the blue Pacific and enjoy the sail winds. It is even possible to circumnavigate half the group in one day, reaching the northern tip of the main island where stunning sheer cliffs drop 500ft to the water's edge.

All the anchorages are known by numbers (even by the locals). The evening radio schedules sound like a Tattsлото draw with charterers asking "What time is the Tongan feast at number 26?" and "where is the best snorkelling at number 7?"

With virtually no tide and gentle trade winds of between 10 - 15 knots through most of the season, Tonga is the most relaxing charter area in the Pacific. The coral is very visible and easily negotiated with lots of clear water and deep water drop offs.

The on-shore vegetation is similar to a rainforest with flowering bushes, breadfruit, coconut, and mango in a tropical jungle setting. Highlights include a visit to the Reef Garden (a most spectacular reef joining two islands) which offer an array of live coral and tropical fish. It is possible to anchor nearby and use your dinghy to move along the reef from one island to the next.

Mariner's Cave is another highlight - a cavern 50ft in diameter and accessed only by an underwater tunnel. To enter takes good snorkelling skills however, if you dive under your yacht successfully, you should not find the 7ft down and 14ft across too difficult.

Once inside, you rise to find a green mist which fills the cave, clearing to clean air as the wave action surges spray back and forth.

On Sundays, the surging comes from the throats of inhabitants - the nation sways to the sounds of thousands of harmonious voices and church bells which drift across the water from almost

every angle. Infact, a visitor to the local church is strongly recommended and the Tongans will make you feel more than welcome. Unless tied to the mast with cotton wool in your ears, the serene singing eventually draws most visiting yachtsmen to at least one session, where you are ushered into the back rows by welcoming Tongans.

Tonga is indeed a unique destination, if you want to lose yourself I recommend you head to this timeless paradise.

<http://charterworld.com.au/Tonga>

• CHARTER INDEX/MYBA NET

Our database allows us to offer thousands of crewed charter and bareboat vessels around the globe. Whether it is a 40' 3 cabin monohull in Croatia for a Biograd to Split itinerary, or a Sunseeker 80 on the Amalfi we can deliver detailed information and comparisons on a variety of vessels including crew profiles.

If it floats and is a quality vessel there is a very good chance we know of it or can find it and compare vessels.

We have been booking more mid-sized groups up to 20 people than ever before. Sometimes combining bareboats and other times finding that unique crewed experience anywhere from the Kimberley's to Italy.

• LAST MINUTE & ONE-WAY DEALS

Last minute deals continue to flood in by email from our operators looking to move unbooked vessels from their marinas. For those with the ability to move quickly the savings can be significant, as airlines are also now more often offering late booking deals. 25-30% discounts up until 31 July are being currently offered 20-30% across a variety of vessels in the Pacific, Caribbean and Mediterranean for May/June bookings.

Noumea Yacht Charters are throwing in a free skipper this month which is a significant saving and a great value sailing course.

Also good value are one-way deals in Greece often redelivering from Kos or Rhodes back to Athens, and in Croatia from Dubrovnik to Split or Biograd. These routes are generally upwind but offer great ports on each tack.

Please [call us](#) to discuss the wide ranges of option and discounts if you're intending to travel within a couple of months.

• SPECIAL OFFERS

Thailand

Valid until 01 Nov 2011:

Pay for 5 & get 6 nights

Pay for 7 & get 10 nights

Pay for 10 & get 14 nights

Pay for 14 & get 21 nights

Malaysia

30% Discount on selected catamarans between 01 June - 05 August & 21 August - 01 October 2011.

Seychelles

30% Discount on selected catamarans from now until 06 August 2011.

Tahiti

20% Discount on selected vessels from now until 03 July 2011.

Corsica

20% Discount on selected vessels from 25 June - 02 July 2011.

Sicily

20% Discount on selected vessels from 04-11 June & 25 June - 16 July 2011.

Turkey

20% Discount on selected vessels from now until 16 July 2011.

Caribbean

15-25% Discount on selected vessels from 01 May - 31 October 2011

Cabin Charters

Book by the berth or cabin on an 82' catamaran for set departures.

Tahiti -30% discount on Eleuthera 60 departing 11 June or 02 July 2011 Also available in the Caribbean, Maldives, Seychelles and Mauritius.

Greece & One-Way Discounts

Oceanis 373, 25 May - 04 June 2011 (Kos/Rhodes) - 35.96% off

Oceanis 523, 04-11 June 2011 (Volos/Athens) - 29.77% off

Cyclades 50.5, 11-18 June 2011 (Corfu/Corfu) - 24.94% off

Cyclades 50.5, 18-25 June 2011 (Kos/Kos) - 20.53% off

Oceanis 523, 18-29 June 2011 (Athens/Samos) - 30.17% off

Oceanis 461, 02-09 July 2011 (Kos/Athens) - 30.92% off

Oceanis 523, 14-23 July 2011 (Rhodes/Athens) - 30% off

Cyclades 39, 27 Aug - 03 Sep 2011 (Lefkas/Athens) - 30.66% off

Cyclades 39, 24 Sep - 01 Oct 2011 (Paros/Athens) - 25.18% off

Cyclades 39.3, 10-22 October 2011 (Samos/Athens) - 32.54% off

Oceanis 40, 15-22 October 2011 (Kos/Athens) - 37.16% off

Cyclades 50.5, 22-29 October 2011 (Kos/Athens) - 36.48% off

Oceanis 40, 22-29 October 2011 (Corfu/Athens) - 37.16% off

Croatia & One-Way Discounts

Please [contact us](#) for pricing.

Sun Odyssey 42i, 14-21 May 2011 (Split/Biograd)

Sun Odyssey 54 DS, 28 May - 04 June 2011 (Split/Dubrovnik)

Sun Odyssey 35, 04-11 June 2011 (Biograd/Split)

Sun Odyssey 45, 25 June - 02 July 2011 (Pula/Split)

Sun Odyssey 35, 25 June - 02 July 2011 (Split/Biograd)

Sun Odyssey 37, 02-09 July 2011 (Split/Biograd)

Sun Odyssey 54 DS, 02-09 July 2011 (Dubrovnik/Split)

Sun Odyssey 37, 23-30 July 2011 (Split/Biograd)
Sun Odyssey 42i, 23-30 July 2011 (Dubrovnik/Split)
Sun Odyssey 36i, 06-13 August 2011 (Dubrovnik/Split)
Sun Odyssey 37, 13-20 August 2011 (Biograd/Split)
Sun Odyssey 37, 28 Aug - 03 Sep 2011 (Split/Biograd)
Sun Odyssey 35, 10-17 September 2011 (Biograd/Split)
Sun Odyssey 35, 24 Sep - 01 Oct 2011 (Split/Biograd)

Good chartering!

Brook Felsenthal
and the Charter World Team