

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

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Ever wanted to chuck it all in and go extended cruising? I think we all look at long term cruisers and liveaboards with some degree of envy.

October 2014

Paul and Myra Hynes have done it! (Read below)

Six months day hopping across the Mediterranean is Lynn and my ultimate dream and to this audience, I don't think we are alone. So what holds us back, as it is financially doable for many. We need to have the kids independent, but not so independent that they need us around for weddings, births and child care. We need our elderly parents in good health and we need to find the right time in our careers to take the 6 months long service. We also need to both be in good health without even needing regular specialist/doctor's appointments. Not impossible - just lining up some ducks!

Summer is coming - we can all feel it. Wishing you all a great start to the sailing season whether club racing or weekend cruising.

N LIVING THE LIFESTYLE DREAM Paul and Myra

We all sometimes think about a radical lifestyle change yet it takes a lot of courage and planning to actually make a truly big change.

Paul and Myra Hynes have been clients of ours for over a decade after I first sent them on their first yacht charter holiday in Turkey. Like all of us they loved it, re-booking the following year. This pattern continued and I remember once arranging two separate charters in Turkey in the same year. Paul returned each time raving about the experience, people and country.

Paul dropped into our office last week to say that after a health scare they had made some big decisions. Sold the family home in Melbourne, ordered a new Jeanneau 44 Deck Saloon directly from France and bought into a restaurant business in Turkey - http://www.lorymarestaurant.com/. Loryma restaurant has been a passion for Paul and Myra for some years. Initially it was just a place to stay for a night or two, but they could see the potential of this stunning location and got to know all of the locals

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over extended stays.

Paul has great personal and boating skills and will be helping charterers tie up at their new jetty in Loryma Bay (just a day's sail south of Marmaris).

All at Charter World wish them both the very best in their new venture. I know that they will give all of our Aussie charterers the warmest of welcomes.

NEW AREAS/OLD AREAS Brazil Areas that didn't work

Brazil

New areas continue to be offered as charterers demand more variety and options around the globe. Angra Dos Reis in Brazil is the latest - perhaps a good option pre or post Olympics.

Operators often pioneer new areas but do not always stay - yachts being easier to move than a hotel or resort.

Areas that didn't work

The Maldives, Vanuatu, Vietnam and Fiji have all had bareboat fleets at one time but often after a few seasons for one reason or another, the bases were closed.

Setting up a yacht charter business in a new country with governments who are unfamiliar with this type of tourism is often a daunting task. Taxes, local customs and facilities all to be considered.

In the cases of the Maldives and Fiji it was simply a matter of too many reefs. Some areas are conducive to chartering but lots of coral requiring intense navigation probably not ideal. Vietnam was a fantastic area that only a few lucky charterers experience. Government red tape and a lack of any facilities the major issue in it not continuing.

Having said this, yacht charter bases now number several hundred across the globe - so there is enormous choice or a great challenge if you would like to try to cover every one. The main areas are listed below and we are offering a free cruising pilot (of your choice)to the response who has chartered in the most countries.

Bareboat options now include:

AMERICAS/CARIBBEAN

- Brazil
- Cuba
- British Virgin Islands
- Antigua
- St Martin
- Guadeloupe
- Martinique
- Grenada
- Florida

- Chesapeake Bay
- Mexico
- Canada

PACIFIC

- Tonga - Tahiti
- Tariiu Now Ci
- New Caledonia - New Zealand
- Australia

INDIAN OCEAN

- Maldives
- Mauritius
- Sevchelles

ASIA

- Thailand
- Malaysia
- Bali

EUROPE

- UK/Scotland
- Spain
- France
- Sweden
- Finland
- Greece
- Turkey
- Italy
- Croatia
- Malta
- Montenegro

N DESTINATION IN FOCUS Balearics/Spain

Given our charterers over many years have experienced the Eastern Mediterranean charter hot spots of Greece, Turkey and Croatia, we are finding increasing interest in Spain's Balearic Islands of Mallorca, Minorca and Ibiza.

These three islands span approximately 150 miles in a north east/south west line. Ibiza is known more for its intense nightlife and partying and is the least appealing for cruising. Most charters begin in Palma (the capital of the Balearics) in the western end of the southern bay in the middle and largest island Mallorca. The Palma Cathedral dominates the town making a stunning back drop to the busy marinas and dockside restaurants.

The usual route for 14 nights is to sail in a clockwise direction around Mallorca including a side trip to Minorca at about the halfway mark around. The west coast of Mallorca is rocky and spectacular with a number of natural harbours carved out between spectacular mountains. There is opportunity to eat ashore every night with restaurants, cafes and bars found around every harbour.

The Spanish have long lunches between 1 and 3 pm and given the locals seem to all eat out, it can be busy at this time. Manana (tomorrow) is a response that you will encounter quite a bit and sometimes I think the Spanish make the Greeks look like thev move too fast.

The northern section of Mallorca has even more Cala's (coves or inlets) and is where you can launch to visit Minorca (only 25 miles away). Minorca has the greatest concentration of prehistoric remains in the whole of the Mediterranean with deep and protected Cala's around the whole island, a safe haven for shipping through the ages. Ciudadela is typical of these attractive, old natural harbours offering excellent protection and facilities.

Returning to Mallorca, the east coast the anchorages are busy with tourists more prevalent in the main ports. In the south east corner of Mallorca are the National Park Islands of Cabrera. It is necessary to obtain a permit (we arrange this one month before your charter) and it is only possible to stay for up to two nights in total. As the holding is generally poor with rock bottoms, a number of moorings are managed to match the permit days offered.

Like most of the Mediterranean the winds predominately have a northerly aspect with good breeze throughout the summer. A wide range of vessels are now available from 35' - 55' monohulls and catamarans.

Please contact us for further details.

N GASTRONOMIC GABBING Steve Wood says it best

Avid charterer Steve Wood sent in the following note that foodies might enjoy.

There is no doubt that provisions and restaurants are one of the most important parts of a charter holiday. No one says it as well as Steve and I look forward to his gourmet take on his return from Greece. See the excerpt below:

If you want good food and wine when sailing the Pacific islands, I recommend you take it with you. There's nothing better than a thick cut eye fillet and green salad with glass of New Zealand Pinot Noir, (Te Atarangi - Crimson) taken at the cockpit dining table at sunset in the warm evening air. Perhaps one other food item is better, and that would the Tuna you just caught and shishimied, accompanied by a chilled (Kiwi) Sav blanc.(Cloudy Bay is hard to beat:) If you want good food and wine when sailing the Pacific islands, I recommend you take it with you. There's nothing better than a thick cut eye fillet and green salad with glass of New Zealand Pinot Noir, (Te Atarangi - Crimson) taken at the cockpit dining table at sunset in the warm evening air. Perhaps one other food item is better, and that would the Tuna you just caught and shishimied, accompanied by a chilled (Kiwi) Sav blanc.(Cloudy Bay is hard to beat :)

The Whitsunday's will afford you plenty of exercise dragging your heavy outboard-motor-laden r.i.b. through the mud after you gathered a few salty ovsters off the rocks and forgot that the tide was

running out - way, way out ! But the prawns and fruits up there are always big, fresh, cheap and plentiful.

New Zealand of course will afford you the very best of gourmet food and world class wines, crustaceans shell fish, game fish, pelagic favourite fun catches like Khawai, Kingfish, Snapper and Hapuka (and trout) All those healthy activities like swimming, diving and Island hopping, hiking and kayaking, will be found there in the world's best and safest cruising grounds. Anchored, most likely at your own Island, if another boat parks too close for comfort, you'll simply move to another Island! And all luxury, wine and food this is only a hop skip jump from your nearest Aussie airport.

BR> It's now only 33 sleeps before we arrive in Lavrio and partake of some Goats Cheese salad and freshly grilled Octopus! (With a glass of ?) Well, we'll see what they have on the shelf in Athens.

N YACHT IN FOCUS Bali 45 (By Catana)

Catana who are known for their focus on performance catamarans, have released a cruising catamaran design under the Bali brand. Catana have until now stayed true to form with designs over 20 years incorporating twin wheels on the stern and centre boards.

The new Bali will more closely resemble the Fountaine Pajot, Lagoons and Robertson Caine's with mini keels and fly bridge or bulkhead steering.

Catana are keen to stress that its legendary technology and knowledge developed over decades will keep weight at a minimum but increased living space and volume will be the focus.

Given that car manufacturers, like Lexus, do not suffer using their brand name to cover a wide range from sports to luxury, I believe it is a great move by Catana. The growth in cruising catamarans and particularly the success of Lagoon, who do not put much focus at all on performance, has no doubt led to this move. While monohulls continue to evolve, I find the greatest changes have been made in catamarans. The design parameters are virtually endless when you can build on a rectangular platform, and I am looking forward to seeing the first models (the first Bali 45 was launched at the Cannes Boat Show last year).

Orders have been placed from fleet operators in Greece, Turkey and the Caribbean with one to also arrive in the Whitsundays mid next year. Be one of the first to try this new model.

Good chartering!

Brook Felsenthal and the Charter World Team