



PG LEGAL YACHTING

NEWS ALERT

SAILING IN ITALIAN WATERS AT THE TIMES OF CORONAVIRUS: THE NEW RULES FOR CHARTER AND PLEASURE YACHTING

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"more than 20 years of advising yachting industry"

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On May 18 2020, Italy has returned to sail again. On May 17 2020, the Italian Prime Minister expressly authorised the possibility to sail within the region of residence until June 2 and announced that as of June 3, it should be possible to leave the regional waters to sail freely around the Italian coast.

The charter sector has received the go-ahead for the measures to be taken for the resumption of activity which should take place on June 3. It has been confirmed that a positivity test will be required for the charter's permanent crews, who have to deal with many different guests on large yachts. The bareboat charter will have simpler procedures, without prejudice to the limitations of any regional movement of clients. From June 3 the Government will reopen the borders to EU citizens without quarantine periods. This means that Summer 2020 is finally starting.

Given the gradual recovery, the Italian Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure has published the rules to be observed for pleasure yachting, chartering, renting and for the management of ports and marinas. Below you will find the key points to respect when sailing in Italian waters.

The Ministry has highlighted that in pleasure yachting the individual responsibility is the essential element in making social distancing measures effective therefore:

- **avoiding close contact**
- **proper sanitization of spaces**
- **interpersonal distance of at least one meter**
- **nose and mouth protection for passengers**

PRIVATE PLEASURE YACHTS

The primary measure remains the "social distancing" of at least one metre unless the persons are part of the same family or live together.

Even the relatives, if not living together, must respect the social distance of one person for each linear metre of the vessel. The provision of personal protective equipment for passengers and the use of surface sanitizer are also mandatory.

CHARTER

The same preventive rules for private vessels apply to yachts engaged in charter activities. Only persons living in the same family are allowed to stay in the same cabin.

The owner is obliged to sanitize all the areas - including the engine room and services - to provide adequate supplies of sanitizing products as well as information signs, written in several languages, to make the charterer and his guests aware of the necessary hygienic measures to be taken.

As far as crew is concerned, the obligation to use masks and gloves and any other protective equipment depending on the type of the unit in particular, during mooring, unmooring, bunkering and towing operations. For the crew, moreover, since they are subjects called, in some cases, to



carry out first aid manoeuvres (as in the case of the Captain for whom the elementary first aid course and BLS is compulsory), there should be the obligation to undergo a preventive (before boarding) and periodical first aid test at CoVid-19, the result of which must be kept on board. However, there should be a mandatory temperature measurement of crew members daily.

The crew must also take care to prevent access to the ship to strangers while in port or at sea.

Those who generally live in the same house can share accommodation in the same cabin.

For guests, the general rules on social distancing and interpersonal prevention measures apply, i.e. one person per meter of the linear length of the unit, including crew members, unless the guests live together.

TOURIST PORTS AND MARINAS

The managers of marinas must provide the ports with special information signs, in Italian and English, on the conduct measures to be respected, the use of personal protective equipment, the installation of sanitizing dispensers on the docks, the limitation of movement, bans on gatherings and respect for social distancing.

NAVIGATION AND SYSTEM RULES

It is mandatory to comply with the regulations for travel within the Region and between Regions and the respect of international anti-contagion laws during navigation outside national territorial waters.

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