



ANTIGUA SAILING WEEK – THE FIRST TIMER’S GUIDE



In April, 2015 yachts from all over the world will arrive in Antigua to participate in the one of the world’s major sailing events and the granddaddy of Caribbean regattas, Antigua Sailing Week, to be held from the 25th of April to the 1st of May, 2015. From small beginnings this regatta has developed over the past 47 years to become one of the preeminent yacht racing events in the Caribbean and one of the most prestigious in the world.

Over 100 yachts participate every year ranging in size from 24 feet to over 100 feet. The Regatta attracts everything from serious racing boats including state-of-the-art, high-tech racing machines to a variety of performance cruising and cruising boats.

For those not racing, the sight of more than 100 yachts racing off the south coast of Antigua from vantage points on the shore and from spectator boats on the water is unforgettable. Antigua Sailing Week’s history and reputation allow it to attract a large variety of boats including bareboats, race charter boats, small cruisers, sport boats, multihulls and performance racing and cruising boats. Classes are divided such that there is competitive racing for everyone, regardless of what type of boat you choose to race in.

Racing begins with an optional feeder race from Guadeloupe known as the Guadeloupe to Antigua Race which takes place on the Friday before Antigua Sailing Week begins – Friday, April 24, 2015. The following day another optional race is held - the Round Antigua Race with a course of approximately 54 nautical miles around the island of Antigua. Both races are scored separately from Antigua Sailing Week and offer excellent training opportunities for the week of racing that follows.

Antigua Sailing Week itself consists of racing over five exciting days with a variety of coastal courses around the buoys in the deep blue Caribbean Sea off Antigua’s south coast with ever-present trade winds. If the on-the-



water action isn't exciting enough, it is followed by daily post-race social events and prize-givings at Antigua Yacht Club where sailors can claim bragging rights by collecting burgees for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishes each day, to be flown from the backstay of their yacht for the remainder of the week. When the daily post-race social events wrap up in the early evening, sailors, friends and family move on to bigger parties which take place most days at any of Shirley Heights, Nelson's Dockyard or at Pigeon beach on lay day.

After an action-packed week, Antigua Sailing Week draws to a close on Friday evening in romantic historic Nelson's Dockyard with the final awards presentation featuring a vast display of silverware and keeper trophies ready to be awarded to the winners. It's a great evening of celebration at which everyone dances the night away after the trophies have been handed out and everyone can relax after an invigorating and exhausting week of racing.

All of Antigua Sailing Week's activities are followed on Saturday by Dockyard Day and the Beating of the Retreat as the Antiguan flag is lowered to signal the close of Antigua Sailing Week for yet another year. It is a truly fitting end to a week of exceptional racing.



PRELIMINARY SCHEUDLE FOR 2015

April 24 - Guadeloupe to Antigua Race (optional)

April 25 - Round Antigua Race (optional) and Prize Giving and the Official Antigua Sailing Week Welcome Party

April 26 - Race Day 1 Antigua Sailing Week and Afternoon Prize Giving

April 27 - Race Day 2 Antigua Sailing Week and Afternoon Prize Giving

April 28 - Race Day 3 Antigua Sailing Week and Afternoon Prize Giving

April 29 - Lay Day at Pigeon Beach including Beach Party and the invitational Nonsuch Bay RS Elite Challenge

April 30 - Race Day 4 Antigua Sailing Week and Afternoon Prize Giving

May 01 - Race Day 5 Antigua Sailing Week and Afternoon Prize Giving followed by the Final Awards Ceremony

May 02 - Dockyard Day and the Beating of the Retreat



GETTING TO ANTIGUA

Flights are available with British Airways and Virgin Atlantic from Gatwick and also with Thomas Cook from Manchester.

- British Airways www.ba.com.
- Virgin Atlantic www.virginatlantic.com.
- Thomas Cook www.thomascook.com.

TRANSFERS TO YOUR ACCOMMODATION

Taxis are available at the airport upon arrival in Antigua. Unless you have any special or specific requirements you will not need to book in advance. After exiting the arrivals hall, cross the road to the taxi dispatch desk where you will be allocated a taxi. Taxi fares are government controlled and are can be viewed in the [official taxi fare table](#).

ACCOMMODATION

A full listing of recommended accommodations is attached separately. An alternative to hotels and villas is chartering a mothership. Bareboat yacht charters are available in Antigua from [Sunsail](#), [Dream Yacht Charters](#) and [Horizon Yacht Charters](#). Contact the yacht charter companies directly for more information.

YACHT CHARTER OPTIONS

Several yacht charter companies have recently confirmed their availability for Antigua Sailing Week 2015. Please refer to the website at <http://www.sailingweek.com/v4/charter-boat/> for current charter availability. The listing is constantly updated so please check back regularly for more options and if you can't find a boat to suit you please email us at roc@sailingweek.com for more suggestions.





MARINA INFORMATION

Rates at all marinas listed below are in the range of approximately US \$1.00 to US \$2.00 per foot per day. Detailed information is available on the individual websites or you may contact the marinas directly for more specific information.

NELSON'S DOCKYARD MARINA

Mooring in Nelson's Dockyard Marina is ideal if you want to be in the heart of the social activity as a number of Antigua Sailing Week's bigger parties are held there. It is approximately a 10-minute walk from Nelson's Dockyard to Antigua Yacht Club where the daily post-race social events and prize-givings are held. Complimentary shuttles are available at key times to transport you between Nelson's Dockyard and Antigua Yacht Club. Detailed information about Nelson's Dockyard Marina [can be found here](#).

ANTIGUA YACHT CLUB MARINA

Antigua Yacht Club Marina is located immediately adjacent to Antigua Yacht Club, the administrative centre of Antigua Sailing Week. Daily post-race social events and prize-givings are also held at Antigua Yacht Club so there will be a lot of activity in the surrounding area. Detailed information about Antigua Yacht Club Marina [can be found here](#).

FALMOUTH HARBOUR MARINA

Falmouth Harbour Marina is a full service marina and is located only a few minutes' walk from Antigua Yacht Club. Detailed information about Falmouth Harbour Marina [can be found here](#).

CATAMARAN MARINA

The Catamaran Marina is located on Falmouth Main Road and is about a five minute drive or dinghy ride from Antigua Yacht Club. This is a nice, friendly marina with a very quaint atmosphere and is an ideal location to base your yacht if you're looking for some peace and quiet a little bit away from the daily activities. Detailed information about the Catamaran Marina [can be found here](#).

JOLLY HARBOUR MARINA

Jolly Harbour Marina is located on the west coast of Antigua. While it is a little too far away to contemplate



mooring there if racing in Antigua Sailing Week, it is an ideal location to moor before and after Antigua Sailing Week. Being on the leeward side of the island, you will find stunning calm blue waters just outside of Jolly Harbour, ideally suited to practicing prior to the week or enjoying some quiet time when the excitement of Antigua Sailing Week is over. Detailed information about Jolly Harbour Marina [can be found here](#).

PROVISIONING

Antigua is blessed with some of the best provisioning in the Caribbean region. There are several small supermarkets and local produce stands in the English/Falmouth Harbour area. The biggest and best stocked supermarket in Antigua is known as the Epicurean and is located in St. John's. A smaller but equally good branch of the Epicurean is located in Jolly Harbour. Below are a few pointers on where to stock up on an assortment of goods.

Fresh Produce – There are a number of road side stands in the English/Falmouth Harbour area that sell fresh produce daily. Dockside Liquors at the Antigua Yacht Club Marina usually stocks fresh berries and some more exotic imported fruits. Bailey's Supermarket in Falmouth probably has the biggest selection of fresh local produce in the area. The Epicurean is usually well stocked with fresh produce.

Meats and Fish – Meat is generally only available frozen in the English/Falmouth Harbour area. Fresh meats can be purchased in St. John's at Gourmet Basket (on the way from the airport) or at either Epicurean store. Fresh fish can be purchased from fishermen in the English/Falmouth Harbour area and in Jolly Harbour or at the Fish Market in St. John's. Ask at a local bar or shop to find favourite drop off spots of local fishermen.

Alcohol – Never in short supply, most supermarkets have a good selection. The biggest selection in the English/Falmouth Harbour area is [Crabhole Liquors](#) which has a large store on Falmouth Main Road and a smaller one in Nelson's Dockyard. You can call ahead and place your order for delivery or inquire about brands not stocked in the supermarket. Dockside Liquors is also a good choice for stocking up in the area. Both Epicurean stores have an excellent selection of alcohol as does Quin Farara Liquor Store in Jolly Harbour.

Fresh Bread – Mauro's Italian bakery on Falmouth Main Road has fresh baked goods daily. Mauro's baked goods are also available at Dockside Liquors at Antigua Yacht Club Marina. Local breads and pastries are baked daily at the Dockyard Bakery and are also available at Bailey's, Crabhole Liquors and Dockside Liquors. Both Epicurean stores have in-house bakeries with an excellent selection of fresh baked goods daily.

Sandwiches & Lunches – Sandwiches and prepackaged lunches can be ordered in advance for daily racing and are available at a number of local providers:

- Mange Tout - For an excellent range of ciabatta sandwiches, Cornish pasties and scotch eggs.
- Dockside Liquors at Antigua Yacht Club Marina – for pre-packed sandwiches.
- Les Skippers on Dockyard Drive – for pre-packed sandwiches.
- Dockyard Bakery in Nelson's Dockyard.
- Mauro's Italian Bakery on Falmouth Main Road.
- Roti Sue will deliver to the docks.



For more information about any aspect of Antigua including sightseeing, dining, beaches, activities and things to see and do, go to: www.antiguanice.com, which will provide you with information on anything and everything you might want to know.

For more information about Antigua Sailing Week:



W: sailingweek.com

F: facebook.com/sailingweek

T: twitter.com/sailingweek