

Enjoy the Sweetness of Sailing

Brush-up Courses and Flotilla Sailing

The courses start at 0930 hours and end at about 1730, with either a lunch time stop at a nearby port or a picnic taken at anchor in a quiet bay where you can enjoy a swim. This option then leaves you free on the days you are not sailing to relax by the pool, rent a car and explore, take an excursion or participate in the many activities Lefkas has to offer (scuba diving, water-skiing, motor-boat rental, horse riding etc.).

Our **brush-up course** for the rusty but experienced and certified skipper and crew might suit, for example, a family where the parents used to sail or take flotilla holidays regularly before the advent of children and who now wish to introduce their family to the joys of sailing. Any number of two-day course units can be booked, depending upon how rusty the sailors are. For the second week's holiday, the duly refreshed skipper and crew can take out one of the flotilla yachts.

Flotilla Sailing

Flotilla is a group of yachts sailing together with an experienced skipper/engineer on board a tuition yacht, which leads the flotilla. Flotillas vary in size from up to six yachts, with at least one lead/instruction yacht to about 10 yachts with two or more instruction yachts.

As our flotillas are a cross between a traditional flotilla (with a dedicated lead boat) and a bareboat charter, we do expect participants to be certified and able to manage most routine situations, such as mooring up in port.

However, if unsure about what to do, one of the lead yachts won't be far away to give advice on the radio/mobile phone or assist once they arrive on the scene. Because we ask for a certain level of skippering ability, this also avoids having to come into port early to ensure quayside slots, and means that we can stay out later in order to enjoy the afternoon wind.

Flotillas give a sense of security to those new to skippering (or who are in an area that's new to them) because the experienced lead crews oversee the sailing and are there in case of any emergency.

Our flotilla yachts range in size from 31 to 50ft. We are covered by a local 24 hour emergency breakdown service in case of any problems encountered whilst free sailing. Flotillas offer the opportunity for experienced skippers to bring friends and family along for the social side of a sailing holiday, and there is always the option of sailing independently from the flotilla - perhaps at the end of the first week - or of sightseeing on land from port. Another option is a villa-flotilla holiday, with a week ashore at a wide choice of accommodation available from Sunvil Specialist Greece and Greek Islands Club linked with a week's flotilla sailing. (www.sunvil.co.uk)

Share-a-Yacht / Pot-Luck & Specials Itinerary Holidays

These are mostly available at off peak times during the sailing season. The share-a-yacht / pot luck option is perfect for experienced sailors who are travelling solo, or who perhaps cannot get enough friends together to charter a yacht between them. We study booking forms carefully to match our customers with suitable shipmates.

Special itinerary holidays include a cruise and sightseeing flotilla for example to the Sea of Corinth, where we take days off from sailing in order to visit

classical sites such as Olympia, Delphi and Ancient Corinth. We often have a few places available on our lead yacht on the cruise and sightseeing flotilla for those wishing to learn to sail or to be on a **'skippered charter'**.

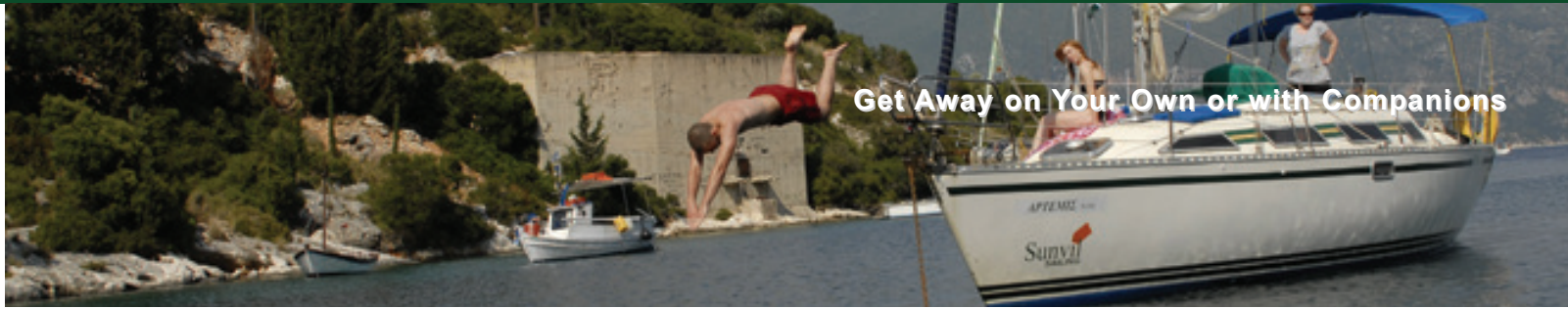
To receive up-to-date news about our pot-luck and specials please send an e-mail to allan@sunvil.co.uk asking to be put on to our newsletter database and you will then receive this information before it goes to the National Press. These packages normally book-up very quickly.



Day Boats

If staying ashore, we also have day boats for hire (for experienced sailors). These are 21ft yachts with an out-board engine. You have a cruising range of about ten miles which can comfortably take you to some neighbouring islands and across to the mainland; an area full of quiet and interesting bays to explore as well as many pretty small harbours to visit. They are licensed for a maximum of six persons and are available from 0900 - 1730 hrs.

They have to be pre-booked.



Ionian Bareboat Charter

As already mentioned we operate a cross between a traditional flotilla and a bare-boat charter. Clients on our flotillas are free to come and go from it as much as they wish provided they let the senior flotilla skipper know of their plans in advance so that he doesn't start worrying when they don't arrive in port that night. Likewise, if anyone wants to just bareboat and not take part in the flotilla in some instances we ask that you stay with the group for the first night away from base to reassure us that you are able to handle the yacht and the Mediterranean mooring techniques and also to make sure that you are happy with the yacht and its equipment. Depending on experience we may ask you to stay within an area from Palairos to Astakos along the mainland and then across to Poros on Kefhalonia and up to Lefkas Town on Lefkas Island. You are normally not allowed to sail to the West of Lefkas or Kefhalonia Islands or to sail at night. In case of any problems, whilst in our area and chartering a yacht from our fleet, either one of our lead yachts will come to your assistance or IBA, our 24 hour emergency breakdown service, can be called out.

Sailing Experience and Certification

To charter a flotilla or bareboat yacht, the port authorities and our insurers require the skipper to have at least a practical day-skipper certificate or equivalent experience in both cases together with an ICC. (See Below)

At least one member of the crew must be experienced or certified to a minimum of competent crew level (must be able to carry out a man overboard manoeuvre under sail).

We can help you towards obtaining the necessary certification via one of our training courses the week immediately before you charter a flotilla yacht. If you are unsure about whether your sailing experience or certification is adequate, please discuss this with Allan Gauci or a member of his sailing team.



The International Certificate of Competence (ICC)

The International Certificate of Competence (ICC) is a certificate of competence that has been developed in accordance with a UN resolution to create a basic standard skippers certificate that is recognised internationally. It is effectively the closest thing there is to an international driving licence for yachts or boats.

Anybody that wishes to start chartering yachts is strongly advised to get one of these. The single biggest advantage of the ICC over other certification is that even though they are only to a basic skippering level, they all follow the same standard and are recognised as national qualifications. More and more charter companies are therefore now requesting, either for insurance purposes or to satisfy government regulations, this particular qualification over others.

We are able to arrange ICC tests in the UK and Overseas. Please contact us for further details.

Yachts & Dayboats may be left at our mooring at the Villa Mahera



...or you could simply relax by the Pool at the Hotel Armonia

