

People are investing in this country and it sounds like a smart move

There's a lot to be said about the crew lifestyle. On one hand, it's extremely tough, monotonous hard work. On the other, highly rewarding and laced with the opportunity to do things very few people in the world can afford to do.

It is well known that crew are handsomely paid, or rather, have the opportunity to save considerable sums. This cash may be used to pay for education, mortgages or to start businesses, but equally, there are incalculable stories of money spent on just having a wild time.

For those who want guidance on what to do with their cash, there are a number of experienced advisors in the industry, who know and understand the exact requirements of crew. These teams are able to tailor advice to your needs, whether it's saving or spending.

Safe as houses



Image credit: somethingfortheeyes.com

Many choose to invest their money in property. This could be at home for family, a rental proposition or possibly even a second home. But perhaps the challenges of a career in yachting is affecting your loan situation with lenders?

As Mark Upton of [CrewFO](#) observed, "Investing in rental property is a great idea for crew as it reduces your financial liabilities and means that essentially someone else is paying your mortgage for you. Crew have challenges specific to yachting, such as occupation, source of funds and currency of salary, so we help with all of these and our mortgage team have a 100% success rate with crew to date."

Where should you buy?



Image credit: wallup.net

It makes sense to buy what you know because there is perceived less risk. But what do you know? Perhaps it's much wider than you realise. Being crew at sea, sailing the coastline and into the myriad marinas around the world, you have first-hand experience and insight into good, medium to long-term opportunities.

For example, regular readers will know that the team at SYC is particularly partial to the Adriatic, and after visiting the region earlier this year, Montenegro especially. Nestled between Croatia and Albania, Montenegro's expansive coastline has lured visitors with historic fortifications, UNESCO-listed landscapes and pretty coastal villages. The region is being invested in heavily now, with arguably the majority coming from the Middle East. Indeed, economic impact studies by the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) put Montenegro into the spotlight as one of the fastest growing travel and tourism economies globally over the next half-decade, and by 2021 capital investment in travel and tourism is forecast to be 50.8%.

A calculated investment



Image credit: Porto Montenegro

When you consider this, the personal investment opportunities are considerable. Of course, not without risk, but even in this region, there are safer options – not least the now well-established [Porto Montenegro](#). Despite the size of the village now, there is still 70%+ to develop.

The incentives to buy here are hugely attractive, with only 9% VAT on company and capital gains tax (one of the lowest in Europe – and you might be well advised to establish a company in Montenegro to purchase a property with a view to rentals). In fact, Porto Montenegro is forging a new concept for Adriatic ports and offering to reimburse people's stays if they come and then book a long lease berth making it the perfect excuse to have a look for yourself for free!

It has tax free incentives



Image credit: Porto Montenegro

Furthermore, there is an additional incentive for yachts to make the marina their homeport. With no tax on charters, no national insurance on foreign crew, reduced VAT on marine services and duty and tax-free fuel advance Porto Montenegro's merit as a financially pragmatic charter base. You can have a home in the winter period, close to your place of work, that's paid for by letting it in the summer when you're at your busiest. What's not to love?

Smart growth



Image credit: Porto Montenegro

Crucially, the infrastructure and conditions to support investment at Porto Montenegro are pointing in the right direction for smart growth. With the opening of the refit yard (more announcements on this to come), you would be forgiven for thinking the smart money would come from the crew who are already in the know. So the question shouldn't be where to buy, but how much can I afford to invest? Enquiries can be made [here](#).

Disclaimer this does not constitute investment advice and you invest in property at your own risk

**Please help us give this
Clipper Race tragedy a silver**

Lining

The Round the World Clipper Race is one of the world's best-recognised sailing schemes – and a true test of strength, determination and willpower for all those brave enough to take part. You will cover 40,000 nautical miles (if you do the whole race) in a 70 ft ocean racing yacht – battling the elements and working as a team to keep yourselves afloat.

For many, the [Clipper Race](#) is a once in lifetime opportunity, and with no sailing experience needed, anyone can sign up to do it. Clipper market the experience to lawyers, bankers and other busy business people as a way to escape the boredom of city life and enjoy an adrenaline rush like no other.



Image credit: clipperroundtheworld.com

However, after 3 deaths in 2 consecutive years, some people are asking questions about the safety culture onboard these boats, and the experience of the skippers who take their crew of relative amateurs into some of the harshest sailing conditions on earth.

Fullfilling a dream that lead to

tragedy

This year Simon Speirs was swept into the sea on day 18 of the race whilst helping to change a sail in gale force winds. His tether was attached, but in the chaos of a storm he became separated from the boat and was left in the water for 36 minutes whilst his crew began a tricky MOB recovery. Eventually, they managed to bring Simon back onboard, but he never regained consciousness.

A life-long love of the water

For Simon, sailing adventures had been something of great interest since childhood. In his blog ([Simon Round the World](#)) he explained that his love of the water was something he adopted in the 1960s, inspired by sailors such as Sir Francis Chichester and Sir Chay Blyth.

I became fascinated both by the sense of adventure and also by the thought of the power of the great oceans of the world. That fascination was mainly fed for the next few years by reading books about many and varied adventurers and expeditions.

A man driven by the will to do good

However, it was in 1992, when he watched the Whitbread Round the World Race fleet under full sail, that the fires of desire were truly lit. Back then, the timing wasn't right for him to embark on an expedition as epic as a circumnavigation, but he began dedicating his time every other year to undertaking solo and unsupported sailing challenges for charitable causes.



Image credit: bristolpost.co.uk

A race for the needy

This year was no different, he was racing with Clipper for two charities that were very close to his heart. The first is [Practical Action](#), who use low tech solutions to help the world's most vulnerable, whilst the other, [Orbis](#), is a charity set up to teach local practitioners how to perform cataract operations in the developing world. Both were chosen due their small size and Simon's determination to help make a difference to lesser-known charities.

His family have said that they take some comfort in knowing that he died doing something that he loved and had wanted to do for so long. All of us at Superyacht Content are humbled by the achievements of a man who dedicated himself to helping others through sailing. Our thoughts are with his loved ones at this very difficult time.

So please, let's keep racing for Simon, and help him to beat his £10,000 target. From the tributes that have been pouring in already, it is clear that he was an extraordinary man who will leave an extraordinary legacy.

You can donate [here](#).

The Top 10 Dutch Superyachts Ever Built

So many of the world's best shipyards are in Holland, it's actually pretty hard to choose a top ten. Luckily for us, we were able to draw on the substantial experience of [Dutch Yachting](#) founder Hanco Bol who kindly provided his suggestions. To be honest, we couldn't have come up with a better selection...

#10 BEIJA FLOR



Shipyard: [Feadship](#)

Launched: 1967

Length: 34.74m/ 114'0"

Why: Unmistakable Van der Voort design with a beautiful flared

bow and canoe stern. It is like going back to the 60s from the moment you step on board.

#9 ELEANORE



Shipyard: [Mulder Shipyard](#)

Launched: 2007

Length: 24.00m/ 78'80"

Why: ELEANORE is an elegant retro yacht with classic lines designed by the unnecessarily humble designer [Theo Werner](#).

#8 LEGEND



Shipyard: [IHC Holland/ Icon Yachts](#)

Launched: 1974

Length: 77.40m/ 253'1"

Why: A cool exploration yacht able to sail anywhere in the world. No sea is too high for this beauty, which has been created thanks to the tireless efforts of Jan Verkerk and his team in cooperation with [Diana Yacht Design](#).

#7 HOME



Shipyard: [Heesen Yachts](#)

Launched: 2017

Length: 49.80m / 163'4"

Why: HOME is Heesen Yachts' first hybrid yacht with a stunning vertical bow designed by [Omega Architects](#).

#6 PREDATOR



Shipyard: [Feadship](#)

Launched: 2008

Length: 72.80m/ 238'1"

Why: PREDATOR was the first Feadship with an axe-bow. We love this aggressive looking yacht able to reach a speed of 28 knots thanks to her four-engine system delivering over 23,000 bhp.

#5 MADAME GU



Shipyard: [Feadship](#)

Launched: 2013

Length: 99.00m/ 324'1"

Why: Designed by [Winch Design](#), her head-spinning blue hull and long elegant bow make MADAME GU one of the most well-known yachts in the World today.

#4 JUBILEE



Shipyard: [Oceanco](#)

Launched: 2017

Length: 110.10m/ 361'2"

Why: [Igor Lobanov's](#) design has breathtaking curvaceous blue lines which make Jubilee truly distinctive from all other yachts.

#3 ATHENA



Shipyard: [Royal Huisman](#)

Launched: 2004

Length: 90.00m/ 295'3"

Why: One of Royal Huisman's showpieces with her exterior designed by [Pieter Beeldsnijder](#) and the interior by [Rebecca Bradley Interior](#). This schooner is not just a yacht, it is a masterpiece both inside and out.

#2 SAVANNAH



Shipyard: [Feadship](#)

Launched: 2015

Length: 83.50m/ 273'1"

Why: What more can we say about this multi-award-winning [CG](#) Designed yacht. Perfection in every way.

#1: BLACK PEARL



Shipyard: [Oceanco](#)

Launched: 2016

Length: 106m/ 347'1"

Why: This elegant lady with her stunning lines is our #1 favourite. Launched one year ago with a hefty list of points of attention, this DynaRig sailing yacht is probably one of the most complex yachts ever built.

All images have been provided to us by Dutch Yachting

#MYBAPM2017: The third and final day in Porto Montenegro

What a roller coaster trip, it has felt like a week and a moment all at the same time and we have fallen in love with Montenegro. This year's [MYBA Pop-up Superyacht Show](#) in [Porto Montenegro](#) has been a treat to attend and they could not have done more to show off what this tiny country has to offer.

Day 3 was our biggest yet, here's what we got up to...

It was an honour to walk the show with industry veteran Eel Kant, the man responsible for a rather exciting infrastructure project due to take place in Montenegro in future.



Eel spent many years at Feadship before leaving to become one of the founding team at a fledgeling shipyard called OceanCo. Now he is working with Damen Shipyards to bring a superyacht refit facility to an abandoned shipyard in Montenegro. His yacht building knowledge is second to none!

We snooped about in some pretty

sweet engine rooms; this one belongs to ICE LADY- I could have spent hours down here!

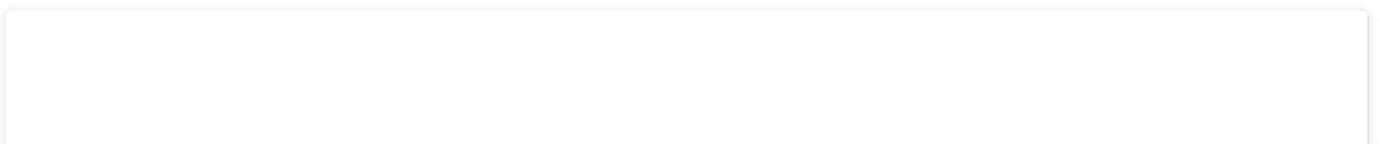
<https://www.facebook.com/superyachtcontent/photos/a.338311819943615.1073741830.166960223745443/349879182120212/?type=3&theater>

Returning to REVE D'OR, we were reminded not to touch anything in the ECR.



Captain Ian hasn't been in touch so we assume no damage was caused...

We took a high-speed boat tour through the bay and landed at the incredible 'Our Lady of the Rocks'





A post shared by Superyacht Content® (@superyachtcontent) on Sep 10, 2017 at 7:55am PDT

Did you know that fisherman spent many years trying to build this platform from piles of rocks? The first 100 years were a disaster, but after using shipwrecks from the area as a base they finally managed it, though it took 100 more years. And then another 100 to build the church itself! Dedication.

Fresh of the boat and walking down the dock, we were invited on a helicopter ride. And. It. Was. Unreal.

Here is a cool shot of Porto Montenegro from above:



A post shared by Superyacht Content® (@superyachtcontent) on Sep 10, 2017 at 10:43am PDT

And this is the mighty GOLDEN ODYSSEY.



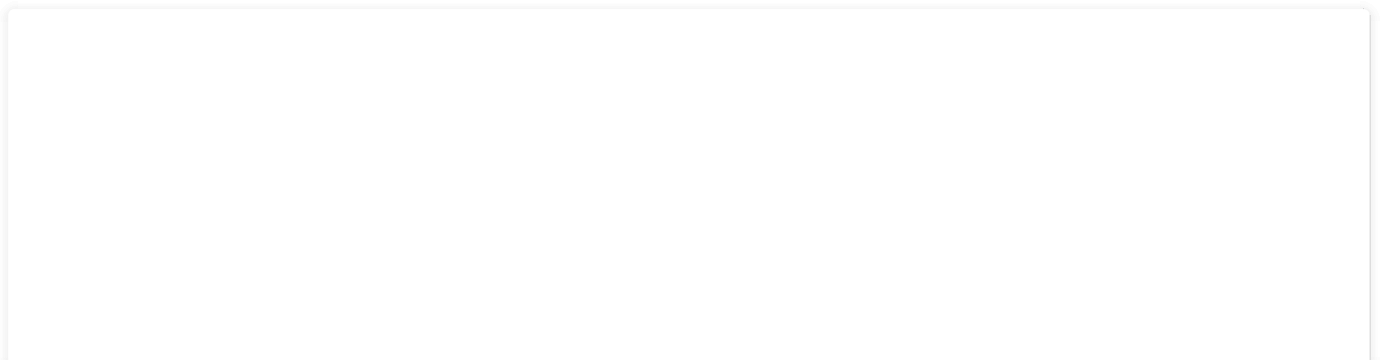
A post shared by Superyacht Content® (@superyachtcontent) on Sep 10, 2017 at 10:45am PDT

The show finished in its traditional manner with a harmony of yacht horns.



A post shared by Superyacht Content® (@superyachtcontent) on Sep 10, 2017 at 1:43pm PDT

That's a wrap





A post shared by Porto Montenegro (@porto_montenegro) on Sep 3, 2017 at 11:11am PDT

Thank you, Porto Montenegro and MYBA for such a great show and for helping us to experience what an amazing destination this really is. Can we come back yet?