

Refreshing Springtime Cocktails For Superyachts

There's no better way to celebrate the arrival of spring aboard a superyacht than with a selection of refreshing cocktails. From milky chocolate flavours to delicate floral infusions, these springtime cocktails are sure to tantalize the taste buds.

White Rabbit Cocktail



From: BBC goodfood

Ingredients

- 80ml gin
- 50ml amaretto

- 50ml double cream
- 1 tsp lemon curd
- $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp vanilla paste
- handful of ice
- edible flowers, to serve

For the **instructions**, go [here](#).

Mini Egg Martini



From: BBC goodfood

Ingredients

- 25g mini chocolate eggs
- 1 tsp honey
- 25ml crème de cacao
- 25ml Irish cream
- 50ml vodka

- ice

For the **instructions**, go [here](#).

Gin Fizz



From: [Liquor.com](#)

Ingredients

- 2 ounces gin
- 1 ounce lemon juice, freshly squeezed
- 3/4 ounce [simple syrup](#)
- 1 egg white (about 1/2 ounce)
- Club soda, to top (about 1 ounce)

For the **instructions**, go [here](#).

Elderflower & Herb Cooler



From: BBC goodfood

Ingredients

- 2 thyme sprigs, leaves only
- 2 rosemary sprigs, leaves only
- 8 edible flowers (such as pansies, rose petals and

borage)

- 50ml elderflower cordial
- 150ml elderflower liqueur
- 150ml gin
- ice
- 330ml can sparkling water

For the **instructions**, go [here](#).

Rhubarb Negroni



From: Mob

Ingredients

- 200 ml Gin
- 200 ml Campari
- 200 ml Sweet Vermouth
- 400 g Rhubarb
- 200 ml Custard
- 1 Vanilla Pod
- 1 tsp Vanilla Bean Paste

- To serve Ice Cube

For the **instructions**, go [here](#).

Spring's First Bloom



From: Liquor.com

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 ounces Hendrick's gin
- 1/2 ounce St-Germain liqueur
- 3/4 ounce lemongrass-infused simple syrup (recipe in link)
- 3/4 ounce lemon juice, freshly squeezed
- 1 dash lavender bitters
- 1 egg white
- Garnish: mint or microgreen leaf

For the **instructions**, go [here](#).

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Hoppy Holidays! Easter

Tablescape Ideas For Crew

As the spring season approaches, it's the perfect time to infuse your superyacht dining experiences with the vibrant Easter spirit. Whether hosting an intimate gathering or a grand celebration, creating an Easter-themed tablescape adds an extra touch of elegance and charm for your guests. Here are some delightful themes to inspire Easter tablescape ideas for crew ☐☐☐



1. Spring Garden Wonderland

A classic Spring theme.

Colour Palette: Soft pastel shades of pink, blue, green, and yellow.

Accessories:

- Fresh floral centerpieces featuring tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths (or any flowers you can source) in vintage-style pots.
- Decorative bird nests filled with speckled chocolate eggs.
- Miniature garden figurines such as bunnies, butterflies, and birds nestled among the foliage.

Napkins & Glasses:

- Linen napkins tied with satin ribbons and adorned with delicate flower charms.
 - Crystal glasses
-

2. Coastal Easter Escape

This theme is the least 'Easter-y' of the lot but it makes a nice change if it's to your guests' liking!

Colour Palette: Coastal-inspired hues of seafoam green, sandy beige, and sky blue.

Accessories:

- Driftwood centerpiece adorned with seashells, starfish, and coral.
- Miniature glass bottles filled with sand and tiny seashells, doubling as place card holders.
- Blue and white striped tea towels folded into sailor knots as napkin rings.

Napkins & Glasses:

- White linen napkins accented with navy blue anchor embroidery or charms.

- Nautical-themed glassware featuring etched sailboat or lighthouse designs, for example.
-

3. Vintage Easter Tea Party

Channeling some of that 'Alice in Wonderland' atmosphere...

Colour Palette: Vintage-inspired shades of blush pink, mint green, and ivory.

Accessories:

- Antique teacups and saucers filled with pastel-colored macarons and petit fours.
- Vintage lace table runner adorned with porcelain bunny figurines and delicate floral china.
- Miniature hatboxes or vintage suitcases stacked as risers for displaying treats.

Napkins & Glasses:

- Lace-trimmed linen napkins folded into intricate origami bunny shapes (could be fun making these!).
 - Champagne flutes filled with floral-infused sparkling water or champagne cocktails.
-

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Superyacht Wine Service: A Basic Guide For Interior Crew

For interior crew members who want to take their service skills to the next level, mastering the nuances of presenting and serving wine with finesse is a good place to start, and arguably a neverending journey of knowledge. Even understanding the basics of wine service can help to improve your confidence, and in turn, the guest experience onboard your yacht. Here, we break down some basic pointers to get you started in the world of Superyacht wine service.



Knowledge Is Key

The foundation of excellent wine service is knowledge. This includes understanding different wine regions, grape varieties, production methods, and, crucially, the specific selection available onboard. There are various levels of wine courses you can embark upon to improve your knowledge, the WSET (Wine and Spirit Education Trust) courses are popular and internationally recognised.

Proper Storage & Handling

A good understanding of the yacht's wine cellar is essential;

knowing the inventory inside out enables crew members to make informed recommendations and descriptions to guests. The crew should pay meticulous attention to the cellar's conditions to guarantee that each bottle is served at its best and maintain the perfect temperature, humidity, and stability to ensure the preservation of the wine.

More SYC Articles: [Superyacht Etiquette – Navigating Guest Interactions With Grace](#)

Presentation & Decanting

There are certain practices that are deemed as correct when presenting a bottle of wine, such as displaying the label towards the guests when you pour and allowing for tasting, etc.

Understanding the art of decanting is also crucial, as this allows the wine to breathe, but it is not always essential. Practice decanting the wine before the season starts so that all service crew are familiar with the process as dome decanters can be tricky to handle and pour from.



Perfecting The Pour

The technique of pouring wine also requires some skill, especially onboard a moving Superyacht.

It can be intimidating to handle a rare and expensive bottle of guest wine, the fear of spilling will definitely come into play here! But if you follow some basics, you are sure to succeed...

See below to see the basic steps of wine pouring according to Wineenthusiast.com:

How to Pour Wine (Without Spilling)



Some bottles have a punt, or an indentation in the bottom.



STEP 1

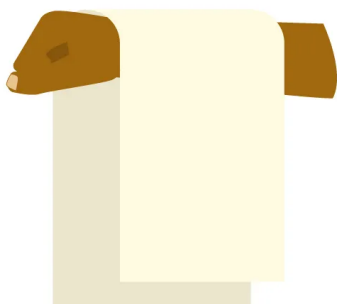
Hold the bottle from the base.



Twist the bottle quickly counterclockwise as you stop pouring.

STEP 2

Position the neck at a 45-degree angle above the glass.



STEP 3

Keep a towel or serviette handy.



STEP 4

Pour 5-6 ounces in each wine glass.

@wineenthusiast

Pairing Expertise

Pairing wine with certain dishes is an art in itself. The service crew should possess a basic understanding of how different wines complement various dishes, this goes way beyond white wine with fish and red wine with meat. Work closely with the chef to plan in advance which wine to serve with each dish and communicate with guests to gain a better understanding of their preferences.

Interior crew members play a pivotal role in creating a seamless and unforgettable experience for guests. Mastering the art of Superyacht wine service not only elevates the onboard experience but also reflects the dedication to providing unparalleled luxury and sophistication aboard a Superyacht.

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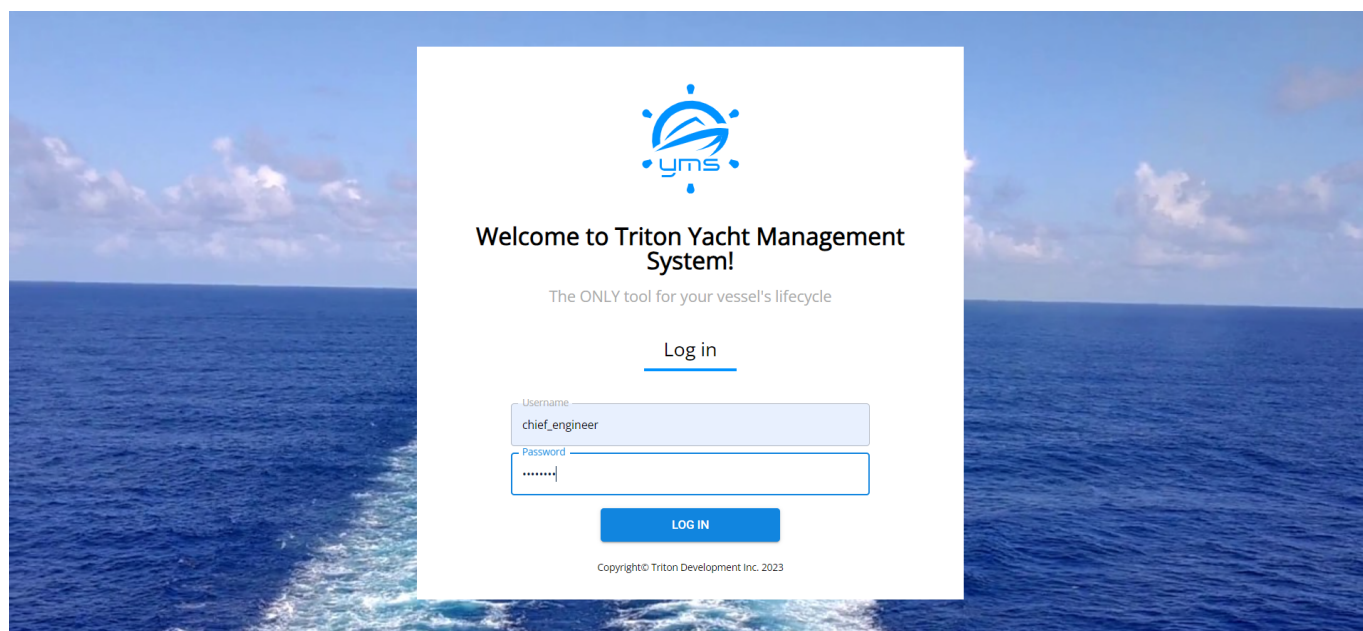
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YMS 360 Officially Launched: The Most Comprehensive Management Software In The Industry

After several years of development, YMS 360 has officially launched and is already receiving excellent feedback. The fully comprehensive onboard software is capable of tackling all areas of daily Superyacht operations seamlessly. Here, Scott Strand, CEO of Triton Development, Inc. and [YMS 360](#) founder, talks us through some of his favourite features of the app, including the ultra-efficient Inventory Systems and the Safety and Inspection modules.



SYC: YMS 360 has officially launched, what is the Software's USP?

YMS: Our application is specifically tailored to accommodate the requirements of running a large modern yacht by placing

the yacht's needs first.

SYC: What are some of your personal favourite features about the platform?

YMS: Some of my favourite features include: all to-dos and any actionable tasks found in one place with oversight for department heads. Also, our tasks are assignable to a person, position or department.

We have chat collaboration built right into the app. We offer the only 'WYSIWIG' log books that are fully customisable and integrated into your 3rd party monitoring system.

We are the only application to offer Spares & Inventory modules that are purpose-built for each department, incorporating a replenishment application that makes keeping on top of your inventories a breeze.

SYC: Talk us through the inventory feature, how is used across all departments onboard?

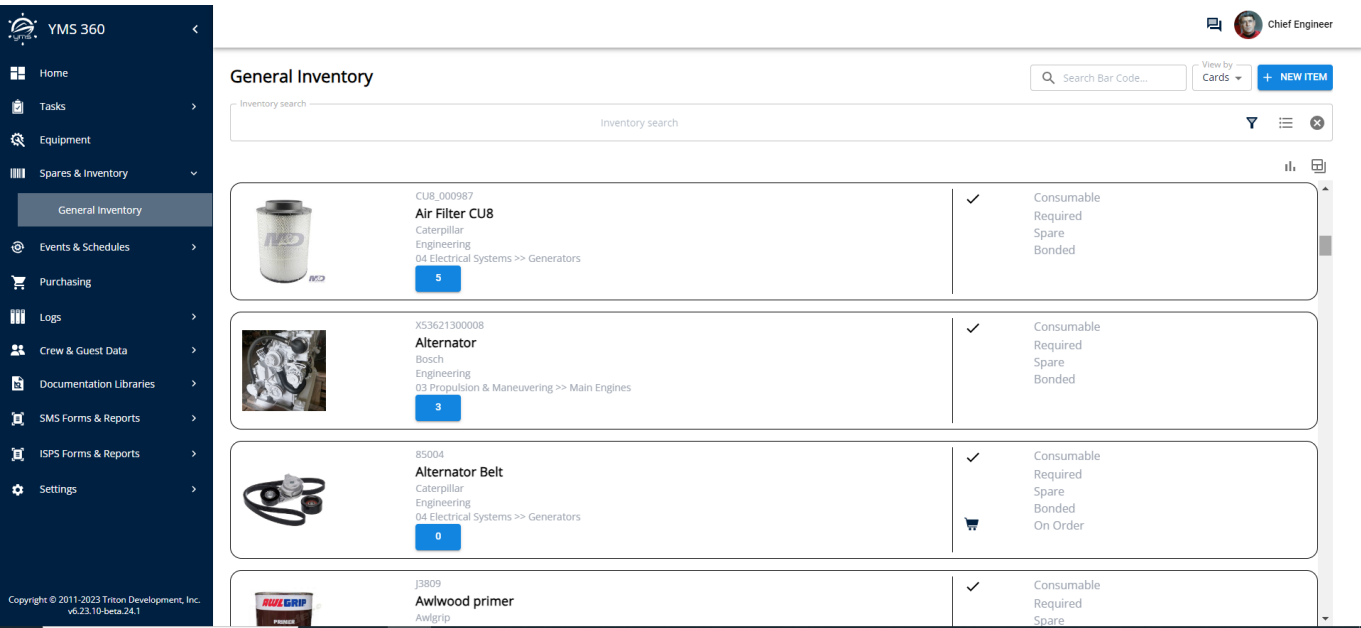
YMS: Our Inventory application seamlessly integrates with our purchasing module. With this, you can build, place and track orders. When you receive items, they are added to your inventory in one step.

You can also design your own purchasing workflow, for example; if you need to step through a vetting process to receive bids or require approval from purchasing.

Our app can leverage the barcoding and labelling of the products or you can create your own labels. This makes stock-taking extremely efficient.

Interior staff can easily keep an inventory of uniforms with sizes, colours, etc. Safety officers can keep track of medical supplies with expirations and prescription tagging.

[Read More SYC: Life After Yachting: Developing YMS 360 With Scott Strand](#)



There is no other app that offers this flexibility. Our app makes it very straightforward to drill into your data by any or all departments, functions, stowage locations, related systems, related equipment, usage levels, etc.

Filters are built in to allow you to keep on top of what is running low and you may choose to add these items to a ‘shopping cart’ where you can generate a purchase order or add to an existing order. Our app works with all popular import formats and we have vast experience getting large amounts of data into the database, fully documented, labelled and photographed (if desired).

Along with the core application we are actively designing side

kick apps such as a stock take application that will allow users perform this function in minutes rather than days.

***“Our system is geared to how you work,
not how it wants you to work.”***

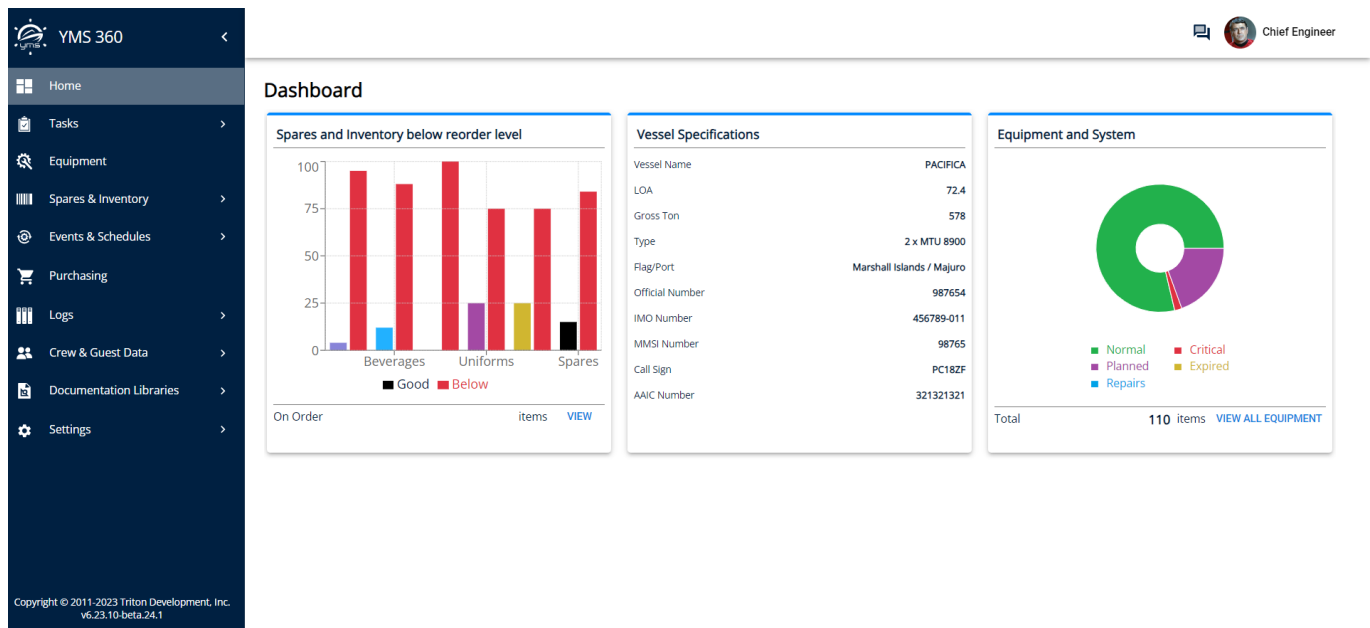
SYC: How does the app assist the crew in ensuring their vessel is compliant?

YMS: Our system is geared to how you work, not how it wants you to work.

We have built-in *Hours of Rest* tracking and continue to improve our safe-manning recording

Our SMS Content Platform controls required documents, forms and reports. Users are issued roles of authorship, approval and publishing. There is full and complete version control. Unlike virtually all other systems, YMS360 lets you work in any common format (word processors, spreadsheets, PDF, even HTML if you prefer!).

Our safety and inspection modules are the most versatile in the market. Users can define rich checklists that stand alone or can be related to equipment items. Defects and corrective actions can be created on the fly. All are logged and auditable. You get to define your own parameters with everything



SYC: Have you had any feedback so far from those who have booked demos?

YMS: We have received really great feedback both in compliments and constructive suggestions – which we take very seriously. We’ve just returned recently from a successful tour at the Monaco Yacht Show and will be at FLIBS and METS. Our existing customers are anxious to convert to YMS360 and we’ve had many, many new clients join. We’re very excited to close out 2023 with an active client list and continue improving YMS360 into 2024 and beyond.

For more information or to schedule a demo, visit:
yms360.com/contact-us

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Superyacht Etiquette: Navigating Guest Interactions with Grace

Working on a Superyacht is a unique and rewarding career, but it comes with the responsibility of providing impeccable service to high-profile guests. To excel in this role, it's essential to master the art of etiquette and learn how to navigate guest interactions with grace and professionalism. In this article, we'll explore the dos and don'ts of etiquette, helping you create an unforgettable experience for your guests while maintaining your own composure.



The Importance of Etiquette

It is well known that onboard Superyachts, guest expectations can be exceptionally high. Mastering etiquette is not just about good manners; it's about creating an environment that allows guests to relax, feel pampered, and truly enjoy their time on board, maximising your chance of a tip!

Here's why it's crucial:

1. **Exceptional Service:** Proper etiquette ensures that guests receive top-tier service, leaving a lasting positive impression of their experience.
2. **Repeat Charters:** Happy guests are more likely to return for future charters. Your professionalism can directly impact the program's success.
3. **Professionalism and Credibility:** A well-mannered and

professional crew enhances the yacht's reputation and your own credibility in the industry

Superyacht Etiquette 101

1. **Greeting Guests:** A warm and genuine welcome sets the tone for the entire charter. Be attentive, do your research prior, use guests' names, and make them feel valued.
2. **Privacy and Discretion:** Respecting guests' privacy is paramount. Avoid initiating conversations about their personal lives or any confidential matters.
3. **Communication:** Be an active listener and communicate clearly and professionally. Avoid engaging in personal conversations or sharing your own opinions unless asked.
4. **Anticipate Needs:** Proactive service is appreciated. Try to anticipate guest needs, whether it's offering a drink, a snack, or an extra blanket.
5. **Meal Service:** During meals, familiarize yourself with formal dining etiquette. Know how to serve, clear, and offer wine or champagne confidently.
6. **Handling Complaints:** If a guest has a complaint, address it professionally and discreetly. Always involve the senior crew members or the yacht's management when necessary.
7. **Cultural Sensitivity:** Be mindful of cultural differences and preferences. What may be polite in one culture may not be so in another.
8. **Safety First:** Ensure guest safety at all times. Familiarize them with safety procedures without causing alarm, and be prepared for emergencies.
9. **Cabin Service:** When entering guest cabins, knock first, announce your presence, and ask if you may enter. Respect their privacy.

[Read More SYC: Superyacht Interiors – The Art Of Flower Arranging](#)

Maintaining Your Composure

Working in the superyacht industry can be demanding, but maintaining your composure is crucial. Here are some tips:

1. **Stay Calm:** Maintain a calm demeanour even in high-pressure situations. If a guest becomes upset or angry, take a step back from the situation and think before you react.
2. **Time Management:** Be punctual and organized to avoid stress and rush.
3. **Personal Time:** Find time to unwind and decompress off-duty to maintain your emotional well-being.
4. **Teamwork:** Support your fellow crew members, as they can be your greatest allies in upholding Superyacht etiquette.

By mastering these Superyacht etiquette essentials and maintaining your professionalism, you can navigate guest interactions with grace and create a great atmosphere onboard.

There are plenty of interior training courses that can teach you about the different types of service required onboard also. Do your research and consider investing in a course to improve your skills.

For more Interior focus articles, [click here.](#)

Venetian Master Perfumer, From Venetian Gondolas To Superyachts

As Yacht Crew, we are always coming up with new ways to wow and impress our guests, making their time onboard an unforgettable experience every time they visit. In the world of Superyachts, luxury is the name of the game, and what could be more luxurious than a bespoke fragrance, totally unique to your vessel? Enter [Venetian Master Perfumer](#) (VMP). The company was founded in 2014 by owners Elena Predonzan and Ian Gardam, in collaboration with the well respected and experienced Italian 'Master Perfumer' [Lorenzo Dante Ferro](#).

Venetian Master Perfumer have a unique vision when it comes to how their fragrances will be experienced onboard, aspiring to create fragrances that evoke memories and inspire relaxation. VMP share with us here some insights into their world of luxury fragrances and their journey from Venetian Gondolas to Superyachts.



**SYC: What are the origins of the company?
Where did the fragrance journey all
begin?**

VMP: We first met Lorenzo Dante Ferro in his Creative Perfume Studio during our Christmas travels of 2013 to Italy. Our first encounter proved to be so inspiring that we promised to return in Spring to explore creating a new form of collaboration.

We kept our promise and in June 2014, our company *Venetian Master Perfumer Ltd.* was founded in the U.K. We felt certain that under the strict guidance and professional expertise of Lorenzo Dante Ferro we could move forward with confidence in our quest to discover what was for us, the artistic world of perfumes, underlined by his personal philosophy.

This new journey however, required a means of travel and to assist us Lorenzo promptly created the Venetian Master Perfume gondola which was a magical work of synergy as the prow or bow iron of the gondola is known as the “Ferro”. This slow-moving, elegant means of navigation, dating back to the 11th century, is still a means of exclusive travel in Venice. The sleek silhouette of the gondola cuts quietly through the waters of the laguna with grace.

SYC: What kind of projects has the company taken on so far?

VMP: Our first priority of course, was to give people – during special occasions, located in unique settings – the opportunity to try LDF’s personal perfumes directly on their skin and his ambiance perfumes as they decanted directly in the air. In this way, we were able to guide them personally in learning how to correctly evaluate and appreciate the unique beauty of Lorenzo Dante Ferro’s natural fragrances.

SYC: How can fragrance change or enhance the experience in a space?

VMP: LDF taught us that ambiance fragrances ‘perfume’ the space between people. He created his unique concept of ‘*Profumi d’Ambiente*’ in 1985 to heighten the sensorial perception of surrounding landscapes and help one recall olfactive memories of distant places. These could be, for example, the perfumes of Italian citrus, Spring flowers or the brisk fragrances of the sea or mountains.

The radiant and natural aura of these ambiance

perfumes provide olfactive focal points that are invisible and interactive, accompanying every person in your home or on your yacht on a sensorial voyage wherever and whenever you desire. So much pleasure can be derived from planning a personal trip “Around the World in 80 Seconds” with the ambiance perfumes by making your fragrance selections based on the geographical locations and countries you wish to visit and experience.



More SYC Articles: [The Art Of Flower Arranging,](#)
[How To Excel Your Skills](#)

SYC: In your opinion, what is the most important thing to consider when choosing a fragrance?

VMP: LDF's perfumes must strike a chord first in your heart, and then on the skin. In this way, it is certain to radiate and develop for hours in a manner that is uniquely yours.

The selection of Lorenzo Dante Ferro's ambiance perfumes may be considered as an invisible form of architectural and set design that allows one's imagination to run freely but is believable when paired expertly with a specific décor. This is especially possible with the natural spray form allowing you to change the fragrance to coordinate with a themed dinner party, change of season or even with the weather!

"Venetian Master Perfumer's greatest desire is to give back to the modern voyagers of today's original and exclusive Italian perfumes"

SYC: What do you want to bring to the Superyacht industry in terms of fragrance?

VMP: Venice was a flourishing and prosperous centre for the trade and commerce of precious spices, fragrant oils and resins brought back by navigators and explorers returning from voyages in distant lands. Venetian Master Perfumer's greatest desire is to give back to the modern voyagers of today original and exclusive Italian perfumes.

SYC: Which type of products are most ideal for use onboard Superyachts?

VMP: We would first suggest the creation of a Bespoke personal fragrance for your Superyacht as an additional form of christening. Your guests would memorise the many notes of the original fragrance for an unbelievably unique seafaring experience.



SYC: What is your vision of Venetian Master Perfumer onboard?

VMP: There is a specific protocol that we have followed from the onset; namely we start from the very beginning by suggesting the following: The creation of a Lorenzo Dante Ferro Bespoke personal perfume for a Superyacht. This sets the tone and the quality of a new form of luxurious enjoyment for your guests by giving them a fragrance that cannot be purchased anywhere in the world.

We would follow this by suggesting the creation of a small collection of Bespoke ambiance perfumes that enhance the colours of the Superyacht's stunning interiors, while always harmonising with the sea. These are the true Seafaring Fragrances that we take pleasure in creating.

Finally, the creation of a 'Custom Cabin Cosmetic Amenity' line. This would be the premier line extension of the Bespoke personal fragrance that offers guests onboard new ways to experience the fragrance in different forms for their daily personal care and unique olfactive well-being.

To learn more about Venetian Master Perfumer, [visit their website.](#)

To learn more about Lorenzo Dante Ferro's work, [click here.](#)



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Superyacht Lighting Design: Creating Ambiance

Creating an atmosphere onboard is essential to a guest's experience. Whatever the activity, dining, partying, relaxing, or watching a film, the ambiance should be just right – and that's where Superyacht lighting design comes in.

Let's hear from Sally Storey, the founding director of [Lighting Design International](#). Here, Storey explains how she was introduced to the industry, and how Superyacht lighting design has evolved throughout her career.



Photo credit: Lighting Design International (M/Y LUSINE – HEESSEN YACHTS – SINOT INTERIORS) – David Churchill

Entering The Industry & Adopting A New Approach

Designing for the Superyacht industry is a privilege. I first got into this industry maybe 15 years ago or more. At that stage, lighting boats followed almost a formulaic approach, a cove of indirect light and a grid of downlights.

My introduction came via a client whose home I had done the lighting for. She could not understand why the atmosphere on her boat was not as nice as in her home, so they introduced me to the project. This was the refit of my first yacht, Il Cygno.

I decided to go against the yacht industry standard of grids of lights. I introduced my approach in the same way I would for a residential project which is to light what matters. For example, this can be the art, the centre of the room where a table is located, the blinds or curtains, and I put light where it was required – rather than following a grid. It also became apparent that coves were not essential if one had enough ambiance from decorative light sources.

Utilising LED's & Adding Warmth

Another key factor was the introduction of joinery lighting and layering the levels of light to create added interest. This technique was made even easier with introducing LED's. These are now such high-quality lights, and the advent of miniaturisation has enabled us to incorporate them into even more details, a process which was impossible before.

My second superyacht was M/Y *Twizzle*. The owners had been on *Il Cygno* and wanted a similar approach. In those days (and the early days of LED's), there was a tendency to use a very cold colour light temperature, not only inside but outside, as it was thought to be brighter. Walking around a harbour, all too often one sees boats that almost look like a surgery can take place! It has taken a long time to get the perfect 2400k colour for linear lights. I like to use 2700k for downlights. In reality, the exterior lights only really come on at sunset when the natural light is warm, and that should be recreated on board as closely as possible. Think of the circadian rhythm.



Photo credit: Lighting Design International (M/Y LUSINE – HEESSEN YACHTS – SINOT INTERIORS) – David Churchill

Making It Simple While Tackling Challenges

We therefore consider lighting a boat like lighting a jewellery box in the level of detail used.

We consider all aspects of what to light, the different areas to emphasise, the inbuilt details, and the colour temperature. The final consideration is how to control all these light sources and balance the effects using a simple control system. This final stage of balancing the lighting is crucial. It is important to make it simple. Too often, clients have a bad experience with control systems and often do not want to use them. However, by simplifying the process and limiting the

number of scenes to 3 or 4, which cover the lighting moods throughout the day, the systems become more appealing and acceptable.

The exterior of a boat brings different challenges. The lighting is no longer in an air conditioned controlled environment, and it needs to be much more robust and able to withstand the corrosion of salt air! It is also essential to control the moods. The boat's exterior is often used as an entertainment space so it needs to adjust to the addition and subtraction of natural light throughout the day. A bright cold light could kill the desired atmosphere.

“Lighting a boat is like lighting a jewellery box”

Transforming A Superyacht

Lighting truly is one of the key ways a Superyacht can be transformed. Different effects create different moods that can radically change a space. Lighting is something that one needs to experience. We can transform a space with light, which any other interior finish cannot do, at the touch of a button! Beach clubs can quickly turn into nightclubs, and lounge areas become discos. In turn, these transformations make the spaces on a Superyacht work even harder.

Past & Present Projects

The next few boats Lighting Design International designed were: *Northern Star*, *M/Y Joy*, *Sy Twizzle*, *M/Y Faith*, *M/Y Hasna*, and recently the award-winning *M/Y Lady S* and *M/Y Lusine*, as well as many more over the years.

We are currently working on approximately 10/12 yachts. All are at different stages, ranging from those that are ready to launch, and some which are in the very early design stages, even before the building of the hull. Our involvement at this early stage is crucial particularly with exterior lighting, as this may need to be integrated into the hull design.



Photo credit: Lighting Design International (M/Y LUSINE – HEESSEN YACHTS – SINOT INTERIORS) – David Churchill

An Integrated Approach & Embracing

New Technologies

Another aspect we have begun consulting on is helping brokers and/or designers in the early stages of assessing a Superyacht's feasibility. We can anticipate the required number of points and circuits, so that when they approach the shipyard, a far more accurate price is achieved from the beginning.

Historically, when Superyacht lighting design was introduced at a later stage of the design process, huge overruns occurred. Not enough funding was allowed by the shipyard to keep the price competitive, either.

This industry continues to grow in sophistication and is embracing new technologies not only in lighting but in propulsion, reviewing greener approaches wherever possible.

To take a closer look at Lighting Design International and their work, go to their website at:

www.lightingdesigninternational.com

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Coral Spa Consultants – Improving Spa Spaces Onboard Superyachts

Kayleigh Westgarth spent almost 12 years working onboard Superyachts. Starting as a Spa Stewardess, and working her way up to Spa Manager, Westgarth has worked on various vessels up to 120m in length. Westgarth then went on to create her business, [Coral Spa Consultants](#), a division of [Gym Marine](#). The two companies work together to set up premium Spa spaces onboard Superyachts. Westgarth's initial business idea was formed from years of experience working in limited spaces onboard Superyachts and a deep understanding of how to improve these spaces in order to deliver better guest experiences.

In this article, Westgarth speaks of her passion for providing guests with exceptional service and memorable treatments onboard, her tips for aspiring Spa Stewardesses, why she chose to work with Gym Marine, and the importance of adequate treatment spaces onboard.



SYC: How did you find yourself working onboard Superyachts as a spa therapist?

Kayleigh Westgarth: After qualifying as a massage and beauty therapist straight out of school, I started working on cruise ships as a Spa Therapist, whilst there I started hearing more and more about the magical world of yachting! After my contract ended, I spent some time at home working in Spas, but missed the travel element. I decided to take the plunge and get my Yachting qualifications. I was very lucky to get a position on a new build 80m yacht – it was one of the best decisions I have ever made!

SYC: How long did you work onboard and what was the journey up to the position of Spa Manager like for you?

KW: I worked in Yachting for about 12 years. Initially starting as a Spa Stewardess, I loved learning all the new skills, focusing on becoming a valuable member of the interior, as well as offering guests a large range of treatments. Over the years, massage rooms on yachts have slowly started to expand in size, turning into full Spa areas on some boats. This allowed me to start to take on more responsibility within the Spa, working with the other Spa Stews.

I started focusing on new-builds, setting up and managing various onboard Spas from 60-130m plus, and loved the challenge of helping to create a space that flowed well and met all the guests requirements.

SYC: What are the key skills and qualities crew need to have to excel in the role of Superyacht Spa Therapist, and how do you develop and maintain these skills?

Flexibility, knowledge and passion! I truly believe that you can tell if the person treating you isn't fully invested in their position. Yachting can be tiring and you can be pulled into treatments last minute, but when you step into that space you must be ready to give that guest your undivided attention. If you are distracted and thinking about what snacks might be in the crew mess – your guest will feel the difference!

I am also a big advocate for constant training. The Spa industry is constantly changing and you have clients that undoubtedly visit the best Spas in the world, so you need to constantly be improving. I have always aimed to do treatments on the crew in down time, it's a great way to get feedback on new techniques but also a wonderful treat for them after a long charter!



***“Being onboard is all about being part of a team,
and working together to create a wonderful
environment for each and every guest”***

SYC: What advice would you give to someone who is just starting out in the yachting industry, and what qualities do you think are essential for success in this field?

KW: Open yourself up to learning from anyone and everyone. The

joy of yachting is that the crew and guests come from all over the world. Which means there are so many opportunities to learn more about different cultures or new massage techniques from another Spa girl in your team! Being onboard is all about being part of a team, and working together to create a wonderful environment for each and every guest.

[More SYC: 10 Questions With Superyacht Masseuse Laura Riera](#)

SYC: Can you describe a time when you had to deal with a difficult or demanding guest, and how did you handle the situation?

KW: Sometimes it's all about seeing a 'demand' or difficulty in a new light – you never know what someone has been going through that day. Looking at it that way always made dealing with a guest being slightly snappy a lot easier to deal with! Although being made to massage someone's feet on the Aft Deck, sitting on the floor under the table whilst they played Backgammon is probably something I will never forget, my shoulders ache just thinking about it!

SYC: What inspired you to set up Coral Spa Consultants? What were some of the key issues you faced when setting up your

business?

KW: As I started doing more and more new-builds, I kept noticing the same problems in the Spa area onboard. They were always gorgeous spaces but sometimes the operational aspects hadn't fully been taken into consideration, which sometimes detracted from the level of luxury and calming ambience we wanted to offer during treatments. I found myself wishing that I could get involved earlier in a project, to address these issues. I spent a lot of time brainstorming, reaching out to people, and assessing how I could best be of use to designers and shipyards.

“Coral Spa Consultants creates a better working environment for the crew, a far superior treatment experience for the owner, and often saves them a lot of money in the long run”



SYC: How did you come to join forces with Gym Marine, and why is it a perfect fit to work together?

I reached out to Edward from Gym Marine late in 2022, I had been on many boats where they had fitted the Gyms for guests and crew, and I was always really impressed with the attention to detail. I saw them as the Gym version of what I wanted to be for Spas! I loved the fact that Edward was also from a yachting background, so understood the importance of the crew also having a great working space. Luckily, he had also seen the gap in the market for Yacht Spas. Working with Gym Marine is honestly one of the best decisions I have ever made. Not only does it allow me to help and work with many more projects than I could have imagined, but I also get to work with a truly incredible team that are so supportive.

By sharing Gym Marine's resources in CAD planning, logistics and international structure, we know that we can save clients' money and time. We will be able to combine the Freight,

Installation and Customs processes of Gym and Spa areas into a single white glove service.

SYC: What solution are you trying to solve in the Yachting Industry with Coral Spa Consultants?

KW: We are bridging the gap between the interior design team's vision and then the end usage of the Spa. We are able to provide valuable insight into the flow of a treatment room, allowing the team to take into consideration where they might need to place plumbing for hair wash basins or pedicure baths, the storage required for all the equipment, linens and products, as well as locations for plug sockets.

Currently, when a Spa Therapist steps on a boat, they often have to figure out the best way to provide a Pedicure or Manicure on a massage bed, and often that massage bed doesn't even have enough room for them to move around it freely. These are all elements that can be avoided if designers and shipyards speak to people with the relevant training and experience from the beginning. Coral Spa Consultants creates a better working environment for the crew, a far superior treatment experience for the owner, and often saves them a lot of money in the long run.

The fact that I have actually been in all of these situations myself is also crucial. Not only do I think about the general spa operations and requirements, I can also see it as a crew member. My brain automatically goes to 'where will that be stowed?' and 'Does that wheeled item have brakes?'. I have experienced chasing a spa trolley across a room when at sea and having to massage from awkward angles because I can't sit at the end of the bed for a reflexology treatment! I pre-empt these problems in the early stages, my goal is to save as

many Spa Therapists from bad backs as possible!

SYC: What advice would you give to Spa Therapists working onboard yachts in terms of practicality and working in small spaces?

KW: Sometimes the best treatment is a simple massage or facial. You don't need a lot of space, you just need to ensure your bed is as comfortable as possible and you can reach your products without having to dash to a cupboard outside. On smaller boats, I always liked to have a 'grab bag' prepared ready to go. Which meant that whether my treatment was in the massage room or on the Sun Deck I knew I had everything ready.

Making sure you have simple items like a bed warmer and large comfortable towels and sheets, this will instantly allow your client to relax on the bed. You just need to provide guests with a calming space to switch off in. There are so many multi-functional items out there these days that allow you to save space whilst still offering high-end treatments. Good quality handheld facial machines are a great way to offer a results driven facial. Lava Shells allow you to add heat to your massage without the need to store a big hot stone warmer. It's these little considerations that will make a guests' time in the Spa memorable.

To find out more about Coral Spa Consultants and their services, visit [their website](#).

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Yacht Stewardess Diaries: Atlantic Crossing

Ever wondered what it's like to do an Atlantic Crossing as a crew member onboard a Superyacht? How does your frame of mind alter after your fifth, or even tenth day at sea, with only miles and miles of ocean surrounding you? Ever questioned what a typical day at sea looks like for each department? Or how to keep yourself busy and sane for 12 whole days in the middle of the ocean?

In this Transatlantic travel diary, Yacht Stewardess [Alessia Oricchio](#) gives us an insight into the experience of crossing from Antigua to Gibraltar as an interior crew member. Let's see how she stayed busy and how she dealt with some tumultuous weather and early morning watches along the way...



Photo By Alessia Marietti

Day 1

12 pm departure from Antigua. A bittersweet feeling to be departing the Caribbean. Antigua was a very special place and always will be – grateful that we spent so much time off there and got to explore the island.

Ciao to the Caribbean, thank you for welcoming us and for making my first season across the pond so memorable.

As we left Falmouth, a thunderstorm hit as drills were completed and we were underway. I've got the graveyard watch 2-6 am then 2-6 pm.

First evening was a tough one to get into routine. Swell is apparent and it is very choppy, currently getting my sea legs back.

Day 2

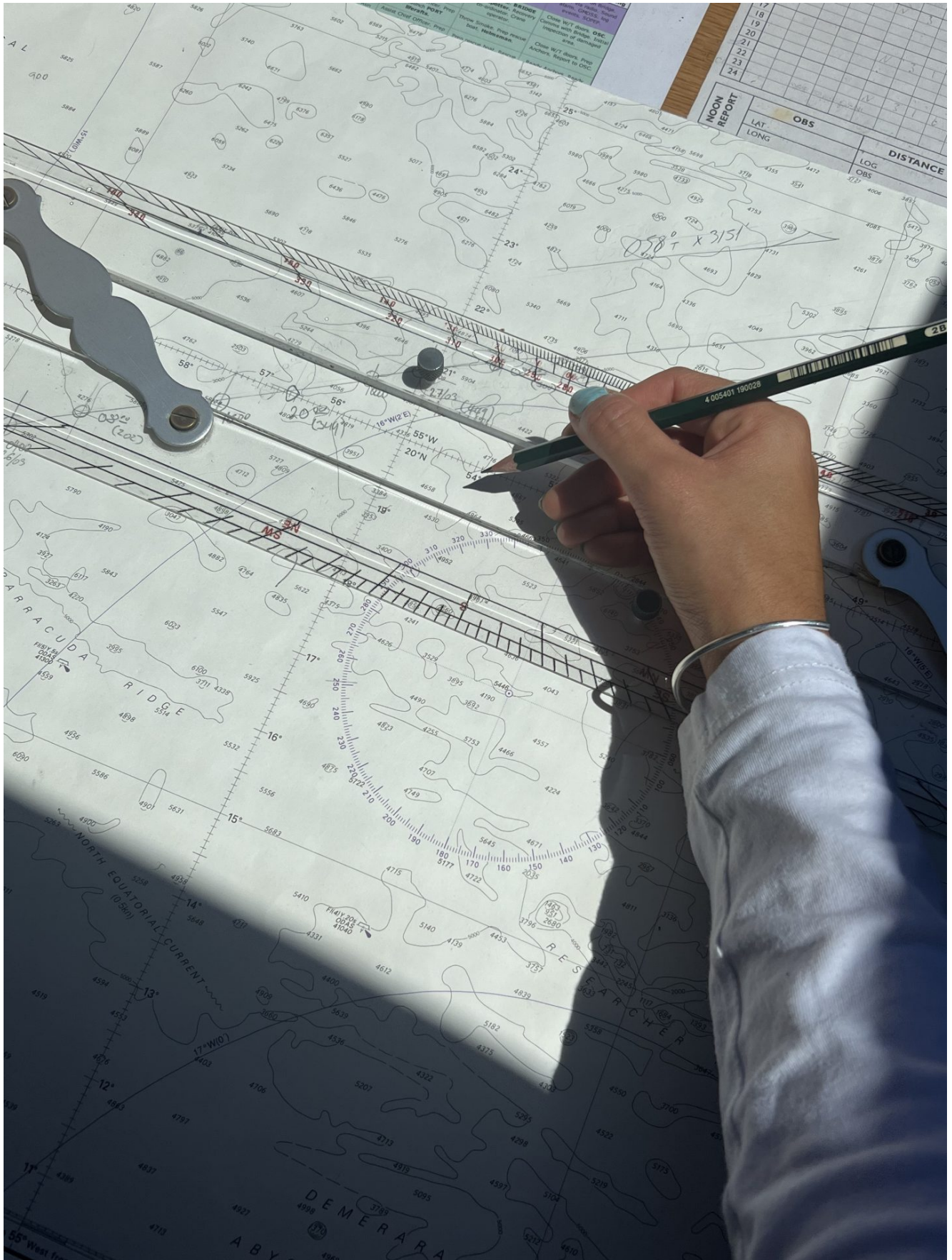


Photo By Alessia Marietti

Sleep is still broken, routine is not there. Missing working out. My goal within the next few days is to settle back into a

routine. I'm the only interior crew doing the crossing so during my daylight watch I'm keeping crew areas clean and tidy, doing laundry, and the Captain's cabin.

Yacht rating in progress. 30 minutes of hand steering the vessel today complete. I learnt the clove hitch, sheet bend, double sheet bend, and bowline.

Day 3



Photo By Alessia Marietti

Completed some more knot training, did some ironing and felt nauseous. Our laundry is dark and has no air... feeling better

today though.

Day 4

Seas are calmer, finally did a workout – only 15 mins though. We had sushi for lunch!

Day 5

It's interesting how you don't see many crew around during an Atlantic Crossing. There's eleven of us doing the crossing: three Engineers, two Officers, Captain, Chef, me, and two Deckhands. It's because of our watches that the boat is so quiet. It's a little bit eerie. I definitely get scared when doing my rounds at night. What a wimp, I know.

The sea state is unbelievably glassy, the moon was out, and I saw a shooting star.

Day 6



Photo By Alessia Marietti

I made a flourless healthy banana bread today with pistachios dark chocolate and black berries. It was delicious! Getting

back on the pilates train, my favourite form of working out. Makes me feel so energetic and amazing after.

Day 7

I stayed up after my watch, made a Matcha latte, got into workout gear, and watched the sunrise. Was actually beautiful. I had a peaceful and productive morning, so let's see if I stay awake until my next shift, or if I'm due another nap.

Day 8



Photo By Alessia Marietti

Weather has picked up. Lots of slamming on the bow. I finished Daisy Jones and the Six and cried at the end? Not like me to

get so involved in a show.

Day 9

Three and a half hours of hand steering down, one and a half to go, and were two days out of Gibraltar. I haven't worked out. Weather still not the prettiest, cold, gloomy, and high swells. But I've been addicted to this green smoothie:

- 1 Celery Stalk
- Handful of frozen mango
- Handful of frozen spinach
- Pure coconut water
- 1 teaspoon of matcha
- 1 scoop of collagen (I use ARMRA Colostrum)
- Lime Juice
- Chia seeds

Blend! Yummy!

Day 10

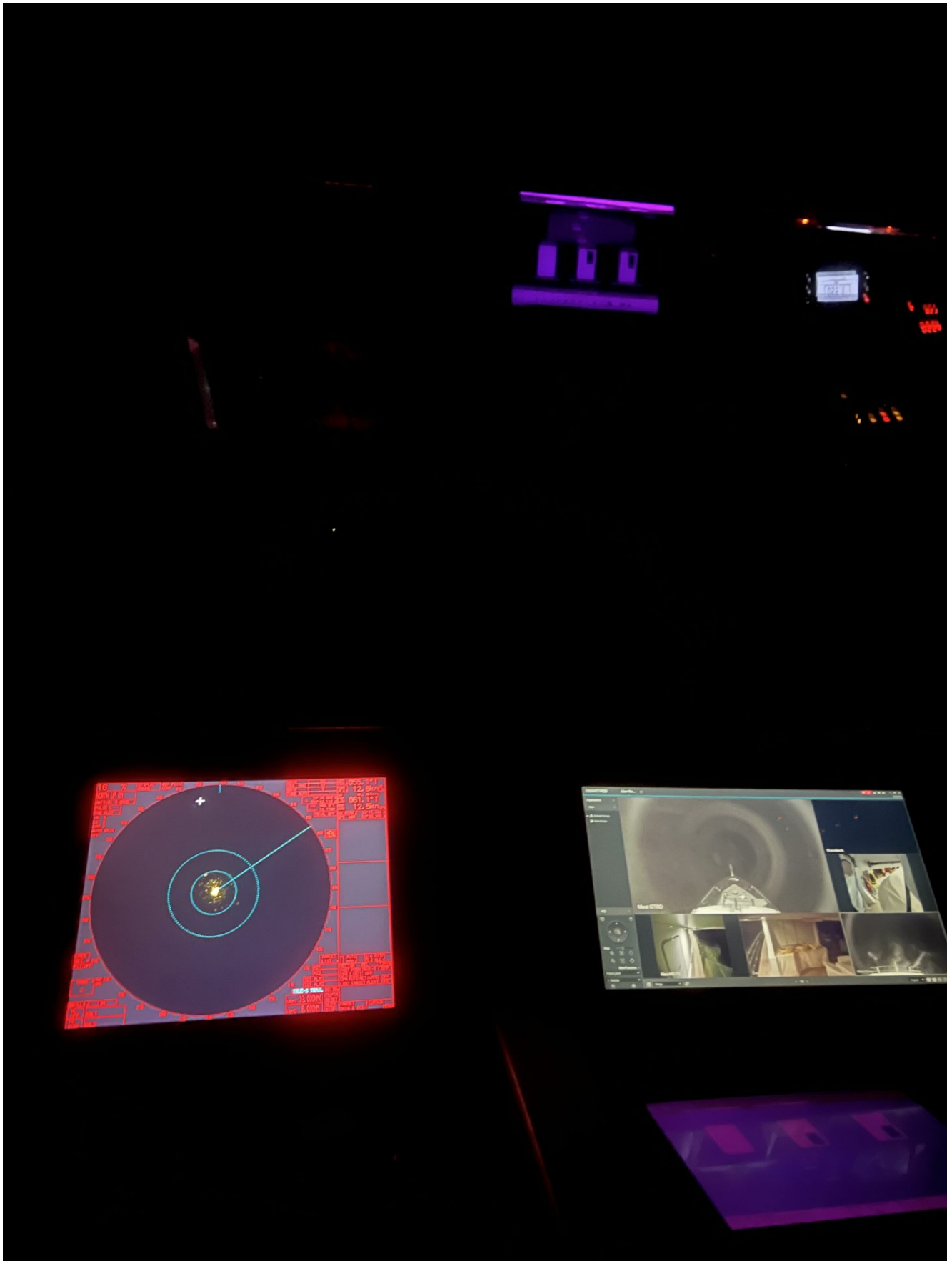


Photo By Alessia Marietti

We're two days out and I am so keen to have some land time!

Day 11

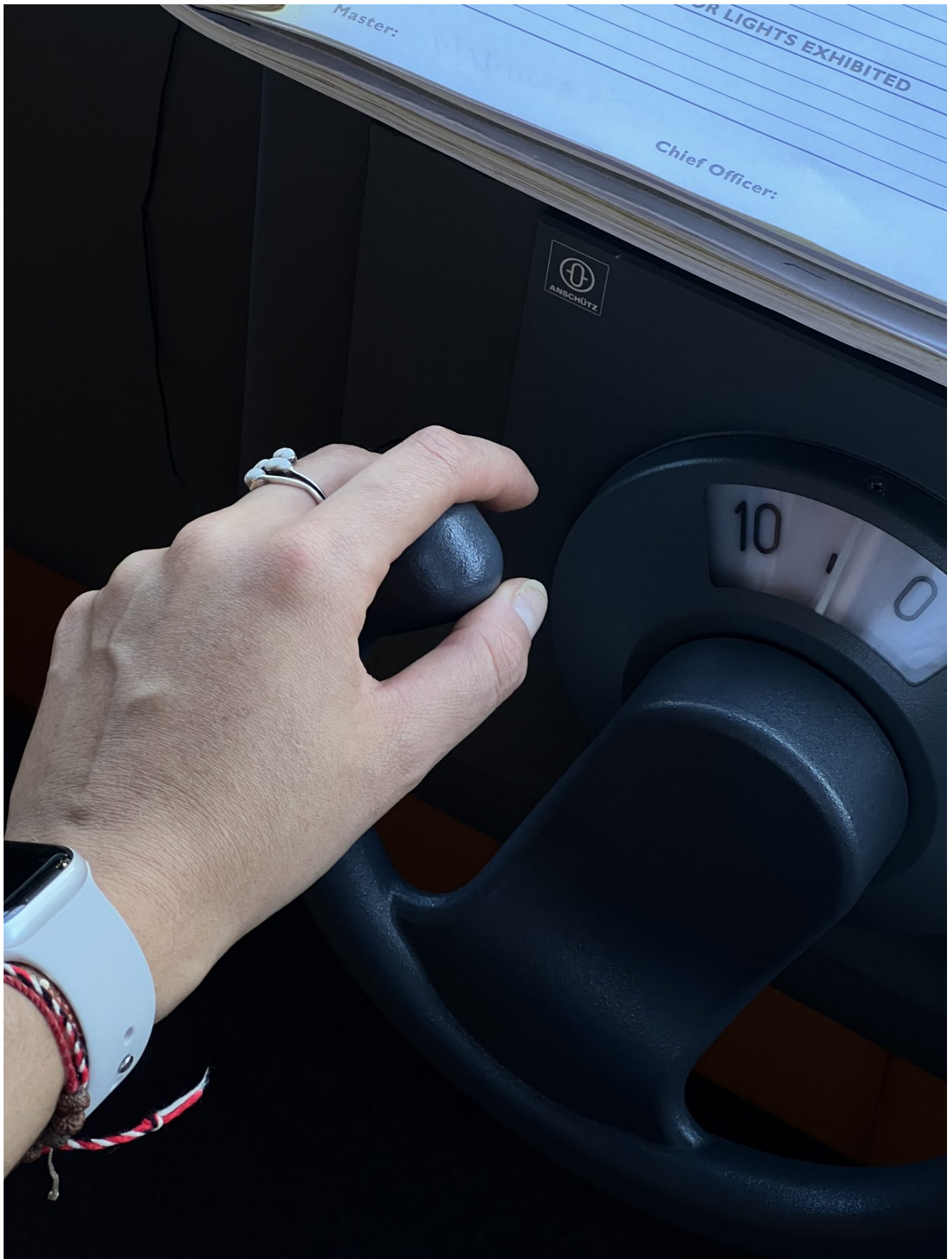


Photo By Alessia Marietti

I completed the five hours of hand steering the boat. Woop! I actually have really enjoyed the Atlantic Crossing, I always

do. In my downtime I can have time for myself and my love, self care and reset down time. It's nice to get into a routine. We arrive tomorrow.

Day 12

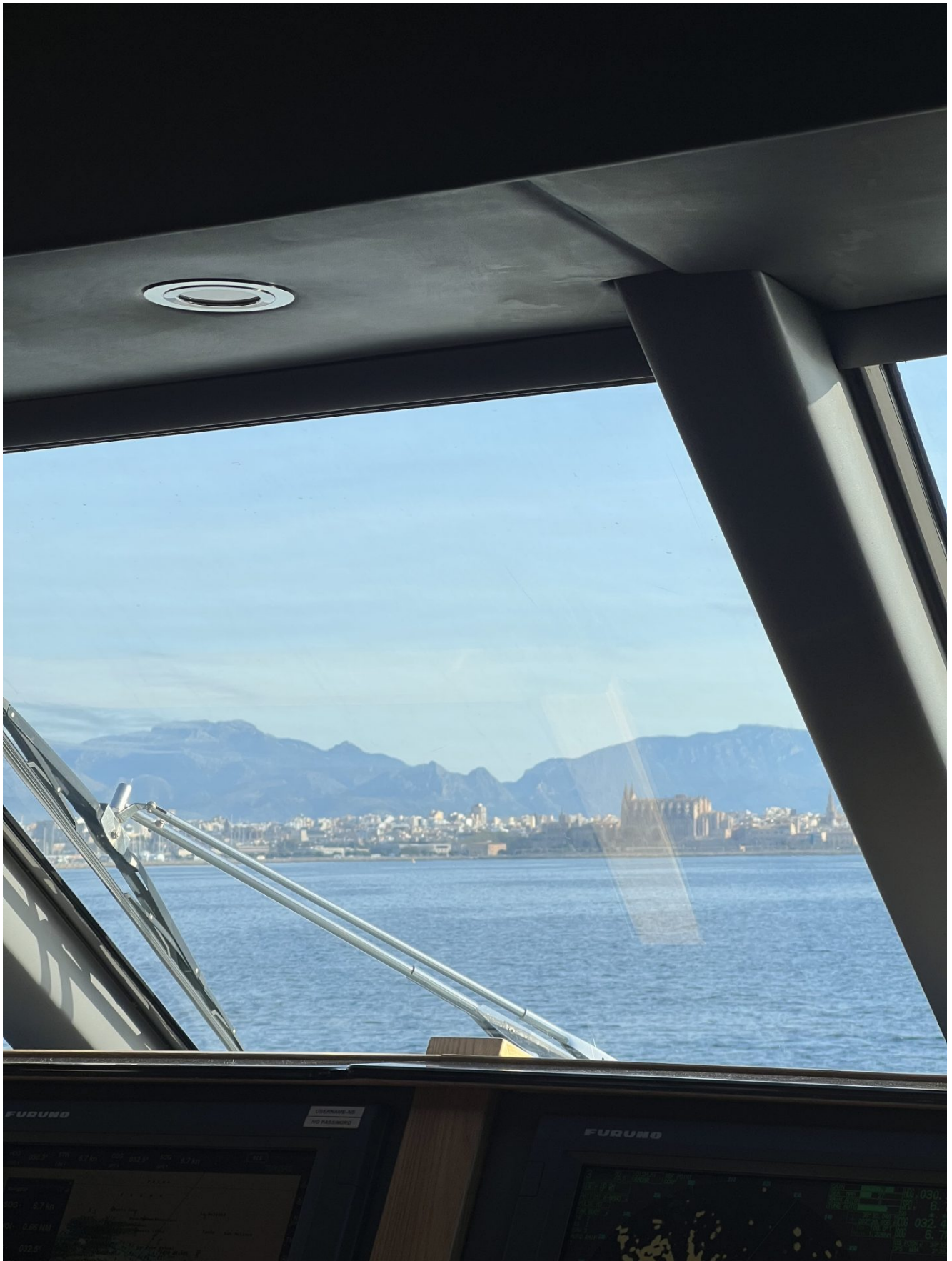


Photo By Alessia Marietti

Arrival into the bunkering station at Gibraltar! I steered the boat through pilotage waters for 1 hour and took us through

the north entrance. Bunkering commences. Tomorrow is a half day followed by a day off.

3204 miles completed.

After two days of shopping, (lots of) walking, and enjoying some land time, we're off to Palma. After one and a half days I am back in the land of sangria and tapas.

3662 nautical miles later the transatlantic passage from Antigua – Gibraltar – Palma de Mallorca has come to an end. Thanks for coming along and reading through the pretty relaxing crossing diary of my second Atlantic Crossing.

For more from Alessia, follow her Stewardess Instagram account for Tablescapes and Cocktail inspiration: [@thestewtable](#)

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The Best Interior Training

Courses In The Med

If you are an interior crew member based in the Mediterranean and are looking to brush up on your skills, taking a short course at one of these schools might be the answer. There are so many areas of interior that require experience to master, and learning from those with more time in the industry than you is always a great way to perfect your skills, but that might not always be possible when you are onboard an active yacht. This is where interior training courses come in.



Photo courtesy of Seascopes France

From Floristry and service training to Cigar workshops, there are a plethora of courses that will enrich your CV and help you to stand out from an ocean of candidates when applying for a job onboard a superyacht. Here is our roundup of some of the best interior training schools in the Med and the courses that they offer...

VIP Service School – Palma De Mallorca



VIP Service School has the GUEST training program as its foundation for all courses. The GUEST Program is the 7 star standard of training required as the minimum level for those working in the interior department of a Super Yacht.

The school offers bespoke workshops and specialist courses such as Advanced Professional Silver Service, Purser Training and even Art Management For Yachts, Estates And Private Residences. Their Workshops include Floristry, Table Decoration and Latte Art.

Based in the centre of the popular yachting hub of Palma, close to the ports of Club De Mar and STP, VIP Service School has an excellent reputation, particularly for their WSET Level 1 Wine course, taught by Helen Brotherton of Fine Wine Works.

You can find a full list of their courses [here](#).

Barcelona Crew Academy – Marina Port Vell

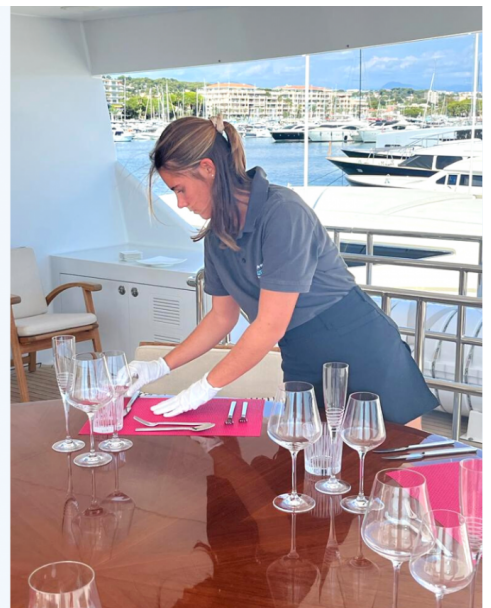
BARCELONA CREW ACADEMY

RECRUITMENT & TRAINING
YACHTS

Based in Marina Port Vell, Barcelona, Barcelona Crew Academy offers some excellent interior courses to stewardesses. The school also follows the G.U.E.S.T. Program and is IAMI credited (International Association of Maritime Institutions). Amongst the packages offered are Junior Stewardess Guest 1, Senior Stewardess Guest 2 and Chief Stewardess Guest 3.

The school also offers to arrange local accommodation, with a discount for students. To discover more visit [their website](#).

Seascope France – Antibes



Seascope France, an Antibes-based yacht crew training school, offers a range of STCW, RYA and yacht interior courses

including a GUEST/IAMI approved Yacht Steward/ess introductory course. The latter covers all the basics that 'greenies' are expected to know when applying for their first interior job: basic housekeeping and laundry, wine and mixology, food, and beverage services.

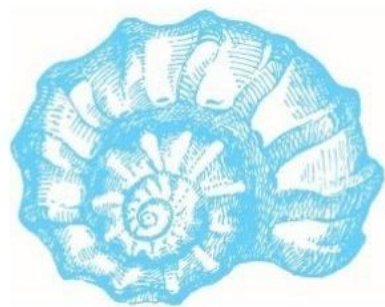
The highlight of Seascope's course is that a lot of the training is practical and some is carried out directly onboard, including a live lunch on the last day of the course. Topped with the classroom module of the Introduction to Yachting and Yachting Life, such course arrangements not only give students hands-on experience in the yacht interior department, but also boost their confidence as junior stews.

Company Director Sophie Sevier stated:

"Our school's training course is unique in that the students get the opportunity to do some of the practical training onboard a Superyacht, including a live lunch where the students are required to welcome guests onboard and serve beverages and food, practicing the skills they acquired during the week".

To see their full range of interior courses and other yachting courses, visit the [Seascope website](#).

KDW Training – Antibes



KDW Training

Set up by ex-Chief Stewardess Kim Woodey, KDW offer their courses online, ashore and onboard. Shoreside courses include Food Hygiene Level 2, Advanced Service Training, Chief Stewardess/Senior Stewardess course and Yacht Administration amongst others. All courses are IAMI and G.U.E.S.T credited, though KDW also offer workshops on Flower Arranging and Table Decoration.

Woodey states that:

"There is something incredibly rewarding about helping my students grow and find their confidence. Creating the opportunity for them to fine-tune their skills and seeing them realise that they are able to do so much more than they thought they initially could. It's these lightbulb moments that form part of the best reason for doing what I love on a daily basis."

Take a look at their full range of courses and workshops [here](#).

For more Superyacht Content Interior articles [click here](#).

Bubbles & Blooms: Floral and Table Design Workshop

Keen to bolster your skills in floral design? [Fabulous Fusion](#) founder Shannon Jayd and recruitment agency [Saltwater Recruitment](#) present their '[Bubbles & Blooms](#)' workshop. This one-time workshop was designed to encourage Chief Stews and aspiring Chief Stews to burst out of their comfort zone and expand their skill set with floral design and table arranging, and to enjoy some networking and wine tasting too!

One of your main responsibilities as a crew member is to cultivate an enjoyable experience for your guests. To impress them, you might have to get creative and show off your presentation skills from time to time. A beautiful flower or table arrangement can really wow your guests and is sure to make a lasting impact. Interior work onboard is all about having a keen eye for aesthetics, and these are skills you can use again and again.

If you're currently in Antibes and are looking for inspiration for your next onboard designs, why not sign up for the Bubbles & Blooms workshop on Monday 15th May? Continue reading below for all of the details...

SALTWATER
—RECRUITMENT—



Bubbles & Blooms

FLOWER & TABLE STYLING
WORKSHOP WITH FABULOUS FUSION



5-8.30PM

MONDAY 15 MAY

ANTIBES

“Expand Your Creative Experience Within Yachting”

Workshop leader Shannon Jayd explains:

“The intention of the workshop is to encourage senior stews to expand their creative experience within yachting (as we

never stop learning, right?) and knock the socks off their guests with some jaw dropping flower arrangements this season.”

You'll be working with industry favourite [Maud Creation Florals](#) supplying the flowers. The [Cabin Shop](#) is the decor sponsor (you'll get the place mats, napkins, napkin rings, and the like from them).

Once the workshop is over, you'll take home an all-you-need-to-know guide, your very own arrangement, and photos of what you can create onboard. This will all look fantastic on your CV. A bit of artistic flair never goes unnoticed.

Wondering where the bubbles come in? There'll be some bubble tasting (hosted by [Onshore Cellars](#)) to sweeten the experience too!

Check out the pre-registration interest form for Bubbles & Blooms to sign up. Click [here](#) for access.

There are **limited spaces** for this special one-time event. Only 10 passionate Chief/Stews/Senior Stews will be selected!

To read more about the art of flower arranging, [click here](#).

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Superyacht Interiors: The Art Of Flower Arranging

One of your primary responsibilities as a Superyacht stewardess/steward is to create an exceptional guest experience. One way to impress guests is through beautiful and captivating flower arrangements. A stunning flower arrangement can transform any interior space into a welcoming and luxurious environment. However, creating a visually appealing display requires a bit of skill and knowledge of the art of flower arranging, also known as '**Ikebana**'. In this article we explore some tips and tricks to creating unforgettable displays. We also spoke to [Create With Claus](#) to learn about his method and tips for stewardesses who want to flourish in floristry.





The 9 principles of flower arranging

There are 9 elements of design that you need to consider: **light, space, line, form, pattern, texture, and size**. The principles of design are **balance, dominance, contrast, rhythm, proportion, and scale**.

Selecting the right blooms

Before you start flower arranging, it's essential to choose the right blooms. Selecting the right blooms will make the difference between a beautiful and lackluster arrangement. You should consider the color, texture, and size of the flowers to create a cohesive and visually appealing display. It's also crucial to choose blooms that are in season and appropriate for the environment. For example, if your yacht is cruising in the tropics, you might consider using bright, tropical blooms like hibiscus or bougainvillea. Alternatively, if you're sailing in a cooler climate, you might choose flowers that are more subdued in color and texture, like roses or hydrangeas.

Choosing the right vase or container

The next step is to choose the right vase or container. The vase or container should complement the flowers and the interior decor of the yacht. You can choose from a variety of containers, including glass vases, ceramic pots, or metal containers. It's essential to choose a vase or container that is the appropriate size for the flowers you've selected. If the vase or container is too small, the flowers will be crowded, and if it's too large, the flowers will look sparse and out of place.

Creating a visually appealing

display

Once you've chosen the blooms and the vase or container, it's time to start arranging the flowers. There are several techniques that you can use to create a visually appealing display, including:

1. **The Rule of Three:** This is a simple technique that involves arranging flowers in groups of three. This technique creates a balanced and visually appealing display.
2. **The Dome Shape:** This technique involves arranging flowers in a dome shape, with the largest blooms in the center and smaller blooms around the edges.
3. **The Line Technique:** This technique involves arranging flowers in a straight line. This technique works well for long tables or narrow spaces.
4. **The Cluster Technique:** This technique involves grouping flowers of the same type together in clusters. This technique creates a cohesive and visually appealing display.

It's also essential to consider the height of the flowers when arranging them. Taller flowers should be placed towards the center of the arrangement, and shorter flowers should be placed towards the edges.

“Creating beautiful and captivating flower arrangements is an essential skill for Superyacht stewardesses”



Image by Create With Claus

Claus has spent a number of years onboard Superyachts and has created many a floral display in his time. Claus believes that your passion should drive what you do, and states that teaching others is a fulfilling part of his job:

"A simple guy who was born and raised in Taipei, Taiwan, I have a passion for the yachting industry, and have spent the past 7 years on 6 high profile superyachts, as well as on a large cruise ship. I graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Food & Beverage Management, along with gaining 7 years experience in 5- star hotels, focusing on fine dining and mixology. I am always happy to share my knowledge among team members,

helping junior crew to improve.

I'm a really calm person and have a lot of patience for every challenge, enjoy every moment of working and love learning about different cultures. In conclusion, creating beautiful and captivating flower arrangements is an essential skill for Superyacht stewardesses. By selecting the right blooms, choosing the right vase or container, and using the appropriate arrangement techniques, you can create a visually appealing display that will delight your guests. With a bit of practice and creativity, you can transform any interior space into a luxurious and welcoming environment"

Q&A With Claus

1. Are there any essential flower-arranging tools and materials that you use when creating superyacht centrepieces?

I always take my own tools with me everywhere. The tool kit includes flower scissors, different sizes of pin frogs and hair pins. Some items you must have onboard are chicken wire, cable ties, tape, wires, tubes, sticks and different colours of spray paint.

2. How do you decide on the appropriate flower arrangement for a specific event or occasion on a superyacht?

I always do research on any kind of event element and check the guests preferences. I consider these in order to make a plan and decide how it is going to be presented on the boat. Also, I make a list of any item I need to order or make it in

advance. In the beginning, this process took me a lot of time to check Google and Pinterest, but once I got used to it, it became easier and easier.

3. What are some of the most popular flower types used for centrepieces?

My personal opinion you can never go wrong with seasonal flowers. There are certain flowers I order every time, such as Roses, Hydrangeas, Carnations, and Anthuriums. My favorite flowers in Spring and Summer are Tulips and Alliums, and for Fall and Winter are Dahlias and Ranunculus.

4. Walk us through the step-by-step process of creating a flower arrangement for a centre table

I would say use your imagination first, think about what you are going to set up for the table, then start to do some research for your ideal design on the table, then we can start to make the centerpiece happen. For example, The Great Gatsby colours are gold, white, black and silver. For myself, I would use gold spray paint on flowers the day before.

5. How do you ensure that the flower arrangements stay fresh and last longer?

I change the water and put in flower food every 3 days to maintain flowers.

6. How do you incorporate the yachts interior design and theme into your flower arrangements and table pieces?

Interior design should always be checked, and then the

preference of the guests, before I order the flowers and look around at the colours in the interior areas. Then, I can play around with the flowers. For the theme table, I have my own system for which theme colours should be used. For example, if I think about Capri, what colors come to mind are yellow, blue, and green. Then, I will choose those to put on the table.





7. Can you share some unique and creative flower arrangement ideas and centrepieces that you've done on board in the past?

I have made some very creative designs, for instance, one table I made a beautiful flower garden growing from a floating water can, a flower cloud theme table and a floating lemon tree when I was in Capri.

8. What are some tips for other interior crew who want to improve their flower arranging skills and create more impressive centrepieces?

I would say find your favorite Instagram account to follow, see more, and think how it will happen. As I said before, in the beginning, I really spent a lot of time on Google, Instagram and Pinterest the day before, then imitated it to set up on the table. After that, you will have your own style. You also need to look at a lot of designs, then, all the creative ideas will come from your sense of style and imagination.

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