

Yacht Crew Finance: 12 Mistakes You May be Making

We're all guilty sometimes

Pursuing a career in yachting is a great way to earn enough savings for large investments, in property for example. However, only if you're smart! We all like to have our fun, but not when it will be a detriment to your future. If you are making too many of these mistakes it may be time to seek some advice in regards to crew finance. Fear not, [CrewFo](#) will be there for you if you decide to take that step.

For now, let's get into yacht crew finance mistakes you're most likely making/made...

1. You eat, drink and party like it's 1999.

You just HAAAVE to experience a day in your own private cabana at Nikki Beach with your mates, because you're tired and need some "me" time after that **exhausting** charter. Sure, we understand but you do know that there are tonnes of nice beach clubs to go to that don't cost an arm and a leg, right?

2. You think that all of your money is disposable income i.e, spending money.

After all, you have a free bed to sleep in, all the food you

can eat, no utilities to pay for, no clothes to buy, and no car payments! There's even a gym onboard so no monthly dues there. This leads us to...

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Too many people spend money they earned...To buy things they don't want...To impress people that they don't like.

- Will Rogers

3. You assume your salary is tax-free.

You don't file a tax return which is the only way to see if you qualify for the Seafarers Earning Deduction. Instead, you just ignore the whole thing, bury your head in the sand, and hope the whole thing will just go away.

4. You think when you're ready that you will be able to walk into a bank, apply for a [mortgage](#) and buy a house.

Think again... if you haven't filed a tax return in the UK for example, you are not in the system. (And that ladies and gentlemen is the case for most places around the world.) If you are not in the system that means... no mortgage, no pension and forget about investing in any stocks.



Image from Boss Properties

5. You get paid in one currency and your bank account is in another.

You don't pay attention to the fact that there are currency exchange fees, ATM card charges, and foreign transactions

costs on every single purchase, paycheck, and withdrawal. Yes, every single one. All those wasted fees add up to about one month's salary per year.

6. You think that crew finance tax returns are hard and expensive for yacht crew.

Even though you may qualify for the zero-income tax, you won't know for sure until you pay a nominal fee and actually file a return. You don't realise that everything can be done online and that there are companies that can help yachties do just that.



7. You think about the here and now.

Maybe you assume it's pointless to think about crew finance now or to save unless you are putting away a hefty amount a month. Or you have no idea that putting away even just 100 dollars a month for your entire career onboard could produce a hefty down payment on a house. Hello, [compound interest](#)?!

8. You think you are the owner.

How about those 3000 thread count embroidered sheets in the master suite for a Chrissie present for Mum and Dad? How about getting your mates back home one of those ultra-cool drones you have onboard? Let's repeat that again.... You. Are. Not. The. Owner.

9. You think you'll have more money than your mates in 10 years.

Since 95% of your income is disposable, compared to friends at home who are probably around 10-12% you automatically think you've got the life. But if you don't save, or put away a percentage of money each month for your career as your earning capacity grows you won't go far. Think percentages, not numbers.

10. You don't keep any record of how many days you are in a certain country and have no idea when the tax year starts or ends in your particular country of residence.

You may think now that you'll be able to figure it out later, but have you ever tried to remember where you were on May 12th last year? Yeah, not so easy. Stop Facebooking before you go to bed for 10 seconds and jot it down in your discharge book which by the way should be your new best friend.



11. You give in to peer pressure.

No matter how well-intentioned you are, you will be shocked by the opulence of the industry. Be careful not to spend like your other crewmates unless they are going to be there in ten years to help you get enough money together to buy your first car or house.

12. You sign your contract and don't really understand what the phrase "your fiscal responsibility" means.

You hope somehow, at some point, the captain, a crew agency, or even the management company will sort this out for you. Well look, you're in the big world now and need to understand what you are signing up for.

Has all this got you thinking about your Crew Finance situation?

[Crew Family Office](#) takes care of exactly this type of advice for yacht crew. The team at CrewFO is experienced in the yachting industry. Having made all the mistakes themselves, their mission is to make sure you don't.

They will get your [tax return](#) sorted and get you on the path to financial health regardless of your country of residence. They already do it for close to 1000 crew, so really, what are you waiting for?

Scroll to the bottom of their home page and subscribe to their mailing list now to get exclusive crew finance tips and tricks!

And, for more crew finance content, click [here](#).