

Guidance notes for chartering the Volunteer Yachting Ltd First 40.7 yacht "Volunteer"

OVERVIEW

Volunteer is a 11.7 metre First constructed by Beneteau France and delivered in 2008. It is capable of being cruised or raced and in the default mode is rigged for "white sail" cruising. Charterers may request the use of the spinnakers, racing sails and racing forestay. Prices for these will be advised on request. Should the yacht be required for racing this **must** be advised at the time of booking and will incur additional charges to cover re-rigging etc.

BOOKING PROCEDURE

Prospective Charterers can use the web booking page to register their interest. If the yacht is available then the Bookings Secretary will confirm this and issue a booking form for completion. Alternatively you can contact the Bookings Secretary direct at info@volunteeryachting.com with your proposed dates and to obtain a booking form for completion. Skippers who have not previously chartered VOLUNTEER are required to forward to VYL by e mail or post a copy of their passport identification page. This is a requirement of the yachts insurers. Skippers who do not hold a passport should phone the Bookings Secretary for info on other forms of ID that may be acceptable.

LOCATION OF BERTH AT PORT SOLENT

The berth currently assigned to Volunteer at Port Solent Marina is H20 via bridgehead No.2. The entry fob for the access gate can be obtained from the marina office together with the keys to the yacht on production of the Key Authorisation form issued by VYL as confirmation of your charter.



AREA OF OPERATIONS

The chartering of the yacht is governed by MCA rules. It is rated to category 2 (MCA Code maximum of 60 miles from a safe haven). Except by prior agreement the cruising area is restricted to the coastal waters of the UK, the Channel Islands and France bordered by a straight line Dover-Calais to the East and by a straight line Brest-Scilly Isles to the West.



Use outside of this Area of Operations is expressly prohibited without prior approval from the Bookings Secretary.

ELIGIBILITY TO CHARTER

Eligibility to charter the yacht will be based on previous experience (ownership/chartering/skippering) and any relevant qualifications. Attendance at the yacht familiarisation days is highly recommended and in certain cases a skipper may need to demonstrate his/her competence before taking the yacht to sea. A minimum of a current VHF certificate (plus First Aid if going cross Channel) will be mandatory for at least one member of the crew. The Skippers experience must be detailed on the booking form and copies of any relevant qualifications submitted at the same time

An itinerary of the intended voyage **must** be lodged at the latest 7 (seven) days before the commencement of the charter along with any intention to sail at night – this is defined as between sunset and sunrise on any specific day.

A list of crew with their experience and any qualifications **must** be given to the Booking Secretary at the time of submitting the booking form. Should Volunteer Yachting Ltd not consider the crew and/or Skipper suitable for the voyage intended it may, in its absolute discretion, ask that the itinerary be amended. It is highly recommended that Skippers pre qualify their crew for the voyage intended as early as possible.

It is the responsibility of the charterer to ensure that all members of their crew are equipped with **appropriate clothing and footwear** for coastal and/or offshore sailing.

FAMILIARISATION COURSE

It is a requirement of the insurance that charterers have undertaken a familiarisation course before the yacht can be taken out.

When organized on a group basis by VYL, the 1 day familiarisation course will be free of charge. However for charterers who have not undertaken the course and require this to be conducted as part of their charter (on the day prior to commencement of the charter) there will be a fee of £35 applied to the overall charter invoice.

The course covers important aspects such as familiarity with safety procedures and equipment, an explanation of the working of gear on the yacht as well as elementary boat handling skills. If charterers require specific instruction on any aspect of the yacht they are to advise VYL in advance of attending the course.

ACCOMMODATION & CLEANING

The yacht sleeps 8 in 3 double cabins with 2 berths in the salon. It has a substantial inventory but charterers will need to bring bed linen/sleeping bags although there are 6 pillows with cases (laundered) on board and 3 sleeping bags available for hire (see Charter Rates for charges), towels and toiletries.

Charterers **must** either leave the yacht clean and ready for the next charter or may request cleaning services at a cost of £35, bookable in advance with the Bosun. Dependent upon when the cleaning is required prices may vary but these will be advised at the time of booking. Should the yacht not be left clean and shipshape then a penalty cleaning rate will be charged and deducted from the deposit in the first instance.

Formal handover procedures for both on hire and off hire are in place and charterers are required to familiarise themselves with these requirements. In particular the diesel tank is to be left FULL at the end of the charter and a filling fee of £35 in addition to actual fuel costs will be added to any charter invoice where this has not been done. For weekend charters only there is an option of a flat charge of £25 for fuel. This **MUST** be declared prior to the charter commencing.

BOOKING RULES

The Booking Rules for chartering are as follows:-

1. Club* Programme dates are bookable only by Club Members
2. The Yacht may be booked either for Weekends or Weekdays by RNVRYC Members or Vortec Marine.
3. If the Yacht remains unchartered within 8 (eight) weeks of any particular date then VYL may market the Yacht to third parties e.g. RNSA etc.

CHARTER TIMINGS

Charters run from 1700 to 1500 (or by PRIOR arrangement with VYL or the Yacht Bosun). Should a crew member wish to stay onboard until 0800 the next morning then they should advise the Bookings Secretary and there will be an additional charge of £50 if approved.

CHARTER RATES

Refer to CHARTER RATES page on website for current details

ON COMPLETION OF CHARTER

Prior to concluding their responsibility, charterers are required to ensure that the following checks (as listed in section J of the Procedure Check Cards) have been completed:

Gas canister: Replace gas canister if required. Payment for the canister will be reimbursed by VYL. A daily charge will be levied for gas usage.

Fuel: Charterers should ensure that diesel tank is FULL at end of the charter or will incur a refuelling penalty. The refuelling berth at Port Solent is available 24hrs and is immediately to starboard of the lock gates.

Water: Fill both Port and Stbd water tanks.

Ensure Returning Yacht Check List as per section J is completed

PAYMENT & DEPOSIT

On booking, Club Members will need to place a deposit of 25% (twenty five percent) of the charter costs. The balance is due 28 (twenty eight) days prior to the start date of the charter. Payment can be made by bank transfer or cheque made payable to Volunteer Yachting Limited. The booking will not be considered firm until receipt of cleared funds. Should a booking be made within 28 (twenty eight) days of the start of a charter then the full charter costs must be remitted with the booking form along with the security deposit.

Charterers will need to deposit, by cheque, funds to an amount of £1000 (one thousand pounds) 28 (twenty eight) days prior to the start date of the charter to cover damages incurred outside of the yachts insurance cover. The cheque will be held as security. In the event of liability being incurred then the cheque will be cashed and any difference refunded. Please note that the terms of the charter are such that if a Charterer breaches liability cover (wilful damage, gross negligence etc.) then they may be liable for an amount in excess of this security deposit. (See Charter Terms and Insurance Cover).

Penalty payments will be incurred for late return of the yacht to the designated hand over point. This will be at a rate of £50 (fifty pounds) per hour for the first 2 (two) hours. In excess of 2 (two) hours delay and a daily rate of £300 (three hundred pounds) will be charged.

Prospective Charterers should ensure that all members of their charter party read in full the Terms of the Charter and Insurance Standard Terms prior to chartering the yacht. These documents are available on the website (<http://www.volunteeryachting.com/documents>) for download as PDF files.

Where the Charter and insurance terms are at variance with these guidelines the charter and insurance terms shall prevail,

*Note "Club" refers to the RNVR Yacht Club.