



2021 Van Diemens Land Circumnavigation Cruise

Notice of Cruise

If a challenging 800 nautical mile cruise-in-company around Tasmania with experienced, friendly people appeals to your sense of adventure, then don't delay in registering your interest in this truly unique and unforgettable event. The cruise is gaining a considerable national and international reputation and a place in the 45-boat fleet may be hard to obtain closer to the start of the event.

This will be the 15th VDL-C cruise staged by The Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania and the 9th run in conjunction with the Royal Geelong Yacht Club. The 5-week cruise will start from Hobart on **Wednesday 10th February 2021** and follow a well-researched anticlockwise route around the island to return to Hobart on **Tuesday 16th March 2021**. This allows time for plenty of relaxation, social occasions, exploring ashore and sheltering from inclement weather.

A second fleet will depart from Port Phillip Heads on **21st February 2021** to join the main Hobart fleet in the Hunter Group at the north-west corner of Tasmania. This fleet will return to Port Phillip on **31st March 2021**.

A cruise commodore and radio officer will accompany each fleet to ensure your cruise is as safe and enjoyable as possible. Twice-daily radio scheds will keep you informed about forthcoming attractions, get-togethers and weather forecasts. Nothing is compulsory **except** reporting to the radio relay vessel each day at the required schedule.

National Parks and World Heritage Areas:

Application for Group visitation will be made in accordance with Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service regulations prior to the event. As the cruise takes in a number of National Parks & World Heritage areas such as Macquarie and Bathurst Harbours, **pets are not permitted under any circumstances**.

Eligibility:

The cruise is open to seaworthy vessels with an overall hull length exceeding 30 feet (9.15 metres) that meet *Cruise Safety Requirements* and crew experience requirements.

The vessel must be insured for public liability and third party damage for a minimum of \$20,000,000. A Certificate of Currency is mandatory.

Due to limited space in marinas and some anchorages, the number of sailing catamarans will be restricted to 5 in the total fleet of 45 vessels.

Entry Fee and Payment Details:

The full entry fee for the cruise is \$575 payable in two parts - firstly as a \$175 deposit with your Expression Of Interest (EOI) in participating in the cruise; and second payment of the remaining \$400 approximately 2 months before cruise commencement, within 7 days of receipt of an invoice.

Payments can be made by cheque snail-mailed to the address given below, by credit/debit card over the telephone or by electronic funds transfer. The RYCT's banking details are as follows:

BSB: 017 324 Acct No.: 281523413 (*Please ensure the reference contains VDL-C 21 and your boat name*).

Apart from entry to the cruise, this fee provides for a VDL-C 21 back pack containing comprehensive range of useful cruising information, the latest edition of the 170 page *Tasmanian Anchorage Guide*, a Cruise Manual, a Choices Flooring cruise flag, bow stickers, two T-shirts, commemorative plaque, two complimentary tickets to the end-of-cruise dinner in Hobart, as well as fishing and tourist information.

How to Enter:

To register an expression of interest in the cruise, please complete an Expression of Interest (EOI) editable format downloaded from the RYCT website and return it, complete with \$175 deposit to the address given below. The EOI form is downloadable in one of two formats. It can be downloaded in printer-ready PDF format to be completed by hand (legibly in black ink, please); or it is available as an MSWord <.docx> document to be completed on your computer. In the latter case, please preserve the tabs when typing; then return the EOI form as a PDF document because not everyone's version of MSWord works the same way).

Cruise Plan:

A map of the planned route and a cruise plan can be downloaded from the RYCT website. Note that this plan is just that - a plan. Arrival and departure dates from any port or location is very much weather-dependent. Although nothing is compulsory on the cruise (except a requirement to report to a radio relay vessel at least once each day), the various social occasions mentioned in the plan are used as targets to help keep the fleet together. The dates of these occasions may also move - again dependent on weather conditions. However the cruise plan has spare days built into it to minimise the need for this to happen.

Insurance:

It is mandatory that your vessel be comprehensively insured to protect third parties should there be an incident involving other vessels. You are required to provide proof of your insurance on arrival at RYCT (or prior to departure if joining the fleet from somewhere else), and to carry a Certificate of Currency on board during the cruise. Public Liability Insurance must be for a minimum of \$20M minimum.

Photograph(s) of the Boat:

The EOI form should be accompanied by one or more recent photographs of your boat (preferably as digital images (between 256K and 1024K) that clearly show her lines, that can be used for identification purposes in case of an emergency during the cruise. The photographs are particularly important if the boat is a one-off or not of a more or less well-known cruising design. For those that have participated in a previous cruise, please supply a recent picture or, if nothing has changed, the same pictures(s) again.

Provisional Acceptance:

Based on the information contained in the EOI form and the boat photographs (and any other information to which the committee has access), the VDL-C Organising Committee will assess the appropriateness of the boat and her crew for participation in VDL-C 2021. Once this has been done, you will be notified of your provisional acceptance on the cruise, subject to satisfying the various cruise prerequisites and safety requirements.

The Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania reserves the unconditional right to refuse an entry to the 2021 *Choices Flooring Van Diemens Land Circumnavigation Cruise*.

The Size of the VDL-C Fleet:

The size of the *Choices Flooring 2021 VDL-C* fleet is limited to 45 boats (including up to 5 sailing catamarans). Please be aware that most recent cruises have been over-subscribed by up to 20 boats; thus, it would be wise not to delay submitting your EOI once you have decided to give it a go. On the other hand, by the time we get to the cruise commencement date, we have never yet had to leave anyone behind who still wanted to come.

Please note your provisional place in the fleet (or in the queue of prospective participants) is **not** reserved until the \$175 deposit has been received at the RYCT in Hobart.

Withdrawals:

If you decide not to come after all, your deposit and perhaps your full entry fee may be refunded in accordance with our **Refund Policy**, a copy of which is available on the website.

The closer to the cruise commencement date you make a decision to withdraw, the more it will cost to do so.

Further information:

As time goes by and the date of the cruise gets closer, further announcements will be made concerning such matters as HF radio certification procedures, recommended charts and deadlines for payment of the remaining fees and charges, as well as anything else of relevance or general interest to prospective participants. Our primary means of communication is via the internet: email and the RYCT website. There is a *News and Notices* web page that is used for this purpose.

Please address all correspondence (preferably by email) to:

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Version 21-v1