



DESTINATION - YACHT CHARTER GUIDE

# Monaco

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Yacht Charter Guide

CRAFTING SIGNATURE CHARTER YACHT EXPERIENCES

Monaco Yacht Charter

Region: Mediterranean

Gateways: NCE - CEQ - LTT - MCM

Source: Editorial

Blue Ocean Club LLC







## MONACO

## Overview

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Monaco is the Riviera's theatrical punctuation - Port Hercule walls, Yacht Club dinners and Grand Prix density - not a full-week cruising ground on its own. The smart charter uses a Hercule night (or two) and swings west to Cap Ferrat, Villefranche or Antibes for water and privacy.

Monaco yacht charter - Port Hercule berths, Grand Prix weeks, Cap Ferrat day-anchors and APA guidance with Blue Ocean Club.

## AIRPORTS

NCE, CEQ, LTT, MCM

## REGION

Mediterranean

## PAGE

<https://blueoceanclub.com/charter/destinations/monaco-yacht-charter>

## WHEN TO GO

## Season & rhythm

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- How a Riviera week actually runs.: Not a floating hotel itinerary - a choreographed operation. Captains, marina agents and concierge lock the sequence before wheels-down at NCE.
- Embark ready: APA open, toys checked, crew briefed on diet and privacy before the first cork. Arrival logistics sit in the Door-to-deck block below - this panel is the onboard open.
- Coastal cadence: Short hops along the Golden Triangle - morning toys, lunch at a held beach-club table, golden-hour reposition, overnight either on a quay or a quiet roadstead.
- Concierge lock: Restaurant, beach club and villa slots confirmed weeks out. Helicopters, security and medical cover sit on standby - not scavenged the morning of.
- Event week or cruising week.: Grand Prix, Cannes and the Yacht Show rewrite berth economics and itinerary logic. Quiet weeks trade spectacle for water, privacy and value.
- Event weeks: Monaco GP, Cannes Film / Lions, Monaco Yacht Show. Berths book 6-12 months out; Port Hercule nights can multiply several times over. The yacht is a hospitality platform - visibility is the point.
- Cruising weeks: May-June and September shoulder, or midsummer away from headline dates. Freer movement Monaco Cap-Ferrat Lérins Saint-Tropez, with anchorage days that event weeks simply cannot afford.
- What changes: Berth strategy, APA contingency, tender logistics and dining holds. Same coast - different operation. We design the week for the calendar you actually fly into.

## ON THE WATER

## Cruising grounds

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## Monaco to Cap Ferrat

The eastern Riviera opens with Port Hercule - a tight, theatrical harbour that is as much a stage as a marina. From Monaco most captains run west along Cap Ferrat, dropping the anchor in Villefranche or Beaulieu for swimming and a tender run ashore to Eden Roc or the Cap's pine-fringed coves. Evenings often return to Monaco for Yacht Club dinners, casino nights or Grand Prix week when the bay becomes the world's most exclusive paddock. Short legs, big atmosphere: this stretch packs more signature moments into a few nautical miles than almost anywhere else on the coast.

## Antibes, Cap d'Antibes & Juan-les-Pins

Antibes is the Riviera's working megayacht capital - Port Vauban holds some of the largest private yachts in the Med, yet the Cap itself stays green, rocky and surprisingly intimate. Day-anchors under Cap d'Antibes give clear water for toys and a short tender to Garoupe or the old town's ramparts and Picasso museum. Juan-les-Pins adds a livelier shoreline for sundowners without the Croisette crowds. Brokers favour this pocket as the quiet counterpoint between Cannes and Monaco - close to Nice Côte d'Azur airport, with berths that actually fit when Cap Ferrat and Port Hercule are full.

## Cannes & the Îles de Lérins

Cannes is the festival and beach-club heart of the Côte d'Azur: Vieux Port and Port Pierre Canto for berthing, the Croisette for nights ashore, and a bay that fills with chartered platforms every May. Ten minutes by tender, the Îles de Lérins flip the mood - pine scent, monastery silence on Saint-Honorat, and sheltered swimming off Sainte-Marguerite. Captains typically split the week between a harbour night and quiet day-anchors around the islands so guests get both the red-carpet coast and a private-island morning. Event weeks (Film Festival, Lions, Yachting Festival) need berths booked months ahead; shoulder season is freer and often more charming.

## Gulf of Saint-Tropez

Saint-Tropez remains the Riviera's most photographed gulf - the old port by night, Pampelonne's beach clubs by day, and Cap Camarat's wilder headland for overnight calm. Club 55, Nikki Beach and Bagatelle sit a tender ride from the usual day-anchors; evenings pull back into the village for dinner on the quay. The gulf itself is wide enough that a well-run charter never feels trapped in one scene. West toward Cavalaire and the wilder Var coast, the same week can turn quieter without a long passage - the classic Riviera decompression after Monaco or Cannes.

## The Îles d'Hyères: Porquerolles & Port-Cros

An hour west of Saint-Tropez, the Îles d'Hyères feel like another country - national-park rules, turquoise shallows and almost no cars on Porquerolles. Port-Cros is the quieter sibling: hiking trails, no-take marine reserves and some of the clearest snorkelling on the French coast. Charters use these islands as the soft landing after a high-energy Riviera week, or as the whole itinerary for guests who want nature over nightlife. Berthing is limited and overnight stays are tightly managed in season, so captains plan day-anchors carefully and keep a mainland fallback in Hyères or Toulon if the weather turns.

## QUAY NIGHTS

# Marinas & berthing

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## Port Hercule, Monaco

The Riviera's most theatrical harbour - Grand Prix walls, Yacht Club Monaco, and tight high-season berthing that books months ahead. - Max LOA ~100 m - Gateway MCM - Transfer Heli 7-12 min from NCE - Peak lead: 9-14 months for GP / Yacht Show

## DAY WATER

# Anchorage

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## Anse de la Scaletta (Plage Mala)

Day-stop west of Monaco when Hercule is full - cliffs, clear water, tender to Mala.

## Rade de Villefranche

Preferred overnight when Cap Ferrat and Monaco are packed.





## SHORE TABLES

## Restaurants

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**Yacht Club de Monaco**

Port Hercule

Member and guest dining overlooking the harbour - book through the captain for race and show weeks.

**African Queen**

Beaulieu

Classic tender run west for a livelier quay table when Monaco feels formal.

## DAY ASHORE

## Beach clubs

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**Paloma Beach**

Cap Ferrat

The Cap Ferrat morning - pine shade and tender pick-up opposite Monaco.

## TRANSFERS

## Helicopter & chauffeur - briefly.

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Rotor or road from NCE / CEQ to the berth, timed to tender and dinner - not a taxi scramble. Concrete airport marina options sit in the Door-to-deck table below.

**Helicopter**

Monacair and private charters: NCE Monaco Heliport in roughly seven minutes; coastal hops to Antibes, Cannes and Saint-Tropez when the Corniche would cost the afternoon. NCE Monaco in ~7 minutes Private drops to Cannes, Antibes, Saint-Tropez

**Chauffeur**

S-Class and SUV fleets briefed on marina gates and FBO kerbsides - airport berth, berth Club 55 or Paloma, late returns from Èze. NCE / CEQ Hercule, Vauban, Cannes, Saint-Tropez Marina beach clubs and villa legs

We lock heli seats and cars against your embarkation slot with Limitless Sky aviation and ground partners.

## NUMBERS - FRANCE

## French VAT & APA - the short version.

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On the Côte d'Azur the base charter fee is only the starting line. Budget VAT and a heavier APA before you lock dates.

**French VAT**

France typically applies 20% VAT on qualifying charter legs in French waters. Exact treatment depends on the yacht's commercial structure and itinerary - we confirm the figure before you sign.

**APA (Riviera)**

Industry APA is often 25-35% of the base fee. For a French Riviera high-season week we plan closer to 40% - fuel at anchor, premium berths, and champagne service move the needle fast.





### What we send PAs

A line-item estimate (base + VAT guidance + APA + known berth premiums) before deposit, then a live APA report from the captain during the week.

#### WITHIN THIS COAST

## Local guides

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### Port Hercule

The stage - not the whole coast. Use it for Yacht Club, casino and GP walls, then leave for water. Event-week berths book a year out - Heliport MCM adjacent - Cap Ferrat 20 minutes by sea

#### BEFORE YOU FLY

## FAQ

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### Can we berth in Port Hercule for the whole week?

Rarely for larger LOA in high season. Most charters use one or two Hercule nights and cruise Cap Ferrat-Antibes-Cannes for the rest.

### Is the heliport the best arrival?

From NCE, Monacair into MCM is the classic seven-minute arrival with the yacht waiting in Hercule - still the tone-setter for Monaco weeks.

### How early should we book Monaco Grand Prix berths?

For GP weeks, 9-14 months is normal above ~50m. Non-event high season still needs months of runway for larger LOA.

### Where do we overnight when Port Hercule is full?

Villefranche and Cap Ferrat day-anchors are the usual plays - tender into Monaco for dinners and Yacht Club nights.

### Is Monaco enough for a full charter week?

Monaco is punctuation, not the whole coast. Pair Hercule nights with Antibes, Cannes or Cap Ferrat water for a balanced Riviera week.

### What APA should we expect for a Monaco-heavy week?

Premium berths and Yacht Club dining push APA toward the upper Riviera band - we set a line-item estimate before deposit.

#### OPERATIONAL

## Mooring notes

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## Monaco - Port Hercule

Extremely constrained above ~50m; event weeks are a different market. Non-event: 3-6 months. GP / Yacht Show: 9-14 months. Monaco GP and Yacht Show rewrite rates and availability entirely. Start the berth conversation before the yacht shortlist. Many principals board at Beaulieu or Villefranche and take a single Hercule night.

*Berth fees, APA budgets and event lead times are indicative and move with LOA, season and harbour policy. Blue Ocean Club confirms live figures in writing before deposit. Not a substitute for captain pilotage or marina contracts.*

ENQUIRE

## Begin a conversation.

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