

## The 3 MANDATORY Documents to Work in Yachting

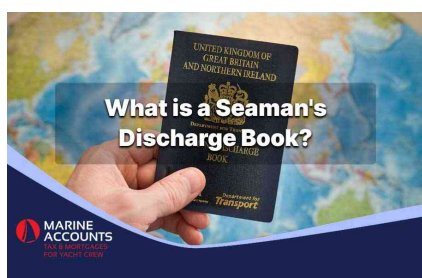
(Without them, it's **IMPOSSIBLE!**) #yachting #superyacht #yachtcrew

You dream of living the ultimate adventure aboard a luxury superyacht? Sailing crystal-clear seas, serving billionaires, and earning golden salaries?

Warning: Even with a perfect CV and years of experience in hospitality or catering, you will NEVER step on board!



After more than 40 years as a chef on private yachts (from wild contracts in the Caribbean to confidential missions for billionaires in Europe), I've seen hundreds of talented candidates miss incredible opportunities... simply due to missing paperwork.



### The 3 NON-NEGOTIABLE documents:


1. The STCW certificate (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping)  
The absolute foundation! It proves you master maritime safety (firefighting, survival, first aid, etc.). Without it, no captain will ever take you on board.
2. The ENG1 medical certificate (or MCA-approved equivalent)  
A comprehensive medical exam valid for working at sea. It confirms you're in peak physical and mental condition for long seasons.
3. The Seaman's Book (or Discharge Book)  
Your "maritime passport" recording your sea time and vessel assignments. Essential for proving your experience and clearing customs formalities.

And that's just the beginning! There are up to 10 total documents required depending on the position and yacht flag (Schengen visa, PDB, etc.).

Ready to take action?

👉 Read the full article + Checklist of the 10 mandatory documents on the blog: [www.freelanceyachting.com](http://www.freelanceyachting.com)

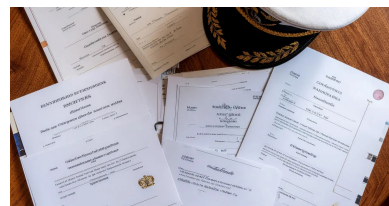


 **EXCLUSIVE BONUS:** Download our Welcome Pack FOR FREE (ultra-detailed PDF checklist + exclusive video to get started with zero experience)! Contact us on WhatsApp: +33 6 66 49 99 61 (messages only)

**FREE-LANCE YACHTING** – Your gateway into the exclusive world of luxury yachting. Freedom, adventure, and high salaries await... but only if you're ready.

Everything You Need to Know About STCW Certification  
(Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers)

STCW is the mandatory international certification for all crew working aboard commercial vessels, including superyachts over 24 meters. Without it, boarding legally is impossible—even with luxury hospitality experience or an impressive CV!



## What is STCW?

Adopted in 1978 by the **International Maritime Organization (IMO)**, then updated in 1995, 2010 (Manila Amendments), and most recently in 2024 (effective **January 1, 2026**), STCW sets minimum standards for training, certification, and watch keeping for seafarers.

Recognized in 164 countries (covering 99% of global tonnage), it ensures every crew member knows how to respond during maritime emergencies.

For yachting, the STCW Basic Safety Training (or STCW BST) is the foundational version required for all positions (deckhand, steward/ess, chef, junior captain, etc.).

Modules of STCW Basic Safety Training

The course typically lasts **5 days** and includes 5 practical and theoretical modules:



1. Personal Survival Techniques (PST): Sea survival skills (life rafts, immersion suits, distress signals).
2. Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting: Fire suppression (extinguishers, live-fire drills).
3. Elementary First Aid: Basic first aid (CPR, common injuries).
4. Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities (PSSR): Personal safety, social duties, fatigue management, teamwork.
5. Proficiency in Security Awareness (PSA): Security awareness (piracy, ISPS Code)—often included free of charge.



2026 Update: As of January 1, 2026, the PSSR module will mandatorily include training on **preventing harassment, bullying, and sexual assault (SASH)**.

Validity, Renewal, and Cost  
Validity: 5 years.

Renewal: A refresher course (3 days) is required if you haven't accumulated sufficient sea days. Otherwise, revalidation is possible with proof of service. Approximate cost: €900–€1,500 depending on country and training center (Antibes, Palma, Fort Lauderdale are popular hotspots). MCA-approved centers exist worldwide.



### Why It's **NON-NEGOTIABLE** in Yachting

Captains and owners require STCW for legal reasons (port state control, insurance) and safety. It's your professional passport to work aboard superyachts in the Mediterranean, Caribbean, or anywhere else.

Ready to get your STCW? Visit [www.freelanceyachting.com](http://www.freelanceyachting.com)

for the complete checklist and beginner tips!

FREE-LANCE YACHTING supports you toward your first mission. Contact us for more info.

#yachting #STCW #yachtcrew #superyacht #seacareer

### Top STCW Training Centers in Europe for Yachting (2026)



Preparing for your yachting career? **STCW Basic Safety Training** is mandatory, and choosing an MCA-approved (Maritime & Coastguard Agency) center in Europe is ideal for globally recognized certification—especially on Red Ensign (UK)-flagged superyachts.

Here are the top centers across Europe (France, Spain, UK, Gibraltar, Croatia, Italy) —hubs of Mediterranean yachting. Approximate pricing: €1,000–€1,500 for Basic STCW (5 days), including 2026 updates (SASH training included).

## **Antibes (France) – Yachting Hub #1**

Bluewater Yachting: Undisputed leader, comprehensive courses with bonuses (free PSA). Perfect for networking during Med season.

Seascope France: Highly hands-on, combined STCW + GUEST packages.  
Located right in Port Vauban.

### 1. **Palma de Mallorca (Spain) – Ideal for the Balearic Season**

Bluewater Yachting: Same quality as Antibes, prime location for local jobs.

Crew Training Solutions: MCA-approved courses, often bundled with accommodation.

Seascope Maritime Training: Centers in Palma, excellent instructor reviews.

### 2. **Gibraltar**

Cost-effective & strategic option

Allabroad Sailing Academy: Fully MCA-approved, close to Spain, packages include on-site ENG1 medical exams.

### 3. **Croatia – More affordable & rapidly growing**

Yachtcareers (Split): All-inclusive packages (STCW + crew house accommodation + CV/job search support). Great for beginners, MCA-recognized.

Diverso Impex (Split): Good for multilingual training options.

### 4. **Other Notable Options**


**Italy (Naples):** Crew Training Solutions – Close to Italian shipyards.

UK (Liverpool, Dover): Seascope or Maritime Skills Academy – Best if targeting UK-flagged yachts, though farther from the Med.

2026 Tip: Always verify MCA recognition for luxury yachts. Book early for the season (spring/summer)! Need a checklist or help choosing?

👉 More info & free checklist at [www.freelanceyachting.com](http://www.freelanceyachting.com)

📁 Download the **Welcome Pack** (PDF + beginner STCW video)!

**FREE-LANCE YACHTING** – We guide you from A to Z for your first freelance mission. WhatsApp contact: +33 6 66 49 99 61 

#STCW #YachtCrew #Superyacht #YachtingTraining #Antibes #Palma