

The World of Yachting

Global Crew Placement by Specialized Agencies — 2026

Analysis by Freelance Yachting

freelanceyachting.com/lead-audit



01

The Global Yachting Landscape in 2026

Market size, fleet growth, and the growing demand for qualified crew worldwide.

SUPERYACHT TIMES

The Superyacht Industry at a Glance



5,900+

ACTIVE SUPERYACHTS WORLDWIDE



\$9–10B

GLOBAL CHARTER MARKET VALUE (2026)



\$20B+

NEW BUILD PROJECTS ON ORDER



148K–163K

CREW EMPLOYED GLOBALLY

Crew Salary Ranges by Department (2026)

Monthly EUR / USD estimates across superyacht sizes 40m+

DEPARTMENT	SALARY RANGE	DEMAND LEVEL
Captain Bridge	€14,000–€18,000/mo	Very High
Chief Officer / First Mate Deck	€5,500–€9,000/mo	High
Chief Engineer Engineering	€7,000–€11,000/mo	Very High
Chief Steward / Stewardess Interior	€4,500–€6,500/mo	High
Deckhand / Stewardess Entry Level	€2,000–€3,500/mo	Moderate

02

Crew Placement Agencies

The Gatekeepers to Your Yachting Career

How specialized agencies connect qualified crew with the world's most prestigious superyachts.

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Leading Crew Placement Agencies in 2026

YPI CREW

DECK · ENGINEERING · INTERIOR · SENIOR OFFICERS

Global leader with recruiters across the Mediterranean, Caribbean, and beyond.

Bluewater Yachting

FULL-SERVICE CREW PLACEMENT

100+ vacancies handled at any time for yachts 24m to 200m+.

The Crew Network

ALL DEPARTMENTS

Over 100 full-time, part-time, and seasonal positions across all yacht sizes.

Northrop & Johnson

PREMIUM CREW SERVICES

Placing crewmembers aboard the right yachts for tens of thousands worldwide.

Meridian

DIGITAL CREW PLATFORM

Leading yacht crew hiring platform connecting captains and HODs with talent.

Freelance Yachting

CV AUDIT & COMPLIANCE

Elite compliance diagnostic — AUDIT 30 for 80m+ superyacht standards.

From Registration to Placement

 **01**

Registration

Submit your CV, certificates, and STCW documentation to the agency database.



 **02**

Screening & Verification

Agencies verify STCW validity, sea time logs, references, and background checks.



 **03**

Interview & Match

Shortlisted candidates are presented to captains and HODs for final interviews.



04

Placement & Onboarding

Contract signing, visa processing, travel logistics, and vessel induction.



84% of profiles are eliminated at Step 2

due to non-compliant documentation or poor CV presentation.

03

Your CV — The First Impression

Why Your CV Determines Whether You Get an Interview

In a competitive market with 148,000+ active crew, your CV is your only chance to stand out before meeting anyone.



84%

of maritime profiles are eliminated before the first interview.

Why Profiles Fail

- Missing or expired STCW certificates
- Poor CV structure and formatting
- Incomplete sea time documentation
- Unprofessional photos
- No clear career pathway presentation

The 80m+ Standard

- Vessel owners operating 80m+ superyachts apply zero-tolerance compliance screening
- Every document, every certificate, every reference is scrutinized
- There are no second chances at this level

AUDIT 30

Elite Yacht Crew Compliance Diagnostic by Freelance Yachting

AUDIT 30 is an AI-powered compliance diagnostic that evaluates your entire professional profile against the strict zero-tolerance standards of 80m+ superyacht owners.



STCW Portfolio Assessment

Complete review of certificate validity, document structure, and compliance status.



Professional Positioning Analysis

Evaluation of your CV structure, career pathway clarity, and presentation quality.



Verified Report in 72 Hours

Receive a detailed STCW-verified report with actionable recommendations.

AI-POWERED · 100% CONFIDENTIAL



Launch Your Diagnostic freelanceyachting.com/lead-audit



80M+ SUPERYACHT STANDARD

What Professionals Say About AUDIT 30



Showed me in which areas to focus, what recruitment wants to see. Few simple adjustments that make so much sense — like the breakdown table of all certificates and sea time.



DO — Deck Officer, Mediterranean

ELITE CV AUDIT — 2026



Found several points very useful, particularly regarding the overall structure, chronology, and the recommendation to present my experience more clearly within the Captain pathway.



CA — Captain | Senior Officer

ELITE CV AUDIT — 2026

STCW Verified Report

AI-Powered Analysis

80m+ Owner Standards

Analysis Summary — Created by Freelance Yachting

Verification is the key to unlocking your yachting career.



The yachting industry employs **148,000–163,000 crew** across **5,900+ superyachts**, with \$20B+ in new builds creating sustained demand.



Specialized agencies (**YPI CREW, Bluewater, Crew Network, N&J**) are the gatekeepers — they screen profiles rigorously before presenting to captains.

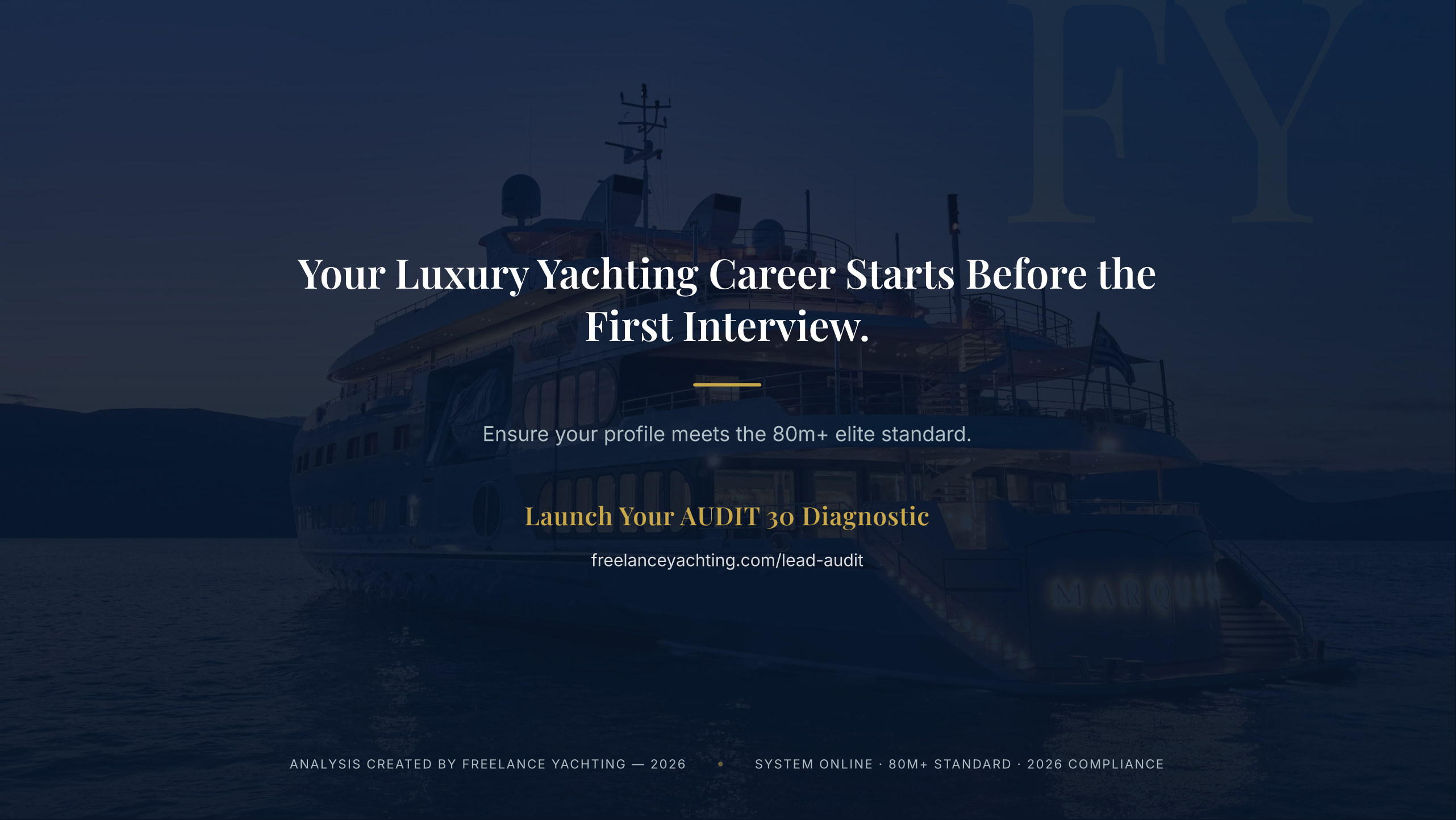


84% of crew profiles are rejected before any interview. The top reasons: expired certificates, poor CV formatting, and incomplete documentation.



AUDIT 30 by Freelance Yachting provides an AI-powered, STCW-verified diagnostic in **72 hours** — the fastest way to ensure your profile meets 80m+ standards.

Verify your readiness: freelanceyachting.com/lead-audit →



Your Luxury Yachting Career Starts Before the First Interview.

Ensure your profile meets the 80m+ elite standard.

Launch Your AUDIT 30 Diagnostic

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