



Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez 2021 – Saturday, September 25 to Saturday, October 9

August 17, 2021

Elegance and Performance at Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez

True to yachting's most beautiful gathering of modern and classic boats, the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez kicks off the 23rd edition of Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez on Saturday, September 25, 2021. Rising above the difficulties and uncertainties, the proven formula of this end-of-season highlight ignites the passion of thousands of sailors and boat aficionados alike. More than 250 sailboats, both modern and classic, are awaited by more than 100 volunteers on shore and on the water for two weeks which promise to be exceptional, all starts and race finishes being in front of the sea wall off the port of Saint-Tropez!

Week 1: Tradition and Modernity

Looking forwards with optimism, the first week of Les Voiles once again offers a winning formula bringing together on local waters the entire spectacular fleet of classic boats with modern sailboats up to 18m28.

Accompanying *Ikra*, the 12 mJI at the heart of the original Nioulargue challenge – ever present after 40 years of attendance – the armada of classic yachts anticipated for 2021 promises a fiesta for participants and spectators alike. Amongst the nearly 80 classic yachts will be 21 sailboats over a hundred years old battling it out on the water in the wake of the Bermudan Yawl, *Sky*, launched in 1890 and with 131 years of sailing history. The Grands Tradition category, certain of which exceed 40 meters overall, has no less than 12 entries sporting the most spectacular Gaff and Marconi rigs: schooners, ketches, cutters and yawls. Stars, out of category in the 2020 edition, include the magnificent red, navy blue and green hulls of the three American P Class, *Chips*, *Corinthian* and *Olympian* which will compete in the Epoque Aurique A class, as will the immaculate *Scud*, sure to capture the public's heart. Within the group of vintage Marconis, another celebrity re-joining the famous *Manitou* formerly belonging to John F Kennedy will be *Marge*, an elegant Johan Anker design from 1937, entering into cinematic history thanks to the 1959 filming of René Clément's *Plein Soleil* with Alain Delon and Marie Laforet.

The modern yacht fleet is equally keen to be on the water. In IRC B, the title will be hotly disputed between maestros such as the 47-foot *Pretexte*, second last year in the hands of SailGP circuit champion Billy Besson, or Alain Monnier's untaintable *Ecbatane* driven by Jean-Paul Mouren. Not ignoring newcomers like the Italian *Black Samurai* or up and coming *Futura*, keeping a close eye on Jean-Pierre Dick and *The Kid JP54* and Marc Lapesqueux's *Sunset*. The IRC C fleet, counts no less than 31 registered, which will lead to some fierce competition on the start line. The boats to watch are *Couleur Soleil* with Robert Coriat's crew who last year were cup victors ahead of Gian Marco Magrini's *Vito 2*, but one can only imagine that Frédéric Puzin, winner of the B Class last year, will be a strong contender with *Daguet 3*. For the IRC D, the biggest class with 35 inscriptions, the game will be a little more open as *Buran*, third last year and the year of its launch, will once again be present to defend a podium place, as with the IRC E Class– 20 inscriptions – who must establish a new hierarchy in the absence of the reigning 2020 champions. And finally in the IRC F Class, 22 boats will be on the starting blocks challenging the domination of Swiss owned Wally Nano *Nostromino* who won ahead of two Tofinou 9.50: *Pitch* and *Team 42*. The all new Tofinou 9.70, designed by Michele Molino, is equally eagerly awaited.

Week 2: Maxis, red hot!

With more than 45 boats ranging from 18 and 42 m racing from Tuesday 5 to Saturday 9 October, the second week of maxi racing promises to be both exceptional and spectacular. Among the giants are the prestigious

Wally yachts, extraordinary in their conception and loyal partner to Les Voiles, they are world leaders in their innovation, characterised by design, technology, performance and luxury. This emblematic brand is notably twice winner of the Compasso d'Oro design award. On the water, the jousting between these giants will be brought to life by the unmissable rockstars *Magic Carpet Cubed*, *Y3K*, *Green Eyes*, *Ryokan 2*, *Rose*, and defending champion, *Lyra*. A dense fleet amidst which offshore maxis *Rambler 88*, *Leopard III*, winner of the IR1 class last year, with Volvo racers *Ambersail 2* (VOR65) and *Hypr* (VOR 70) returning from the Rolex Fastnet Race, will attempt to break through. On this note, first time participant at Saint-Tropez, the VPLP-Verdier *Comanche* whose crew is led by Dutch champion Mitch Booth will cut quite a figure, not only in terms of its size - 30,45 m long, 8m wide, 6,80 m draft, a mast culminating at 47 m high, 1100 m² of downwind canvas – but also in its accolade of results, almost enough to make the two J-Class *Valsheda* and *Topaz* green with envy. Themselves promising a colourful duel, certainly in breezy conditions. With their 175 tonnes of displacement, they are almost six times heavier than *Comanche* !

The Tropézien public will equally be able to follow the performances of the most prominent ‘pocket maxis’ of the moment being *Jethou* and *Vesper*, two regulars at the Voiles, who will this year come up against *North Star*, another 72-footer running under the British flag. As diverse as captivating, this most prestigious of big boat racing classes is in constant evolution as evidenced by the arrival of two new boats who will be present at the Voiles, launched at the beginning of summer. Beginning with *Black Legend 6*, a 22m French conception by the young and talented naval architect Sam Manuard and put in the water in June 2021 at Black Pepper Yachts, Nante. Second remarkable novelty is the Baltic 68 ‘café racer’ *Pink Gin Verde*, an inverted bow dayboat designed by the Spanish Javier Jaudenes and produced with particular attention to its environmental footprint. With a hull comprising 50% natural fibre, it is equipped with two electric motors and a hydro-generator system which enables it to generate its own power under sail. Also eagerly awaited is the Reichel/Pugh design Nauta, Southern Wind, *Morgana*, built in South Africa and coming to Saint-Tropez for its debut race season. Finally, Maxi Class enthusiasts will also be delighted to know that *Silvertip*, designed by Dubois, a regular in New Zealand and who dominated the Maxi Yacht Cup organised in Auckland during the last America’s Cup, will also be at Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez 2021 putting themselves against their northern hemisphere counterparts.

Programme 2021

Week 1: Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez, Modern and Classic

Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 September: **registration for all classic yachts and modern yachts up to 18.28m**

Monday 27 September: regattas for modern yachts

Tuesday 28, Wednesday 29 September, Friday 1, Saturday 2 October: regattas for modern and classic yachts

Thursday 30 September: Challenge Day-10th anniversary of the Gstaad Yacht Club Centenary Cup

Saturday 2 October: Prize Giving (Week 1)

Week 2: Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez, Maxi Yachts

Sunday 3 and Monday 4 October: **registration for all modern yachts above 18.29m**

Wally, IRCA, Maxi yachts

Tuesday 5, Wednesday 6, Thursday 7, Friday 8, Saturday 9: regattas

Saturday 9 October: Prize Giving (Week 2)

Health measures previewed by the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez

(excluding competitor directive):

Personnel and volunteers

- Health Pass

Village des Voiles Race Village

- Health Pass

- Mask wearing (*according to the Prefectural directive in place at the time of the event*)

- Access to the official North Sails shop shall be by exterior only

All entertainments are previewed to go ahead as usual within the respect to the health regulations.

Media

- On-line registration
- Access to the press office reserved for accredited journalists upon presentation of a Health Pass
- Mask wearing (*according to the Prefectural directive in place at the time of the event*)
- Media boat boarding: Health Pass

Partners to Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez

ROLEX

BMW

WALLY

NORTH SAILS

CHAMPAGNE BESSERAT DE BELLEFON

SUZUKI MARINE

MARSHALL

MERCANTOUR EVENTS

CHEVALIER TORPEZ (VIGNOBLES DE SAINT-TROPEZ)

BERNARD OPTIC

DERBEZ JARDINS

Corporate Partners

LA VILLE DE SAINT-TROPEZ

ESPRIT VILLAGE

PORT DE SAINT-TROPEZ

LES MARINES DE COGOLIN

FEDERATION FRANCAISE DE VOILE

YACHT CLUB DE FRANCE

INTERNATIONAL MAXI ASSOCIATION

Organisation:

Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez

President: Pierre Roinson

Manager: Sabrina Coccia

Principal Race Officer: Georges Korhel

Race Secretary: Frédérique Fantino

Communication: Chloé de Brouwer

Site internet: www.lesvoilesdesaint-tropez.fr

Facebook: les Voiles de Saint-Tropez Officiel

Twitter: [@VoilesSTOrg](https://twitter.com/VoilesSTOrg)

Instagram: les_voiles_de_saint_tropez

Photos:

Gilles Martin-Raget

Press Relations:

Maguelonne Turcat

E-mail magturcat@gmail.com

