

The Voiles de Saint-Tropez – September 29th to October 7th , 2018
20th edition
July 13th, 2018

Voiles de Saint-Tropez: Heading for the 20th!

To begin, one needs a bay, a port; add to this the most beautiful classic and modern yachts on the planet; give the owners, captains and their crews the opportunity to live the dream – to come together at the close of the season to celebrate their passion for yachting. To this end, the team at the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez with new president, Tony Oller, have been working together with untiring enthusiasm.

The Moderns: A chosen passion

Part of the DNA of the Voiles, with their carbon rigs and uncluttered decks, the Wallys are one of the pillars of the event, both on the dock and on water battling in front of Pampelonne beach. Each year, all eyes follow the new-comer. This year *Nahita*, 93-foot Judel Vrolijk, will test its manoeuvrability and speed for the first time in Saint-Tropez at the Voiles. “Love at first sight,” predicts Luca Bassani, president of Wally Yachts and Wally Class.

With internationally renowned professional crews, winner in real-time of the Rolex Giraglia, the Wallycento *Tango*, skippered by Marc Pajot with tactician Thierry Peponnet, alongside the majestic *Galateia* and 2016 over-all champion *Magic Carpet* promises an exciting line-up for the much-coveted **BMW Trophy**, awarded to the winner of this Class.

The Voiles will also be the playing field for the prestigious **Edmond de Rothchild Trophy**, a prize awarded since 2013. For the fourth time this trophy will go to the winner of the IRC C category. This class of thoroughbred racers includes the TP52s, GP42s, Swan 50s, the Farr 40, 46 and 52, IMX and prototypes. Last year’s winner was *Renata*, Orel Kalomeni’s TP52 skippered by Sébastien Col, who also won the previous year under the name *Team Vision*. Without doubt, fellow competitors including *Arobas* (Gerard Logel) will be vying to take their place on the podium.

The Classics: Elegance in its purest form

It is a journey through time and history depicted by the classic yachts taking part in the Voiles de Saint-Tropez. Amongst the marvels this year are 12-meter *Rowdy* and *Chinook*, proud examples of the monotype class launched in 1896 by Nathanael Herreshoff, the “Bristol sorcerer”, for the members of the New York Yacht Club: the New York 40. By definition, success in this one-design class, relies on the prowess of its sailors. A fact, on these beautiful gaff-cutters, that transcends time. Today’s crews are required to use the very same skills and tactics to achieve the winning edge over their competitor. Also look out for *Spartan*, 21 meters overall with a 15-meter waterline, the definitive New York 50.

The 20th edition of the Voiles de Saint-Tropez is the privileged host to an unprecedented Mediterranean gathering of yachts designed by another giant in naval architecture, the Scottish William Fife III, known as Fife Jr who made a remarkable impression in the world of yachting at the cusp of the 20th century. The Fife Jubilee will see for the first time, twenty vessels from 11 to 40 meters brought together to contend for the 2018 **Rolex Trophy**.

In brief:

Inauguration of the Société Nautique’s dinghy centre

Nestled in the Bay of Canoubiers, the sailing school has had a major overhaul. Thanks to close collaboration between the Ville de Saint-Tropez and major sponsor Chucs, the revamped site stays true to its environmental heritage and is dedicated to preserving the

natural equilibrium of this exquisite area. Opened on July 6th, the centre welcomes back its young public to experience dinghy sailing both for fun and in competition. A club restaurant with an extended terrace of 1,000m² is open to members. From stand-up paddle to foiling catamarans, summer is full of promise in the Gulf of Saint-Tropez.

Following the Voiles

- **Racing** VogAvecMoi offers a website with free registration for crew who are looking to race onboard during the Voiles de Saint Tropez. The site is open to boat owners entered in the event. Crew may also sign-up for delivery positions to and from the Voiles.

- **On the water** Several options are available to follow the racing from the water. For example, the Bateaux Verts offer outings accompanied by a live commentary. More information may be found on the site: sorties-en-mer.com

- **On shore** The public have full access at the Voiles de Saint-Tropez. Photo and video coverage of the event will be shown at the Race Village throughout the week. In addition, and new this year, a **giant screen** measuring 17m² will be present on the port. From the seawall one can see the boats leaving the port and can follow the race start for the classic yachts. From the Citadelle and the Chapelle Saint-Anne, there is also a superb view of the whole gulf.

PROGRAMME

MODERN YACHTS

Saturday 29th, Sunday 30th September: Registration and Inspection

Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th (J. Laurain Memorial Day, Challenge Day), Friday 5th, Saturday 6th October: inshore races, 1st start 11h00

CLASSIC YACHTS

Sunday 30th September and Monday 1st October: Registration and Inspection

Sunday 30th September: arrival of the Yacht Club de France Autumn Cup feeder race from Cannes

Tuesday 2nd, Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th (J.Laurain Memorial Day, Challenge Day, Club 55 Cup, GYC Centenary Trophy), Friday 5th, Saturday 6th : inshore races, 1st start 12h00

Prize-giving for everyone

Sunday, 7th October, from 11h00.

Sponsors to the Voiles de Saint-Tropez

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SUN 7 GRAPHIC

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