



Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez 2022 – from Saturday 24 September to Saturday 8 October

13 September 2022

24 September-8 October

New courses, safety and owners at the helm:

Les Voiles vibes in Saint Tropez!

It's the home stretch to the 24th edition of Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez, which will officially kick off on Saturday 24 September with those competitors racing on modern boats of up to 18m²⁷ and classic yachts with no size limit all being welcomed by the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez. The on-the-water clashes traditionally get underway on Sunday afternoon with the arrival from Cannes of competitors in the Yacht Club de France's Autumn Cup, whose entrants include part of Saint Tropez's fleet of classic yachts. The race finish can be particularly memorable when the E'ly wind picks up a fine swell that sweeps into the far end of the Gulf of Saint Tropez, so make sure you don't miss it!

Week 1, Modern and Classics: new courses and safety

Thanks to the use of geodynamic marks – which protect the seabed – modern boats from the IRC classes can expect some great new courses. In line with the day's weather forecast, competitors will be able to hunt down a mark specially put in place for them in the vicinity of Pampelonne and Cap Camarat. This new option makes it possible to avoid sending the fleet to a mark offshore, which has little competitive appeal and comes with the risk of having to decide the result out of the public gaze and in a light breeze.

Safety for both participants and the public is the Organising Committee's primary concern at Les Voiles. "As time has gone by, we've noticed that everyone has a better understanding of the event," explains Georges Korhel, the Principal Race Officer. "As such, this year we've decided to shorten the length of the start line a tad – in the knowledge that at Les Voiles we have fleets of 40 boats at most per grouped start – and so we've also slightly reduced the large rectangular space that makes up the surrounding exclusion zone. This will leave a little extra room for spectators and, above all, it makes this area more visible and easier to supervise."

For the classic yachts, the installation of a 'waiting area' at the far end of the gulf during the start session for the modern boats remains topical. Furthermore, if the desire to go and 'test the line' remains strong, offenders will incur penalties.

Week 2, Maxis and Multihulls: owners at the helm, a day of relaxation on Thursday

A recent addition to the Sailing Instructions, the obligation to have the owner at the helm of boats measuring between 18.28 and 24 metres, both monohulls and multihulls, is a requirement that spans both Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez and the IMA – International Maxi Association, and is already part of the Wally class rules.

This provision is geared around safety as well as sporting equity, by limiting the role of the 'hired top guns', without reducing the appeal of their presence and their contribution, both on a technical and tactical level in what is an extremely top-flight circuit.

This requirement is also very much in keeping with the ‘Nioulargue spirit’, which coloured the founding event for Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez, as there was a great deal of emphasis on the importance of having the owners aboard. This has been carried on every year during the Club 55 Cup, which is contested on the Thursday of the first week.

Also of note is the fact that, for the very first time, the Thursday of the second week will now be a nominated *Lay Day* in the racing programme for the Maxis with one or two hulls.

Focus on

* **The Rolex Trophy unveiled:** since 2006, watchmaker Rolex – partner to Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez and the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez – honours a class of classic yachts, which were the very best of their kind at the time that they were built. This year, seven large classic schooners with an overall length of between 25 and 55 metres, some of them centenarians, will have the honour of competing in the 17th edition of the Rolex Trophy.

* **The list of entries** is online: on the **brand-new website** for Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez – live since 12 September – this new more fluid and more modern space contains all the latest information relating to the event and its programme both on shore and on the water.

* **A film about the cycle and preservation of the wild state:** ‘*Méditerranée, l’odyssée pour la vie*’ (The Mediterranean, Odyssey for life) will be screened at La Renaissance cinema on Thursday 29 September at 14:30 hours, followed by a debate about the creation of ‘*Les Voiles Bleues*’ charter, at the initiative of the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez in partnership with the Town of Saint Tropez.

Within the village at Les Voiles

* **Sailors’ games:** the crews will get the chance to sign up for a series of arm-wrestling competitions

* **Prix du Tintamarre:** a round will be offered to the crew who makes the noisiest entrance into the port every evening.

* **A photo competition open to the public:** ‘Objectif Voiles’, photos must be brought along to the Images Service stand on a USB key.

* **Smart bracelets** for the village bar: a new rechargeable device will be available to customers to the bar.

Programme 2022

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

Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 September: registration for all the classic with no size limit and modern yachts measuring up to 18.28 metres

Monday 26 September: racing for the modern yachts

Tuesday 27, Wednesday 28, Friday 30 September and Saturday 1 October: racing for the modern and classic yachts

Thursday 29 September: Challenge Day

Saturday 1 October: Prize-giving (week 1)

Week 2: Les Voiles Maxi Yachts and Multihulls

Sunday 3 and Monday 4 October: registration for the large modern yachts (Wally, Mini Maxi, Maxi, Super Maxi) and Performance Cruising Multihulls (in excess of 60-feet)

Tuesday 4, Wednesday 5, Friday 7, Saturday 8: racing

Thursday 6: lay day

Saturday 8 October: Prize-giving (week 2)

Partners to Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez

ROLEX

BMW

NORTH SAILS

WALLY
SUZUKI MARINE
MARSHALL
MERCANTOUR
BYBLOS
BESSERAT DE BELLEFON
TORPEZ (VIGNOBLES DE SAINT-TROPEZ)
BERNARD OPTIC
PEPINIERISTE PIERRE BASSET
ESPRIT VILLAGE A SAINT-TROPEZ

TOWN OF SAINT TROPEZ
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

Principal Race Officer: Georges Korhel

Race Secretary: Frédérique Fantino

Technical Manager: Philippe Martinez

Communication and Management Attaché: Chloé de Brouwer

Website: www.lesvoilesdesaint-tropez.fr

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