

Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez – Saturday, September 27 to Sunday, October 5, 2025

June 18, 2025

# Dreaming of Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez, From September 27 to October 5!

The elegance of the Classics, the power of the Moderns, the majesty of the Maxis. This dreamlike combination, a legacy of the Nioulargue, will once again come together in the stunning setting of the Gulf of Saint-Tropez from September 27 to October 5. It promises to bring the village, its quays, and narrow streets to life once more, with over 3,500 crew members expected. The tireless Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez is already preparing this 27<sup>th</sup> edition to extend the Tropezian summer and offer a magnificent spectacle.

#### A dazzling show at sea and on land

For this new edition, the organizing team is drawing on the experience gained since 1999, the year Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez was founded, and a particularly successful 2024 edition. "We can always do better," says Pierre Roinson, president of the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez. "It's up to us to live up to our greatest dreams. Our goal is for every sailor who arrives at Les Voiles, even those used to major events, to realize this is a world apart!" One of the strongest selling points is the richness and diversity of the three fleets. Another is the "Village des Voiles," the flagship of this extraordinary event. Located on the Jean Rèveille seawall – one foot in the old port, the other in the gulf – this beautifully designed space welcomes the public while offering private hospitality areas worthy of the big names that participate in Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez. It's a place to enjoy at any time of day – In the morning, to watch the great schooners and Maxis set out; At noon, for the first cannon shots from the Portalet Tower; And in the evening, to relive the regattas at the Bar des Voiles, located at the entrance of the Village. A live band plays daily, letting professionals, amateurs, and the public celebrate their shared passion through music.

#### Maxi Class: 45 Years of Excellence

History often repeats itself! Founded in Geneva in 1979 at the initiative of five owners including Edmond de Rothschild (whose eponymous House is a partner of Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez), the International Maxi Association (originally ICAYA – International Class Yacht Association until 2001) has governed these exceptional boats for 45 years. The Nioulargue quickly gave the Maxis the place they deserved, and by 1983, the class was

included in the Saint-Tropez race programme. It remains the first and only Maxi regatta in France and marked a golden era for legendary yachts like *Coriolan, Helisara,* and *Gitana*. A class for owner-helmsmen, the IMA now includes over 60 yachts longer than 60 feet. When not cruising offshore, they come together to race in a five-event circuit – the IMA Mediterranean Maxi Inshore Challenge - of which Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez is a highlight and a major year-end gathering.

Chaired by Benoit de Froidmont, the IMA aims to harmonize events open or reserved for Maxis, including regulations, race formats, and hospitality – helping retain current owners and attract new ones.

#### On the Partners' Side:

# Edmond de Rothschild joins the Carré des Voiles

After previously partnering with this iconic event, Edmond de Rothschild is renewing its support for Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez for a three-year period. "My family's history is deeply rooted in a passion for sailing," said Ariane de Rothschild, CEO of Edmond de Rothschild. "Supporting Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez reconnects us with cherished memories and honours the vision of Edmond, my father-in-law. Forty-five years ago, one of his dreams became reality with the creation of the Maxi class, shortly before the legendary Nioulargue – a key chapter in the Gitana saga.

Beyond being a competition, Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez celebrates the true essence of sailing – its nobility, elegance, and authenticity. That spirit, which I hold dear, aligns perfectly with our values. Through this partnership, we are proud to carry on this shared philosophy and pay tribute to a way of sailing that is also a way of life."

#### Spotlight On:

# A Double Transition in Saint-Tropez: Changes at the Helm of "Esprit Village" and the Port

Saint-Tropez is undergoing a significant renewal with the arrival of new leaders at the head of two key pillars of local life. At the presidency of the Esprit Village merchants' association in Saint-Tropez, Alexandra Jager succeeds Pascal Bonnet. A dedicated local architect and vice president of the association for the past year, she has already made a name for herself through her involvement in several major events, notably Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez, where the association manages the bar and entertainment in partnership with the Société Nautique. This handover signals a fresh momentum for local commerce, while honouring Pascal Bonnet's eight years of dedicated service. Bonnet now takes over management of the Port of Saint-Tropez as part of an ambitious reorganisation of the harbour master's office. The port council aims to enhance transparency in management and establish strong governance. This dual change marks a significant milestone in the evolution of the town's economic and port activities, injecting new energy into the people and institutions that bring Saint-Tropez to life every day.

# Saint-Tropez Yachting: The Landmark Book from Assouline Publishing

"All I did was awaken the maritime soul of Saint-Tropez" writes Patrice de Colmont, founder of the Nioulargue, in the foreword of this masterful 328-page book from prestigious Assouline Editions.

Published in English, the book draws its strength from the vibrant prose of Laurence Benaïm – French journalist, fashion writer, and Commander of the Arts and Letters- making her first foray into yachting. It also owes much to maritime anecdotes collected by co-author Didier Ravon, and to Laurent Pavlidis, who sheds light on the often-overlooked history of the maritime museum and heritage of Saint-Tropez. But it's the exceptional images by Guillaume Plisson that truly bring this Mediterranean sailing lifestyle to life. Also noteworthy: the active collaboration of past president André Beaufils and current president Pierre Roinson of the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez. Text: Laurence Benaïm & Didier Ravon – Preface: Patrice de Colmont – Photos: Guillaume Plisson –Assouline Editions

#### 2025 VOILES DE SAINT-TROPEZ PROGRAMME

Saturday, September 27: Registrations

**Sunday, September 28**: Registrations. Arrival of the Yacht Club de France Autumn Cup (Cannes Saint-Tropez)

Monday, September 29: Racing for Maxi and Modern yachts

**Tuesday, September 30**: Racing for Maxi, Modern and Classic yachts, including the Rolex Trophy

**Wednesday, October 1**: Racing for Modern and Classic yachts, including the Rolex Trophy. Day off for Maxis

**Thursday, October 2**: Club 55 Cup, Wally Rocket 51 Match Race, Gstaad YC Centenary Trophy (Pursuit race), Challenge day for Modern and Classic yachts, racing for Maxis **Friday, October 3**: Racing for Maxi, Modern and Classic yachts, including the Rolex Trophy **Saturday, October 4**: Racing for Maxi, Modern and Classic yachts, including the Rolex Trophy, Prize giving for Maxis

Sunday, October 5: Prize giving for Modern and Classic yachts, including the Rolex Trophy

#### **Principle partners of Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez**

ROLEX
BMW
EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD
WALLY
SUZUKI MARINE
BRIG
NORTH SAILS

#### **Institutional partners of Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez**

VILLE DE SAINT-TROPEZ PORT DE SAINT-TROPEZ ESPRIT VILLAGE A SAINT-TROPEZ SAINT-TROPEZ TOURISME PORT DES MARINES DE COGOLIN

# FEDERATION FRANCAISE DE VOILE YACHT CLUB DE FRANCE INTERNATIONAL MAXI ASSOCIATION

# The Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez

Founded in 1862, the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez has been organising regattas for over 160 years. Some of its members have left an indelible mark, such as Guy de Maupassant in 1887 and Paul Signac in 1892, who were among the pioneers of French yachting. Affiliated with the French Sailing Federation (FFVoile) and an allied club of the Yacht Club of France, the SNST has continued to grow, always committed to embracing modernity and innovation while honouring tradition.

Backed by a team of passionate individuals including 16 board members, 5 full-time staff, 500 members, and numerous volunteers, the Société Nautique organises major events such as Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez, the Loro Piana Giraglia, Les Dames de Saint-Tropez, and the Paprec 600 race. The Club also hosts exceptional events like world championships and, since 2021, the French leg of SailGP, as well as a leg in the 52 Super Series circuit for TP52 yachts.

The **Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez** is also the host club for the French **Orient Express Team**, competing in the **38**<sup>th</sup> **America's Cup**, to be held in Naples in 2027.

# Organisation:

Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez President: Pierre Roinson

Principal Race Officer: Georges Korhel
Regatta Coordinator: Frédérique Fantino

On-Water Operations: Gilles Doyen

Communications & Executive Assistant: Chloé de Brouwer

Editorial Content: Pierre-Marie Bourguinat

Websites: www.lesvoilesdesaint-tropez.fr; www.societe-nautique-saint-tropez.fr

Social Media: Facebook: les Voiles de Saint-Tropez officiel;

X (formally Twitter): @VoilesSTOrg; Instagram: les voiles de saint tropez

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