



Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez – Saturday 26 September to Sunday 4 October 2026

4 October 2026

Celebration time

Blessed by weather conditions that showcased the beautiful fleet of 253 boats gathered by the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez for this wonderful festival of racing, the Maxi, Tradition and Modern yachts enjoyed an exceptional week. After the prize-giving for the Maxis last night, today saw the Modern and Tradition yachts being honoured, with everyone coming together to accept the numerous trophies awarded by Les Voiles' loyal partners. A golden opportunity then to get the initial low-down on what has been a particularly memorable 28th edition.

Pierre Roinson, president of the Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez:

Magical moments

"Every year we question how we can do even better! We have been really spoilt by the extraordinary line-up comprising some 51 Maxis, including 3 J Classes, which were a big hit with the public and produced some incredible performances. Just seeing one J Class or *Elena of London* docking out was a magical moment in itself. We were very lucky to have these fantastic boats here. It's been a remarkable year for us in several ways as we also celebrated 150 years of the Gitana saga and 20 years of the Rolex Trophy. On top of that, the weather also played ball again and all the races were contested in near perfect conditions, with breeze and sunshine. There was also a wonderful atmosphere among the sailors. The crew parade was extraordinary, with an increasing number of boats participating in it and their crews really making an effort with their fancy dress. It's reminiscent of the Nioulargue spirit. We also rediscovered this spirit during the Club 55 Cup where Camille, Patrice de Colmont's daughter, who now runs the restaurant, came to welcome the crews onto the pontoon, just as her father used to do. It was a wonderful day.

Throughout the week, the atmosphere on shore was fantastic. Yesterday evening, an orchestra on the balcony of Le Sube responded to another group down below and people were dancing along the quay. It was excellent. Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez managed to bring in over 75,000 people a day, and what's fabulous is that the spirit and the atmosphere are great, despite nearly 4,000 sailors in port, who always have strong personalities!

At the same time, in terms of the organisation, we've made considerable improvements to the clarity of the village's layout, the flow and the quality of the hospitality. The lounge area – rechristened the Club des Voiles – really appealed to our partners. That won't stop us mulling over a few new ideas for next year to see if we can do even better of course!

In fact, there may well be even more J Classes in 2027. I also aim to organise a duel between *Shamrock* and *Endeavour*, which are the only two surviving J Classes from the 1930s. It would be fantastic to have a piece of this history at Les Voiles and I believe that it would appeal to the whole community which supports the event. We also have another iron in the fire as the new owner of *Ikra*, Marcos Vivian de la Pedrosa, is currently carrying out a top-class refit of his 12mR in England. As such, we could have a rematch in 2027 of the first ever Challenge, which kickstarted the Nioulargue in 1981 against *Pride*, the most loyal of our loyal participants, which is in competition mode. What a fabulous homage that would be!"

Georges Korhel, Principal Race Officer:

Excellent feedback from the crews

"It's been an awesome edition! The feedback from the crews has been excellent. We successfully modified the courses to ensure things remained competitive throughout and despite an E'ly breeze the whole week, it

was a great success. The committee managed to launch the maximum number of races, which is easy at Pampelonne with the robotic marks. The J Classes set sail after the Maxi 1s and had the entire stretch of water to themselves, which they relished. They are extraordinary machines and they were already talking about coming back last year.

One image that particularly stays with me is the schooner *Atlantic* on Wednesday, which took the start outside the line and completed her penalty turn by rotating through 360° between the mark and the dock! She didn't spin on a sixpence like a Laser but it wasn't far off. It was magnificent!

For next year, we are considering two options: We need to come up with a way to create longer courses for the IRC 0s because they're really very quick.

And in terms of the Maxis, we're wondering about the possibility of moving the finishes of their coastal courses to the Gulf of St Tropez rather than at Pampelonne. It would be an even greater spectacle and some owners have expressed a wish for this option, but for now they're not necessarily in the majority when you survey the fleet in its entirety as it does raise some concerns regarding safety. The idea will take hold!

This year, Corinne Aubert joined me for three days as part of our handover scheme, which will be implemented over a couple of seasons. Next year, she will be here alongside me for the whole week. She'll be the Principal Race Officer at the next Olympic Games in Los Angeles, she's a real authority on the circuit and on a sporting level she is highly competent. All she needs now is to familiarise herself with Les Voiles, which is a very unique competition, where the role of Principal Race Officer is very political and the relationship with the owners is super important. They are the ones who put on a show, they have their needs and it's vital to listen to them. I'll remain as back-up and I'll be here to enjoy the event of course. This was my 28th edition, which means I feel a certain attachment to the event!"

They graced Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez:

Guillermo Altadill, Christophe Babule, Ed Baird, Sébastien Bazin, Emma Bazin, Annemieke Bes, Francesco Bruni, Brad Butterworth, Dee Caffari, Pierre Casiraghi, Charles Caudrelier, Paul Cayard, Aymeric Chappellier, Tommaso Chieffi, Gilles Chiorri, William Collier, Sir Andrew Cook, HM King Frederik X of Denmark, Géraldine Danon, Tom Dawson, Francesco de Angelis, Bertrand de Broc, Ariane de Rothschild, Louise Debeaumont, Pascale Decaux, Fabien Delahaye, Peter Dubens, Dominique Dubois, Eric Dumont, Thierry Fouchier, Charlotte Franquet, Tara Getty, Torben Grael, Peter Harrison, Boris Herrmann, Damien Iehl, Bill Jayson, Arnaud Jerald, Bruno Jourdain, Stephan Kandler, Georges Korhel, Kyle Langford, Devan Le Bihan, Pierre Le Roy, Arthur Le Vaillant, Pier Luigi Loro Piana, Mikael Mergui, Elodie-Jeanne Mettraux, Corinne Migraine, Philippe Monnet, Patrick Monterio de Barros, Joe Newton, Sir Peter Ogden, Sir Lindsay Owen Jones, Marc Pajot, Lionel Péan, Mauro Pelaschier, Laurent Petit, Loïck Peyron, Laura Poupon, Frédéric Puzin, Ken Read, Geiger Reinold, Wendy Schmidt, Jochen Schuemann, Jimmy Spithill, Marie Tabarly, Bruno Troublé, Maurits Van Oranje, Marcel Van Triest, Tom Whidden.

The Trophies at Les Voiles de Saint-Tropez 2026 in full

MAXI YACHTS

Coupe de la ville de Saint-Tropez for the outright Maxi champion all categories combined

Winner: *Blue Oyster* (Andrew Fitzamurice/Luca Scoppa)

Trophée du Yacht Club de France,

Gun tampion awarded to Ariane de Rothschild

Trophée Edmond de Rothschild for best Maxi 1

Winner: *Jethou* (Sir Peter Ogden) 6 points

2nd: *V* (Karel Komarek) 9 points

3rd: *Balthasar* (Filip Balcaen) 12 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best Maxi 2

Winner: *Lyra* (Terry Hui) 5 points

2nd: *Twin Soul B* (Luciano Guandini) 7 points

3rd: *Astra 1* (Marcos Vivian) 12 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best Maxi 3

Winner: **Yoru** (Luigi Sala) 6 points

2nd: *Why Not* (Lasse Petterson) 6 points

3rd: *Wallyno* (Benoît de Froidmont) 9 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best Maxi 4

Winner: **Blue Oyster** (*Andrew Fitzamurice/Luca Scoppa*) 4 points

2nd: *Crazy Diamond* (Enzo Pellizzaro) 10 points

3rd: *Atalante* (Ulrich Volz) 13 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best J Class

Winner: **Svea** (Niklas Zennström) 9 points, also receives the Corinthian King's Cup for the best owner helmsman awarded by the J Class.

2nd: *Rainbow* (Peter Harrison) 9 points

3rd: *Hanuman* (Giovanni Lombardi Stronati) 10 points

Trophée IMA Maxi Mediterranean Inshore Challenge Cup

Winner: *V* (Karel Komarek), Maxi 1

Wally Trophy

Winner: **Kilara II** (Jérémy Weir)

Trophy for the best crew parade:

Winner: *Beautiful day* (USA)

Joint favourites: *Easy Blue* (Les Moustachus)

Also rewarded: *Coco des Mers* (Coco Chanel parade) and *Saida* (Fantomas)

TRADITION YACHTS

ROLEX Trophy for the best P Class

Winner: **Olympian** (Philippe Oddo) 3 points

2nd: *Chips* (Bernard Liautaud) 5 points

3rd: *Joyant* (Stephan Lobmeyr) 7 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best Big Boat

Winner: **Elena of London** (Stephen Benfield) 4 points

2nd: *Sumurun* (Hugues Boullenger) 5 points

3rd: *Lelantina* (Patrick Gibert) 7 points

Trophée Marines de Cogolin for best Grand Tradition yacht

Winner: **Tuiga** (Jimmy Spithill) 4 points

2nd: *Viveka* (Gery Atkins) 4 points

3rd: *Mariella* (Carlo Falcone) 8 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best Epoque Gaffer yacht

Winner: **Kizmet** (Sir Richard Matthews) 3 points

2nd: *Oriole* (Juan Carlos Eguiagaray) 5 points

3rd: *Marilee* (Mateo Tacconi) 9 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best Epoque Marconi A yacht

Winner: **Leonore** (Mauro Piani) 4 points

2nd: *Falcon* (Patricio Monteiro de Barros) 10 points

3rd: *Carron II* (Angelo Mazzearella) 10 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best Epoque Marconi B yacht

Winner: **Lak II** (Cian O'Carroll) 3 points
2nd: *Harlekin* (Jean-Yves Redor) 7 points
3rd: *One Wave* (William Borel) 9 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best Classic Marconi A yacht

Winner: **Maria Giovanina II** (Jean Pierre Sauvan) 3 points
2nd: *Palynodie II* (Henri Ferbus) 6 points
3rd: *Dambuster* (Nicholas Hill) 10 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best Classic Marconi B yacht

Winner: **Eugenia V** (Baptiste Garnier) 3 points
2nd: *Star Sapphire* (Jacob Glaz) 6 points
3rd: *Albacore* (Luis Figueiredo) 7 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best 12mR

Winner: **Kiwi Magic** (Marianne Petersen) 4 points
2nd: *French Kiss* (Marc Pajot) 4 points
3rd: *France* (Christophe Bereloot) 8 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Tropez for best IOR yacht

Winner: **Resolute Salmon** (Alberto Franchella) 3 points
2nd: *Encounter* (Bart Weduwer) 6 points
3rd: *Ornella* (Hugues Destremau) 7 points

Centenary Trophy, awarded by the Gstaad Yacht Club

Winner: **Kismet** (Sir Richard Matthews)

Trophy for best crew parade:

Winner: **Belle Aventure et son cirque**
Favourite: *Star Sapphire* (Les Mignons)

MODERN YACHTS

BMW Trophy for best IRC 0

Winner: **Spirit Of Lorina** (Marcello Pica - Jean Pierre Barjon) 7 points
2nd: *Interlodge IV* (Gwen Fragomen) 14 points
3rd: *Nanoq* (H.M King Frederik of Denmark) 15 points

BRIG Trophy for best IRC 1

Winner: **Lisa R** (Giovanni de Vincenzo) 6 points
2nd: *Prétexte 2* (Jérémy Lagarrigue) 9 points
3rd: *Searcher 2* (Pete Smith) 18 points

Suzuki Marine Trophy for best IRC 2

Winner: **J Wow** (Andrej Tschirikow) 7 points
2nd: *Fremito d'Arja* (Dario Levi) 8 points
3rd: *Flight of Durgan* (David Grylis) 12 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Trophée for best IRC 3

Winner: **Topas** (Dr Harald Bruning) 7 points
2nd: *Pride* (William Grave) 9 points
3rd: *Letto di Pletto* (Rainer Badent) 9 points

Trophée Voiles de Saint-Trophée for best IRC 4

Winner: **Overdose Neo** (Lilyan Bretagne) 9 points
2nd: *Iskareen* (Arnt Bruhns) 11 points
3rd: *Corto Maltese* (Michele Colosante) 13 points

Club 55 Maxi Yacht Cup

Winner: *Tilakkhana II* (Pascale Decaux)

Club 55 yacht Cup

Winner: *Hallowe'en* (Inigo Strez)

Pétanque (bowls) competition:

Winner: *Mad IV* (Christophe Lenoir, Serge Bazzano and Nicolas Bardes)

Finalist: Black Legend 4 (Julien, Valentine and Anne-Sophie)

Trophy for best crew parade:

Winner: *Dialix* (La Boule Tropicaine)

Favourites: *Raving Swan* (Mini mousse) and *Capitainerie Astérix et Obélix et Cie/ Les bagnards de la nautique*

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