
- Bareboat & Skippered Charters to Magnetic Island and The Palm Isles -

INFORMATION SHEET

What is Bareboating?

Bareboating is all the enjoyment and independence of yacht ownership without the hassle. You charter a fully equipped yacht and sail it yourself with your crew. You choose what food and refreshments to take, where you'll sail each day, and where to anchor each night. All the time you will have the comfort of knowing assistance is available 24-hours a day, in the unlikely event it's needed.

Bareboats are easily sailed yachts specifically designed for chartering. In Queensland all bareboats must meet stringent Safety and Survey requirements. With Tropic Sail you can be assured you will be chartering a thoroughly prepared vessel.

If you're a little out of practice or unsure, we can supply a cruising guide for a half-day or longer, to accompany your party and ensure you are anchored snugly for the night.

Do I need experience to Bareboat?

Even though you do not need a 'boating license', someone on board must have previous experience in either sailing a boat or operating a motor vessel (depending on what vessel you would like to hire) either as a crew member, skipper, boat owner etc. Your briefing will include the following topics. Please contact us for more information on any of the following skills required:

- preparing a yacht for sailing, engine checks and operation
- anchoring, piloting near coral, and mooring
- trimming sails, tacking and gybing
- basic chart reading, depth sounder and navigation
- right of way rules for sail and power
- use of onboard facilities e.g. showers, stove etc.

I don't have experience but I would like to learn?

Not a problem – Tropic Sail is now registering interest for its sailing courses in 2009. Introduction to Sailing is a 2 day course. A Competent Crew course takes around 4 - 5 days as does a Day Skipper Course. If you would like any more information on any of our courses please give us a call or email us.

I have sailed / boated years ago but may need a refresher course!

Again – not a problem. Tropic Sail have half day, full day or two day charter confidence courses available for you to take advantage of before your holiday commences. Our qualified skippers will assess your skill level and recommend an appropriate time frame. Contact us for details and prices.

I don't have time to do a course?

That's ok - Tropic Sail can provide a fully qualified skipper to accompany you on your trip and show you some pointers along the way. Contact us for details and prices.

Do you have any Motor Boats in your fleet?

All Tropic Sail vessels at present are ready for sailing though both our catamarans are popular vessels for preferred use as a motor cruiser for those that like to get there faster. Keep an eye on our website or join our e-newsletter list to keep up to speed with new vessels entering the fleet in the next 12 months.

Where can I go?

Tropic Sail's cruising grounds extend from Cape Cleveland to the northern tip of Pelorus Island – approximately 550 square nautical miles encompassing Magnetic Island and 13 other unspoilt islands in between. You will have over 40 pristine beaches, bays and uncrowded anchorages to discover.

How long should I take?

That is ultimately a very personal and different decision for everybody, but if you want to experience The Palms properly we recommend at least 5-7 days, with 10-14 being the ultimate. Have a look at the suggested itineraries' on our website for some ideas.

What if I am limited to a weekend only?

Tropic Sail normally offers a minimum 3 night charter in low and mid season for those with time constraints, but can afford the time for a long weekend getaway. We can also do one or two night getaways to Magnetic Island in low season or on standby in off-peak & high season. Contact us to find out details, dates and availability.

What do we need to bring?

To relax you are best bringing light, comfortable clothes due to our tropical weather. T-shirt, shorts, swimmers and sarongs are the most sensible attire. Some essential items to bring are sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, thongs, sandals (no black soles), CD's / DVD's, a few books, a board game or pack of cards and a beach towel and camera. Go online to look at our "what to bring" and "vessel inventory" lists. All Tropic Sails' vessels have fully equipped galleys; basic staple items; come fully dressed with linen; have cockpit BBQ's; navigational equipment and dingy with outboard.

What about provisioning?

To take the hassle out of your holiday, Tropic Sail can do some or all of your shopping and have it on board and stowed away before you even arrive or you can shop on arrival yourself. Have a look online at our provisioning pages to look further at your options and the list of local suppliers and what they offer.

Finding us...

Tropic Sail base is at Townsville Breakwater Marina. Breakwater Marina is situated on the beautiful Strand and only 10mins by taxi from the airport. Our base is easy walking distance to Townsville's city centre, shops, restaurants and attractions. One way transfers can also be made at Great Palm or Orpheus Island - please contact us for details. We are happy to assist you in finding suitable accommodation in the area before and/or after your charter if required.

***** [How To Book](#) *****

For enquiries and reservations please phone (07) 4772 4773 or email us at info@tropicsail.com.au and we will help you choose a suitable vessel and dates for your charter. A deposit of \$500 is payable to secure your booking. Full payment of your charter is then required 60 days prior to travel. If booking within 30 days of travel or on Standby (within 7 days), full payment is due at time of booking. You will then receive an Information Pack that will include details on how to get here, provisioning options, yacht and equipment inventory, what to bring, a boat operations manual and area information. There is also a fantastic cruising guide for this region called 'Going Troppo' that can be ordered through us as a precharter pack. Get more information on line at www.tropicsail.com.au