

Precautions To Be Taken On Yachts At The End of the Summer Season

By the end of the summer season, there are some precautions that need to be taken in order to protect your yacht against negative effects of the cold weather and to ensure that it's ready for the next use. In thi article, we will talk about some important points that need to be considered.



Firstly, the wintering location of the yacht should be decided. Wintering at sea has some advantages in terms of possible temperature changes but salty water has also some damaging effects to the yacht. Wintering on shore is more advantageous as there are no damaging effects like this but there can be some risks such as frost in cold regions. There are many safe marinas and mooring locations in order to avoid these.

Precautions in Interior and Exterior Parts of the Yachts

If the yacht will be wintering at sea, anti-fouling paint can be applied to the hull in order to prevent growing of sea creatures. In order to prevent mold and mildew, good ventilation should be ensured in all areas of the yacht. A cover can be used in order to protect the yacht from external factors.

First of all, all interior and exterior parts including decks, hull and cabins should be cleaned in order to remove salt and dirt. All fabrics such as tarpaulin covers and upholstery should be washed, dried and stored in a closed area.

If it a sailing boat and the sails will not remain o board, the sails should be washed and stored in an airy and moisture-free area. If the sails will remain on board the yacht throughout the winter, all necessary measures should be taken in order to protect them from the winds and storms.

Likewise, all rigging lines should be checked and stored in a sheltered area if possible. All necessary repairs should be consirered. The salt and dirt on the pulleys and winches should be removed and all protective measured should be taken during storage.



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The deck hatches for water, wastewater and fuel tanks should be controlled. It should be ensured that the tires that insulate the portholes are waterproof. Water tanks and pressurized water systems should be emptied and filters should be cleaned. If the yacht is wintering on land, maintenance of the valves should be made. The refrigerator should be cleaned and no food should be left inside. The kitchen gas must be turned off.

All safety equipments on board the yacht such as life jackets, flares, smoke signals and fire extinguishers, should be checked, those whose best before date has expired should be changed and stored in an accessible place. If the yacht will be wintering at land, the propeller should be cleaned. If there is a generator onboard, the annual maintenance should be made in order to make it ready for the wintering.

Engine Maintenance

The engine plays an important role when preparing your yacht for the winter. For this, annual maintenance should be done before wintering. Fresh water should be runned through the engine to remove any saltwater. The engine oil and oil filters should be changed to prevent corrosion inside the engine during the off season. The coolant system should be checked and antifreeze added if necessary.

Fuel & Electrical System

The fuel tank should always be kept full in order to avoid the possibility of condensation. When the fuel tank is not fully filled, water may accumulate under the fuel and some microorganisms may reproduce. If the boat has an air conditioning system, sea water valves and filters should be checked. Besides these, all fresh water tanks, water heaters and water lines should be drained in order to prevent any damages during cold months.

Finally, the logbook should be updated with maintenance actions taken and an inventory of all items onboard should be created for in order to be noted to the insurance policy.

Taking these precautions will help maintain the condition of your yacht and prevent potential damage during the off-season, ensuring it's ready for use when the warmer weather returns.