

Frequently Asked Questions

DARWIN

Getting to Darwin

If you are arriving by plane Jetstar, Virgin & Qantas all have daily domestic flights to Darwin. August is still our peak season so it's a good idea to book flights and accommodation early. International arrivals info can be found at the [Australian Customs website](#).

Sailing Clubs, Marinas & Moorings

[Dinah Beach Cruising Yacht Association](#)

Dinah Beach (DBCYA) is the host club for the yacht race. DBCYA club house is a short walk from the Frances Bay Mooring Basin and the city centre is not much further on. It has a range of facilities for cruising yachties including bar and dining, dinghy pontoon and careening piles, hardstand and laundry and ablution facilities.

For more information contact 8981 7816 or manager@dbcya.com.au

[Bayview Marina](#)

Contact the lockmaster on 0477 661 130 or lockmaster@bayviewmarina.com.au

[Tipperary Waters Marina](#)

Contact Lockmaster on 0407 075 077 or tipperarywatersmarina@bigpond.com.au

[Cullen Bay Marina](#)

Lockmaster 0419 421 363 or admin@cullenbaymarina.com.au

There are also refuelling facilities.

[Darwin Sailing Club](#)

The Darwin Sailing Club has full facilities including careening poles, moorings, laundry and ablution facilities, dinghy trolleys, licenced bar, restaurant & playground. Visiting yachts are most welcome and visiting yachts and their crews can register at their office for temporary membership. To make a booking contact 8981 1700 or admin@dwnsail.com.au

Yacht Services

[Darwin Ship Stores](#)

CHANDLERY – Located at Fisherman's Wharf at Frances Bay in Darwin.

[Nautical Supplies](#)

CHANDLERY & SAIL MAKERS – Located close to Tipperary Waters Marina and Dinah Beach Cruising Yacht Association at 80 Frances Bay Drive.

[Roadtech Marine](#)

CHANDLERY – Operating out of the Jape complex in Millner, they have stores across Australia.

[Navcom](#)

ELECTRONIC REPAIRS – Located on Fisherman's Wharf, Frances Bay Drive.

[Seafleet Marine](#)

CHANDLERY & SAIL MAKER – Located at 10/23 Tannadice St, Winnellie.

[Spot On Marine](#)

SHIPYARD – Fannie Bay

[Pearl Marine Engineering](#)

SHIPYARD – Frances Bay Drive

[RADO Marine Refrigeration](#)

MARINE REFRIGERATION

Woodgroup

MARINE ENGINE SPECIALISTS – 416 Stuart Highway, Winnellie. Ph +61 8 89470287 Fax +61 8 89470987 email greg.hansen@ranms.com.au

Things to in Darwin

[Tourism Top End](#)

[Trip Advisor – things to do in Darwin](#)

SAILING IN INDONESIA

National Ships Registration

A current National Registration Certificate is required to obtain an outgoing Australian Customs Clearance in Darwin and Visas for entry into Indonesia.

More Information

[http://www.amsa.gov.au/Shipping_Registration/
Fact Sheet](http://www.amsa.gov.au/Shipping_Registration/Fact_Sheet)

Automatic Identification System

An AIS transmitter & receiver are required by law for all foreign vessels in Indonesian waters. You will need the MMSI number associated with the unit. [Application form for AIS](#)

BORDERFORCE

Outward Clearance from Australia

1. Australian Border Force and AQIS Officers will attend the RACE Briefing at DBCYA to discuss procedures and answer any questions.
2. Australian Border Force and Immigration Outward Clearance is done at DBCYA the Friday before the race.
3. All skippers & crew departing Australian waters by sailing vessel on Saturday 05 August **must attend on Friday morning at the same time, with their passports.**

Crew arriving into Darwin after clearances on Friday must make their own arrangements with Border Force/Immigration services directly and advise the RACE organisers or they will not be permitted to depart as part of the RACE.

Returning to Australia

Australian Customs require that yachts arriving in Australia must give notice of arrival at least 4 days before arrival at their first port in Australia.

Australian Customs office in Darwin is located at 26 Lindsay Street

Phone +61 1300 363 163 or +61 1300 558 282

Website www.customs.gov.au

DUTY FREE

Fuel

In the event the skipper wishes to claim GST free fuel the skipper must present to the ABF Office at 21 Lindsay St to collect a *Form 43* that will need to be given to Bailey's Marine at Fisherman's Wharf.

If the Master wishes to claim the fuel excise refund, the fuel may be purchased at any fuel outlet (including Cullen Bay) prior to departure.

Duty Free

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL at least 24hrs in Advance.

Bailey's Marine Fuels
Fisherman's Wharf
Frances Bay Drive
08 8941 3320
0418 843 639

Non-Duty Free 24

Hr Self Service

Cullen Bay Marina
Cullen Bay Wharf
0419 421 363
VHF 11

Goods

They will deliver to vessel upon request.

Lotte Duty Free – Darwin
Airport Ph: 1300 388 937

PASSPORTS, VISAS & VACCINATIONS

Covid Vaccinations

You must have received a full initial COVID-19 vaccine course (usually 2 doses) to enter Indonesia. Children under 18 are not required to be vaccinated to enter Indonesia; however, for domestic travel, further vaccination and booster requirements apply for adults and children aged between 6 and 17 years. More information <https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/destinations/asia/indonesia>

Passports

All foreigners must have 6 months validity on their passports from the date of arrival. A scanned copy of each crew members passport will be required as part of the entry process. Crews that do not meet this requirement will not have their entry processed.

Visas

Electronic Visa on Arrival (eVOA)

Visas on arrival cost IDR500,000. Be prepared to pay in cash. The visa is valid for a 30 day stay. <https://www.imigrasi.go.id/en/e-voa/>

B211A – 60 Day Tourist Visa

The visa is valid up to 60 days with the opportunity to extend to a maximum of 180 days. Allow plenty of time to process and ensure you have all required documentation ready to go when applying. More information <https://www.imigrasi.go.id/en/visa-kunjungan-satu-kali-perjalanan-b211a/>

Crew meeting your yacht in Indonesia

If additional crewmembers plan to arrive by air into Indonesia and join your yacht while you are in Indonesia, please include their passport scans with your entry documentation and crew list.

If a crew member arrives by air spends time with you on your yacht, then leaves the country again by air –they do not have to be on your crew list.

If you have crew who are planning to arrive by air to join your yacht while you are in Indonesia and exit the country on your yacht, they will purchase a one-way ticket into Indonesia and not have an air ticket out of Indonesia - the skipper must give them a letter stating that they are joining the yacht in Indonesia together with a copy of your Vessel Declaration.

While you can buy a one-way ticket online into Indonesia the problem sometimes occurs when the passenger gets to the airport to check in and the airline may make you buy a ticket out of Indonesia as Indonesian Immigration Regulations state you must have an ongoing ticket.

It is best if they apply for a Visa on Arrival at their point of entry and not mention they are joining a yacht unless asked, and only then should they produce the letter together with a copy of your Vessel Declaration.

Adding crew to your yacht to leave Indonesia

In this situation, leaving the country with a crewmember on a yacht is not a problem as long as their Visas are in order, and you make an updated crew list for Immigration.

If you have crewmembers listed on your Crew List who are not on your yacht in Indonesia at all times this will not be a problem.

ARRIVAL IN INDONESIA

Arrival Documents

Make **many copies** of the following documents as they are required on arrival in Ambon by Indonesian Customs, Immigration and Port Clearances.

1. Sailing Clearance.
2. Passports of all those travelling on the boat including photocopies of the page with each Indonesian Visa.
3. Ship's Registration
4. Crew List
5. Australian Customs outgoing port clearance papers from Darwin.

DO NOT give away any original documents.

Indonesian CIQP process

You cannot go ashore until you have been cleared.

Officials boarding your yacht will include Customs, Immigration and Quarantine. Your yacht will be inspected, and paperwork will be collected at this time. It is a good idea to have the yacht tidy and safely stow duty free goods, attractive items, and any valuables out of sight. Foreign yachts are a cause of great curiosity, so be patient and polite.

Ship Stamp

Indonesia runs on paperwork and countless forms will need to be signed and stamped. It is best to have a ship's stamp made that can be used each time you sign an official document. If you don't already have a stamp you can get them easily at Office Works or other stationers, and there are many shops in Indonesia where you can have one made at a low cost.

SAFETY

Trackers

Each participating yacht will be issued with a tracker which will send a signal every ten (10) minutes showing the position of all yachts on the tracking page. There will be a link from our website: <https://www.dbcya.com.au/darwin-to-ambon/>

Emergencies in NT waters

If you have a phone on-board your vessel, in the Northern Territory you may contact the police/search and rescue on 000 or 08 8922 1586 (this will be instantly diverted to 000 and recognised as a marine incident).

VHF Frequencies

Darwin Harbour Control maintains a continuous listening watch on VHF16 & VHF10 – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Below are the VHF channels used within the Darwin Port.

VHF 6	Frances Bay Lock
VHF 8	Tipperary Waters Lock
VHF 9	Darwin LNG
VHF 10	Darwin Harbour working channel
VHF 11	Cullen Bay Lock
VHF 12 & 13	Tugs
VHF 14 & 69	Navy working channel
VHF 16	All vessels – international distress
VHF 17	Hudson Creek vessels ship to shore
VHF 19	INPEX LNG
VHF 67	All vessels – Darwin Harbour Control weather & notice to mariners
VHF 68	Bayview Lock
VHF 72	All vessels – Ship to ship customs & quarantine
VHF 73	Yachts
VHF 74	Darwin Marine Supply Base

Vaccinations

Depending on where you will be travelling and how long you plan on being away this will vary. Speak to a GP for an understanding of what may be required.

Travel Insurance

Make sure you have it!! In 2019 there was a participant who suffered a near heart attack and was not covered, he was quoted \$50,000 for the Care Flight back to Australia. It's your responsibility.

SERVICES IN AMBON

Race Office

The Race Office in Ambon will be located on the foreshore near the mooring area. As soon as you come ashore, please contact the Race Officers for any messages and latest information. **The Race Office will also be on VHF 73.**

Moorings

Moorings may be available for early yachts. **Use at your own discretion**, yachts arriving later may be required to anchor. Use plenty of chain and monitor regularly as tidal movements can be strong.

Water Taxi

Bookings can be made on VHF73 or in person through the Ambon Race Office. There is a small fee for the ride, and you will need small denominations to pay. Water Taxi will be confirmed at Race Briefing.

Money

In Indonesia CASH IS KING, it is most important that you get some Indonesian Rupiah before you leave Darwin so that you have local currency as soon as you come ashore.

Australian and US dollars can be easily exchanged in Indonesia. Damaged or notes with writing on them will not be accepted by the banks or moneychangers.

Don't forget to advise your bank of your intended travel overseas, as some cards/accounts require prior notification of international use.

There is an ATM at the hotel in Amahusu.

Transport

In Ambon (and all large towns) the most effective means of transport are the local Bemos. The Race Office in Ambon will be able to assist you with securing transport from Amahusu. If you are staying in Ambon city this should not be a problem to source.

Fuel

The Ambon Race Office can assist in this process if required.

Water

Water is available in most ports from the town water supply but as with all water supplies in Indonesia, do not drink this water unless it is boiled or treated. Details on availability in Ambon will be given at Race Briefing.

Phone

The GSM phone system is available across Indonesia and you can use your own mobile phone if you wish, it is a simple and cheap option to purchase a local SIM card from one of the many phone shops. This is the best way to keep in touch with the folks at home, other yachts & the Race Officer.

Interpreters

The Ambon Race Office will have interpreters available should you require something more complicated to be arranged. There will also be interpreters present for clearance procedures.

Accommodation

For those not staying on yachts there are several accommodation options.

[Tirta Kencana](#)

Located directly opposite the moorings and race office. There are a combination of twin and double rooms.

[Hotel Mutiara](#) & [Swiss Bel-Hotel](#)

These are both located in Ambon City (approx. 15kms from Amahusu).

Flights

Flying home to Australia can be done in two ways via Bali or Singapore. The best bet is to search online as locations and affordability change frequently these days.

Things to do in Ambon

[The top things to do in Ambon from Trip Advisor](#)

Security

Firstly, don't leave temptation on deck. It is always best to practice neighbourhood watch. Saying that in the past 10yrs there have not been any instances of theft to the yachts in Ambon.

SERVICES IN INDONESIA

Medical Services

In Indonesia, medical supplies are very reasonably priced and are available at most "Apotik" (chemist) stores. Take care with general prescription drugs as they may not have been stored correctly or may not be what is stated on the label.

Bureaucracy

Each local authority will have their own interpretation and implementation of regulations. They each have their own area of responsibility and often manage it with complete disregard for anyone else.

Since 2004, foreign flagged yachts are officially only required to check with Port Officials at their Ports of Entry & Exit. There is no requirement for yachts to check in and out of each intermediate port as was required in the past. However, this process in some places has been replaced by an "Anchoring Fee" for which there can be a cost of around \$5-10 USD at each stopover, and you may be asked to produce your yacht's paperwork again and again. While these fees have no legal basis, they are "customary".

How you can help

You are going to meet some very poor people in Indonesia who will offer you enormous hospitality. Before you leave Darwin, we suggest go to a second-hand shop and buy a bag of children's clothes that you can give away when you get the opportunity, or exercise books, writing pads, pens, and pencils for school children, reading glasses and sunglasses. Be sure to take a range of appropriate good quality 'give away' supplies with you.

Our hosts, friends and supporters at Ambon, the Amahusu Sailing Community have also requested donations of ukeleles where possible to help support their music programs.