



Now that you have decided to take the plunge into an exciting new career in the yachting industry, it can sometimes be overwhelming to figure out where to begin.

In order to assist you with finding the perfect job on a yacht, we have put together this helpful guide of information that will prepare you for your arrival to Fort Lauderdale and steer you on the right course once you arrive in town.

## Before Arriving

### ■ Obtain appropriate visas

- ✓ **Valid passport:** make sure it is not about to expire!
- ✓ **B1/B2 visa:** Allows non-U.S. (and non-Canadians) to work on a foreign flagged vessel in US waters. You must apply for this at a US Embassy/Consulate before arriving in the US.
  - Worldwide embassy information: [www.embassyinformation.com](http://www.embassyinformation.com)
  - US Government site: [travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types\\_1262.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types/types_1262.html)
- ✓ **Schengen visa:** Allows you to freely travel the 25 Schengen territories of EU, including the entire Western Med (yachting hub area!). Note: This is not required for coming to Fort Lauderdale.
  - To see if your country of citizenship requires the Schengen visa, please visit: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schengen\\_Area](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schengen_Area)

### ■ Book Crew House Accommodations

Crew houses are temporary accommodations, specifically for yacht crew, as there are no leases to sign and rent is paid by the week. Some companies will give you a discounted weekly rate if you pay for a full month at a time, but make sure to ask about reimbursement should you get a job mid-month. Accommodations are typically shared with a total of 2–4 people (same gender) per bedroom. Private rooms/apartments are also available but come at a much higher cost than shared accommodations. Crew houses offer great

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## getting into town – now what?

What to do once you've arrived and how to find what you're looking for.

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## getting around fort lauderdale

Here are a few ways to get where you need to go.

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immerse yourself  
in knowledge  
about the  
industry

use the  
internet  
to your  
advantage

have the proper  
training in place  
to build a solid  
foundation

networking opportunities to meet other yacht crew looking for work and even secure day work. Here are some places we recommend looking into:

- ✓ **Smart Move:** 954-525-9559, [www.smart-move.com](http://www.smart-move.com)
- ✓ **Sea Park:** 954-205-9999, [www.seaparkFL.com](http://www.seaparkFL.com)  
(good for couples)
- ✓ **Sam's Crew Castle:** 954-931-8945
- ✓ **Palm Place Residence:** 954-655-8526, [www.palmplaceres.com](http://www.palmplaceres.com)

#### ■ Research, research, research!

One of the best things you can do to prepare for your new career is to immerse yourself with knowledge about the industry. Use the internet to your advantage and research everything you can to make yourself well-informed and aware of what you are getting into.

Here are some ideas of where to begin with your research:

- ✓ **LuxYachts Frequently asked questions:**  
[www.luxyachts.com/Crew/crew-faqs.aspx](http://www.luxyachts.com/Crew/crew-faqs.aspx)
- ✓ **Crew Salary guide:**  
[www.luxyachts.com/Documents/Crew/salaryguidelines.pdf](http://www.luxyachts.com/Documents/Crew/salaryguidelines.pdf)
- ✓ **Positions on board & corresponding duties:**  
[www.luxyachts.com/crew/job-descriptions.aspx](http://www.luxyachts.com/crew/job-descriptions.aspx)

## Getting into town – Now what?

Now that you've arrived in Fort Lauderdale and have settled into your crew house, it's time to get to work. Candidates who remain proactive and positive better their chances of finding work, so don't be afraid to get out there and stay busy!

#### ■ Sign up for maritime courses:

Just like any other industry, it is necessary to have the proper training in place to build a solid foundation for a successful career. Maritime courses should be viewed as an investment and not a cost!

All new crew are *required* to complete:

- ✓ **STCW 95 – Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping for Seafarers:** Basic entry-level certification that will take 5 days to complete at a maritime school. The cost of the course averages \$1000 USD, depending on your location and school. The course consists of four modules:
  - Sea Survival
  - Firefighting
  - First Aid/CPR
  - Personal Safety & Social Responsibility
- ✓ **Proficiency in Security Awareness:** Security awareness training must be undertaken by all seafarers employed or engaged in any capacity on ships which are required to comply with the ISPS Code. The cost is around \$150 USD.


 Search

- ✓ **ENG 1:** Not a course, but a Seafarer's medical exam which consists of a brief physical exam, sight/hearing tests, etc. There are only two ENG1 doctors in the US:

- Susan M. Green, MD MPH | 850 Aquidneck Ave.  
Middletown, RI | (401) 619-1540 | [www.occmednewport.com](http://www.occmednewport.com)
- HealthMed Center | 1489 SE 17th Street, Suite 2i, 2nd Floor  
Fort Lauderdale, FL | [www.healthmedcenter.net](http://www.healthmedcenter.net)

In addition, it is a good idea to take the following courses (depending on desired career path) in order to gain further training and present yourself as a more qualified candidate to potential employers:

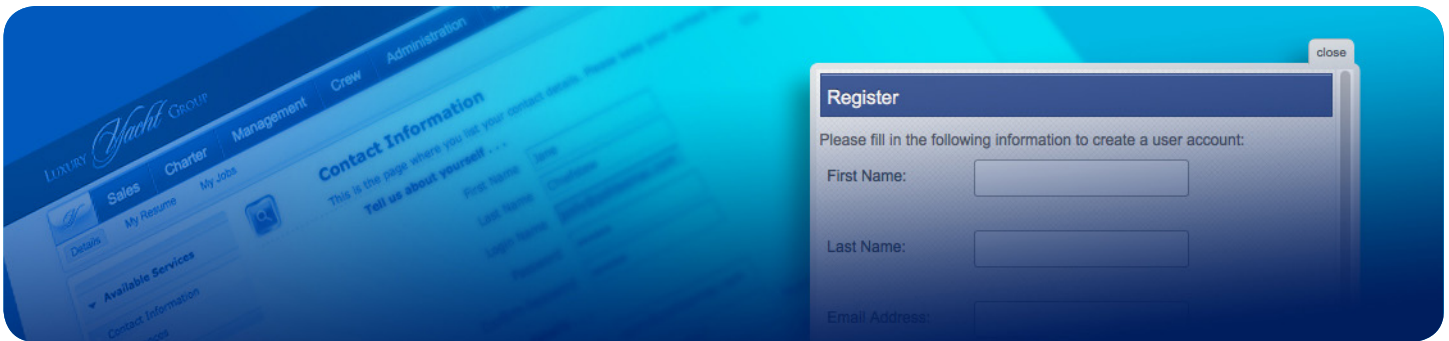
- ✓ **Powerboat Level II (or RIB II):** A two-day course that covers the skills needed to drive a small tender/rigid inflatable boat. Course content includes basic boat handling, collision avoidance, high speed maneuvers, and man overboard procedures. The cost is around \$600 USD.
  - It is required by law to have this license when operating a tender in Mediterranean waters.
- ✓ **Megayacht Deck Crew Course:** A five-day course which includes both theory and practical aspects of basic seamanship and exterior deck duties, including: onboard safety & equipment, lines and knots, collision regulations, intro to VHF radio operation, and much more. The cost is around \$1200 USD.
- ✓ **Megayacht Interior Course:** A five-day course which includes both theory and practical aspects of basic seamanship and interior duties, including: Silver Service & etiquette, bartending & wine service, food safety & hygiene, tea & coffee service, and much more. The cost is around \$1200 USD.
- ✓ **AEC (Approved Engine Course):** A five-day course to improve understanding of diesel engines, fuel systems, cooling systems, engine electrical systems, and more. The cost is around \$1000 USD.

Where can you take these courses? We recommend the following schools in Fort Lauderdale:

- ✓ **American Yacht Institute:**  
954-522-1044 | [www.americanyachtinstitute.com](http://www.americanyachtinstitute.com)
- ✓ **Maritime Professional Training:**  
954-525-1014 | [www.mptusa.com](http://www.mptusa.com)
- ✓ **Clive McIlrath (Engineering):**  
360-582-7502 | [engineeringtestcenter@yahoo.com](mailto:engineeringtestcenter@yahoo.com)







## Register with Luxury Yacht Group or come in to meet us!

Visit [www.luxuryachts.com](http://www.luxuryachts.com) to register a profile with our crew agency. As our website is database driven, it is essential that you include as much information as possible to give you the best chances of finding work.

Most importantly:

- o A simple, professional CV/Resume in Word or PDF format
- o A clear statement of objective which is professional, concise, and honest
- o A digital photograph, passport style in professional attire, which is a positive reflection of you. Remember, no hats or sunglasses!
- o Current personal information, especially your email address and phone number
- o Maritime certifications with digital uploads of your qualifications
- o At least three work experiences (If you are new to the yachting industry, please include your non-yachting work history.
- o At least three references with current contact information, including an email address

### ■ Create a Yachting CV / Resume

This is an extremely important aspect of your job search since it is your first contact with potential employers and the document you will use to sell yourself as a professional, qualified candidate. Please make sure all of the information on your CV is accurate, up to date, and concise. We recommend for new crew not to exceed 1-2 pages since you will be adding more to your CV once you gain maritime experience & day work.

- ★ **If you need some help with creating your yachting CV, we have attached a sample template at the end of this document for you to use.**

### ■ Get a local phone

Potential employers and crew agents need a way to get a hold of you for job opportunities. Make sure to pick up a local cell phone or local SIM card if you have an unlocked cell phone. Here are some places to check out for a good monthly value with no contract:

- ✓ **Metro PCS:** 1499 SE 17th Street or 1139 S. Federal Highway (Corner of US1 & Davie Blvd)
- ✓ **Radio Shack:** 1348 SE 17th Street (same plaza as Luxury Yacht Group's office)

### ■ Get Business cards printed

You never know when you'll make a networking connection around town, so it is important to always be prepared for those times when you're not carrying around your CV. Your business card should include your name, nationality, contact information, what position you are looking for, a snapshot of your certifications, and a small photo.

Here are a few places to look into for getting business cards printed:

- ✓ **Office Depot** | 1395 SE 17th Street
  - 50 cards for \$14.99, 100 cards for \$21.99. Additional \$5 if you need assistance creating/editing your template.
- ✓ **www.vistaprint.com**
  - 250 cards for \$10, using a pre-made template with their company logo on the back of the card.

## ■ Secure daywork (US Crew)

- ★ **It should be noted that crew traveling on a B1/B2 or visa waiver program are not legally allowed to look for temporary work on yachts in the US. If found dayworking by immigration officials, you risk the loss of your visa and deportation from the US for up to 10 years.)**

Daywork is just how it sounds – temporary work on a yacht to assist permanent crew members in the areas required. It can last anywhere from one day to many weeks and offers the opportunity to see how boats operate and get a feel for the positions and duties on board. It is a great way to build up experience on your CV, secure industry references that can vouch for your work ethic, and network with permanent crew who may be able to assist you with your job search. Daywork can sometimes lead to a permanent position if there is a vacancy on board and the Captain likes your work, so be sure to do a great job, work hard, and maintain a positive attitude. With that said, how do you go about finding daywork?

- ✓ **Dockwalking** – If you are a US citizen (or have US work authorization) you are legally allowed to walk the docks and look for work. While this may sound intimidating, bear in mind that everyone has to get their start somewhere, and most of the crew you will be speaking to have dockwalked themselves at some point in their career. Here are some tips to help point you in the right direction:

- **Dress to Impress** – You want to look like a crew member ready for a day's work, so a white t-shirt with khaki shorts/skort is the ideal uniform. Make sure to invest in a comfortable pair of boat shoes since you may be doing a lot of walking!
- **Be Prepared** with your CV or business cards to hand out to anyone you strike up conversation with. Even if they do not need your help, they may know of someone who may!
- **Strike at different times** – While morning (7:30am – 8:00am) is typically the best time to dockwalk, you might also try during the lunch hour since crew may be more inclined to chat during a break. Or, you could try at the end of the workday (4:30pm – 5:00pm) since perhaps the crew wasn't able to finish a certain project and realize they need extra help the next day.
- **Do not take rejection personally** – Sometimes yachts are fully crewed and they just don't need extra help. Try not to get discouraged and remind yourself that tomorrow is a new day. Perseverance and remaining positive go a long way during your job hunt!
- ✓ **Crew houses** – Make friends with your flat mates and neighbors. You never know when someone will get a call for daywork and if they are already busy working, they could recommend you for the job instead!







## ■ Read local yachting publications

Local yachting publications help keep you informed as to the current happenings in the industry; including news articles, opinion pieces, and information for any upcoming events. Feel free to check out the following publications:

- ✓ **Dockwalk** | [www.dockwalk.com](http://www.dockwalk.com)
- ✓ **Triton** | [www.thetriton.com](http://www.thetriton.com)
- ✓ **Yachting Magazine** | [www.yachtingmagazine.com](http://www.yachtingmagazine.com)

## ■ Network, network, network!

As you will soon learn, the yachting industry is a small, connected world and word travels quickly through the network. It is important to get out there and make a good name for yourself! There's a saying, "Always act as if your future Captain is standing behind you...in this town, he just might be!" Keep this in mind when you are conducting yourself around town, whether it be at a networking event, yachtie bar, Publix supermarket... you just never know!

Definitely check out the following and don't forget your business cards!

- ★ **Triton Networking events – Typically held on the first Wednesday of each month, The Triton organizes networking events for yacht crew and industry professionals to meet and mingle. The events are held at a different industry related locations, so make sure to check <http://thetriton.com/events> for specific event details each month.**

## Getting Around Fort Lauderdale

Since you are most likely planning to be in Fort Lauderdale for a short time, it is unlikely that you will arrive with your own transportation. When you get tired of walking or need to travel outside of the 17th Street area, consider the following ways of getting around town:

- **Public Bus:** At \$1.75 for a one-way fare, the public bus offers a good value for getting to the beach, restaurants, mall, and more. You can also purchase an unlimited all-day pass for \$4.00 or a 10-ride punch card for \$16.00. Bus drivers do not carry change, so make sure to have your exact fare.

Which bus should you take?

- ✓ **Route 40** – Catch the Route 40 heading east along 17th Street (outside CVS on the corner of US1 & 17th) and it will take you all along the beachfront (A1A), eventually turning onto Sunrise Blvd and ending at the Galleria Mall.
- ✓ **Route 1** – If you want to get to the airport, catch the Route 1 heading south along US1. You can also keep riding south to the end of the route to the Aventura Mall, but note that it will take at least an hour to get there.
- ✓ **For detailed bus schedules and route maps, please refer to:** [www.broward.org/BCT/MapsAndSchedules/Pages/MapsAndSchedules.aspx](http://www.broward.org/BCT/MapsAndSchedules/Pages/MapsAndSchedules.aspx)





- **Sun Trolley** – Every Friday through Monday, the Sun Trolley runs for \$.50 per ride and follows a similar route to the #40 public bus route. You can board the trolley at Publix on 17th Street, or at any bus stop along A1A to ride along the beach, ending at Galleria Mall. There is also a different trolley that runs along Las Olas Blvd. to Downtown Fort Lauderdale, a bustling area with many shops, bars, and restaurants. The Sun Trolley does not have a set time schedule, but comes up approximately every 20-30 minutes. For more information, visit:

[www.suntrolley.com](http://www.suntrolley.com)

- **Water Taxi** – While it's not as good of a value as the public bus or trolley, the Water Taxi offers scenic views of Fort Lauderdale and an entertaining boat ride as you cruise up and down the Intracoastal waterway and New River. There are set stops along the way, many centering around popular tourist destinations, such as Bahia Cabana, 15th Street Fisheries, Las Olas Shops, and the Hyatt Pier 66. An all day pass costs \$20 and you may get on and off the water taxi as many times as you wish. For more information, visit:

[www.watertaxi.com](http://www.watertaxi.com)

- **Scooter rentals** – Be safe and wear a helmet!

- ✓ **Yachty Rentals:** [www.yachtyrentals.com](http://www.yachtyrentals.com)

(They also offer car/jeep rentals)

- ✓ **Brownies Dive Shop:**

[www.yachttoys.com/scooter-rentals-fort-lauderdale-florida.shtml](http://www.yachttoys.com/scooter-rentals-fort-lauderdale-florida.shtml)

- **Car rentals**

- ✓ **Luxury Yacht Group** has a limited number of crew vans available. While it may not be ideal for lone travelers, once you are working and need a crew car they offer a great value.

- ✓ **Able Car Rental** – No credit card required, lowest rates in town. Note: Cars are not brand new, but get you where you need to go! 2929 S Federal Highway, [www.ablerental.com](http://www.ablerental.com)

- ✓ **Sunshine Rent a Car** – Another budget rental site. 312 W State Road 84, [www.sunshinerentacar.com/](http://www.sunshinerentacar.com/)

- ✓ **Or...** use a site like [www.kayak.com](http://www.kayak.com) or [www.carrentalexpress.com](http://www.carrentalexpress.com) to compare the rates from multiple local companies.

public bus      sun trolley  
scooter rentals  
car rentals      water taxi



## Places to Know

Here are some general places around town, both yachting and non-yachting related, which you will most likely get to know well. Have fun exploring!

### ■ Marinas

- ✓ **Bahia Mar** | 801 Seabreeze Boulevard – The location of the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, and one of the most well-known marinas in town. A great place for dockwalking!
- ✓ **Hall of Fame** | 435 Seabreeze Boulevard – Just down the street from Bahia Mar, another popular marina which shares its home with the International Swimming Hall of Fame, the world's largest outdoor swimming complex.
- ✓ **Pier 66** | 2301 SE 17th Street – Located behind the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 hotel, this marina is another great dockwalking spot!
- ✓ **Sails Marina** | 2150 SE 17th Street – Located across the street from Pier 66, on the Southeast corner of the 17th St bridge. A smaller marina, but still gets some larger yachts, so worth checking out during your dockwalking.
- ✓ **Sunrise Harbor Marina** | 1030 Seminole Drive – An upscale marina, located adjacent to the Galleria Mall on Sunrise Blvd. Security will not let you through, so it might be a good idea to skip this one when dockwalking.
- ✓ **Rybovich Marina** | 4200 N Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach – Home to the largest transient dock in Florida, many yachts come here for dockage or to complete repairs/refits in the shipyard area. A lot of day work is utilized here in busy seasons, so be sure to keep it on your radar.

### ■ Boat Yards

Since boatyards are most often the place where dayworkers are needed, it is a great idea to become familiar with them. If the security guards will not let you enter the yard (which most cases they will not), they may allow you to leave a CV with them in case they get any calls for daywork. It never hurts to ask! Be sure to check out the following:

- ✓ **Lauderdale Marine Center (LMC)**  
2001 SW 20th Street
- ✓ **Bradford Marine**  
3051 W State Road 84
- ✓ **Universal Shipyard**  
2700 SW 25th Terrace

The following are all within walking distance of one another in Dania Beach, FL:

- ✓ **Derecktor Shipyard**  
775 Taylor Lane, Dania Beach FL
- ✓ **Dania Cut**  
760 NE 7th Ave, Dania Beach FL
- ✓ **Broward**  
750 NE 7th Ave, Dania Beach FL
- ✓ **Playboy Marine Center**  
760 Taylor Lane, Dania Beach FL

### ■ Grocery Stores:

- ✓ **Publix** | 1930 Cordova Road – Whether you are provisioning for a boat, preparing for a crew house barbecue, or waiting for the Sun Trolley, Publix seems to be at the center of many yachting activities. You will most likely always see someone you have met in yachting there!





## Places to Know (CONT'D)

- ✓ **Winn Dixie** | 1625 Cordova Road – Not as classy or friendly as Publix, but still gets the jobs done when you need groceries on a budget.

### ■ Free Wi-Fi:

- ✓ **Newsworthy Café** | 1075 SE 17th Street – Right next door to The Triton's office, this friendly neighborhood café offers free wi-fi, in addition to a delicious assortment of breakfast foods, pastries, sandwiches, coffee, and more!
- ✓ **Starbucks** | 1150 S. Federal Highway or 1501 SE 17th Street
- ✓ **Panera Bread** | 1461 SE 17th Street

### ■ Clothing Stores:

- ✓ **Ross** | 1375 SE 17th Street – A popular favorite for LYG staff, Ross offers name-brand clothes at a great price! Although it can sometimes be hit or miss, they often carry polo shirts, khaki shorts, and other budget friendly dockwalking gear.
- ✓ **Galleria Mall**  
2414 E. Sunrise Boulevard
- ✓ **Aventura Mall**  
19501 Biscayne Boulevard, Aventura
- ✓ **Sawgrass Outlet Stores**  
12801 W Sunrise Blvd, Sunrise



We hope this guide helps you get on task and get onboard!

Get started with our sample CV template on the next page and see how fast you land that new crew position...

**Your Name****Your email address****Your current contact number****Your current location**

Nationality

Date of Birth

Visas

Spoken Languages

Your photo should be  
a passport style photo.

You should be dressed  
in professional attire.  
No sunglasses, no hats.

And please  
remember to **smile!**

**Career Objective**

Write a brief description of your expectations in the yachting industry including the position you are seeking and mentioning your transferable skills. Keep it concise and to the point!

*Example: I am looking to obtain a permanent position as an entry-level deckhand on a yacht between 80–300' where I may utilize my carpentry background and extensive watersport/boating background, and am happy to travel anywhere.*

**License and Certificates**

Please list any yachting certificates or licenses relevant to the position that you seek. Remember to include the dates that these were obtained.

*License/Certificate Title**Date Obtained**Expiration Date If Applicable***Education**

List any secondary or higher degrees obtained. This should be in order with the most recently obtained first. Date that the degree was obtained should also be listed

*Name of Institution**Area of Study**Date Obtained***Experience**

Work experiences should be listed with most recent job first. Your work experience does not have to be purely boat experiences but any position that shows transferrable skills. Long gaps in between work experiences should ideally be explained.

*Boat/Company (Size/Build)**Position Held**Start Date – End Date*

Detailed job description bullet pointed and possibly to include some of the following:

- Private or charter (How many? How long?), responsibilities held, areas cruised, number of subordinates, etc.
- What can you offer? What skills have you learned? What have you experienced?
- Tender driving (Size), Guest Interaction level (Parties, watersports, etc.)

**Skills**

Highlight those skills that pertain to yachting (e.g.: line handling, fishing, dive master, bartending, flower arranging). You should be prepared to speak about your experiences in these areas in an interview.

**Interests & Hobbies**

Offer a few things you like to do in your spare time.

**References**

Please include at least 3 recent references with current contact information: telephone and email addresses.

Having a clear and straightforward CV can help us to best highlight your abilities to a potential employer. Try to keep it to a 2 page maximum and be sure to always keep it up to date. Should you need further assistance, please contact us at [crew@luxyachts.com](mailto:crew@luxyachts.com).