

Coronavirus – Covid 19

We are delighted that you are able to go sailing. We are living in very strange times and abiding by the following will help you enjoy your holiday and to feel safe as well as helping to control the virus. This information will change from time to time but as of 25th June 2020 this is how we imagine things working out.

On Arrival

Only the Skipper/Charterer should come to the office and you will be greeted at the door – please keep 2 metres apart from us – there will be a physical barrier. After welcoming you and completing any outstanding paperwork you will be told where the boat is and handed an iPad and shown how to play the virtual handover video (it is very simple). The Skipper and Mate should go to the boat – complete the inventory checks and both watch the video. Then return the iPad to the office along with any questions you may have (there is a notepad and pencils on board) – we will be delighted to assist you.

Only then can the crew get on board along with any luggage.

Hire Equipment

We try hard to be accommodating with hired equipment but for now all hired equipment such as sleeping bags and towels will be quarantined for at least 72 hours then put through a hot wash. All other hired equipment will be quarantined for at least 72 hours before reissue. This reduces our available stock and therefore booking in advance is strongly advised. We are advised to not hire pillows until further notice. We do not hire sailing boots.

Whilst at Sea

You may be visiting very remote communities and we must respect that whilst most pubs and restaurants will welcome tourists (and their wallets!) with open arms, there are some communities that are predominantly older people with limited or non-existent medical and emergency transport facilities that are not yet ready to welcome visitors. Please respect any advice/guidance given by places you may visit. Please book in advance if you are sailing to another Marina to ensure a berth is available.

This boat has been cleaned and disinfected before your arrival. As well as our normal cleaning, all hard surfaces and objects have been wiped down with antiviral solution. All upholstery, soft furnishings and fabric items have been sprayed with antiviral spray.

If you wish to purchase masks and gloves we have them available for sale in our Chandlery (at cost price).

We have provided hand gel, antiviral spray, paper towels and bin bags free of charge.

Please be Considerate, Conservative and Careful. Consider the possible effect on local communities. Plan conservative journeys and have fall back plans in case you cannot stay where you would like to. Be careful – if you damage the boat we may not be able to assist you and if its serious calling out the RNLI/MCA Coastguard teams etc will involve a significant number of people who cannot socially isolate.

Upon your return

In addition to the usual – filling the diesel tank, water tank(s) and tying the boat up securely on leg F and cleaning as far as reasonably practicable we would also ask you to wipe down hard surfaces and put the used paper towels in the bin bag and dispose of the bag when you return – there are skips at the top of the slipway.

We have risk assessed the situation and gone to great lengths to provide the necessary equipment, staff training and changes in the way we work to provide an environment that is as safe as it can be. We appreciate your efforts in helping us achieve this.

If you have any questions or suggestions please contact us.

I apologise for the regimented nature of our requests. Hopefully in the not too distant future we will be able to shake your hand and offer a 'normal' service!

David Banks – Alba Sailing.