

Elite Superyachts: What makes yachting special to you?

Twizzle: The freedom to travel as we want and explore beautiful and remote places that do not have a developed tourist business. Plus you have your very own seven-star boutique hotel with superb food and incredibly attentive crew travelling around with you. What could be better? As they say in the States, it is truly living the dream.

How would you explain the difference between the motor and sailing yacht experience?

Apart from the obvious that sailing boats are just so romantic as they sail through the sea, the experiences are not so very different at the superyacht level. They both have private areas where guests can curl up with a book (or Kindle), eat wonderful food and just enjoy themselves.

How much is racing in regattas, such as the St Barths Bucket, part of the enjoyment of sailing?

It is a big part of our enjoyment of *Twizzle* as we can really push her to limits we would never normally consider. Racing is also a way to make sure *Twizzle* can reliably stand up to extreme stresses and loads so we can remain confident that we can sail safely every day in whatever conditions we will encounter, and therefore take her around the world.

How much time do you spend onboard Twizzle?

As much as we can, although we are happy to allow charterers to use *Twizzle* during high season in the Med in the summer and in the Caribbean in the winter.

Which cruising destinations inspire you the most and which dream destination have you not yet cruised to but desire to?

For a weekend or even a week's holiday, the Mediterranean has to be one of the best and most varied cruising destinations in the world. Access is so easy all around the Med and there is every type of destination for a guest or charterer, especially in July and August.

We have thoroughly enjoyed the Caribbean this year, including racing in the British Virgin Islands and St Barths, and visited Anguilla, Antigua and surrounding islands.

We look forward to exploring the rest of the Caribbean, Venezuela and Central America next winter.

For extended cruising we look forward to travelling through areas we still have not visited such as the Indian Ocean – from the Maldives to Southern India, Thailand, Burma, Indonesia and then through to Micronesia and Australia and New Zealand. We especially look forward to re-visiting the Pacific, which is probably the best cruising area in the world

What do you recommend first time charterers do to ensure a successful yachting experience?

Talk over what experiences you wish to have – beaches, dining at top restaurants or chilling in beautiful secluded bays. Then talk it over with your charter agent and discuss it with the captain and chief stewardess to plan an itinerary and make the relevant bookings.

The best advice we could give is not to insist on moving too often or too far, but to sit back and enjoy the experience. Plan to have periods at anchor, allocate some time for visiting islands and ports, and enjoy the sailing. But remember that these are just plans and not set in concrete. They can, and should be, changed if you find you are enjoying yourself in one place and want to stay longer.

With sailing yachts, it is not the destination that is important, but the journey. \Box





