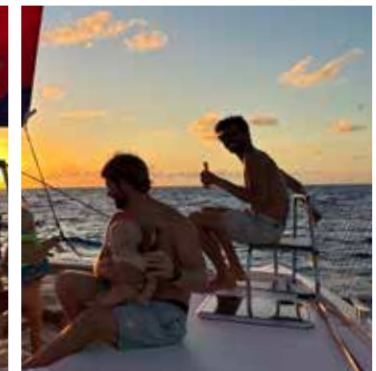




# Welcome to the ARC

## Your Adventure Starts Here!

Atlantic Rally for Cruisers







# Atlantic Rally for Cruisers: ARC 2025

2025 is the 40th edition of the Atlantic Rally for Cruisers (ARC), which has run every year since 1986.

Las Palmas de Gran Canaria to Rodney Bay, Saint Lucia is approx 2,800 nautical miles or 18-21 days at sea for a 12m (40') cruising boat.

The ARC is open to all monohulls between 8.23m (27') and 25.91m (85'), and or multihulls between 8.23m (27') and 18.29m (60') long. Larger boats, up to 32.1m (105') may join by invitation. Boats are put into different divisions depending upon their length, type, and the owner's preferred level of competition.

## Fun competition

Most boats will choose to sail in the Cruising Division, with a rating calculated by World Cruising Club and based upon boat and sail dimensions. This provides a level of fun competition, while still allowing boats to use their engines in light winds. Larger boats and those that do not wish to have any element of competition can sail in the Open Division, with no results calculated or prizes awarded.

Serious racing boats can join the Racing Division to race under IRC handicap. No motoring is allowed in the Racing Division.

## Requirements

We require all boats to have at least two people on board, and to carry specific safety and communications equipment. Click on [What you need](#) for full details.

## The route

Crossing the Atlantic from the Canaries to Saint Lucia usually allows boats to make the most of the north east trade winds. In the trade winds, around 15-20 knots is usual, often accompanied by squalls of rain with higher winds around dusk.

By departing Europe in November, boats arrive in Saint Lucia after the hurricane season has ended, in time for a Caribbean Christmas.

## ARC 2025 Schedule

- 10 November 2025**  
ARC Office opens in Las Palmas and shore-side activities start
- 16 November 2025**  
Last date for boat arrivals in Las Palmas
- 23 November 2025**  
ARC starts! Cruising Division start at 13:00
- 19 December 2025**  
Saint Lucia finish line closes at 18:00
- 20 December 2025**  
ARC 2025 prize giving party in Saint Lucia



**"The ARC experience  
changed my life totally"**

Hiroshi Hamada, *Horizon Discovery* (MYS)  
ARC 2023 & 2024



# Benefits of Joining the Rally

Most people join a World Cruising Club rally for the security and peace of mind of an organised event; for the camaraderie and friendship of a large group of like-minded people; and for the fun of sailing in a fleet of boats. It's as much fun for experienced sailors as for those new to ocean sailing.

## 40th edition discounts

As part of the celebration of the ARC's 40th edition, we will donate £40 from every boat entry fee to the new World Cruising Club Positive Impact Fund. Plus we're offering some special participant discounts:

- All boats under 40' (12.19m) will receive two free crew places.
- Entries where the owner or yacht participated in the original 1986 ARC will receive up to four free crew places.

## Entry fees

The entry fee is made up of a boat fee and a crew fee, payable for each person onboard the boat.

### For boats between:

8.23m to 10.29m (27'- 33'9") LOA	£1,100
10.3m to 13.29m (33'10"- 43'7") LOA	£1,450
13.3m to 16.29m (43'8"- 53'5") LOA	£1,800
16.3m to 18.29m (53'6"- 59'11") LOA	£2,150
18.3m to 19.99m (60'- 65'7") LOA	£2,500
20.0m to 25.91m (65'8"- 85') LOA	£3,350
25.92m to 32.1m (85'1"-105') LOA	£3,900
Multihulls (in any division) LOA + supplement of	£400
Racing Division II: LOA + supplement of	£250

### Crew fees:

Crew fee (each person over 16 years old*)	£175
Crew fee for children aged 6-16 (under 6 go free*)	£150

\*Child's age on 1 October 2025

## What do the entry fees include?

### Before the start:

- Rally flag
- Discounts in marinas on the route to Las Palmas
- Detailed Rally Handbook and update emails to help you prepare
- Advice and discounts from our supporting companies
- £40 donation to the Positive Impact Fund to support communities and charities on the rally route

### In Las Palmas:

- Safety equipment inspection
- Seminars on useful cruising topics
- Safety demonstrations
- Social activities every night
- ARC kids' club activities for children aged 6-16
- Pre-departure skippers' briefing with weather information

### At Sea:

- Daily weather forecast by email
- Tracking of yacht positions
- Daily radio net / instant messaging net
- Website for publishing boat positions, blogs and photos

### In Saint Lucia:

- Welcome on arrival with rum punch and fruit basket
- 1 day complimentary docking on arrival
- 10% discount on all stays up to 14 days on every stay at Rodney Bay Marina until 30 November 2026
- Full social programme including prize giving ceremony



**"This was my third ARC and it was simply the best.**

**The organisation has gone from strength to strength, with so many events in Las Palmas the week before we left which made it such fun, as well as informative."**

Mike Elms, *Wanderlust* (GBR) ARC 2023



# How to Join the Rally

To enter, all you need to do is to complete an entry form and pay your boat fee online at [worldcruising.com/booking](https://worldcruising.com/booking). You can also opt to pay by bank transfer.

## What happens next?

After you have completed your entry and paid your boat fee, we will send you a confirmation email and receipt.

So that you can start preparing for the rally, skippers and registered crew have access to the electronic version of the Rally Handbook in the Members' Area of the website. We will mail out a printed handbook and a rally flag to each boat in early 2025.

We'll encourage you to start using the Members' Area to update your boat and crew information. You'll also begin receiving the rally newsletters which are packed with useful tips and reminders.

We also host a number of seminars to help you prepare. The latest information and schedule is available at [worldcruising.com/training](https://worldcruising.com/training)

## ARC 2025 entry schedule

### July 2024

ARC 2025 entry list opens online

### 30 June 2025

Last date for paying boat fees - 25% surcharge applies after this date

### 1 October 2025

Last date for paying crew fees - 25% surcharge applies after this date

### 31 December 2025

Last date for 10% discount on ARC Europe 2026 entry fee

Due to restrictions of docking space, the ARC has an upper entry limit of 225 hulls, after which we start a waiting list. In order to avoid disappointment, we recommend that entries should be made as soon as possible after entry opens.

## If circumstances change

Boat and crew fees are fully refundable for withdrawals made up to 36 weeks before the start of the event.

For withdrawals made after 36 weeks before the start of the event, standard [World Cruising Club conditions](#) apply. A sliding scale of refunds is available for boat fees up to 12 weeks before the start. Crew fees remain fully refundable.

Instead of withdrawing completely, the entry can be transferred to the next edition of the rally. Transfers made before 24 weeks before the start of the rally are free, and after 24 weeks incur a fee. Full details of our refund policy and other important information is available in our [General Conditions](#).



**“The ARC proves that crossing an ocean is not only for professional sailors. It’s also for families, couples and sailors of all kinds.**

**A great experience and true community. We will be back!”**

Andreas Lindlahr, Yuna (DEU) ARC 2020





# Equipment and Training

We take the safety of participants in all of our rallies very seriously. Over 450 boats and 1200 people sail in World Cruising Club rallies every year. The role of a rally organiser is to provide a safe framework for participants and to provide them with the information they need to make safe decisions for their boat and crew.

We require all of the rally boats to carry a minimum quantity and quality of safety and communications equipment, and to have undertaken training in using that equipment, heavy-weather sailing techniques, and managing emergencies. Our team of experienced safety equipment inspectors will come onboard and check your equipment before the start of the rally, and of course, we're always happy to talk through decisions about safety and communications at sea.

Download a full copy of our [Safety Equipment Requirements](#) that provides details about the mandatory and recommended safety and communications gear, and about crew training.

## Safety equipment

We expect the boat to carry a range of safety equipment that is fit for purpose and ready to use. Our requirements are based on World Sailing standards, and include: an offshore liferaft with a more than 24 hour pack, 406MHz EPIRB, AIS transponder, emergency pumps and man-overboard equipment. We also require every person onboard to have an inflatable combined lifejacket-harness (PFD) with a spray hood, crotch strap, 3-clip safety line and an AIS personal locator beacon.

## Communications

All boats must be able to send and receive emails at sea, using either a satcomms system or an SSB with Pactor modem.

## Racing Division

In addition to the ARC requirements, boats in the Racing Division need to comply with [World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Category 1](#).

## Crew and crew training

Each boat must have two people on board, including the skipper. We recommend at least the skipper and one other person on board to have undertaken training within the last 5 years on a range of topics including using the safety and communications equipment, heavy weather sailing techniques and managing emergencies. The [World Sailing Offshore Safety courses](#) are ideal.

## Qualifying passage

Every ARC boat should reach Las Palmas under her own keel, and the skipper and one crew member must complete an offshore qualifying passage of 500 nautical miles in the twelve months preceding the start. This helps to identify any problems with the boat and equipment in good time before the start of the rally.



**"From beginning to end it was an amazing experience. Good support, well prepared, good entertainment before and after, perfect arrival."**

**Simply an unforgettable experience. Thank you for making it all possible."**

Simone Toxopeus, *Paradox* (NLD) ARC 2022



# Your Questions Answered

**What is the minimum size of boat and crew?** 8.23m (27') length overall (LOA) with at least two people on board.

**How long will the rally take?** The typical passage time for a 12m (approx 40') boat is 18-21 days, depending upon the weather conditions and your style of sailing.

**What is the fastest crossing?** The ARC record is 8 days, 6 hours, 29 minutes and 15 seconds, held by George David's *Rambler 88* (USA), set in ARC 2016.

**When does the rally start?** The ARC departs Las Palmas on 23 November 2025. For more information go to [About the rally](#)

**Are there other route options?** The ARC runs from Las Palmas de Gran Canaria direct to Saint Lucia. ARC+ starts in Las Palmas two weeks before ARC, and sails first to Cape Verde and then to Grenada. See the [Itinerary page of the website](#) for more details, or [request the ARC+ brochure](#).

**Can I use my engine?** Yes, this is a rally, not a race. Boats in the Cruising Division joining in the fun competition must declare engine hours for their results to be calculated.

Note: Boats in the Racing Division can't use their engine for propulsion.

**Is there a racing division?** Yes. Racing boats with a valid IRC certificate can compete in ARC Division II Racing. Boats in this division must comply with [World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations Category 1](#) as well as the World Cruising Club [Safety Equipment Requirements](#).

**What safety equipment do I need?** We have a list of mandatory and recommended safety equipment that we will inspect onboard the boat before the rally starts. For more information, go to [What you need](#)

**Do I need an SSB radio?** No, but you must be able to send and receive email at sea with either a satellite phone or an SSB and a pactor modem. Read the [Safety Equipment Requirements](#) for details, or call us.

**What about visas?** Information about visas is in the Rally Handbook, and check the country information pages on [noonsite.com](#).

**What training should I do?** We recommend that the skipper and at least one of the crew have done some safety and communications equipment, heavy weather sailing and emergency management training within the last five years – see [What you need](#)

You can learn more about the rally and tips for preparing your boat and crew by attending one of our [boat show presentations](#) or [2 day residential seminars](#).

**Can I take my children?** Yes. Families with children of all ages have sailed in the rally, and we usually have around 30 children each year. Included in the child fee is a kid's club in Las Palmas the week before the start.

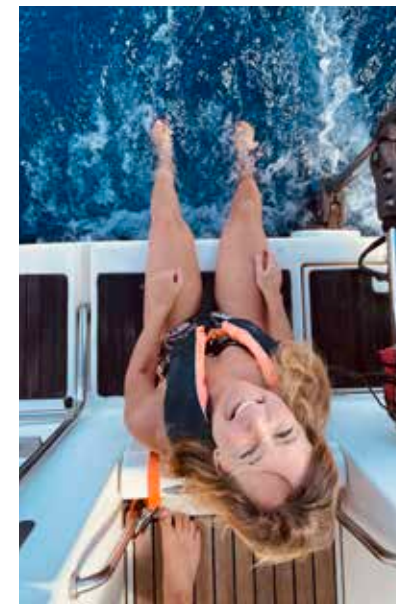
**How do I find crew?** Personal recommendations are the best way of finding crew, but you can also register on Ocean Crew Link [OceanCrewLink.com](#) to look for crew or respond to adverts.

**Can I take my pets?** We have no restrictions on the animals you carry on your boat, but you must comply with the laws and regulations for your home country and any countries visited. If you are considering taking a pet, look up the country information on [noonsite.com](#) and [contact us](#) to discuss your plans.

**What about getting to Las Palmas?** Join [ARC Portugal](#) and cruise south to Marina de Lagos. Also ARC boats get discounts in several marinas en route to Las Palmas. More information in your Rally Handbook.

**How can I get back to Europe?** You can join [ARC Europe](#), which leaves the Caribbean or east coast USA every May, and cruises to Bermuda and the Azores before reaching Portugal. You could ship your boat back on a yacht transporter, or arrange a delivery crew.

**What about cruising after the ARC?** [World ARC](#) leaves Saint Lucia in January every year for a circumnavigation via Panama, the Pacific Islands, Australia, Indonesia, Mauritius, South Africa and Brazil. The 'true adventure of a lifetime' with the World Cruising team on hand at every stopover.



**“The camaraderie of the fleet and ARC Rally Control's 24hr support is what the ARC is all about. There is only one way to cross the Atlantic sailing; its with the ARC.”**

Louise Wennberg, *Take Off* (SWE) ARC 2014 & 2022





# Contact Us

If you have any questions about joining the rally, the suitability of your boat, selecting equipment or any other issue please contact us:

## World Cruising Club

Monday-Friday 0900-1730

Tel: +44 (0)1983 296060

Email: [mail@worldcruising.com](mailto:mail@worldcruising.com)

## World Cruising Club Representatives

**North America:** Kim Touchton

Tel: +1 (757) 788-8872

Email: [usa@worldcruising.com](mailto:usa@worldcruising.com)

## Germany:

Email: [buero-deutschland@worldcruising.com](mailto:buero-deutschland@worldcruising.com)

**Netherlands:** Bojan Michiels van Kessenich

Tel: +31 (0)614023357

Email: [dutchsupport@worldcruising.nl](mailto:dutchsupport@worldcruising.nl)

## About World Cruising Club

World Cruising Club has organised sailing rallies around the world since the first ARC in 1986. Our rallies are devised for the 'average' cruising boat and crew - it's your adventure, supported by us.

Our team are experienced sailors and used to helping rally participants. We're here to make your experience as enjoyable as possible, from helping you make decisions to organising parties and providing 24-7 monitoring during the event.

For many years we have worked with organisations in our destination ports to support environmental and social projects. Our new Positive Impact Fund will help us to make a greater impact and to reach more charities and communities in the countries we visit.

We will donate a proportion of every boat entry fee to the fund, and we invite you to contribute too. See the rally Conditions of Entry for details.

## World Cruising Club rallies

**ARC - Atlantic Rally for Cruisers** The original sailing rally has run every November since 1986 and over 150 yachts take part sailing from Gran Canaria to Saint Lucia. The ARC offers a two week pre-departure programme, fun competition for cruising sailors, or competitive racing, and a spectacular welcome.

**ARC+** sails the Atlantic in November departing from Gran Canaria to Grenada via Cape Verde. ARC+ starts two weeks before the ARC and has a similar vibe with a slightly smaller fleet.

**World ARC** The ultimate circumnavigation rally takes 15 months, departing from Saint Lucia in January sailing via Panama, Galapagos, the Pacific islands, Australia, Indonesia, Cocos, Mauritius, South Africa and Brazil, finishing in the Caribbean.

**ARC Europe** Explore the Atlantic Islands of Bermuda and the Azores, on passage from St Maarten or USA bound for Lagos in Portugal.

**ARC Portugal** Cross the Bay of Biscay in company then day sails to Marina de Lagos on Portugal's Algarve, exploring ashore and afloat. A real holiday cruise!

## Bluewater days and seminars

Helping you prepare for your offshore adventure is an important part of our role. We run open days, 2 hour panel discussions and weekend intensive seminars in the UK, USA and Europe. For more information see [worldcruising.com/training](http://worldcruising.com/training)

## Supporters and sponsors

ARC 2025 is sponsored by the Tourist Board of Gran Canaria and the Saint Lucia Tourism Authority and supported by the Port Authority of Las Palmas, the City Hall of Las Palmas and by IGY Rodney Bay Marina.

## Social sailing

Follow ARC on [Facebook: arcrally](https://www.facebook.com/arcrally) and [Instagram: arc\\_rally](https://www.instagram.com/arc_rally)

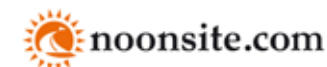


"The level of support was pitched perfectly, and the quiet way the team organised the rally was superbly efficient."

Chris Russell, Associate 3 (GBR)

## Ocean Crew Link

Find Crew with [oceancrewlink.com](http://oceancrewlink.com) Need crew? Want to find new sailing buddies? Then visit Ocean Crew Link, the only crew connect website specifically for ocean voyaging.



The cruisers' knowledge base [noonsite.com](http://noonsite.com) features essential information on all topics of interest to bluewater cruising sailors - a one-stop website providing verified information on all maritime nations of the world.