



Welcome to the ARC 2026 Handbook Your adventure starts here!

2026 promises to be another fantastic year for the ARC, as we mark the 41st edition of this iconic transatlantic sailing rally. You will be sailing in the wake of over 7000 boats and 31,000 sailors. While the sea remains eternal, your adventure will be unique - no two ARCs are the same.

The World Cruising Club team and our hosts in Las Palmas and Saint Lucia will ensure that you receive a warm welcome and well deserved recognitions for your achievement.

The ARC attracts a wide range of boats, sailors and nationalities, from first-time cruisers to experienced racers. We know that within the fleet you will find friends with whom you'll 'cross tacks' and meet in anchorages all round the world.

The pre-departure weeks in Las Palmas are vital, not only to ensure that your boat and crew are ready for the voyage, but also to cement friendships, share ideas and calm any nerves. There is a full programme from 10 November to start day on 22 November, so please join us and make the most of your ARC. In fact, we strongly recommend you aim to arrive in the Canary Islands in September or early October to avoid seasonal storms in the Mediterranean and northern Europe.

This Rally Handbook is designed to support your preparations in the months before the rally, and to answer some of your questions about what happens in port and during the crossings. There is a wealth of information in these pages, drawn from the World Cruising Club team, from marine industry experts and from previous rally participants. A PDF copy of the handbook is available for download from the Members Area of the website. Please read, share, and discuss with your crew.

Every month before the rally all registered crew members will receive a Rally Update email, with useful information, important dates and links to actions. When you arrive in port, the rally team (known as yellow shirts) will have a detailed programme of activities for you to enjoy.

Thank you choosing to sail in ARC 2026 – we look forward to meeting you in Las Palmas and helping to launch your adventure!

Paul Tetlow
Managing Director
World Cruising Club



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ARC 2026 Schedule

Date	Action
21-22 March	Ocean Sailing Weekend, UK (See: worldcruising.com/ocean-sailing-weekend-uk)
4 April	Bluewater Day, The Netherlands (See: worldcruising.com/bluewater-day-netherlands)
11 April	Bluewater Day, USA (See worldcruising.com/bluewater-day-usa)
16 May	Bluewater Day, UK (See: worldcruising.com/bluewater-day-uk)
30 May	Bluewater Day, Sweden (See: worldcruising.com/bluewater-day-sweden)
1-31 July	Book your berth with Las Palmas Marina informing them of your approximate arrival date
From August	Register with www.sailclear.com/index to speed up the arrival process in Saint Lucia
31 August	Last date to confirm your berth reservation with Las Palmas Marina by confirming your arrival information
1 September	Closing date for ordering ARC branded clothing to be collected Las Palmas (see: worldcruising.com)
19 September	Bluewater Cruisers' Question Time, UK (see: worldcruising.com/cruisers-question-time-uk)
1 October	Last date for paying standard crew fees - 25% surcharge on crew places booked after this date
1 October	All crew should be 'declared' with personal data submitted online
15-18 October	Annapolis Boat Show, USA (See: worldcruising.com/annapolis-sailboat-show)
10 November	Rally Office opens in Las Palmas and shoreside activities start
15 November	Last date for boat arrivals in Las Palmas
22 November	ARC 2026 Start Day
10 December	ARC Rally Office opens in Rodney Bay, Saint Lucia and shoreside activities start
9-15 December	Approximate arrival dates for 'average' ARC boats (18-21 day crossing)
18 December	ARC finish line closes
19 December	ARC 2026 prize giving ceremony in Saint Lucia
4 January 2027	World ARC 2027-28 starts (see worldcruising.com/world-arc)
May 2027	ARC Europe 2027 starts (see worldcruising.com/arc_europe)

Dates may be subject to change - updates will be sent in Rally Update emails.

Introduction Rally Handbook



About World Cruising Club

The World Cruising Club has been organising rallies since 1986. Since then, more than 5,000 boats from scores of countries have taken part in our events, looked after by our dedicated teams in every port en route. Our rally organisation ensures that participants are prepared for the voyage and supports them on their adventure.



Paul and Suzana Tetlow briefing the yellow shirt team

Meet the Team

The World Cruising Club team are here to help make your participation in the rally as enjoyable as possible. All of our staff are keen sailors with a wide range of experience in cruising and racing offshore. Before the Rally you can email or telephone us in the office during working hours - we're happy to answer any questions about preparations and what to expect of the rally.

During the Rally, all of the staff will wear yellow World Cruising Club polo shirts. Our 'yellow shirts' will be on hand to help every day, from taking your lines to ensuring the social activities go with a swing.

Leading the team...



Paul Tetlow: Managing Director

Paul joined World Cruising Club in 2008 as an Event Manager, following an eight-year stint in the British Army. He learnt to sail as a child

and was fortunate to gain sea miles and yachting qualifications whilst serving in the military. Now, he has overall responsibility for the planning and logistics of our events, and relations with our sponsors and corporate members.



Suzana Tetlow: Operations Director

Suzana has worked with World Cruising Club for more than a decade and has a lifetime of experience in the event and travel industry. She is fluent in Portuguese, English, German, Spanish and Italian and through her role has travelled to almost every location where World Cruising Club operates, including on the World ARC route.

At our HQ in Cowes...



Martine Waitt: Event Administrator

Martine has administered the entries for World Cruising Club events for over a decade and, using her wealth of knowledge is one of the first points of contact to assist skippers and owners. She answers any questions they have about their entry or the places they are planning to visit.



Emma Dymock: Event Administrator

Emma has completed two ARCs and another five Atlantic crossings. Emma supports our participants with their entries and pre-rally preparations and ensures that handbooks and branded clothing all get to you.



Claire Taylor: Marketing & Communications

Claire leads creative marketing and brand communications. She manages social media and digital storytelling, while overseeing photography and video for marketing, press, and participants. Claire also manages the websites, and organises and delivers our shoreside events. Claire has sailed halfway around the world with her family, and took part in ARC 2019.



Peter Gilmore: Marketing & Communications

Peter works closely with external media outlets and participants to publicise World Cruising Club events, as well as filming content at the start and finish of our rallies. He has cruised and raced all over the world, including two Atlantic crossings.

Contact the Team in Cowes

Monday-Friday 0900-1730 UTC

mail@worldcruising.com

+44 1983 296060



And around the world...

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info@worldcruising.nl

+31 61402 3357

Scandinavia: Mats Runström
nordics@worldcruising.com

+46 70 747 8866

North America: Kim Touchton
usa@worldcruising.com

+1 757 788 8872

How to Use the Handbook

The Rally Handbook is the starting point for preparing for and participating in the rally. It is intended to be useful both before and during the Rally, so ensure you bring the handbook onboard with you.

The handbook is available in print and as a PDF, downloadable from the members area on worldcruising.com.

The handbook is not intended to supplement normal cruising reference books and does not replace those that should be onboard for the crossing including pilots, almanacs and list of radio signals.

01. Introduction

Includes details on the rally schedule, getting to Las Palmas, marina discounts as well as how to follow us on social media.

02. Preparations

This section covers the preparations for both boat and crew. It is packed with advice, tips and information on everything from essential safety equipment to guidance on selecting crew.

03. Local Information

This contains detailed information on each destination, from clearing Customs to finding a restaurant or sailmaker. Also includes information on the rally activities in port, including Rally Office opening times, Skippers' Briefing, excursions and social activities.

04. Rally at Sea

Covers rally communications whilst at sea, key passage planning notes, essential weather forecast information and considers the best way to receive weather information. In addition, there is information on the friendly and fun competition element of the rally.

Rally Support

World Cruising Club staff will be on hand in each port to welcome you, support with docking and clearance; to help with local knowledge and contacts; and generally ensure you have a great time. Our rally team includes experienced sailors who understand how to help you make the most of your adventure. The same team will be available in each port, so you will be able to get to know them.

Rally Office

There will be a Rally Office in each port. This will be the 'Rally Headquarters' for the duration of the stay in port. Come to the Rally Office if you have any questions, or ask any 'yellow shirts'. Details of the location and opening hours of the Rally Offices in each port are covered in the 'Local Information' section.



Rally Office in Las Palmas

Safety Inspections

All boats must pass the safety inspection prior to departure to be able to take part in the rally. Full details of the equipment required are covered in the **Preparations** section.

Skippers' Briefing

Before the departure we will hold a Skippers' Briefing, which is compulsory for all skippers to attend. Further details are included in the 'Local Information' section.'

Rally Control at Sea

Support from the World Cruising Club continues whilst at sea, the Rally at Sea section in this handbook outlines how the team can be contacted.

474 MARINA BERTHS IN HISTORIC LAGOS



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marina@marlagos.pt



WWW.MARINADELAGOS.PT



Get Featured!

Everyone has a story to tell and often get requests from the press for stories and images from our boats and crews. If you have a story to share, please email us at media@worldcruising.com - you never know you might find yourself featured in a popular yachting magazine!

Share your photos

We'll be setting up a dedicated link where you can upload high-resolution photos for us to share with the press and use in our marketing. If you'd like your images to be featured, please upload them when the link is shared — and don't worry, we'll always credit you for any photos used!

Social media

We love following your adventure! When sharing your journey on social media, please tag us so we can see and share your posts. Your photos and updates not only inspire sailors thinking of taking part in future rallies but also keep family and friends back home connected to your incredible journey.

Facebook

ARC Atlantic Rally for Cruisers
World ARC
WorldCruisingUSA

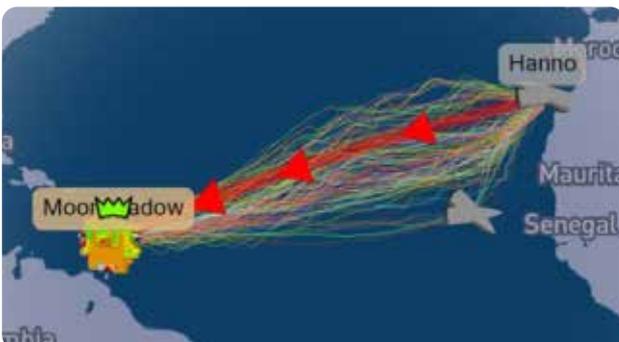
Instagram

@arc_rally
@world_arc_rally
@worldcruisingusa

For Friends and Family Following the boats online

Each boat on a World Cruising Club Rally is fitted with a 'Yellow Brick' satellite tracker which sends regular position reports. The Fleet Viewer tracks the whole fleet and provides an overview of boat locations; daily distance sailed; and distance to the next port.

The fleet viewer goes live a couple of days before the start of the rally. It can be found on the rally web page or via the 'YB Races app' for mobile devices.



The YB Fleet Viewer, ARC 2025

Getting to Las Palmas

The voyage to Las Palmas can be a leisurely cruise taking the whole summer, or a fast delivery trip. The passage south can form the 500NM qualifying passage required of each boat, and it is certainly a good opportunity to test the boat, the crew and your preparedness.

Arrive in Early October!

Plan to arrive in the Canary Islands by early October, to make the best of the good weather.

Autumn storms trap late-departing ARC boats in Spanish and Portuguese marinas every year, forcing them to withdraw from the rally.

It is important to arrive in good time so that your boat and crew can be properly prepared for the Atlantic crossing.

Meeting Other ARC Boats

Fly your ARC flag in the ports you visit on your journey to Las Palmas, and you will soon meet other ARC boats and crews.



ARC Flag 2025

ARC Discount Marina Information

All the marinas listed below offer discounts to World Cruising Club Rally participants.

Discounts are available once you have paid the rally Entry Fee and your boat is on the entry list, just tell the marina on arrival that you are a World Cruising Club Rally participant and fly your Rally Flag!

UK

Mayflower Marina, Plymouth, Devon
+44 (0)1752 556 633
mayflower@mayflowermarina.co.uk
mayflowermarina.co.uk

Location: 50°21'8N 04°10'0W
Discount
50% discount on 1st night
OR 10% off for up to 1 month (Excluding July and August)

France

Marina du Château, Brest
+33 2 98 02 20 02
chateau@marinasbrest.fr
marinasbrest.fr

Location: 48°22'5N 04°29'3W
Discount
Pay for 3 nights and get the 4th night free

Mainland Spain

Marina Viveiro, Viveiro (Lugo) Galicia
+34 690 604 452
marinaviveiro@marinaviveiro.com
marinaviveiro.com

Location 43°40'N 07°35'W
Discount
25% discount on stays over 5 nights

Marina Coruña, A Coruña
+34 881 92 04 82
marinacoruna@marinacoruna.es
marinacoruna.es

Location: 43°22'N 8°23'W
Discount
25% discount on stays over 5 nights
Automatic 25% discount if coming from Marina Viveiro

Monte Real Club de Yates, Baiona
+34 986 385 000
secretaria@mrcyb.com
mrcyb.es

Location: 42°7'N 8°50'W
Discount
25% discount for an unlimited period

Alcaidesa Marina, Cadiz
+34 956 021 660
marina@alcaidesa.com
alcaidesamarina.com

Location: 36°09'N 5°22'W
Discount
10% discount on berthing tariffs up to 7 days, and
10% discount on boatyard tariffs

Mediterranean

Portorosa Marina, Sicily
+39 0941 874280
portorosamy@virgilio.it
portorosamy.com

Location: 38° 7.27'N, 15°6.68'E
Discount
50% discount in June and September



Portugal

Marina da Póvoa, Póvoa do Varzim
+351 252 688 121
geral@marinadapovoia.com
marinadapovoia.com

Location: 41°22'33N 8°46'12W

Discount

30% discount up to three months

Marina de Albufeira, Albufeira
+351 289 510 180
info@marinaalbufeira.com
marinaalbufeira.com

37°04'842N 08°15'371W

Discount

10% discount on all summer marina and shipyard services

Free use of the boatyard cradles up to 15 days

Porto de Recreio, Oeiras
+351 214 401 510
porto.recreio@oeirasviva.pt
oeirasviva.pt

Location: 38°40'60N 9°19'W

Discount

20% discount on daily rates

Marina de Lagos, Lagos
+351 282 770 210
marina@marlagos.pt
marinadelagos.pt

Location: 37°05'93N 8°39'95W

Discount

Before 10 November: 10% discount on 1-29 nights, and
15% discount on 30 + nights. Free access to marina club pool

Atlantic Islands

Quinta do Lorde, Madeira
+351 291 969 607
marina@quintadorde.pt
quintadorde.pt

Location: 32° 44.50'N 16°42'W

Discount

20% discount during low season

20% discount in the mid season / 15% discount in high season

Marina Rubicon, Lanzarote
+34 928 519 012
info@marinarubicon.com
marinarubicon.com

Location: 28°51'5N 13°49'W

Discount

15% discount for stays up 15 days

10% discount 15 days or more

Pasito Blanco, Gran Canaria
+34 928 142 194
direccion@pasitoblanco.com
pasitoblanco.com

Location: 27°45'N 13°37'W

Discount

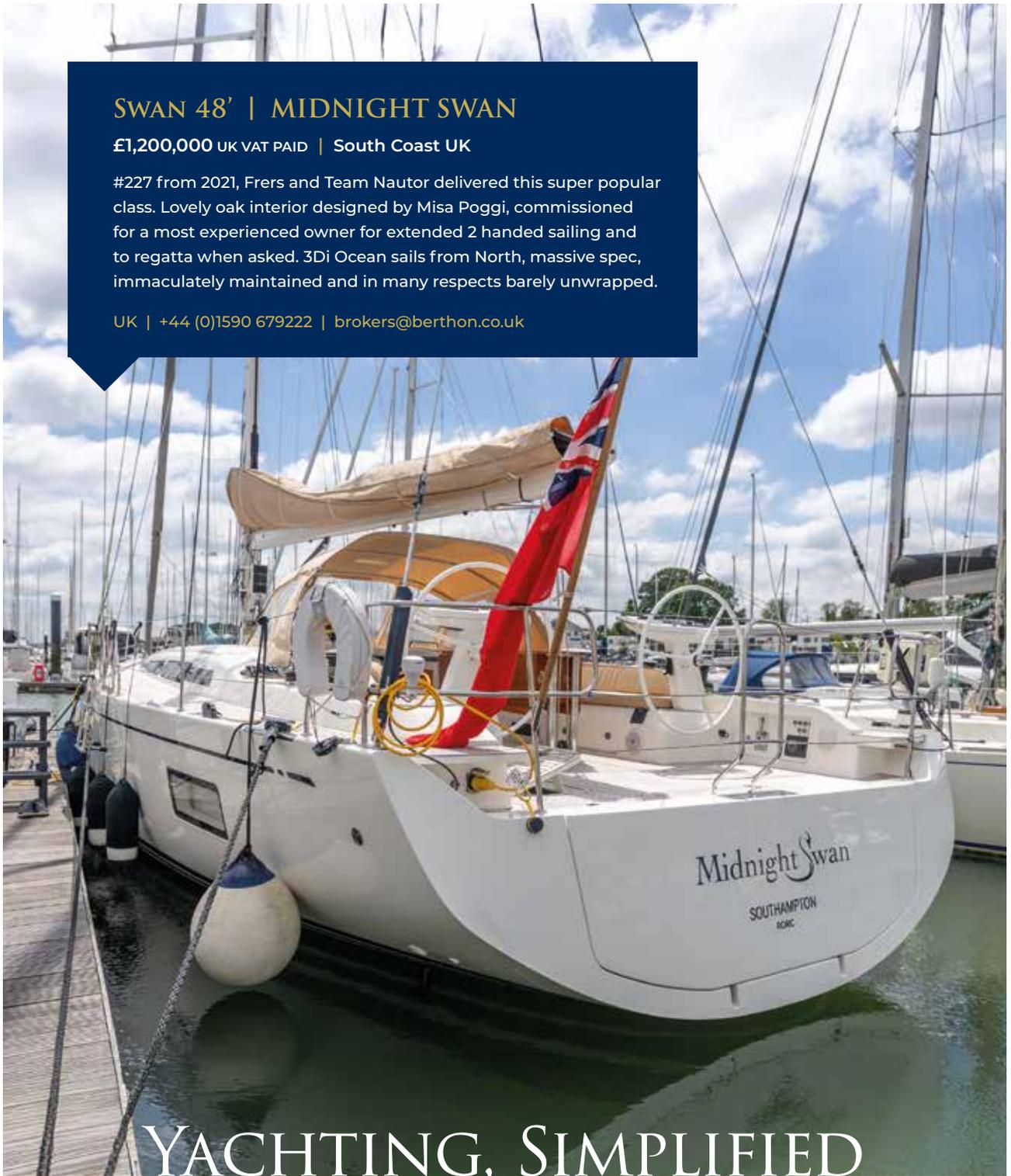
15% discount for berthing and travelift rates

SWAN 48' | MIDNIGHT SWAN

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#227 from 2021, Frers and Team Nautor delivered this super popular class. Lovely oak interior designed by Misa Poggi, commissioned for a most experienced owner for extended 2 handed sailing and to regatta when asked. 3Di Ocean sails from North, massive spec, immaculately maintained and in many respects barely unwrapped.

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YACHTING, SIMPLIFIED

The Berthon team is close knit, more of a family, backed by a strong and secure group. We are passionate about our yachts and delivering the best possible service to our clients. With local offices around the globe, we're here to guide you, connecting you to our amazing Berthon fleet of yachts. You'll feel the Berthon difference – a warm, collaborative approach, where making the purchase and sale process an enjoyable one, is simply part of who we are.

PROUD
SUPPORTERS



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