

Frequently Asked Questions

- **What qualifications do I have to have to be a Member?**

None

- **What qualifications do I have to have to be a Skipper?**

As part of becoming a member, Oman Charter runs a mandatory full familiarity and boat handling training day for the member plus one. During this day, members, plus one, will be familiarized with the boat, its safety equipment, basic maintenance and boat handling. As part of this training day the Oman Charter Chief instructor (RYA qualified) will assess the competence to skipper the boat and advise if further training is required before unsupervised usage is allowed.

- **Who else can skipper the boat?**

Oman Charter maintains a register of those persons who are either RYA qualified or have been assessed and found competent in all respects to command the vessel. Prior agreement with Oman Charter is needed if the boat is to be skippered by anyone other than the member on the booked days

- **Where can I get the training?**

Oman Charter run power boat training courses in all aspects of power boat handling, safety and navigation from basic refresher training (for those who have not been boating for a while) up to the equivalent level of RYA level 2 powerboat handler. Courses can be tailored to clients' requirements and are conducted in a family friendly environment.

- **Does all the crew have to have previous sailing/boating experience?**

No. The Skipper needs to have appropriate experience and qualifications and be happy he or she can handle the craft with the crew.

- **Can I share my membership with a friend/neighbour/family member etc?**

Yes; if you want to share the cost and days of membership you're welcome to but all members must comply with the membership conditions. All skippers must conform to the required standard of boat handling competence.

- **I may have to move away with my work, so what is my commitment?**

One of the benefits of the Oman Charter "Share a Boat" scheme is that you have no long-term commitment or capital investment. Your commitment is only as long as the number of boat days you have bought for the year, and there may be the option to sell on your unused boat days to another member. Talk to us, we are here to solve problems.

- **Do life jackets have to be worn all the time?**

This decision has to be the responsibility of the skipper because it will depend on the individual crew, the weather, etc. One answer that is often suggested is to wear life jackets.

1. when on deck
2. at night
3. when the skipper says to
4. whenever any crew wants to

- **Can we book a full week's holiday in advance?**

Yes, by agreement.

- **I do not have any boat handling qualifications - so can I become an Oman Charter "Share a Boat" member?**

You can become a member but won't be able to skipper a craft until you have been assessed and achieved the required level of practical boat handling competence. This can be a very cost-effective way to become a competent boat handler. Oman Charter can and does run power boat handling and navigation courses equivalent to and based on RYA Level 2 competencies.

- **Can I only use my own boat?**

No, you don't own the boat. Members own a number of "Share a Boat" points 'in exchange for which Oman Charter "Share a Boat" provide a "Share a Boat" powerboat for the days booked.

- **How long do I have to commit for?**

This agreement extends for the use of a members' "Share a Boat" points or for a full "Share a Boat" year.

- **Do I have to pay for any routine maintenance?**

No, we take care of that. However, if you are responsible for damage you may be liable for the insurance excess and anything not covered by the excess.

- **How much do I get to use the boat?**

You have 50 "Share a Boat" points' to be used during the year with one boat day used per weekday and two boat days used per weekend or public holiday. You may be able to buy additional days from other members.

- **How early must I book the boat?**

Members should book the boat a minimum of two weeks ahead to ensure availability. Booking will be confirmed one week ahead. Late bookings will be on a first come first served availability basis.

- **How do I know the boat is being looked after?**

Oman Charter prides itself on delivering availability and quality to its customers. Every boat has a use and maintenance log that you can check at any time. Simply book your boat and use it.

- **Do I have to add equipment on my boat?**

No, the boat is supplied completely ready for you to enjoy. Please see the Boat Specification for full details.

- **Can I become a Member at any time?**

Yes provided there are "Share a Boat" days available. There are a limited number of "Share a Boat" days. Oman Charter "Share a Boat" deliberately limits the total number available in order to ensure maximum flexibility for "Share a Boat" members.

- **Are there any other costs I have to pay?**

The only cost to pay is the Annual membership fee, and those incidental costs incurred such as fuel, licences and consumables. You also have to lodge a refundable security deposit prior to first booking.