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www.worldsailingtrust.org
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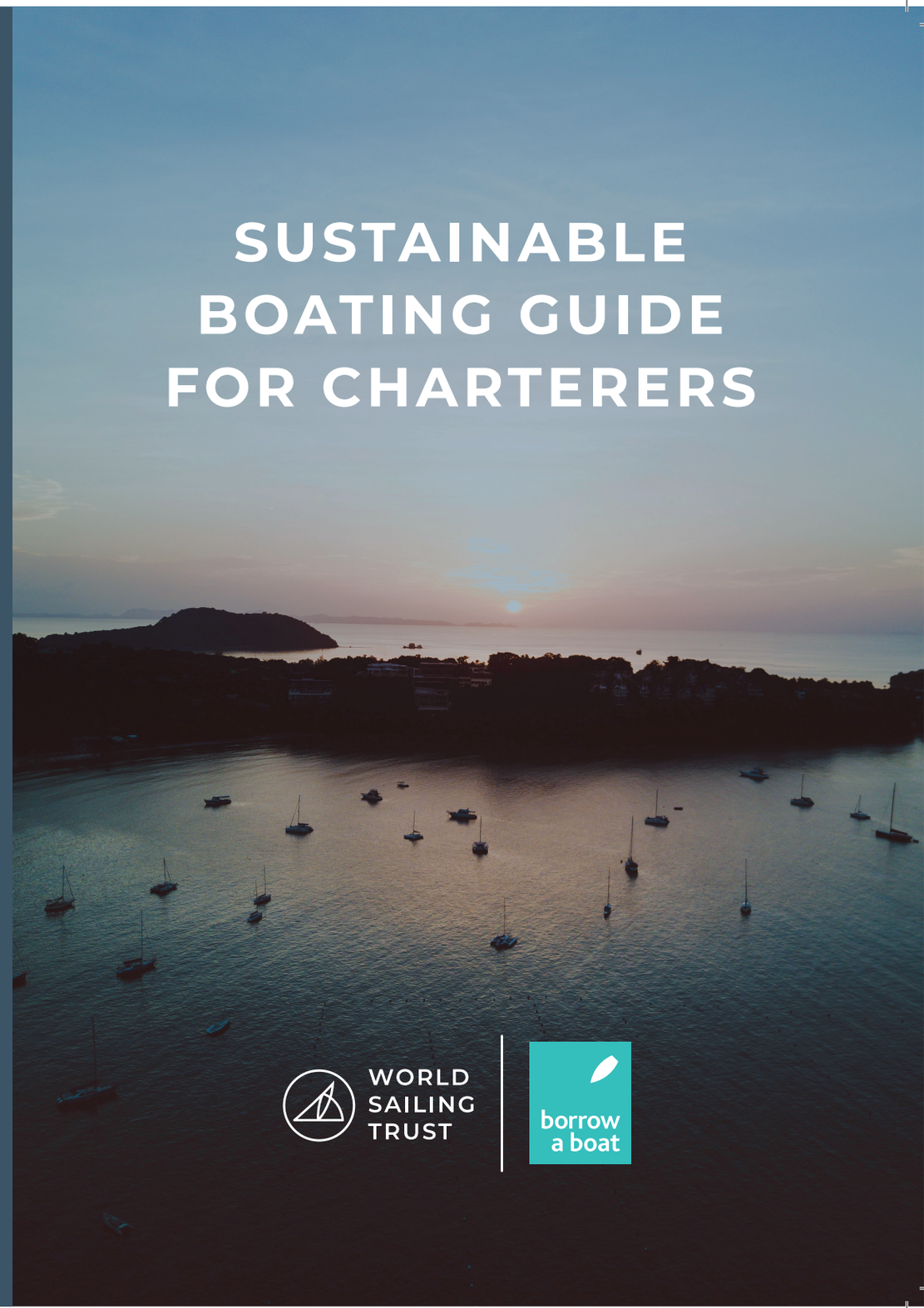
SUSTAINABLE BOATING GUIDE FOR CHARTERERS



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DEAR SAILORS

"Here's to happy boating, enjoying the beautiful ocean and its marine life in all its splendour, and let's all leave the water as we would like to find it."

"We all love spending time on the water and being close to the sea, but for a long time we've done so without thinking about how we are treating the sea and the marine life within it. Recently, we've become more aware the fragility of these ecosystems and the huge issues facing our oceans.

With new awareness and research into ocean plastics increasingly informing us of how our behaviours can impact the ocean, there is no better time to highlight the ways we can do our bit to make sure we are not causing unnecessary harm to the sea and sealife when enjoying boating.

This is a subject close to my heart as I've spent many years studying the environment and driving awareness and change in this area. I have studied Innovation for Sustainability in an MSc, founded environmental consultancies - including a wind turbine company and an eco-island business - and I'm now delighted to be leading from the front with Borrow A Boat to bring real change and awareness to the charter industry and boaters all over the world.

Borrow A Boat was founded to bring innovation and new ideas to the industry, and further opens up boating to the masses to make boating and its many benefits, both physical and mental, accessible to all. I'm delighted that we can also now lead the way for the charter sector in how to go boating sustainably.

This Sustainable Boating Guide is the first of its kind and will be issued to customers worldwide who charter any of our 35,000 boats from Borrow A Boat.

We'd like to thank the World Sailing Trust for their partnership in launching this initiative and driving the Sustainable Boating Guide out to all of their 146 Member National Authorities of World Sailing globally, as will all Borrow A Boat customers."

Matt Ovenden
CEO & Founder of Borrow A Boat

"Our playground is increasingly under threat and we should make sure we do not contribute to the problem."

"Welcome to this sustainable boating guide. There is simply nothing quite like getting out on the water and enjoying the bays, coastlines, seas and vastness of the oceans. This huge expanse of water available to us sometimes makes it difficult to understand how small changes can benefit the overall health of the oceans.

I hope you find this guide informative and helpful in your efforts to protect the waters we all enjoy.

My thanks go to Borrow a Boat who have helped support this project of The World Sailing Trust."

Dee Caffari
Chair, World Sailing Trust

WELCOME ON BOARD

We hope you enjoy the use of this boat. This document looks to make your time on this boat as sustainable as possible with some tips covering the following themes:

THE NATURAL WORLD

POLLUTANTS - LIQUIDS

- Refuelling
- Spills
- Black water
- Grey water
- Sunscreens

POLLUTANTS - SOLIDS

- Waste
- Recycling

PHYSICAL DAMAGE

- Anchoring

WILDLIFE IMPACT

- Wildlife

EMISSIONS

- Carbon footprint

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THE NATURAL WORLD

The world we can explore by boat is three dimensional; from the bays and coastlines that provide the solid fringe to the waterways, to the water itself and the seabed. All of these are delicate ecosystems teeming with life that sustains the world we live in. We can have a very significant impact and we want to ensure that impact is a positive one.

The seabed itself may be home to delicate corals, even in cold water communities, shellfish, sea fans and seagrass. For the majority of the time we are floating above these amazing worlds until we choose to drop our anchor to end up in water slightly too shallow.

These habitats in turn provide protective habitats for juvenile fish and other critters. The water for marine life is the equivalent to the air we breathe and pollutants entering these waters can have a significant negative impact.

Our job as mariners is to safeguard the very environment we have come to visit and avoid pollutants – liquid and solid as well as physical damage.

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POLLUTANTS - LIQUIDS

Refuelling

One of the most common ways in which boats can pollute the environment is through poor refuelling practice.

Boats can be prone to 'blowback' where air trapped in the tank and bends of the fuel lines rises out of the pipe when the tank is almost full, causing a small spill.

Fuel is toxic to animals and plants. When you refuel, listen to the noise – as it gets full, slow down the rate at which you are filling. The tank should not be filled to the top to allow for thermal expansion, leave around 10% empty. Do not rely on the pump's automatic shut off.

Spills

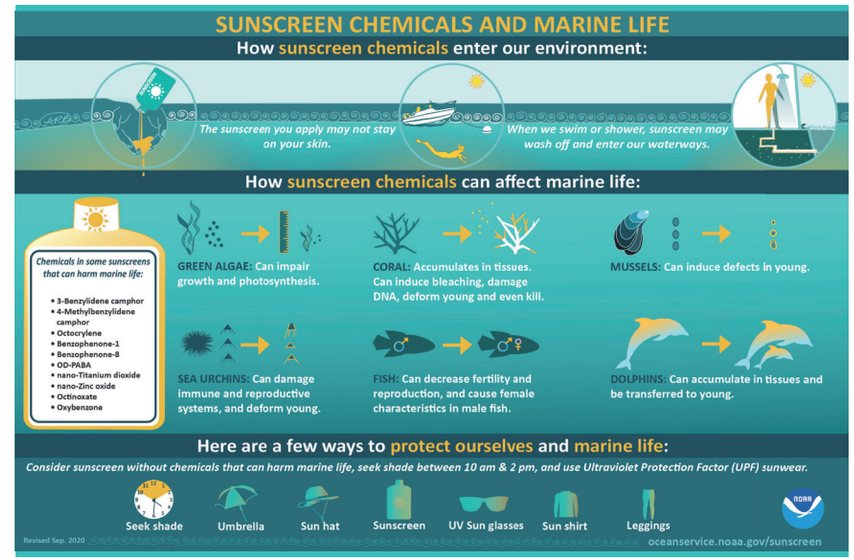
If you spill fuel when refuelling, do not put a detergent on it - detergent just moves the problem into the water column. The best way to tackle a spill is to use marine spill kits; these may be provided on the boat or there should be absorbent material at the fuel berth/dock which you can use. If you notice fuel being pumped from the bilges of the boat, turn off the bilge pump and inspect the bilge or contact the boat owner.

Black water

Black water is essentially sewage. In many countries, boats are required to be fitted with holding tanks. If your boat has a holding tank you can use the toilet facilities at any time. If the boat does not have a holding tank then when berthed you should use shoreside facilities where possible, otherwise toilets should not be discharged until at least 3 miles/5km out at sea and away from other water users.

Sunscreen

Sunscreen can damage marine life. When buying sunscreen, look out for 'reef safe' sunscreen. See the chemicals to look out for and avoid in the infographic below. Suncreen should be applied 30 minutes before you are being exposed to the sun. Doing this benefits the sea as well as helping to protect your skin as it is less likely to wash off.



Grey water

Grey water refers to non-sewage water which could be from food preparation and shower facilities. In some countries washing up liquid is no longer allowed to have phosphates in it due to the impact it can have on marine environments through over nitrification. Ensure that the washing up and shower gels used on the boat do not have phosphates in them.

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POLLUTANTS - SOLIDS

Waste

Marine plastic pollution has been well-documented in the last few years, with the United Nations predicting there could be more plastic in the sea than fish by 2050, and it is important not to contribute to the problem. The Ocean Race also took water samples around the world with almost all of them containing microplastic.

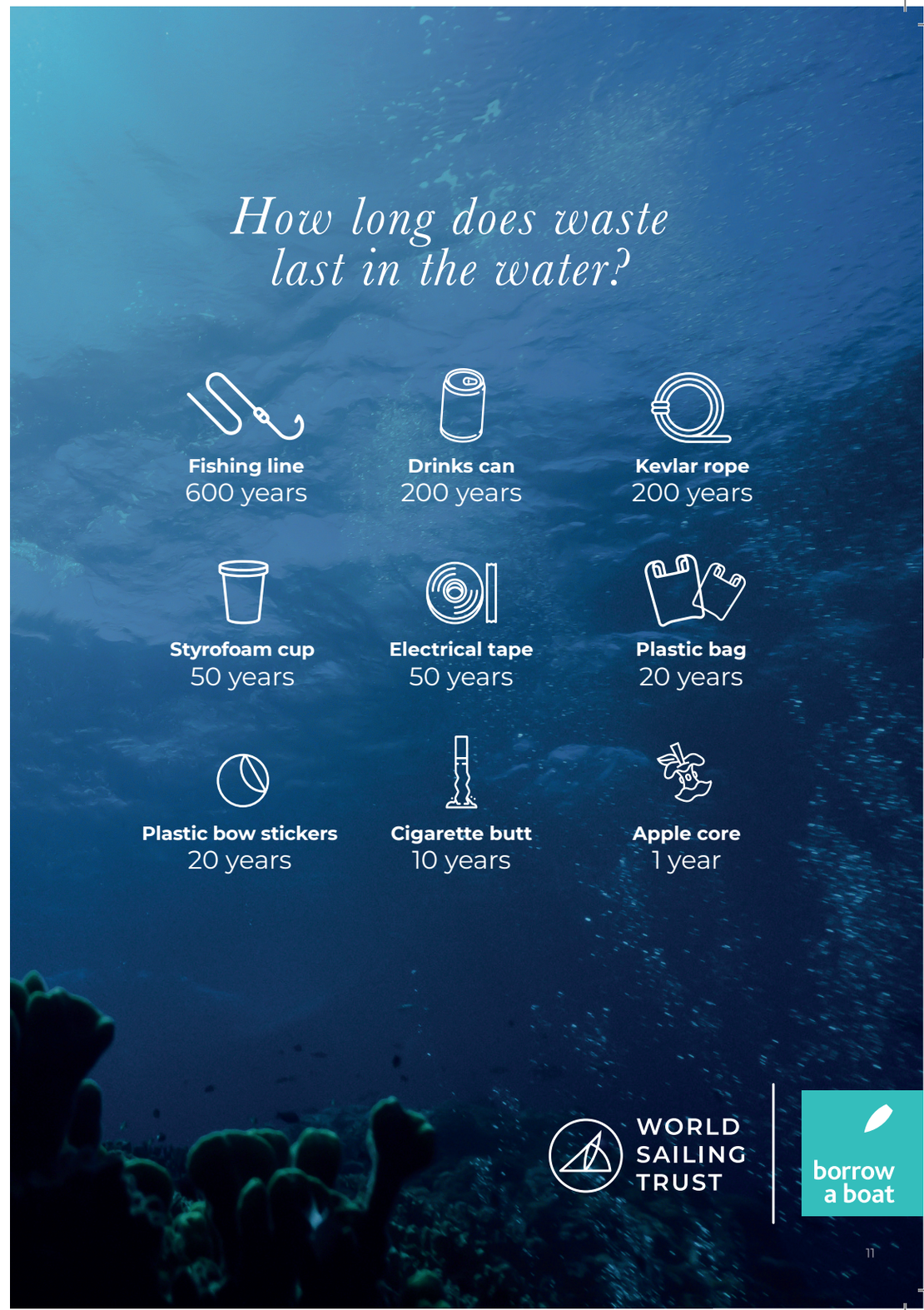
Firstly, aim to eliminate single use plastic; it is lightweight and prone to blowing into the water. Try to minimise the amount of waste you will create by reusing bottles, bags and containers (if provided).

If you do end up with packaging, ensure it is removed in the galley and disposed of immediately in a secure waste/recycling bin.

It goes without saying that no waste should be thrown overboard; in many countries this is an offence. Instead, try to remove larger pieces of plastic that you might come across in the water, and if you are visiting remote bays and beaches, always take time to leave no trace. Better still, remove any plastic that you come across which has been brought in by the tide.

Recycling

Try to recycle as much as you can; rinse cans and bottles as necessary and keep in a separate bag/container down below so you can recycle at the marina. It's worth taking note what you can recycle at the home marina to make things easier for you when you return.



PHYSICAL DAMAGE

Anchoring

When deciding where to anchor, try to anchor in marked anchorages and use moorings where available. You should avoid seagrass areas if possible as well as anchoring in areas with coral growth in tropical climates – in most countries these two habitats are usually protected.

Anchor drag can damage habitat. To avoid this happening, if your anchor is dragging, raise it and re-anchor. If it continues to drag, choose a different anchorage.

When raising the anchor you should slowly motor towards it as the crew pulls in the slack and raises it up. Wash off your anchor when you leave an anchorage.

WILDLIFE IMPACT

Wildlife

Encountering wildlife when cruising can be one of the most enjoyable parts of sailing. If you are joined by dolphins or encounter wildlife on your trip there are a few points to remember to make the experience enjoyable for all.

If you approach wildlife while under motor, slow down. Try to maintain a distance of around 100m/300ft from wildlife in and on the water or on cliffs, beaches and rocky outcrops where wildlife might be feeding, resting or breeding.

Keep a consistent course when you spot wildlife in or on the water to avoid collisions. Changes in direction make you unpredictable and difficult for wildlife to know which direction to go in order to avoid your boat.

Never approach wildlife from directly behind or in front as this is interpreted as predatory or aggressive, causing stress to wildlife.

Avoid travelling through rafts of birds on the water or groups of animals such as dolphins, whales and seals as this can split mothers from their young.

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EMISSIONS

Carbon Footprints

In the last 100 years, the planet has warmed up by an average of 1°C, which has had a big impact on people, plants and animals all over the world. Weather is becoming more extreme and unpredictable, which means that lots of plants and animals (and humans too!) will not be able to adapt to where they normally live. In the ocean, melting sea ice and rising sea levels mean that some animals' natural habitats are disappearing. Warming of the ocean where there are coral reefs can lead to coral bleaching; this is when the coral turns white. Sometimes the coral dies - that means a loss of habitat for the huge variety of animals and fish that live there.

The more CO_2 that ends up in the atmosphere from human activities, the more acidic the ocean becomes as it absorbs more CO_2.

This is causing problems for many species, including coral reefs themselves.

Climate change is caused by greenhouse gas emissions and there are a few ways to reduce your carbon footprint whilst on this boat. If you are on a yacht, use the sails as much as the conditions allow. When berthed with shore power always plug in rather than using the engine/ generator for power as the shore power has a much lower carbon footprint.

Finally, if you have used air travel for your trip consider carbon offsetting it by using a recognised scheme. Look for public transport links to arrive at your destination to reduce your car use or if travelling in a group ask for a collection or arrange a car share option.