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REPORT



Crew Newsdesk: Key stories reported from around the crew world

By Esther Barney, Juliet Benning and Emily Carson.

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Seasoned chef's new recruitment consultancy



Superyacht chef of 13 years Christian Richards has set up a recruitment company that specialises in senior interior and galley crew. Richards, who has worked on M/Y *La Dea* for three years and is based in Palma de Mallorca, recently set up the company because he "saw a gap in the market for a recruitment company of this specialisation". He is also looking to bring in trained chefs from land-based positions to yachting, helping them become accustomed to life in a galley through onboard training and ongoing contact after the placement. "I know every port, fishery, butchers and market in the Med and can pass on this knowledge to chefs that I place who are new to yachting, any time, anywhere," Richards commented.

www.saltenpepper.com

Porto Montenegro open for business

Realising years of planning and building, in June the Porto Montenegro project is opening its first 79 berths (on completion there will be 650 berths). Twenty-five of the berths available this summer will be suitable for vessels over 25 metres, and on completion there will be space for 130 superyachts. The ultimate goal of the project is to create "the most complete nautical village in the Mediterranean", with a selection of leisure and sporting activities, restaurants, residential buildings, nightspots and casinos to attract superyacht owners to Montenegro, one of Europe's newest countries. There are even plans to create a refit facility a few kilometres from the main marina and crew training facility Azalea Maritime Training Centre is located ten minutes away by boat.

The country has been positioning itself as the newest luxury destination in the Med, hoping to capitalise on the usual scrum for berths in traditional cruising grounds such as Monaco and Portofino by offering a high-end alternative – even featuring in the James Bond film *Casino Royale* to raise its international profile.

www.portomontenegro.com



Sydney office for Azzura Marine

The Australian yachting company that incorporates refit, brokerage and yachtbuilding among other services has moved its head offices to the Spit, Middle Harbour in Sydney. According to Azzura, the move allows for growth in the brokerage and sales area of the company, as well as increasing capacity for service and support to its clients. For more information visit the Azzura Marine website.

www.azzuramarine.com

