

## Antonis Stelliatos

President, Hellenic Professional Yacht Owners Association



Cruising the Greek islands or coastline on a professionally licensed Greek yacht is one of the most prestigious, heartwarming, culture-filled experiences one can have. Every Greek island has its own special unique character and beauty.

We are blessed to have one of the most exciting yacht cruising areas in the world, an area which offers over 3,500 islands and 16,000 kilometers of coastline.

Greece has the clearest and most transparent waters in the Mediterranean and warm, friendly and hospitable people. A cruising holiday in Greece will soon persuade you that whoever coined the phrase "Greece, land of the Gods" was not far off the mark.

The yachting season in Greece runs between early April and late October to early November. The Greek seas offer various attractions and delights for all tastes: for families, for VIP guests — ranging from Hollywood to Wall Street personalities — for international businesses and for citizens from all over the world.

Today's Greek charter fleet (motor yachts, sailing yachts, traditional boats, mini cruise ships capacity of 49 passengers) consists of over 3,500 commercially registered charter yachts, whose quality crew experience and performance are second to none.

In the last 10 years, the Greek charter fleet has gone through a renaissance period and the majority of our yachts average age is between 3-8 years.

Even though today Greece faces economic woes, the Greek yacht charter market is maintaining a steady flow of business thanks to the natural beauty of our country with its fabulous cruising area.

We assure you that our seas are secure and that we will continue to take advantage of our unique waters and weather conditions to maintain our position as indisputable unique players in the worldwide yachting market.

## Stavros Katsikadis

President, Greek Marinas Association



Greece is one of the most beautiful countries in the world blessed with 16,000 km of coastline and over 3,000 amazingly unique islands.

Its idyllic climate combined with hospitable people makes it an ideal destination for yachting and water-sports.

One of the main criteria for yacht owners to either visit a marina or make it their homeport is the geo-political status of the country, where the marina operates. Greek marinas have been established and operate in a secure, friendly environment due to the peaceful and humanitarian culture that preserves well balanced relations with the neighboring countries.

During the last several years, there have been new development plans for investments and renovations through a national strategy of privatizations. Although the country has been facing severe financial difficulties, the Greek marinas have been able to sustain high standards of hospitality and service to the permanent and transient boat visitors.

The Greek Marinas Association in cooperation with the state authorities and sea tourism organizations are working together to improve the administrative framework and legislation for the establishment and operation of marinas in Greece. The goal is to reinforce the added value to the local communities through the marina network expansion and bring in new investments in one of the most challenging tourism sectors of Greece.

We welcome the Greek Travel Pages (GTP) initiatives that show progress in the marina sector and we appreciate all relevant efforts that are being made to develop and to promote the Greek marinas, which are of paramount importance for high-end tourism and are crucial to the development of the national economy as a whole.