

Sailing

I like sailing and I like the sea. That is why I decided to write about sailing.

What is actually sailing?

Most of the people think that sailing means a romantic voyage with sunny weather and gentle wind. But that is not real sailing. Real sailing is hard work full of patience and carefulness. If you want to sail with full sails and make best of the ship, then you have to be focused on many details on which depends the speed of the sailing boat.

We divide sailing boats in two categories: jolas class and yachts class. Difference between these two classes is in the keel. Jolas actually do not have a keel but they have a centerboard. This is a metal plate that resists water and because of it the boat stays balanced. In yachts the boat stays balanced because of the weight of the keel and the force of gravity.

History of sailing

People started to use different sails to lighten their rowing. One of the beginners were surely the Ancient Egyptians. They sailed with their triremes all over the Mediterranean. Some scientists believe that they sailed even around Africa. Triremes were mainly rowed. They had only a mainsail, which could have been used only when the ship was running before the wind. Then there comes the time of Greeks and Romans, the time of galleys and wargalleys. And from there on, sailing became more and more important. The main reason for that was trade. Everything was transported by ships: people and goods. Sailing was important till the invention of the steam engine.

Sailors all over the world organize different sail-matches

America's Cup is probably the most prestige sailing-match. Winning this Cup is something unbelievable for the crew. It is similar as if an athlete wins a golden medal in Olympics.

Then there is a match **Around Alone** The name tells everything. To sail around the world alone. This is probably the most difficult and also the most dangerous sailing-match.

The most popular sailing-match in Adriatic sea is **Barcolana**. In this match Slovene sailing boats are almost the best. Last year we took 2nd and 4th place. A year ago, and two years ago Gaia Legend took first place.

Holiday sailing

Many people nowadays decide to spend their holidays on sailing boats. They rent one and sail out inexperienced, unprepared for all the difficulties and problems. That is why many such holidays end as a disaster. They end with the words like: I hate sea, I will never step on a ship anymore... If you do not want such an experience then you have to obey some unwritten rules:

There must be at least one who is an expert sailor.

You must check the sailing boat in details before you sail out; especially the engine.

You must never yell or scream on the sailing-boat because you just make people panic.

Be economical with water and fuel.

Prepare at least one warm meal a day.

Never quarrel.

BE CAREFULL!