

Well the Port Stephens action on and off the water has been done and the event has once again proven to be a smash hit with owners, partners, kids and crew members – inexpensive, easy, wide range of accommodation, great sailing and a great spirit of fun.



Prize winner Roger Hickman with Trevor and Maggie Joyce after the announcement

The draw for the trip to the Croatia Yacht Rally in June 2011 provided by Mariner Boating Holidays has also been won and Sydney yachting legend Roger Hickman was an extremely popular winner. Roger said after the draw that he had never won anything in his life and he was pushed forward in stunned disbelief when his name was called out by Trevor and Maggie Joyce the founders and directors of Mariner Boating Holidays.



The Beneteau One Design Fleet moored in Croatia

The 2011 event will be unique because the two week long rally through the islands of the Dalmatian Coast from Split to Dubrovnik will be sailed on a one design fleet of 10 new Beneteau First 45 yachts. This Briand design features three double cabins, two heads, huge saloon and a cockpit well set up for cruising with two wheels and easy access to the water through an open transom. The rig is powerful and the 2.4 meter lead keel means the yacht stays easily on its feet. The folding prop means no hand breaks.



The Rally includes two nights in a luxury hotel in Dubrovnik

The rally route will include Trogir, Vis, Hvar, Lastovo, Korcula, Miljet, Sipan and Lopud on the way to Dubrovnik. The format will provide a full lay day between each of a series of six short races. On a race day there will typically be a morning cruise to a rendezvous followed by a short race in the afternoon to the final destination for the day. An evening social function ashore will facilitate the usual yachting post mortems. Sailors become tourists on the following lay day and there is plenty of local knowledge available from the management team or doing absolutely nothing is an option.

If you want to join the rally you can charter a yacht or a cabin. Just call Lauren at Mariner Boating for the details on 02 99661244 or visit the website www.marinerboating.com.au

PS there are only ten boats available so if you want to be in it you need to call now.

