

EVENT GUIDE



Vilamoura 2025
Portugal
Youth Sailing
World Championships







Welcome!

EVENT



Vilamoura 2025 Youth Sailing World Championships



For more than half a century, the Youth Sailing World Championships have been the pinnacle of youth sailing performance, providing the global stage for future sailing stars to shine and becoming a major stepping stone for many world and Olympic champions.

The Youth Sailing World Championships attracts the best youth sailors from around the world and follows a similar format to Olympic sailing where all sailors compete on a level playing field across all events. In total, 11 events will be sailed in male, female and mixed categories, with the events open to sailors aged above the age of 12 years and under the age of 19 years on 31 December 2025.

The 54th edition of the Youth Sailing World Championships arrives in Vilamoura with the recognition of being one of the landmark events in the international sailing calendar.

Over the years, this championship has become a showcase for rising talent and the future stars of the sport, growing remarkably since its first edition in 1971.

Portugal has already hosted this championship five times, and 2025 marks the sixth occasion—once again setting the stage in Vilamoura for an inspiring and truly memorable event.





Organizer - Vilamoura Sailing

Located in the Vilamoura Marina, on the south coast of Portugal, Vilamoura Sailing Centre has become one of the world's leading references in dinghy sailing. Founded in 2017, it is now recognized as the largest dinghy sailing center in the world, attracting thousands of sailors and coaches who seek exceptional training and racing conditions. In 2024, the Centre reached an important milestone: 10,000 sailors from 86 countries who experienced the outstanding sailing environment that Vilamoura has to offer. Its 7,000sqm boat park with 24-hour security, supported by a full range of services that creates an effortless and athlete-focused training hub.

Just five minutes from the slipway, sailors reach open sea with steady winds and reliable conditions suitable for every Olympic class.

Vilamoura Sailing Centre hosts a continuous calendar of major international events, including Olympic qualification regattas and World Sailing ranking events, reinforcing its reputation as a premier global stage for high-performance sailing.

As the chosen training base for multiple Olympic teams from different nations, the centre combines world-class facilities with a highly experienced permanent staff committed to supporting every aspect of preparation.

With the creation of the Youth Sailing Hub, Vilamoura Sailing also invests in the next generation of athletes, nurturing talent and shaping the future of sailing.

Supported by the Prow Group—experts in international sports event management—Vilamoura Sailing Centre continues to raise the bar, offering a unique, professional, and inspiring environment for sailors from all over the world.

vilamourasailing.com



Event at a glance

For the first time ever, Azerbaijan and Morocco will join the championship, marking a historic expansion of the event's global reach.



400+

ATHLETES



600+

PARTICIPANTS



70+

COUNTRIES

LOCATION



Vilamoura Marina

Vilamoura Marina stands as Portugal's largest and one of its most awarded marinas, recognised year after year at the Publituris Portugal Trade Awards for its consistent excellence. Its development has been guided by a clear commitment to quality, anticipating the needs of its users and maintaining high standards of service and hospitality.

A pioneer in environmental and quality certifications, it was among the first in Portugal to achieve ISO 14001 and ISO 9001, as well as the Blue Flag for Marinas and the 5 Gold Anchors from The Yacht Harbour Association (TYHA). In 2025, it was once again named Best Portuguese Marina for the fourteenth consecutive year and received the "International Superyacht Marina of the Year" award.

Vilamoura Marina also holds the "Marina of Distinction" title and has received multiple international recognitions over the years. In 2023, it became the first Portuguese marina to obtain the prestigious 5 Gold Anchor Platinum accreditation, the highest distinction awarded by TYHA.



Algarve & Loulé

Nestled along Portugal's stunning Algarve coastline, Vilamoura stands as one of the flagship areas of the Municipality of Loulé — a destination where sophistication, nature and cultural heritage come together. Beyond its vibrant waterfront and elegant resorts, the wider region of Loulé offers an exceptional blend of tradition, authenticity and natural beauty.

As host of the 2025 Youth Sailing World Championships, Vilamoura invites visitors to experience a setting where world-class sailing meets the essence of the Algarve, immersed in a municipality known for its dynamic spirit, warm hospitality and deep-rooted cultural identity.

Tailored packages are also available for families wishing to enjoy the championship while discovering the best of Vilamoura and the Loulé region.

Just minutes away lies the town of Loulé itself — a place rich in history and character, home to the iconic traditional market, a medieval castle and a vibrant network of artisan workshops that reveal the true soul of the Algarve. Its streets, flavours and craftsmanship offer an authentic and memorable encounter with local culture.

For nature lovers, the municipality provides an array of scenic walking and cycling trails, stretching through pine forests, coastal cliffs and peaceful countryside landscapes.

Whether enjoying a gentle stroll along the Ria Formosa Natural Park or exploring the untouched natural areas of the interior, outdoor enthusiasts will find endless opportunities to connect with the Algarve's natural charm.

For further information, please contact [**eventhosting@prowgroup.com**](mailto:eventhosting@prowgroup.com)



Transportation

Due to its peripheral location, the Algarve enjoys good transport connections, both internally with the other Portuguese cities and externally with the rest of the world. Various national airlines have regular flights to the Algarve, making Faro a busy international airport.

Vilamoura



Faro

24 km



Lisboa

260 km



Seville

215 km



Boat Parks

The first step upon arrival is to go directly to the Race Office, located in the Vila Galé Ampalius Hotel, where all athletes will be accommodated. After completing your registration, you will receive your accreditation card.

This event will operate across three venues:

Boat Park 1 – inside Vilamoura Marina

Boat Park 2 – inside CIMAV, right next to Vilamoura Marina

Boat Park 3 – on the beach directly in front of the Vila Galé Ampalius Hotel

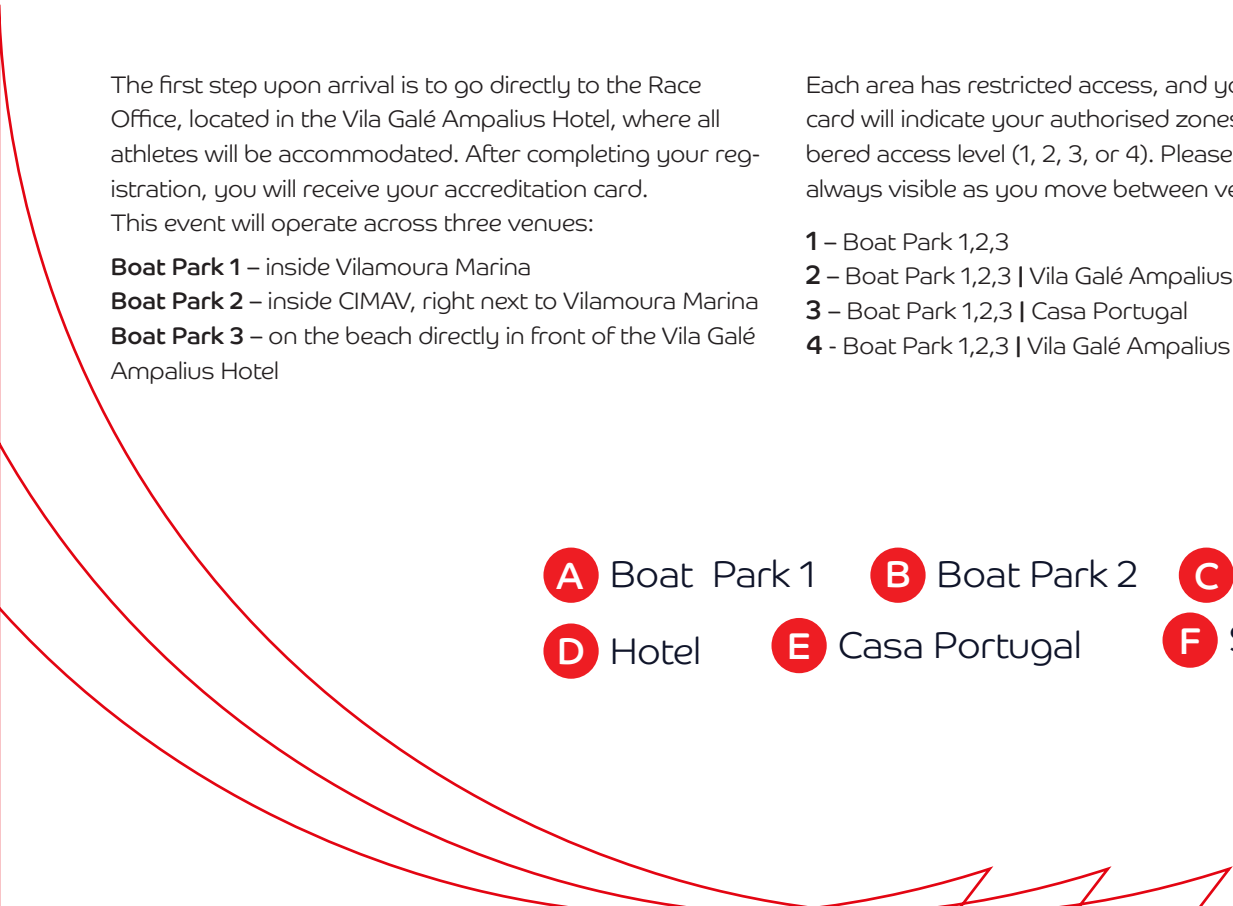
Each area has restricted access, and your accreditation card will indicate your authorised zones through a numbered access level (1, 2, 3, or 4). Please ensure your card is always visible as you move between venues.

1 – Boat Park 1,2,3

2 – Boat Park 1,2,3 | Vila Galé Ampalius Hotel

3 – Boat Park 1,2,3 | Casa Portugal

4 – Boat Park 1,2,3 | Vila Galé Ampalius Hotel | Casa Portugal

- 
- A** Boat Park 1 **B** Boat Park 2 **C** Boat Park 3
D Hotel **E** Casa Portugal **F** Shuttle Boat

VENUES



B

1 2 3 4

A

1 2 3 4

D

2 4

C

1 2 3 4

F

E

3 4

F



Efficient Venue Connectivity

The championship layout has been designed to ensure that all key areas are located within comfortable walking distance from the official hotel. This allows athletes to move around effortlessly and without the need for transport.

For the Kite classes, the beach venue is directly across the street from the hotel. For all other sailors, the boat parks are just a short walk away, followed by a one-minute shuttle boat crossing that provides quick access to the marina side.

This close-knit setup supports a smooth event experience while reinforcing our commitment to sustainability, reducing the need for internal transport and encouraging low-impact mobility throughout the venue.

AGENDA



12
Dec

10:00 to 17:00 - Arrival, registration, equipment allocation
TBA - Training
18:00 - Briefing

13
Dec

TBA - Training
19:00 - Opening Ceremony

14
Dec

TBA - Practice Race

15-19
Dec

TBA - Races

19
Dec

19:00 - Closing Ceremony

20
Dec

Departure day

12-20
December
2025



Accommodation

VILA GALÉ AMPALIUS HOTEL

Located just steps from Marina Beach and the venue, the Vila Galé Ampalius will serve as the backoffice hub for the Youth Sailing World Championships. This 4-star hotel provides a convenient and comfortable base for all event operations.

Facilities include an outdoor pool, a health club with an indoor pool, sauna, Turkish bath, and a variety of wellness and massage treatments.

The hotel's spacious lobby area provides an inviting space for interaction and socialising between teams, adding to the unique charm of the championship experience for young athletes.

The combination of central location, excellent facilities, and operational infrastructure makes Vila Galé Ampalius the ideal base for both athletes and event staff, ensuring a smooth, efficient, and enjoyable experience throughout the championship.

HOTEL



Race office & Jury rooms

The hotel will host the Race Office, Jury Rooms, and other key operational areas, ensuring that all administrative and logistical activities are centralised for efficiency and ease of access.





Meals

Breakfast will be served at the hotel in a buffet format, offering a wide variety of options to suit all tastes and dietary needs.

Lunch will be provided as a lunch pack, collected by each team's designated representative. Each lunch pack will include a main meal, an energy bar, and fresh fruit, all prepared without plastic packaging. These packs are designed to be taken easily to the boat parks.

Dinner will take place at the hotel in a buffet format, with two service shifts to accommodate all participants. The schedule for dinner shifts will always be communicated in advance to ensure smooth organisation.



VILA GALÉ CAFÉ
COFFEE HOUSE



EVENT AMBASSADORS



Joana Pratas - Olympic Athlete

A key figure in Portuguese Olympic sailing, Joana was the first woman to represent Portugal at the Olympic Games, competing in Atlanta 1996, Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004. A former world Top 10 athlete and member of the national high-performance team for 12 years, she now serves as Ambassador for the National Program for Ethics in Sport. She brings her experience, passion and Olympic spirit to inspire the next generation.



Eduardo Marques - Olympic Athlete

Eduardo began sailing in Lisbon and built a career marked by two national titles, a Top 10 at the Youth Worlds and an Olympic appearance. Known for his resilience, he qualified Portugal early for Paris 2024, achieved multiple Top 10 European results and finished 11th at the Games. He is also an athlete of Capable Planet, part of the Prow Group. As Ambassador, he embodies discipline, perseverance and the belief that success is built one day at a time.



Nuno Gomes – Emerging Nations Programme Ambassador

Nuno Gomes has dedicated his career to developing sailing and expanding opportunities for emerging nations. With experience in Angola and across Africa, he has contributed to successful Olympic projects (Rio 2016, Tokyo 2020, Paris 2024) and has worked closely with IODA, ILCA, ASCON and World Sailing to strengthen pathways for new sailing nations.

As Ambassador of the Emerging Nations Programme at the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025, he brings his expertise, global perspective and commitment to inclusion — ensuring broader representation and meaningful support for developing sailing communities.

EMERGING NATIONS PROGRAMME

The Organizing Committee expresses its firm support for the World Sailing Youth Emerging Nations Program (ENP), a structured initiative designed to reduce the performance gap between emerging and developed sailing regions, while promoting broader global representation at major international competitions.

In January, World Sailing reported that 73 of its 148 Member National Authorities, plus three Associate Members, are currently classified as under-resourced and under-developed. This highlights the crucial role of the ENP in fostering inclusion and expanding opportunities within the sport. Through enhanced coaching structures, virtual training and mentoring sessions, and extended in-person clinics, the program has played a key role in strengthening participation and improving competitive results for regions previously under-represented.

For the 2025 Youth Sailing World Championships, 24 athletes from 19 nations across Africa, Oceania, the Americas, Europe and Asia will participate in a five-day pre-championship clinic in Vilamoura, receiving world-class coaching and on-water support. The program will also feature insights from local Olympic legends, sharing Vilamoura Sailing's long-established competitive expertise.

ENP sailors will compete in the iQFOiL (8 girls and 8 boys) and ILCA 6 (3 girls and 3 boys) events.

We extend our best wishes to these talented young athletes as they take this important step in their competitive journey.



SUSTAINABILITY



Sustainability Highlights

The 2025 Youth Sailing World Championships in Vilamoura is committed to sustainability, environmental protection, and positive legacy creation.

Key actions include:



Waste & Materials: Paperless event, no single-use plastics, recycling & upcycling encouraged and Eco points and waste separation stations provided with support from Inframoura, circular economy initiatives with Ecoeventos EGF program.



Energy & Water: Renewable energy, electric transport, desalinated water, walking & cycling promoted.



Drinking Water: Eliminate single-use plastic bottles; Install water fountains and refill stations in park and venues.



Ocean & Biodiversity: Pollution prevention, green boating, harbor cleanups, Biodiversity impact evaluation with Benches EU tool linked to The Algarve Reef "Pedra do Valado".



Carbon Footprint Calculation: Scope 1, 2 and 3 in chain with our direct partners.



Carbon Compensation: Tree planting in spring to offset event impact.



Community & Education: Engagement with schools & universities, social media challenges, public awareness. Awareness-raising activities on sustainability and biodiversity associated with the positive impact of the Algarve Marine Natural Park.



Partnerships: Dedicated Sustainability Manager, ISO 20121 alignment, Benches EU, World Sailing's Sustainability Agenda 2030, working closely with Vila Galé Hotels, Vilamoura Marina, Algarve University and Inframoura.



Certifications: Aiming for Platinum Certification by Clean Regattas & Sailors for the Sea.



Legacy: Inspire young sailors, foster sustainable practices, and set a benchmark for future events.



PARTNERS

This event relies on the invaluable support of our sponsors and partners, whose contribution is crucial to making the championship possible. We are especially proud to count on Vilamoura Marina and Prow Group, whose expertise and dedication are central to delivering a world-class sailing event.

We also work closely with local and national entities, including Turismo de Portugal (the Portuguese Tourism Board), the regional authorities of Loulé and Quarteira, and Portugal's leading sports organisations, such as the Portuguese Sailing Federation, Instituto Português do Desporto e Juventude, Inframoura, and the Associação de Vela do Sul. In addition, the support of private partners, including the Mirpuri Foundation and Caetano Auto, ensures a successful and memorable championship experience for all participants.

VENUE PARTNERS



INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS



MOBILITY PARTNER



TECHNICAL PARTNER



GLOBAL PARTNERS



OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS





MEDIA

The Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 will be covered across multiple channels, highlighting and celebrating the next generation of sailing talent.

Accreditation: Media badges grant access to designated areas.

Race Coverage: Daily highlights, interviews, and on-water action.

Livestream: Watch races live on official event channels.

Social Media: Updates, clips, and behind-the-scenes content on Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube.

Media Contact: media@prowgroup.com

This approach ensures maximum visibility for athletes, teams, and sponsors while connecting a global audience to the championship.



CONTACTS

Race Office: race.office@prowgroup.com

Media: media@prowgroup.com

Hotel: eventhosting@prowgroup.com

Meals: eventhosting@prowgroup.com

Families experiences: eventhosting@prowgroup.com

Transfers: eventhosting@prowgroup.com





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Designed and Managed by Prow 