

USEFUL INFORMATION IF GOING TO ESTONIA AS A TOURIST IN A PLEASURE CRAFT.



Topic	Comment
Demographic data (population/no of clubs/members/boats)	1.3 million inhabitants. Approximately 25-30 harbours for cruising yachts. 11 yacht clubs with estimated 800 members.
Currency	Euros
Formalities, Customs, passport control, visa	<p>Estonia belongs to the Schengen states from the 21.12.2007.</p> <p><u>Sailing within the Schengen visa zone</u> - carry both the identification document and the documents relevant to water vessel with you because the authorities of Schengen member states have the right to conduct the document check procedure, if necessary.</p> <p><u>If the yacht has arrived from outside of the Schengen visa zone</u> e.g. from Russia, choose for entering the ports with the border guard points. It does not matter under which country's flag the yacht is sailing because the obligation to notify the border guard point and perform the check applies to all the vessels crossing the border.</p> <p>For more specific visa information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • check the website of the Police and the Border Guard https://www.politsei.ee/en/ or the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs http://www.vm.ee/en; • call correspondingly +372 612 3000 or +372 6 377 440; • send e-mail ppa@politsei.ee or konsul@vm.ee.
Banned substances	Visitors should advise Customs of what they have on board (mostly referring to medicines).
Boat's documents required	While leaving or entering the Schengen area the skipper of the vessel should present to the border guard the boat registration document, ownership documents and proof of act of technical inspection. A crew list (full name, date of birth, passport number) in two copies is required, also.
Insurance	Insurance is required for boats taking part in competitions.
Legislation certificate of competence	ICC is required for operators of pleasure craft up to LOA 24m. The operator should be at least 15 years old. Exam should be passed to get the certificate. The certificate is not necessary if 1) sails up to 25m ² or motor up to 25 kW; 2) sailing in daytime, good visibility; 3) less than 5 miles from the seashore. Different requirements for jet/scooter-drivers. Visiting sailors must fulfil the requirements of their flag state.
Alcohol limits	Alcohol limit for boat drivers (on the sailing boats and motor boats): 0,5 mg alcohol in 1 g of blood (ie 0,5 promills) or 0,25 mg alcohol in 1 l of breath; Alcohol limit for car drivers: 0,2 mg alcohol in 1 g of blood (ie 0,2 promills) or 0,1 mg alcohol in 1 l of breath.
TSS, esp. new ones	TSS under Estonian jurisdiction is applied in vicinity of Tallinn and is marked on the Charts of Estonia, Vol 1, Gulf of Finland.
Military exercise areas	No special military exercise areas along the coast of Estonia. Information about military exercises is broadcasted by Tallinn Radio.
Major construction sites	No large construction sites in the open sea.
Windfarms	No sea based wind turbines. Yet.
Bridges	No bridges across the sea.
Habitats and other protected areas	Nature protected areas are usually not marked on the sea charts, though there exist lot of them in Estonia. For example, it is prohibited to enter some bays or to go to some islets in Moon Sound in certain periods, e.g. during the nesting time. More information http://geoportal.maaamet.ee/eng/ .
Flag traditions/ application of flag rules	In Estonia the visiting boats' national rules/requirements are accepted. Guests are expected to fly a courtesy flag under starboard spreader. Times of hoisting and taking down one's own ensign/flag are not strict.
Weather forecast	The weather forecast is available at http://www.ilmateenistus.ee/?lang=en ; http://www.weatheronline.in ; www.windfinder.com ; www.yr.no etc. Local weather forecasts - 1650 kHz / ULL 1; 3; 20; 26; 27 Ch at 0633 (LT) 1533 (LT);

	Navigational warnings - 3310 kHz / ULL 1; 3; 20; 26; 27 Ch at 0233 (UTC); 0633 (UTC); 1033 (UTC); 1433 (UTC); 1833 (UTC); 2233 (UTC).
Harbours	A brand new Estonian Cruising Guide (the third edition, in English) provides information about 50 harbours for small craft in Estonia. In addition you can find an overview of sailing conditions and lot of useful information for travellers in Estonia. Most harbours, suitable for cruising yachts, have their own homepage. General information about Estonian harbours can be find at State Port Register, http://www.sadamaregister.ee/SadamaRegister/?lang=en .
Mooring booking facilities	Berths can be booked via http://www.satamapaikka.com/en/ at Kärdla Marina and Noblessner harbour.
Swinging mooring buoys for pleasure yachts	Usually not used in the Estonian harbours.
Anchoring and free access ashore	Anchoring is allowed outside the official waterways. Boats usually come to anchor for short stops. Note, that the weather conditions often change rapidly. Access ashore is expected via harbours.
Good harbour manners	In Estonian harbours a quiet environment is expected after 2300. Red/green signs for mooring places are applied only in some harbours. Harbour master / marina manager shall be asked for available place. It is a good idea to call the harbour master to book a berth place and ask for local conditions.
Safety in harbours	Estonian guest harbours are equipped with rescue equipment as fire extinguishers, lifebelts, first aid kits etc. Look for the local signs.
Rescue Services	Rescue and Coordination Centre JRCC Tallinn: +372 619 1224, call-sign (VHF 16 and 69) Tallinn RESCUE.
Pyrotechnics	Set of pyrotechnics in recreational boats is laid down by law and depends on the construction category of the boat (A, B, C, D). A- and B-category boats (resp ocean and open sea) should be equipped with 3 red flares and 3 red parachute flares. C-category boats (coastal) should have 3 red flares on board. For D-category boats flares are not required, but recommended.
Staying during the winter	Winter storage is possible in several harbours. It should be agreed with the harbour master in advance.
Antifouling regulations	No regulations for pleasure craft. Biocide is allowed to be marketed and used only if it has a licence from the Health Board.
Fuel availability	Fuel (diesel & petrol) is available in larger harbours. In smaller harbours ordering diesel is possible. Tax reduced diesel is not available for pleasure craft. Only pure biodiesel B100 and B5 (diesel fuel containing 5% of biodiesel) may be sold in Estonia. Sellers do not have obligation to inform consumers if 5% biodiesel has been added to the fuel. Consumers can use any mix of biodiesel if they wish to and if they follow the technical parameters of the motors. It is suggested to consult with the provider of the motor if you are going to use biodiesel.
Gas availability	No camping gas. Propane bottles can be changed in special gas stations (in bigger towns).
Pump out stations for Sewage and Oily Water	Estonian ports must have facilities for the reception of sewage or have an agreement with the service provider. There are mobile pump out stations in smaller harbours and automatic systems, connected to the canalization in the larger harbours.
Pump out stations – type(s) of nozzle used in the country	A conical rubber nozzle, which fits most deck pump outfittings, is used in the harbours with pump out stations.
Public transport	The main International Airport is located in the capital, Tallinn. It's very close to the city centre – only 10 minutes drive away. You can rent a car, take a bus or taxi to get to the centre. There are 4 other international/public airports in Estonia: in Tartu, Pärnu, Kuressaare (Saaremaa island) and Kärdla (Hiiumaa island). Trains, coaches and autobuses, trams and trolleybuses are used for public transport, also. Public transport timetables and map of Estonia at http://www.peatus.ee
Shopping hours	Opening hours are usually 0900-1800 or 1000-1900, shorter on weekends. Supermarkets stay open till 2300 on weekdays.
Important phone numbers, home pages and useful links	Information hotlines available 24/7: 119, 1181 or 1182 Emergency: 112 Police: 110

	<p>The coastal radio station "Tallinn Radio", phone: +372 6991170; e-mail: tallinnradio@riks.ee; www.riks.ee, MMSI: 002 761 000; call sign: Tallinn Radio.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Channel 16 (156.800 MHz): continuous guard channel, the main channel for transmitting emergencies, call signs and prior notices. At the top of every hour and half-hour there will be 3 minutes of silence online. • Channel 69: the working channel of the national fleet; can also be used for communication with the border guard and the centre of operative information and maritime surveillance. • Channels 72 and 77: for skippers of small crafts. <p>Tourist information about Estonia http://www.visitestonia.com/en? site_preference=normal.</p>
Tick-borne diseases	<p>The number of reported cases has been increasing in Estonia, particularly on the islands. Two kind of tick-borne diseases: Tick-Borne Encephalitis (TBE) and Lyme Borreliosis. It is possible to vaccinate against the TBE, but there is no vaccine against the Lyme disease. Prophylaxis: tick-bite prevention, tick checks.</p>
Practical advice	<p>Banks: most are open from 0900 to 1800 on weekdays, some offices are also open on Saturday mornings.</p> <p>Bankcards: Most larger hotels, stores and restaurants accept Visa, MasterCard, Eurocard, Diner's Club and American Express. However, it is advisable to carry some cash with you.</p> <p>Currency exchange: all banks offer currency exchange services, exchange offices can also be found in larger hotels, the airport, harbour, railroad station and major shopping centres.</p> <p>Calling: calling to Estonia dial your international access code and 372 for Estonia and then the telephone number. Calling abroad, dial 00 (or +) and the country code. The GSM mobile phone system is available. Please check compatibility with your operator.</p> <p>Medical Services: For entry into Estonia no vaccinations or health certificates are required. Health insurance policy is optional. In case of an accident or sudden illness, call for an ambulance free-of-charge from any phone: 112.</p> <p>Police: Free-of-charge call from any phone: 110.</p> <p>Power Supply: The electricity supply is 220 volts AC, 50 Hz, European-style 2-pin plugs.</p> <p>Public Internet: all-areas covering fast cellular data network G4; a free WiFi Internet hotspot at almost every guest harbour, passenger port or airport; Internet access points in libraries, hotels, bars, city parks usually free of charge.</p> <p>Time: Estonia is in the Eastern European Time Zone: UTC + 2 hours. In summer: UTC + 3 hours.</p> <p>Traveller's cheques: can be exchanged in most banks but are less likely to be accepted in shops. Eurocheque is the most widely accepted traveller's cheque.</p>

This document does not claim to include all known information on the subjects covered but the compilers and the Baltic Sea Cruising Network (BSCN) believe that the information contained represents a useful aid to those visiting the country by boat. Visitors should make prudent use of the information available on the websites quoted. No responsibility for loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from action as a result of the material in this publication is accepted by the compilers or the Baltic Sea Cruising Network.