

**THE BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY**

**OUTER ISLANDS PERMIT REQUEST – YACHTS**

**(Form to be completed in English and returned to the BIOT Administration** **[BIOTA.Environment@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:BIOTA.Environment@fcdo.gov.uk))**

## **PROOF OF INSURANCE**

You will need to provide us with proof of insurance, which must be valid over the dates you have applied for. The insurance needs to cover:

* medevac (minimum $100,000 for each person onboard);
* wreck recovery, clean up and removal.

Please highlight these sections in your documents (this will speed up the application process) and attach them with your completed signed request form and declaration. These documents must be in English and it is your responsibility to request translations from your insurance company in advance of your application.

**CHARGES**

From 1 July 2024, the rate is £250 per week (with a maximum stay of 28 days) plus any bank transfer fee.

Payment is due only once your application has been approved by the BIOT Administration (you will receive payment instructions then). Fees are by bank transfer only.

**COMPLETED FORMS**

Return your completed forms and insurance documents to [BIOTA.Environment@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:BIOTA.Environment@fcdo.gov.uk)

PLEASE NOTE: This mailbox has a 10MB limit per email. If your email is larger than this we will not receive it, nor will we receive notification.

**PERMIT ISSUE TIMEFRAME**

To be aware that it may take up to six weeks to process your application (provided all the correct information has been provided to the BIOT Administration). Please plan this in accordingly.

BIOT Administration

May 2024

**APPLICATION FORM**

# GENERAL INFORMATION

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Yacht |  |
| Registration Number |  |
| Port of Registration |  |
| Sailing under the Flag of |  |
| Purpose of Visit |  |
| Call Sign |  |
| Length (m) |  |
| Beam (m) |  |
| Draught (m) |  |
| Colourings / Markings |  |
| Gross Registered Tonnage |  |
| Net Registered Tonnage |  |
| Dive Equipment on Board | NO  YES  ***Are you aware of BIOT laws regarding diving?*** NO  YES |
| Drone on Board | NO  YES  ***Are you aware of BIOT laws regarding drones?*** NO  YES |
| Cargo | NO  YES  ***If yes, what?*** |
| Animals | NO  YES  ***If yes, what?*** |
| Firearms | NO  YES  ***If yes,*** ***BIOT firearms licence required*** |

# CREW INFORMATION

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Master’s Email Address |  | | | | |
| Name of Master (as shown in passport) | | Nationality | Date of Birth  (dd/mm/yy) | Passport Number | Issue / Expiry Date & Place of Issue |
|  | |  |  |  |  |
| Name(s) of Crew (as shown in passport) | | Nationality | Date of Birth  (dd/mm/yy) | Passport Number | Issue / Expiry Date & Place of Issue |
|  | |  |  |  |  |
|  | |  |  |  |  |
|  | |  |  |  |  |
|  | |  |  |  |  |

[Please continue on a separate sheet if required and attach to this form]

# ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE INFORMATION

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Arriving From |  |
| Date of Intended Arrival (dd/mm/yy) |  |
| Permitted Mooring site(s) to be Visited |  |
| Primary Destination |  |
| Date of Intended Departure (dd/mm/yy) |  |

## **PROOF OF INSURANCE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Do you have insurance cover over the dates you have applied for? | NO  YES |
| If yes, does it cover medical evacuation (minimum $100,000 for each person) and wreck recovery, clean up and removal? | NO  YES |

**GUIDANCE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| I have read the BIOT Guidance for Yachts document and understand the requirements and restrictions it sets out | NO  YES |
| I have read and agree to abide by the procedures on biosecurity and environmental protection | NO  YES |

**DOCUMENTS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| I am submitting proof of adequate insurance, included English-language policy documents as needed | NO  YES |
| I am providing copies of the passports of all crew members | NO  YES |
| I have signed the form the “Declaration for Yachts in BIOT Waters” form below | NO  YES |

I hereby apply for a visit permit to the British Indian Ocean Territory.

I declare that the information given on this form is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and that I have read and understood the guidance for visitors.

…………………………………………………………………….. ……………………………………………………

**Signature** **Date**

**DECLARATION FOR YACHTS IN BIOT WATERS**

**YACHTS IN DISTRESS**

In the event of an emergency in BIOT territorial waters, the UK authorities on BIOT will render all possible assistance to yachts in distress. If you have an emergency that you consider life threatening, you should declare it as a maritime emergency in accordance with International Maritime Regulations. In such a situation, the BIOT authorities in Diego Garcia can be contacted on 2.182MHz HF SSB or VHF if within range.

However, such assistance can lead to substantial costs being incurred by the BIOT Administration if the emergency results in the loss of a yacht and the subsequent requirement to fly the master and crew off Diego Garcia in a non-medical emergency (the cost of a flight from Diego Garcia to Bahrain is around US$1,300 per passenger). The BIOT Administration will also need to arrange for the clean-up and subsequent disposal of a wrecked yacht, incurring further costs.

Before issuing you with a permit allowing you to moor at Peros Banhos and Salomon atolls, the BIOT Commissioner, therefore, requires you to sign the undertaking below that you will repay such costs.

**UNDERTAKING**

In consideration of the Commissioner of the British Indian Ocean Territory granting me a permit to moor my yacht ........................................................................................ in the Territorial waters of the Territory,I [state full name] .....................................................................................................................

of [state registered address] .....................................................................................................................

......................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................

hereby UNDERTAKE and AGREE that if for any reason I am unable to sail my said yacht and its passengers out of the Territory, I shall within 7 days of demand pay the Commissioner of the British Indian Ocean Territory the cost of transporting my passengers and me from the Territory together with all such costs as may be incurred for the clean-up and removal of my yacht from BIOT waters.

In the event that the sum demanded is not paid within 7 days I accept that the courts of the jurisdiction in which I reside shall have jurisdiction to enforce the Commissioner’s claim against me.

……………………………………………………… ……………………..……

**Signature**  **Date**