



M/Y TALEYA

CREW PROFILES

August 2026





Paul Hutchinson

CAPTAIN

Nationality

Australian

Languages

English

In 2000, Paul made the leap from commercial shipping to the superyacht industry after friends clued him into the magic of the yachting world. Willing to learn the unique etiquette of luxury charters from the ground up, he paused his career as a commercial master to work as a shipyard day-labourer and chief officer before taking the helm. Today, his greatest career satisfaction comes from a simple source: seeing his team and guests genuinely smiling, with the sound of laughter echoing across the deck.

When he steps ashore, Paul actively avoids crowds, preferring to get away from the port to hike through the countryside, mountain bike, or rent a bicycle to move his legs. His absolute favourite cruising grounds are the dramatic cliffscapes of Corsica and the West Coast of Mallorca.

"For me, it is about appreciating the force of nature that is the ocean—the perfect calms of the mornings and evenings as the sun rises and sets, the frenzied madness of a storm, and the childish joy of seeing dolphins, whales, turtles, or sea eagles.

Most people spend their lives standing on a cliff looking out to sea, but to reverse that view from the water is breathtaking. Close the computer, enjoy the surrounds, and live in the moment. Take the holiday you have given yourself and enjoy everything that can be."



Timu Keha

CHIEF OFFICER

Nationality

New Zealand

Languages

English

TBD



Maroje Godinovic

SECOND OFFICER

Nationality

Croatian

Languages

Croatian, English

A summer break during his university studies completely altered Maroje's career path when he befriended a superyacht crew moored in his hometown. Captivated by the lifestyle, he decided right then and there to pursue a life at sea. For Maroje, nothing beats the romance of pure navigation—watching the stars, the sun, and the shifting ocean while finding new horizons.

When he takes his vacation, he ironically escapes the heat and sea altogether, heading far into the mountains for snowy ski sessions and cozy evenings by a fireplace. He lists Spain and Croatia as his ultimate coastal destinations.

"At sea, you can always find true happiness—it doesn't matter the size of the boat you're on, as long as you appreciate the small things.

I always recommend that guests try snorkelling because it gets everyone closer to the ocean, no matter their age or skill. It's a wonderful way to discover a completely hidden world."



Mark Wilson

CHEF

Nationality

Croatian

Languages

Croatian, English

TBD



Matt Jackson

SOUS CHEF

Nationality

Croatian

Languages

Croatian, English

TAfter a few years cooking in South African kitchens, Matt took to yachting and never looked back. For him, a great day is when guests are so happy with his cooking, the plates come back to him clean.

Away from service, Matt plays football and golf, making a point to keep up with friends and family back home. Sóller in Mallorca and Bonifacio in Corsica rank among his favourite ports; the latter especially for its old town. One memory that's stayed with him: a break during service that turned into a swim alongside a sea turtle—and the sunsets at sea, which never get old.

"Always visit the local produce markets in any town. It's a really beautiful and fun experience, every time."



Alesya Shirokova

CHIEF STEWARDESS

Nationality

Russian

Languages

English, Russian

As Chief Stewardess, Olesya is responsible for maintaining the interiors of TALEYA in perfect working order, ensuring your stay on board is smooth, serene, and enjoyable. Olesya originally studied Russian literature at university, graduating with a Bachelor of Science.

She went on to study music and massage, and with such a well-rounded education, it is no surprise she has an eye for detail and a taste for creating a luxury guest experience.

Having spent much time creating unforgettable charters, she recommends her guests take time off the yacht to immerse themselves in nature: take a walk in national parks, or hike nearby mountains.

"And don't forget to sample the local cuisine!" she smiles.



Inge Bartsch

2nd STEWARDESS

Nationality

South African

Languages

German, Croatian, Russian, English

Craving a break from the predictable routine of everyday life ashore, Inge chose to hit the reset button and dive into yachting to experience new cultures, distant places, and fresh faces. Backed by a background in culinary arts, she brings an immense appreciation for fine food and hospitality to the interior department.

A stellar workday for her involves bright sunshine, warm weather, and collaborating with her team to learn new skills. On her days off, she loves waking up early to hunt down the best local breakfast spots, followed by wine tasting and outdoor adventures like hiking or quad biking. Though she names the wild rivers of Costa Rica as a personal travel highlight, she wants guests to make the absolute most of their immediate surroundings.

"Take advantage of absolutely everything the yacht has to offer—from the thrilling water sports and meals prepared by the chefs to sunbathing on deck and late-night karaoke. Be open to exploring nearby villages, trying the restaurants our crew recommends, and just saying yes to new memories."



Savanha De Ascencao

LAUNDRY/HK STEWARDESS

Nationality

South African

Languages

English, Afrikaans

Though a career in yachting wasn't always a deliberate blueprint for Savanha, her deep-seated love for boats, nature, and global travel made joining the industry a natural fit. For her, nothing beats an early morning sunrise that kicks off a positive, high-energy day on board.

Savanha takes immense pride in her role, noting that a heartfelt compliment from a guest about her housekeeping work instantly reminds her why she loves her career. When she gets a moment to step away from the yacht, she loves slow-paced days exploring quaint coastal villages, shopping, and taking time to reconnect with nature. Her absolute favourite corner of the world is the island of Naxos in Greece.

"Soak up every bit of the sunshine, embrace the incredible views, and don't hesitate to try the different dishes the chef creates for you. There is nothing quite like the feeling of swimming in a brand-new part of the world, so dive into the water as much as possible!"



Nicole Bothma

STEWARDESS/MASSEUSE

Nationality

South African

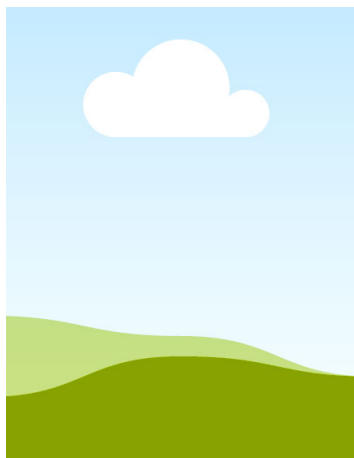
Languages

English, Afrikaans

Nicole originally planned to take to the skies as an international flight attendant, but when a strict airline corporate policy regarding her tattoos changed her trajectory, she found her true calling at sea instead. It proved to be a brilliant alternative for a natural traveller who loves seeing the world.

Bringing a beautiful blend of creativity and relaxation to the interior team, she is deeply motivated by seeing the physical results of her hard work come together in the form of happy, relaxed guests. When the anchors are dropped, Nicole resets by taking long walks to explore local ports, and cites Greece as her favourite destination for island-hopping. "My best advice for getting the absolute most out of your holiday is to step outside your comfort zone and try something entirely new."

Whether it's sampling a traditional local dish you've never heard of or jumping into a new outdoor activity, embracing the unique flavour of the region is what makes a trip truly unforgettable."



Max Ansell

DECKHAND

Nationality

Bulgarian

Languages

English, Russian

Max looked at a number of career paths before setting his sights on yachting; it was simply the one that checked every box he was looking for. Matt is practical: his focus is on safe operations, clear communication, and making sure everyone feels looked after on the water.

Corfu is Max's favourite spot; he appreciates the contrast between its beaches and the forested hills further inland. But off the yacht, and he's happy to wander whatever port they've docked in. That's why he offers the same advice to guests:

"Explore the area! Get off the boat with the tender, go snorkelling or diving."



Andrea Baldini

DECKHAND

Nationality

Italian

Languages

Italian, English

Hailing from Italy, Andrea always knew his future belonged on the ocean. While initially waiting on an application to join the Italian Navy, he enrolled in a superyacht school in Viareggio back in 2018—and he never looked back.

Andrea's perfect morning begins with a dead-calm sea and clear weather. He finds absolute peace while underway, noting that the sound of the ocean completely clears his mind. He fell in love with Greece for its scattered, fascinating archaeological sites, and he strongly urges charterers to strike a balance between ship and shore.

"Whenever we are underway, the sound of the waves crashing against the hull is loud enough to clear away any stressful thoughts. But remember, a great yacht charter is a balance; don't spend the whole time on board. Make sure to step ashore and explore the historic towns, hidden ports, and beaches that only a yacht can reach."



Deyan Draganov

CHIEF ENGINEER

Nationality

Bulgarian

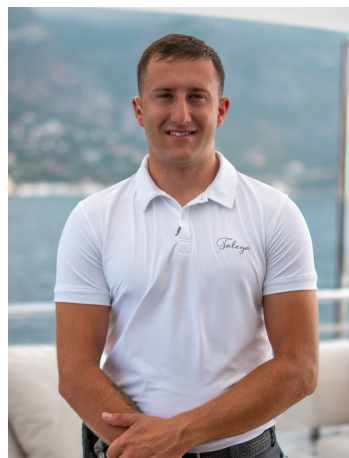
Languages

English, Russian

Deyan began in the engineering department of grand cruise ships until a colleague recommended him for a position on a yacht. The introduction turned into a career—though on a vessel of a slightly different scale.

Deyan takes real satisfaction in the technical side of his job: getting a boat back into full operation after a shipyard period is one of the most rewarding parts of his role. Though his home on board is by the engine room, he takes advantage of any his time off: he loves the Mediterranean islands in Italy, Greece, Spain, and Malta.

"Ask the crew to share where to find untouched beaches—take the tender and go. Do some fishing and cook your own meals too!"



Yevgenii Matviichuk

SECOND ENGINEER

Nationality

Ukrainian

Languages

English, Russian

Bio coming soon!



**We look forward
to welcoming you
on board .**



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