

Chartering in GREECE

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Licensing Options, VAT Treatment & Owner's Use

TWO LICENSING ROUTES

Chartering a yacht in Greece can be structured through two main routes: the Unlimited Charter Licence or the e-charter permission.

The right option depends on the yacht's flag, length, ownership structure, material, expected charter activity and whether the yacht will operate regularly or only for a limited period in Greek waters.

- Unlimited Charter Licence: for recurring commercial activity.
- e-charter permission: for limited charter periods.
- Flag, length and ownership structure are key factors.
- The yacht's intended activity in Greece should be reviewed before entry.



UNLIMITED CHARTER LICENCE

The Unlimited Charter Licence is generally designed for yachts planning regular charter activity in Greece.

It is available for EU-flagged yachts, regardless of length, and for non-EU flagged yachts over 35 metres, provided they are made of steel, GRP or aluminium.

This route usually requires a stronger Greek compliance structure, including VAT registration, fiscal representation and, in many cases, a branch office or management through an established Greek or EU company in Greece.

- Available for EU-flagged yachts.
- Available for non-EU yachts over 35m.
- Commercial certificate of registry required.
- YET registrations are not accepted.
- Greek VAT number and fiscal representative are required.
- PEXEPA certificate and TEPAI fee apply.

E-CHARTER PERMISSION

The e-charter permission is a more flexible route for non-EU flagged yachts over 35 metres operating in Greece for a limited period.

It is valid for 21 days, with a possible 7-day extension, and does not require the establishment of a Greek branch office.

However, the yacht must still complete VAT registration before entering Greece, appoint a legal representative, hold the relevant PEXEPA certificate and prepay part of the VAT due on the charterparty.

- Available for non-EU yachts over 35m.
- Limited period: 21 days + possible 7-day extension.
- No Greek branch office required.
- YET registration is accepted.
- Signed charterparty required.
- 70% of VAT on the charterparty must be prepaid.
- TEPADAH fee applies.

VAT TREATMENT & EXEMPTIONS

Greek yacht charters are generally subject to 24% VAT, applied on 50% of the charter fee.

APA is not subject to VAT, while daily cruises are subject to 24% VAT. Certain exemptions may apply, but only if the conditions are met.

- 24% VAT on 50% of the charter fee.
- APA not subject to VAT.
- Daily cruises: 24% VAT.
- Exemptions may apply to fuel, repairs and spare parts.
- Exemptions require no owner's use.

OWNER'S USE

Owner's use is allowed under both licensing options, but it must be properly documented.

During owner's use, VAT exemptions do not apply to fuel or mooring. Non-EU yachts must also issue a transit log.

- Owner's use is permitted.
- Owner-company link must be documented.
- No VAT exemptions during owner's use.
- Transit log required for non-EU yachts.