

Below: Harbour Island is located at the northern tip of Eleuthra. Inset: Manned by an experienced crew, Trilogy, a 90' Stevens motor yacht, handles the Bahamas' notoriously shallow waters with ease.



first mate on the motoryacht *Bonheur II*. First, says Annan, bring along a surge suppressor. Yachts sometimes experience brown-outs and spikes, either from their own generators or from unreliable shore-power systems. Also, charterers should invest in a hard-shelled waterproof case for their machine, especially on a sailing yacht. Packets of silica gel, available at camera stores, placed in the case, can help keep moisture out.

med charter terms

Charter terms vary in the Mediterranean. Western Mediterranean Terms (WMT) cover hire of the yacht, crew wages and yacht insurance. Mediterranean Yacht Brokers Association (MYBA) terms also include crews' food and ship's laundry. Greek terms include all onboard expenses except meals and bar bills, plus fuel for 4-5 hours cruising per day, but not outboard motor fuel. Eastern Mediterranean (EMT) terms include breakfast, lunch and outboard motor fuel, the only additional costs to the charterer being evening meals, bar bills and local taxes. Camper & Nicholson's offer, on selected yachts, their "Supercruise" terms which are particularly suitable for charterers sharing expenses. These terms cover all onboard expenses, fuel for 30 hours per week cruising, fuel for all tenders, three meals per day and all wines, spirits and beverages. Special items such as caviar may be extra. Additional costs, which apply to all the other terms as well, are onshore transportation and transfers, communications, local taxes and crew gratuities. Gratuities for a crewed charter are expected to be about 15 percent of the charter fee. —Tom Christie
Contact: Camper & Nicholson's, (44) 71 491-2950; fax (44) 71 629-2068; or your charter broker.

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bahamas in high style

the Bahamas with an experienced crew and a captain who is by all accounts a legend in these waters, was most appealing.

Captain Reaney Haskell and mate Susan Oliver had recommended Nassau as our embarkation point as it is centrally located in some of the best cruising waters in the Bahamas. *Trilogy*, a 90' Stevens, lay at nearby Hurricane Hole Marina, which is a first class facility located conveniently within arms reach of the island's well-exercised slot machines.

We took a course northeast to the fishing village of Spanish Wells. Captain Haskell worked the cellular phone making his usual contacts and upon our arrival, fresh baked bread and conch salad were waiting. If I were given the choice of a single source of sustenance, I would certainly choose one of the above. Spanish Wells is a hard working community where the bulk of the male population spends weeks at a time at sea. While the men are at sea, some ladies bake while others like Cecile Dunnam quilt. Her work is known worldwide and was recently exhibited in Washington, D.C. She is a friend of Captain Haskell, as is everyone, it seems.

Later, we rendezvoused with Bradley Newbold, the local pilot, who would guide *Trilogy* across the "Devil's Backbone", a stretch of reef between Spanish Wells and our destination, Harbour Island. Although Captain Haskell has made the passage hundreds of times, the water is skinny and the bottom is unforgiving. Newbold threaded the 90-footer through the "deepest shallow water" available.

Approaching Harbour Island around the north tip of Eleuthera, the quaint settlement of Dunmore Town comes into view. Harbour Island's settlement dates back to the 1700's and its narrow streets and gingerbread architecture are as appealing as the island's spectacular pink sandy shores. On my last day aboard, we dove on a nearby reef and the visibility was better than 60 feet Captain Haskell and the crew of *Trilogy* had shown me a side of the

Bahamas I had never seen and look forward to seeing it again. My view of yacht charter will never be the same.

—Jay Coyle

Contact: Missy Johnston, Northrop and Johnson, Dept. Y, 19 Brown & Howard Wharf, Newport, RI 02840. (401) 848-5500, fax (401) 848-0120, or your charter broker.