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ALGARVE · PORTUGAL

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Today: A cargo ship rescues Francis Joyon as foil damage hits the Route du Rhum favourite *Gitana 18*, The Italian Sea Group names a reference bid ahead of a court hearing, the International Superyacht Society announces its 2026 winners, and rain may return to Portugal this weekend as an Atlantic low approaches.

LEAD STORY

Route du Rhum: Joyon picked up by a cargo ship, and the favourite suffers foil damage

Francis Joyon is safe. After his capsize in the Vintage Multi class on Monday afternoon, reported in yesterday's issue, two cargo ships altered course to help, and *Maersk Columbus* took him aboard unhurt late that evening, after about eight hours on the upturned *Océans*. He was then on his way to Ireland. Initial findings point to a strong gust as the cause.

The latest blow has landed on the Ultim fleet's pre-race favourite. At about 05:00 today Charles Caudrelier reported damage to the port foil of *Gitana 18*, some 400 miles north of the Azores, in a three-metre sea and 20 to 25 knots from the north. He is unhurt and has secured the boat, while the shore team works out how bad the damage is and what his options are. He was fourth when it happened and fifth by 10:00, almost 250 miles behind the leader.

That leader is Tom Laperche on *SVR-Lazartigue*, who has covered more than 770 miles in 24 hours. His margin over Armel Le Cléac'h on *Banque Populaire XI* has grown to 67 miles, from about 20 on Monday, and Thomas Coville's *Sodebo Ultim 3* is a further 84 miles back. Anthony Marchand's rudder on *Actual Ultim 4* cannot be repaired at sea, so he must reach his team in Ireland. No Ultim had officially retired by this morning, but two of the eight now look seriously compromised.

Source: YACHT / Bateaux.com / Point-Marée / Sail-World, 3 Nov 2026

The Italian Sea Group names a reference bid as cash runs low

The owner of Admiral, Perini Navi, Tecnomar and Picchiotti has named a 220 million bid from SRI Group Global for the whole business (about $246 million) as the reference for its restructuring plan at the Court of Florence. The offer came out of five received by the 19 October deadline. Two were for the entire company, and the rest for specific assets. The proposal would lease the business to the buyer until the sale completes, pay preferential creditors in full and unsecured creditors about 10%, with nothing for subordinated creditors.

It is not yet settled. The group calls the offer a benchmark, says it would amend the plan for a better one, and intends to propose reopening bidding. A hearing is set for 11 November. Its 30 October figures show cash down to €1.9 million at the end of September, net financial debt of €184.2 million and overdue liabilities of €292.3 million.

Meanwhile, Vincenzo Poerio has confirmed to SUPER YACHT 24 that he has resigned as managing director of Tankoa Yachts, saying the arrangements are still undecided. The publication describes him as operational head of the SRI consortium. Tankoa had not commented.

Source: Megayacht News / SUPER YACHT 24, 2 & 3 Nov 2026

International Superyacht Society names its 2026 winners

Feadship and Cantiere delle Marche each took two prizes at the ISS Design & Leadership Awards, in the society's 35th year. Feadship won in the two largest motor categories, with *Valor* (1,000–3,000 GT) and the 119 m hydrogen fuel-cell yacht *Breakthrough* (over 3,000 GT). Cantiere delle Marche won with the 30.8 m *Haze²* (below 300 GT) and the 44.3 m *Nasiba* (300–500 GT).

Under sail, the honours went to Southern Wind's 32.8 m *Kiboko 4* and Royal Huisman's 65 m *Aquarius*. Best refit went to *Solace*, the former Feadship *Twizzle*, which Pendennis lengthened to 57 m in a ten-month project.

Source: Megayacht News, 1 Nov 2026

Brokerage: *Global* sold, *Cofina* listed, and auctions begin

The 64.5 m support vessel *Global* has found a buyer, having last been offered at $12.5 million. Built by Bender in 1982 as a commercial workboat and converted by Shadow Marine in 2007, she has a helipad with a climate-controlled hangar, a 35-tonne crane and two U-Boat Worx submersibles, and her range is 10,000 miles.

Fraser's Jack Robertson has taken on the 40.2 m Benetti *Cofina*, delivered in 2016 and lying in the Bahamas, also at $12.5 million. She has a navy blue hull and takes 12 guests in six cabins. Also with Fraser, the 47.5 m Admiral *Althea*, refitted at Monaco Marine in 2024 and 2025, has had €3 million taken off her price and is now €23.9 million with VAT paid.

Online auctions start this week. A sponsored BOAT feature for Boathouse Auctions, published on 13 October, lists the 29.9 m Azimut *Koukles* tomorrow and the 45.6 m Damen Maaskant *Scintilla Maris* on Thursday, both with no reserve.

Source: BOAT International, 29 Oct – 3 Nov 2026

Sirena's first steel yacht profiled

Megayacht News has looked closely at the Sirena 42M, launched this summer and shown at Monaco four years after she was announced. She is Sirena's first megayacht and its first metal boat. Its previous flagship, the Sirena 118, is composite. She takes ten guests in five staterooms, and about 80% of the furnishings are custom. Van Oossanen, her naval architect, recommended a Hull Vane, the wing-shaped foil intended to cut pitching, resistance and fuel use at low to moderate speeds. Her range is put at 4,600 miles at 10 knots.

Source: Megayacht News, 3 Nov 2026

Metstrade: Superyacht Zone full two weeks out

The Superyacht Zone at Metstrade, in Amsterdam from 17 to 19 November, is fully booked, according to a promotional piece in SUPER YACHT 24. It moves this year to Halls 7 and 8, joined by an elevated walkway, and the Marina & Yard Zone moves to Hall 9. Sessions on the Superyacht Stage include nuclear propulsion for yachts on the Tuesday and America's Cup technology transfer on the Thursday. The Superyacht Forum runs on 16 and 17 November.

Source: SUPER YACHT 24, 2 Nov 2026

RACING

Route du Rhum: Horeau takes over in the IMOCAs, and Delahaye is out

Corentin Horeau on *MACSF* has overtaken Ambrogio Beccaria and Sam Goodchild, who were disputing the IMOCA lead yesterday. At 10:00 he was 16 miles ahead of Beccaria on *Allagrande Mapei*, who has reported a leak at the stern and a broken stove, with Élodie Bonafous third, under 19 miles off the lead. Armel Tripon is sailing slowly on *Les P'tits Doudous* with one damaged rudder raised. Lighter air lies ahead of a stationary front west of the Azores, with strong northerlies expected behind it. Forecast models differ on whether to gybe south or carry on west, according to the team of Francesca Clapcich, seventh this morning on *11th Hour Racing*.

In Class40, Luca Rosetti on *Maccaferri Futura* led Pierre Leboucher by about two miles, though the leaders' routes are more than 200 miles apart. Fabien Delahaye, one of the favourites, has retired from the race. He hurt his ankle lowering a spinnaker on *Legallais* in 25 knots at about 06:00 today and is heading unassisted for A Coruña, about 350 miles away. Vincent Riou, on *Pierreval*, has a broken forestay pin that will be hard to repair at sea.

Elsewhere, Basile Bourgnon on *Edenred* has stretched his Ocean Fifty lead to 21 miles, after reportedly touching 43.1 knots. Sidney Gavignet still heads the Vintage Monos on *Le Cigare Rouge*, despite hurting his ribs in a fall through an open cockpit hatch.

Source: Point-Marée / Bateaux.com / Sail-World, 3 Nov 2026

America's Cup: France sails into the dark, and the Kiwis use up their days

The French team, La Roche-Posay Racing, took its AC75 out late on Friday off Naples, in light airs that swung to the north-east and freshened to 11 to 13 knots as the light faded. Recon observers put her at about 41 knots downwind, and the sails came down in darkness. It was the team's 17th sailing day of a 55-day allowance.

In Auckland, Emirates Team New Zealand sailed on Saturday in 18 to 20 knots from the south, under its smallest main and jib, with prestarts and practice races. That was day 31 of 45, leaving 14 days for the next 11 weeks. A big splashdown late in the session may have followed contact with something in the water.

Source: Yachts and Yachting / Sail-World, 2 Nov 2026

J/24 Worlds next: *Gekko* wins the warm-up on countback

Kohei Ichikawa's Japanese entry *Gekko* won the J/24 Pre-Worlds on Port Phillip, Melbourne, after three straight race wins took him level on 13 points with Cillian Dickson's Irish boat *Headcase*, the top Corinthian. Nick Chapman's *Wildfire* was third in a fleet of 29, in a weekend disrupted by lightning and a two-hour postponement. The World Championship follows at Sandringham Yacht Club, with racing from 7 to 11 November.

Source: Yachts and Yachting, 1 Nov 2026

Dinghy titles settled at Brightlingsea and The Chase

Chris Gould and Sophie Mackley won the final round of the Merlin Rocket Silver Tiller at Brightlingsea on Saturday with *Black Swan*, scoring two points in three races in an easterly of 6 to 8 knots. Twenty boats were in the results.

At The Chase, light airs and fog cut the GP14 Youth and Masters Championships to four races out of six. Matthew and Timothy McGovern were first overall, ahead of Andy Smith and Ali Rimmer. Finlay Waterhouse and Savannah Henshaw became Youth Champions.

Source: Yachts and Yachting, 2 & 3 Nov 2026

PORTUGAL & THE ALGARVE

Rain may return this weekend as an Atlantic low approaches

The settled weather may be coming to an end. IPMA says cloud will build from midweek, especially in the south, where some showers cannot be ruled out, and that a large depression near the Azores may approach the mainland around 7 and 8 November. Meteored, which also sees possible light rain south of the Mondego on Thursday and Friday, stresses that the low's track is uncertain and that a small shift could change where and when the rain falls. Algarve minimums should be 12 to 15 ºC. IPMA's longer outlook suggests above-normal rainfall is possible in the second week of November. The reports did not cover sea state, so skippers should check the latest IPMA forecast before planning a passage.

Source: Postal do Algarve, 2 Nov 2026

Bathing season ends with 31 deaths on Portuguese beaches

The Autoridade Marítima Nacional has reported its figures for the bathing season, which has now closed. Between May and October, 31 people died on Portugal's beaches: 17 by drowning, 12 from sudden illness and two from unknown causes. Eleven of the deaths were on guarded beaches, while the other 20 were on unguarded beaches or stretches of coast, or outside the guarded season. There were also 1,479 rescues and 2,782 first-aid interventions. The report gives national totals only, with no separate Algarve figures.

Source: Barlavento, 3 Nov 2026

Worth a detour: a 900-year-old fishing village above the Atlantic

Postal has revisited Ponta do Castelo, the clifftop site near Carrapateira, north of Praia do Amado, where the remains of an Islamic-period fishing settlement can still be seen. A study by archaeologist Rosa Varela Gomes dates its occupation to between the mid-12th and early 13th centuries. Nineteen small single-room houses have been found, along with iron fishhooks, net weights, harpoons and bread ovens. Researchers suggest it was used mainly in spring and summer, when fishing conditions were better. We found no new Algarve sailing results or marina news in the last 48 hours.

Source: Postal do Algarve, 2 Nov 2026

REGULATION & DESTINATIONS

Guangdong yachts reach Macao as port formalities are simplified

Macao received its first four yachts from Guangdong on 30 October, at the Coloane mooring area. The authorities have made entry and departure simpler for yachts coming from mainland China: applications can now be made online, so owners and captains need not attend in person. Macao has more than 220 berths for local and visiting craft, and a temporary anchorage has been set up off Hac Sa Beach. The trip follows an agreement in September on two-way yacht travel, and a first voyage by five Guangdong yachts to Discovery Bay in Hong Kong on 16 October.

Source: Marina World, 3 Nov 2026

Kobe plans a superyacht base for spring 2027

Japan's shortage of long-stay superyacht facilities is the target of Superyacht Base Kobe, a venture of seven investors working with the city on its port waterfront. Moorings should receive their first vessels in spring 2027, with a clubhouse, restaurant and lounge following in 2028. The aim is a cruising network linking Kobe with Awaji Island, Shodoshima, Takamatsu and Onomichi. (Reported on 23 October.)

Source: Marina World, 23 Oct 2026

Wintering in the Algarve?

Low-season berths at Portimão Marina run until 31 May, in deep, sheltered water at the mouth of the Arade. Our boatyard handles haul-outs, antifouling and refits one mile away. Members get an extra 10% off every marina fee.

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Stories are summarised by Portimão Marina from the reports listed. Please check the original sources for full details. Previous issues: portimaomarina.com/yachting-news.html