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Boat Timeshares – A Unique Vacationing Experience

By Dana Sanders

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If you've dreamed of sailing the seven seas, but don't necessarily have the bank account to buy a luxury vessel, don't despair. There are ways to make that dream happen without breaking your bank.

Boat timeshares offer a unique vacationing experience for almost any budget. By getting involved in a timeshare, you have the right to use that luxury vessel to make your dreams come true, but you alone are not solely responsible for all the expenses. Timeshares provide an excellent way for someone not willing or able to take on the expense of purchasing a great vacationing boat themselves to still experience the adventure of life on the water.

A variety of companies offer would-be Captain Ahab's the ability to take to the sea without shelling out a lot of cash. Boat timeshare companies and programs are readily available and accessible across the Internet. Boating timeshare companies are active all over the world with even some finding their homes on America's Great Lakes.

Basically, a boat timeshare offers a sailor a chance to buy into a piece of a boat for a season. Similar to a yacht club, but without all the expenses of owning your own yacht, these programs lets sailors sail minus the headaches. Some programs allow members to purchase blocks of time over the course of a sailing season to use a boat. Many programs work by giving several "skippers" the same boat during the sailing season. These skippers book multiple sail times, show up, sail, have a blast and return the boat for the next skipper to take over.

While boat timeshares provide everything needed to sail, members still are responsible for making sure the boat is in good condition when it's returned. Swabbing the deck isn't out of the question. However, many timeshare programs will even go as far as to include maintenance, fuel and so on in the initial price. This leaves the member responsible for simply safely piloting the vessel, keeping it clean and enjoying their high seas adventure with their family and friends for a fraction of the price of owning a yacht themselves. The insurance, boat licensing and other worries are generally handled by the timeshare company itself.

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For those who lack the skills to man their own vessels, many boat timeshares will provide a crew including a captain, instructor, and/or cook at a small additional cost. One company in particular, Trade Winds Cruise Club, offers all-inclusive cabin rentals and is RCI's (Resorts Condominiums International) only Caribbean yachting affiliate. As an RCI Member, you have the option of exchanging your timeshare week for a cabin space onboard crewed catamaran charters.

So, what is pricing like for these nautical adventures? Not bad considering a luxury boat can cost thousands and thousands of dollars. And even better when you consider buying your own boat doesn't include fuel, maintenance, licensing and insurance costs and so on! A timeshare that covers an entire boating season can cost upwards of \$7,000, a reasonable expense considering the headaches removed by taking part in such a venture.

To learn more about boat timeshares and the unique vacation opportunities they provide, just log on to the Internet and visit locations such as <http://www.atimesharesz.com/boattimeshare> to do a thorough search. A variety of companies with different programs and options are operating in a bevy of locations around the world.

Looking for information about timeshares? Go to <http://www.atimesharesz.com>. A Timeshares Z is a timeshares and vacation, resort and condo rentals and resales directory.

The Pros And Cons Of Timeshare Property Ownership

By Connie Barker

Just like any other purchase, timeshares are not for everyone; however for the vast majority of people interested in buying a timeshare, it can be an extremely beneficial way to enjoy great accommodations each year in your favorite vacation spot. Here are some pros and cons on timeshare property ownership.

If you and your family take a vacation each year in the same location you can easily benefit from a timeshare property. Timeshare properties make it easy to enjoy luxury accommodations year after year without having to spend time at expensive hotels or sub par motels with no amenities. Timeshare properties are the best way to spend a vacation with your family or friends, timeshares come in many sizes such as one bedroom apartments, perfect for just you and your spouse, or three bedroom homes with a patio, lounge area and many bathrooms. Timeshares are the perfect way to lodge when away from home at your favorite vacation destination.

If you don't take a vacation each year or if you vacation some where different year after year, timeshares are probably not for you. There are timeshares that allow you to swap with another family, but if you don't take a regular vacation or stay close to home for your vacation, timeshares are probably not practical for your situation.

Timeshares are also a good way to save money on your lodging expenses. Why pay hundreds of dollars a day for you and your family to spend a night in a hotel or even a motel when you can spend

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less with a timeshare property and have much more space and all be under one roof. Motels and hotels are impersonal and do not have the amenities that larger families need. With a timeshare, you can choose a property size that is right for you as well as have access to leisure activities on the site in most cases.

It is also important to note that timeshare properties are self catered. Meaning if you like traveling for the sole reason of room service, you will not have that service at a timeshare property. For people with large families or for people that enjoy home cooking, having a kitchen in your timeshare property will not only save money but allow you to eat the food that you like instead of fast food or at a restaurant.

Just like every other purchase, it is important to do your research and make sure the accommodations, amenities and property cost and yearly fee is right for you. While the vast majority of time share property owners are extremely satisfied, some timeshare owners that buy a timeshare without doing research on the area or value of the property can become dissatisfied.

If you are interested in timeshare property ownership, make sure you do your research and weigh the pros and cons to make sure you will be happy with your property.

Connie Barker is the owner of



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