



ROLEX FASTNET RACE 2013

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1 August 2013

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ROLEX FASTNET RACE 2013 – STORY LEADS

A selection of story leads from the 45th edition

1 June 2013

RECORD FOR BIGGEST OFFSHORE RACE ON THE PLANET

Setting sail on 11 August, this year's Rolex Fastnet Race will once again demonstrate that the Royal Ocean Racing Club's premier event is the world's largest and most diverse offshore yacht race, by some considerable margin. Among the other 'classic 600 milers', including the Rolex Sydney Hobart and Middle Sea Race and Gotland Runt, only the biennial Newport-Bermuda race regularly has an entry list of more than 100 boats.

This year the Rolex Fastnet Race is lining up to be the biggest ever in the event's 89-year history. As many as 380 yachts, from over 22 different countries are entered for the event that takes the boats around Land's End, across the Celtic Sea before rounding the Fastnet Rock and Bishop's Rock en route to the finish line off Plymouth.

The 45th edition of this biennial race has taken place since 1925 and competitors are drawn by the history and sporting lure of Europe's oldest and greatest offshore contest. It is legendary within the world of ocean racing:



- Largest offshore race in the world
- Record fleet of up to 380 boats for 2013, 3,000+ crews
- Greatest international competition (Boats from over 22 countries + crew from many more)
- Most diverse fleet of offshore race boats
- The 608-nautical mile race is a test of strategy and skill with challenging tidal currents and changeable weather

HOME WATERS PHENOMENON

We are immensely proud of our great sailing achievements here in Britain, producing outstanding sailors as well as some of the most celebrated yacht races in the world too. The Rolex Fastnet Race is one such race and its role in the growth and evolution of the sport of sailing throughout its history is something to be proud of too.

The Rolex Fastnet Race has evolved into one of the biggest 'home waters' success stories in yachting since its inception in 1925 and the formation of The Ocean Racing Club, later becoming the Royal Ocean Racing Club, immediately after the race.

DIVERSE FLEET

The diversity of the yachts and participants is truly extraordinary. With yachts ranging from 33-140ft taking part on the same race course. The maxi trimaran Spindrift 2 is the holder of the Jules Verne Trophy for the fastest circumnavigation, sailing around the world in just over 45 days. Internet entrepreneur Niklas Zennström's 72' mini maxi Rán 2 is hoping to win the Rolex Fastnet Race for an unprecedented third time in a row. Plus the original winner of the first race in 1925, the Pilot Cutter Jolie Brise, celebrating her centenary, is also competing and this diversity is the reason why the Rolex Fastnet Race is so special.



INTERNATIONAL RACE



Over 22 different countries and territories from five continents will be represented, with crews comprising both fully professional and amateur sailors. The entry list includes yachts from: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, the Cayman Islands, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Latvia, Norway, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland the United Arab Emirates and the United States. More than a third of the boats will be overseas entries, confirmation of the international reputation and appeal of the event.

MASS APPEAL

LARGEST FLEET EVER: UP TO 380 ENTRIES

In response to the immense demand and popularity of the event, The Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC) increased the limit after the entry list was filled within 24 hours of opening. The race has mass appeal and a record number of 380 starters is expected in 2013 widening the field of potential winners still further. (An increase of 40 x IRC rated boats. Previous limit for IRC rated boats was 300), The addition of the 'professional' classes: (Volvo Open 70s, IMOCA 60s, Class 40s, multihulls and Mini Transat) will bring the total fleet to up to 380 boats. Blondie, Henny Abbenhues' First 40.7 was first boat to join – 7 seconds after online entries opened!

COURSE

Thousands of spectators line the route as the testing course passes several famous landmarks on the south coast of England. Initially, the race heads westward down The Solent, exiting into the English Channel at Hurst Castle. As the fleet leaves the notable rock formations of The Needles to port, it enters the next phase in the race: the series of headlands and tidal gates that mark the journey to Land's End at the south-west tip of England.

The legs across the Celtic Sea to and from the Fastnet Rock are long and unpredictable. Openly exposed to fast moving Atlantic weather systems the fleet often encounters the toughest weather of the race on its approach to and return from Ireland. The

Fastnet Rock has significant standing in the minds of competitors, and is viewed as the halfway mark, even though the actual distance remaining is less. The sense of achievement felt by crew must be tempered by a need to stay focused on the challenge ahead.



The finish in Plymouth, with its maritime heritage is always memorable for crews and yet another historic Fastnet Race.

SPONSORS

Rolex has sponsored the Rolex Fastnet Race since 2001 and extended its commitment until 2021. As the crown in sailing for over 50 years, Rolex is proud to be a major force at play behind yachting's finest events, players and organizations. Whether supporting extreme challenges such as the ultra-competitive Rolex Sydney Hobart or maintaining tradition with the glamorous Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup, Rolex has cultivated a privileged relationship with the elite world of yachting. <http://www.rolex.com/>
www.regattanews.com

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS:

Henri Lloyd – Official Clothing Sponsor, <http://www.henrilloyd.com>

Pantaenius Insurance <https://www.pantaenius.com>

INMARSAT - <http://www.inmarsat.com>

Small is beautiful:

Proving size is unimportant in 2005, Frenchman Jean-Yves Chateau etched his name on the honour roll winning in his 33-ft Iromiguy.

Smallest yachts:(IRC): Brightwork: Rogers 30: 9.53m (31.3ft)
(Non-IRC): Astelle and Makani: both Corsair 31- 01D: 9.40m (30.10ft)

Largest yachts:

Largest yacht (Non-IRC): Spindrift 2: VPLP 140 Trimaran: 40.00m (131ft)
Largest yacht (IRC): Esimit Europa 2: RP100: 30.48m (100ft), skippered by: Jochen Schümann, twice America's Cup winner and 3 x Olympic champion

IRC RATING

More than just red tape

'Safety' & 'stability' are the watchwords when offshore racing



The priorities for most competitors doing the Royal Ocean Racing Club's prestigious Rolex Fastnet Race in 2013 will be undertaking enough races to qualify the skipper and crew for the Race whilst also ensuring safety gear, provisions and logistics are all in order. However, two administrative items to tick off on their long 'To Do' lists will be having a current Spinlock IRC rating certificate, and the stability information required by RORC to ensure the boat is suitable to take part in the 600 mile offshore race. For these, owners will be seeking the services of either the UK-based RORC Rating Office or their French counterpart, UNCL in Paris.

Most sailors will be familiar with the IRC time corrector (TCC) and measurements on a rating certificate, but have you wondered what the 'STIX' and 'AVS' numbers mean? They are not related to the boat's rating or performance, but her stability and seaworthiness, and are calculated from an International Standard. The Rating Office in Lymington, Hampshire, is the technical branch of the RORC and not only administers the international Spinlock IRC rating rule but is also responsible for checking and applying the STIX and AVS stability information on IRC certificates for boats around the world.

Say 'international stability index' to most people and their eyes will glaze over. The full details of how the STIX and AVS values are calculated are too technical for the majority but, in simple terms, higher values reflect a more 'seaworthy' boat. Considering the safety of boats and crews is of course high priority for race organisers and for many events, including the demanding Rolex Fastnet Race, yachts must comply with minimum safety and stability requirements to be able to compete.

The Spinlock IRC rating rule is administered jointly by the RORC Rating Office in Lymington, UK and UNCL Centre de Calcul in Paris, France. The RORC Rating Office is the technical hub of the Royal Ocean Racing Club and recognised globally as a centre of excellence for measurement. For Spinlock IRC rating information in the UK

www.rorcrating.com

www.facebook.com/rorcrating

Twitter: @RORCrating

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RECORDS & TROPHIES**WINNERS 2001-2011****Line Honours Winner
(Monohull)**

2011 (fleet size 315)
Abu Dhabi (UAE), Volvo Ocean 70, Ian Walker
(1 day, 18 hours, 39 minutes)
2009 (fleet size 300)
ICAP Leopard (GBR), Farr 100, Mike Slade
(2 days 11 hrs 9mins)
2007 (fleet size: 271)
ICAP Leopard (GBR), Farr 100, Mike Slade
(1 day 20hrs 18mins 53 sec)
2005 (fleet size: 283)
Maximus (NZL), Elliott 98, Charles St Clair Brown/Bill
Buckley
2003 (fleet size: 245)
Alfa Romeo (NZL), R/P 90, Neville Crichton
2001 (fleet size: 233)
Stealth (ITA), Frers 93, Giovanni Agnelli (not on
board)

**Fastnet Challenge Cup
(Overall Monohull Winner)**

Rán 2 (GBR), JV72, Niklas Zennström
Rán (GBR), JV72, Niklas Zennstrom
Chieftain (IRL), Cookson 50, Ger O'Rourke
Iromiguy (FRA), Nicholson 33, Jean-Yves Château
Nokia Enigma (GBR), R/P 76, Charles Dunstone
Tonnerre de Breskens (NED), Lutra 52, Piet Vroon

OTHER RECORD HOLDERS

Fastnet Race Records	Yacht Name	Yacht Type	Year	Speed (knots)
Fastest monohull with moveable ballast Elapsed time: 1 day, 18 hours, 39 minutes	Abu Dhabi	Volvo 70	2011	14.26
Fastest monohull without moveable ballast Elapsed time: 1 day 21 hours 03 mins 21 sec	Rambler	RP 90	2007	13.49
Fastest open multihull Elapsed time: 1 day, 8 hours, and 48 minutes	Maxi Banque Populaire	VPLP 140 Trimaran	2011	18.53
Fastest class multihull Elapsed time: 1 day 10 hours 06 mins 55 secs	Veolia Environnement	MOD 70	2011	17.82
Fastest multihull under 50ft	Spirit of England		1997	8.35
Fastest IMOCA 60 Elapsed time: 1 day 23 hours 21 mins 27 secs	PRB	IMOCA 60	2011	12.84
Fastest Class40 Elapsed time: 3 days 14 hours 17 mins 28secs	Initiatives – Alex Olivier	Class40	2011	7.05

MONOHULL RACE RECORDS

Year	Yacht, Owner, Elapsed time
1925	Jolie Brise (GBR), E. G. Martin, 146 hours 45 minutes
1926	Hallowe'en (GBR), Col J.F.N. Baxendale, 91h 5m
1939	Nordwind (GER), Kriegsmarine, 88h 23m
1965	Gitana IV (FRA), Baron E. de Rothschild, 81h 40m
1971	American Eagle (USA), R. E. Turner III, 79h 11m 48 seconds
1979	Condor of Bermuda (GBR), R. Bell, 71h 25m 23s
1985	Nirvana (USA), M. Green, 60h 41m 15s
1999	RF Yachting (NZL), R. Field, 53h 8m 51s
2007	ICAP Leopard (GBR), M. Slade, 44h 18m 53s
2011	Abu Dhabi (UAE), I. Walker, 42h 18m 39m

**TROPHIES**

- The main trophy for overall victory in the Rolex Fastnet is the Fastnet Challenge Cup
- In addition, there are more than 30 additional trophies that will be awarded at the prizegiving on Friday, 16 August at Plymouth Yacht Haven
- Trophies are for corrected time results except where stated. A Rolex Chronometer may be awarded to the Fastnet Challenge Cup winner and the line honours monohull winner. In the event of one boat winning both trophies only one chronometer will be presented

HISTORY OF THE FASTNET RACE

- First sailed in 1925 and run biennially since the early 1930s, the 608-mile Rolex Fastnet Race has captured the imagination of sailors the world over. It was one of the first true tests of offshore sailing skill and to win this race is an ambition of every racing sailor
- The Rolex Fastnet is an arduous yet absorbing adventure: conditions can be boisterous, sometimes unforgiving. In August the Atlantic shores of northern Europe, and particularly the United Kingdom and Ireland, regularly witness westerly winds reaching up to gale force; harsh conditions are almost guaranteed for one or more stages of the race. The event's history pays stark testament to these challenges. During the 1979 edition, an intense storm of great ferocity cost the lives of 15 sailors. The organizers, the Royal Ocean Racing Club, reacted effectively promoting significant advancements in yacht design, safety equipment and stricter qualification requirements for all those entering the race
- Famous landmarks passed along the route include: The Needles, Portland Bill, Start Point, The Lizard, Land's End, the Fastnet Rock, Bishop's Rock off the Scillies and Plymouth breakwater. Even the foreign boats are familiar with these headlands and rocky outcrops by the end of the race

KEY DATES & TIMELINE

- 1925 Fastnet Race is created, becoming the first offshore race in Europe. Jolie Brise wins the inaugural edition, contested by 7 yachts. The Ocean Racing Club – later becoming the Royal Ocean Racing Club – is formed immediately after the race. Jolie Brise would go on to win the race on two more occasions (1929 and 1930)
- 1931 Rod and Olin Stephen's Dorade from the United States becomes the first overseas yacht to win the race, having sailed the Atlantic to participate
- 1933 Dorade repeats her success of 1931
- 1947 The first race following the Second World War. Victory goes to the first yacht custom built for offshore racing – Briton John Illingworth's Myth of Malham. Illingworth, a legendary seaman, was one of the pioneers of the Rolex Sydney Hobart Yacht Race founded in 1945
- 1965 Gitana IV breaks Nordwind's 26-year race record, setting a new line honours time, completing the 608-nm course in 81 hours, 40 minutes
- 1971 Media mogul Ted Turner's American Eagle becomes the first yacht to complete the course in less than 80 hours
- 1979 303 yachts start the race, the biggest fleet in the event's history. However, the 1979 edition goes down in history for the wrong reasons. Gale force winds and violent seas cause havoc. 18 people (15 sailors and 3 rescue workers) are lost and less than a third of the fleet finishes the race. After the event, new regulations were introduced to improve the integrity of yacht design, require proper storm sails and make VHF radios mandatory; eligibility qualifications were also introduced
- 1999 A new race record set by Ross Field's RF Yachting in 53 hours and 8 minutes
- 2001 Rolex becomes title sponsor
- 2007 Mike Slade's ICAP Leopard becomes the first monohull boat to finish in less than 48 hours. For the first time in the event's 82-year history, the race start is delayed by 24 hours due to a severe weather warning
- 2011 A record number of 315 yachts from nearly 20 countries contest the race. A new monohull record is set by Ian Walker's Volvo Open 70 Abu Dhabi. Niklas Zennstrom's Rán 2 wins for a second successive time, joining the elite club of Jolie Brise (1929 & 30), Dorade (1931 & 33), Myth of Malham (1947 & 49) and Carina (USA, 1955 & 57)
- 2012 Rolex extends its support of the Rolex Fastnet Race until 2021

LANDMARKS OF THE RACE



THE COURSE

608 nautical mile non-stop race. The race entails a gripping and punishing 608-nautical mile journey from Cowes, Isle of Wight to Plymouth via the Fastnet Rock, off the southern tip of Ireland.

Beginning at the Royal Yacht Squadron in Cowes, the Isle of Wight, it passes noted landmarks in the English Channel including The Needles, Portland Bill, Start Point, The Lizard and Land's End, ahead of the open water passage across the Celtic Sea.

The legs across the Celtic Sea to and from the Fastnet Rock are long and unpredictable. Openly exposed to fast moving Atlantic weather systems the fleet often encounters the toughest weather of the race on its approach to and return from Ireland.

The symbolic turn around the Fastnet Rock off the southern coast of Ireland; a rounding that heralds the race's emblematic halfway juncture. The Fastnet Rock has significant standing in the minds of competitors, and is viewed as the halfway mark, even though the actual distance remaining is less.

The sense of achievement felt by crew must be tempered by a need to stay focused on the challenge ahead. The fleet then embark on the long return leg and the finish in Plymouth.

Distances on the course: Total = 608 nautical miles (1,126 km)
The start of the Rolex Fastnet Race is from the Royal Yacht Squadron (RYS) line, Cowes, Isle of Wight. Yachts will race on a course of approx 608 miles via the Fastnet Rock to the finish line at the western end of the breakwater in Plymouth Harbour:

Cowes – Needles 16m
Needles – Portland Bill 34m
Portland – Start Point 54m
Start Point – Lizard 60m
Lizard – Lands End 22m
Land's End – Fastnet 170m
Fastnet Rock – Scillies 154m
Scillies – Lizard 51m
Lizard – Finish 46

THE FASTNET ROCK – THE SYMBOL

The symbol of this 608-nautical mile race is the Fastnet Rock, located off the southern coast of Ireland. Also known as the Teardrop of Ireland, the Rock marks an evocative turning point for a challenging race. The Fastnet Rock has a lasting memory that standing in the minds of competitors, and is viewed as the halfway mark, even though the actual distance remaining is less. The sense of achievement felt by crew must be tempered by a need to stay focused on the challenge ahead.

The Fastnet Lighthouse positioned at 51°23.3' North 9°36.1' West is known as 'The Teardrop of Ireland', the last sight of Ireland for emigrants sailing to America. The Fastnet Rock is 4.5 miles South West of Cape Clear and Mizen Head. There are two pinnacles of hard clay shale with veins of quartz rising to a height of 30 metres above the low water mark, all surrounded by deep water. The height of the tower is 54 metres. The Corporation of Trinity House sanctioned the first lighthouse, a cast iron tower, in 1848 to



replace the Cape Clear Lighthouse, which was too far inside the dangers, too high and too often obscured by fog. This first Fastnet light first shone on New Year's Day 1854

There were originally six keepers associated with the Fastnet Rock - four on the rock at a time with the other two on leave. Relief were twice a month when two men were taken off; each man did four weeks on, two weeks off. One man had to stay on watch during daytime to look out for fog and to signal passing ships. As soon as fog was seen, another man was called up to work the fog signal.



THE PANTAENIUS BUOY - 51° 17'.020N 009° 41'.040W

51° 17.020'N 09° 41.040'W

The only laid mark on the 608 nautical mile course in the legendary Rolex Fastnet Race, organised by the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC) is being sponsored for the 9th race by Plymouth-based Pantaenius Yacht Insurance.

The Rock marks an evocative turning point for a challenging and compelling race and once past the symbol of the race, the massive fleet with yachts ranging from 33-114ft, round the only mark on the course, The Pantaenius Buoy. Laid as a Special Mark Buoy, it is placed on behalf of the RORC to mark the western turning point of the course in the Rolex Fastnet Race by The Commissioners of Irish Lights.

RORC Racing Manager, Nick Elliott explains its purpose as a spreader mark and safety measure on the Rolex Fastnet Race:

"The Pantaenius Buoy stops boats rounding the Fastnet Rock and heading back on the reciprocal track directly towards boats approaching the Rock. With the speed of modern yachts reaching fast in both directions there could be a collision speed of 40 knots or more so the laying of the Pantaenius Buoy avoids this."

Pantaenius have been providing yacht insurance to yacht owners all over the world and with over 65,000 clients, is the number one insurance provider in Europe. They have sponsored the Pantaenius Buoy in the historic Fastnet Race since 1997:

"The RORC concluded that it was too dangerous to allow competitors departing from the Fastnet Rock to sail through those approaching the Rock. Yachts were getting bigger and faster. Allowing tired crews to sail towards each other at relative speeds at night in bad weather was no longer an option. It was decided to place a buoy as an additional race mark about 8 miles SW of the Rock. In order to promote safety at sea, Pantaenius agreed to sponsor the Pantaenius Buoy and are proud to have been involved for the last 16 years," says Pantaenius UK's Managing Director, John McCurdy, OBE MBA.

<http://www.pantaenius.co.uk>

HOW TO FOLLOW THE RACE

TIMINGS FOR STARTS:

The race starts from one of yachting's most famous locations: the Royal Yacht Squadron in Cowes on the Isle of Wight on Sunday 11th August 2013. The start sequence begins with the first warning signal at 11.50 BST for the 45th edition. The sequence last for two hours from 1200 to 1400:

1200 – Multihull
1210 – IMOCA60
1220 – Class40
1230 – IRC4
1250 – IRC3
1310 – IRC2
1330 – IRC1
1350- IRC CK & IRC Z

WHERE TO WATCH: COWES START

The best vantage points of the start will be along Cowes Green and Egypt Esplanade on the Isle of Wight. Spectators will also be able to listen to the live commentary on the speakers along Cowes Parade and The Green from Fastnet Radio. As the fleet funnels out of the Solent there will be a good chance to see the yachts from Yarmouth on the Isle of Wight, and Hurst Castle on the mainland. Further along the coast Anvil Point, St Alban's Head, and Portland Bill should also give a good view of the race on its outbound leg.



FASTNET RADIO 87.9 FM – FROM START TO FINISH AND ONLINE

Follow the Rolex Fastnet Race with full coverage live on Fastnet Radio. Beginning with commentary and live video from the start in Cowes on 87.9FM, as well as online: <http://www.fastnetradio.co.uk/> from Sunday 11th August through to the prizegiving in Plymouth on 16th August and also covering the fireworks championships.

RACE WEBSITE:

The easiest way to follow the fleet is via the RORC's mini site - <http://fastnet.rorc.org>. The latest news updates, press release and positions as well as information from the race course can be found on the site. Images from the fleet, blogs from the boats and web updates as well as morning and afternoon press race reports are all part of an initiative to make the race more interactive for family and friends and those following the fleet.



RACE TRACKER: Watch the Rolex Fastnet Race online with the fleet tracker. Yellowbrick trackers are fitted to every yacht so you can see each boat's position along the course. View by class or select your favourites to follow friends and family, check out their boatspeed and weather conditions in real time, read the social media feed and see how the live leaderboard is developing at <http://fastnet.rorc.org>

SOCIAL MEDIA:

FACEBOOK & TWITTER: Facebook.com/royaloceanracingclub

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/OffshoreOne>

PLYMOUTH – A WELCOME RETURN

Arriving into Plymouth Sound will be a memorable moment for every competitor in the 2013 Rolex Fastnet Race as it signifies the end of 608-nautical miles of non-stop racing. The city has been a sanctuary for sailors ever since Sir Francis Drake famously played a relaxed game of bowls on Plymouth Hoe before setting out from the River Plym to defeat the Spanish Armada in 1588. The Royal Navy continue to call Plymouth home at nearby Devonport, the largest naval base in Western Europe.

HOST PORT – PLYMOUTH YACHT HAVEN

Laura Whinney, Marina Manager at Plymouth Yacht Haven says: "We are very excited that this year, the finish of the Rolex Fastnet Race will be hosted at Mount Batten. The race finishers are set to arrive between August 12 and 17, and will be provided with berthing at Plymouth Yacht Haven and other local marinas."

Plymouth Yacht Haven, Mount Batten has the capacity to supply the extra berthing that is needed in this record breaking year: "With so much demand, we had to find a solution and moving the event to Plymouth Yacht Haven and working with Queen Anne's Battery, Sutton Harbour and Mayflower marinas

should give us the capacity we need to berth a fleet of this size (up to 380) and provide the facilities expected by over 3000 sailors." says Royal Ocean Racing Club's CEO, Eddie Warden Owen.



Plymouth Yacht Haven has capacity for 450 berths, is accessible at all tides and has comprehensive facilities to satisfy the requirements of the competitors, organisers and sponsors. It will host the Rolex Fastnet Race Village including hospitality, media and race offices, a champagne bar, light food and refreshments, live music in the afternoons and a large screen to track the progress of

the yachts. There will also be a 24hour crew bar and canteen at the Mount Batten Centre and dedicated shower/toilet facilities for the Fastnet crews.

The race finish coincides with the British Fireworks Championships on Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 August, so it is set to be a spectacular week! This year's show will see the return of the 'Champions-of-Champions' competitions with displays starting at 9.30pm.

<http://www.yachthavens.com/plymouth/>
t: 01752 404231/ e: plymouth@yachthavens.com



A VIEW FROM AFAR AND CLOSE UP

A truly spectacular fleet of yachts and their sea-weary crews will gather in Plymouth as they complete the Rolex Fastnet Race. After crossing the Celtic Sea, the yachts will reach their finish line from the west as they arrive in Plymouth Sound so watch out for the winners from Plymouth Hoe. The majority of the fleet will moor up at Plymouth Yacht Haven and everyone is invited to come down to look at the boats on Thursday and Friday as the pontoons will be open to the public. Talk to the crews and

join in the fun each day at the Race Village. The earliest arrivals could reach Plymouth by the morning of Tuesday 13th August, with the rest of the fleet pouring in over the week. Presentations will also be held with some of the winners as they arrive and you can track the fleet on large screens around the Race Village.



**ROLEX FASTNET RACE - RACE VILLAGE
PLYMOUTH YACHT HAVEN, MOUNT BATTEN**

Race Village Features include:

Rolex Fastnet Race – Race HQ
Rolex Vip & Hospitality
Relaxed deck and stage area
Lanson Champagne Bar
Coffee and Pastries Café
Live TV screens with Race content & Fastnet Radio
Henri Lloyd official clothing partner
INMARSAT – Stay connected at sea.
Bollé sunglasses
Exposure marine torches
Offshore Racing Feature

Rolex Fastnet Race Activity

Plasma screens with race tracker and data
Fastnet Radio 87.9FM – broadcasting live daily
Daily prizegivings in the Race Village
Pontoons open to public Thursday 15th and Friday 16th August
Live entertainment Wednesday 14th to Friday 16th August – 1500hrs to 1900hrs
Featuring around 4 artists each day, under the umbrella of the Acoustic Circus. The line-up will include the very best acoustic/singer songwriter talent from the South West region. The unique format of the Acoustic Circus affords the audience a fast moving and varied show.

Rolex Fastnet Race Village Opening & Closing Times 1000hrs : 1900hrs daily

Sun 11 Aug	Race starts Cowes
Mon 12 Aug	Race Village Open
Tue 13 Aug	Race Village Open plus International Fireworks
Wed 14 Aug	Race Village Open plus International Fireworks
Thu 15 Aug	Race Village & Pontoons Open



ROLEX FASTNET RACE

RACE PROGRAMME

Wednesday 7 August

For media: Press Officer on site during Cowes Week – Media Centre, Cowes Yacht Haven

Friday 9 August

0800 Rolex Fastnet Race Press Conference, Sir Max Aitken Museum, Cowes High Street, Cowes, (Accredited Media Only)

Saturday 10 August

16.00 Weather & Skippers' Briefing – Events Centre, Cowes Yacht Haven, Cowes (2 per boat + accredited media on request)

Sunday 11 August – Start Cowes

10.45 Press Boats Depart (Accredited media. Check in with Media Centre, prior to this)
11.50 First Warning Signal – Royal Yacht Squadron, Cowes
12.00 First start Start midday: 2013 Rolex Fastnet Race (2 hour sequence)
18.00 Rolex Fastnet Race Press Office closes in Cowes Yacht Haven

Monday 12 August – Plymouth Yacht Haven

Press office open in Plymouth based in Plymouth Yacht Haven, Mount Batten
PM First multihull expected to arrive

Tuesday 13 August

1200 Prizegiving for the winning multihull at the Race Village (tbc)
PM First Monohull expected to arrive
2130 British Firework Championships

Wednesday 14 August

1200 Prizegiving for the first monohull at the regatta centre (tbc)
2130 British Firework Championships

Thursday 15 August

All day Fleet continues to finish in Plymouth
1200 Prizegivings at the Race Village
PM Majority of the fleet begin to arrive

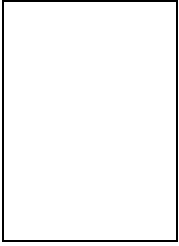
Friday 16 August

All day Fleet continues to finish in Plymouth
AM Fleet continues to arrive
1700 Rolex Fastnet Race prizegiving at Plymouth Yacht Haven (race crew and guests only)

Saturday 17 August

1700 Press Office closes

RACE ORGANISERS



ROYAL OCEAN RACING CLUB:

CEO: Eddie Warden Owen

Commodore: Mike Greville

(The Royal Ocean Racing Club, organizer of the Rolex Fastnet Race, was formed immediately after the first Fastnet Race in 1925, with the brief 'to encourage long- distance yacht racing and the design, building and navigation in which speed and seaworthiness are combined.' The Rolex Fastnet Race spearheads the fulfillment of that mission and has become an institution in the sporting calendar. The club has long been a pioneer, not only organizing and promoting offshore racing activities, but also in developing standards of excellence, particularly in issues of safety. Its span of activity is global. With over 85 years of proud history, it is a truly international yacht club with approximately 3,300 members from 54 different countries.

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www.fastnet.rorc.org

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Rolex: The crown in yachting: As the crown in sailing for over 50 years, Rolex is proud to be a major force at play behind yachting's finest events, players and organizations. Whether supporting extreme challenges such as the ultra-competitive Rolex Sydney Hobart or maintaining tradition with the glamorous Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup, Rolex has cultivated a privileged relationship with the elite world of yachting.



Rolex is the proud sponsor of three of the world's most renowned offshore races: the Rolex Sydney Hobart, the Rolex Fastnet Race and the Rolex Middle Sea Race. All three racecourses measure in excess of 600-nautical miles and have much in common.

Off the water, Rolex participates in the development of yachting through its support of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF), the sport's governing body, and the annual ISAF Rolex World sailor of the Year Awards, recognizing male and female sailors who have distinguished themselves over the course of a year.

Rolex has also cultivated close relationships with the most prestigious yacht clubs around the world, including the New York Yacht Club (US), the Royal Yacht Squadron (Cowes, UK), the Royal Ocean racing Club (London), the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda (Porto Cervo, Italy) and the Yacht Club Italiano (Genoa, Italy), among others.

Driven by a passion for excellence and a great appreciation for yachting, Rolex, the world's leading Swiss watchmaker, is committed to furthering the strong ties that bind these two prestigious worlds in their shared pursuit of perfection. www.rolex.com, www.regattanews.com

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