

The Gentoo Sailing Club is a new, unique opportunity to access one of the UK's leading yacht racing teams as they take on some of the world's greatest and most challenging ocean races.

Getting to the start of a race like the Vendée Globe is tough – it takes a team with passion, dedication, and drive. The Gentoo Sailing Club's goal is to bring together like-minded people with a passion for sailing to join Gentoo's campaign to compete in the 2024 Vendée Globe, 2026 Ocean Race, and take the Vendée trophy to British soil for the first time in 2029.

The global fanbase of ocean racing is growing exponentially, with over 8.2 million race village visitors, £1.2bn cumulative media value, and over 3.3m connected fans, within a Vendée cycle.

On November 8th, 2020, over 1.6 million people from 190 countries united to watch one of the most emotive sporting event starts.

Opportunities to partner with teams competing at the pinnacle of ocean racing and unlock the exciting benefits and commercial opportunities are usually only available to large companies with multimillion-pound marketing budgets. The Gentoo Sailing Club is changing this, bringing the excitement, emotion, and opportunities to smaller, successful, and more dynamic businesses.

Memberships continue through to March 1st 2025 (finish of the Vendée Globe closing evening)

About Gentoo Sailing Team

Gentoo Sailing Team is an ocean racing team competing in the IMOCA Globe Series, a 19-event cycle culminating in two pinnacle round-the-world races – the fully crewed Ocean Race and the solo, non-stop Vendée Globe. Gentoo is a 60ft, carbon fibre yacht with hydrofoils which can exceed speeds of 70km/h.

About James Harayda

James Harayda is the youngest international skipper competing in the IMOCA Globe Series. In his first major IMOCA transatlantic race, James finished an impressive 14th, and over one 24-hour period, was the fastest boat in the fleet. Previously, James has won two national championships in the Mixed Doublehanded class alongside teammate Dee Caffari. His ambition now is to become the youngest, and first international winner of the iconic Vendée Globe, and skipper a team to victory in The Ocean Race.

About the Vendée Globe

The Vendée Globe is considered to be one of the toughest challenges in the world. It is a solo, non-stop, and totally unassisted race around the world, pushing man and machine to their absolute limit during the 25,000 nautical mile course. More people have been into space than sailed solo and non-stop around the world, and for much of the race's duration, the closest people to James will be the astronauts in the International Space Station.

"James is very committed, a great sailor, extremely talented and also very marketable"

Alex Thomson – Skipper of Hugo Boss and 5-time Vendée Globe competitor

"The Vendée Globe takes talent and ability, as well as resilience and tenacity. After having sailed with James, I have seen these qualities in him."

Dee Caffari (MBE) – 6-time round the world sailor, Volvo Ocean Race and Vendée Globe skipper

"I am delighted to be the first Gentoo Sailing Club founding member, as a lifelong and passionate sailor, the opportunity to be part of the Gentoo team is a real privilege, for my company it offers an exceptional commercial exposure, and, at a personal level I can share in and feel part of the adventure from the relative safety of my office!"

Mark Denham - Denham Invest (Founding Member, Gentoo Sailing Club)

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GENTOO SAILING CLUB

£5,000

Gentoo Sailing Team are looking to attract 15 founding members to initially launch the Gentoo Sailing Club.

Benefits:

- Your name on the Gentoo Sailing Team website
- VIP race village pass for you and a guest (including hospitality and pontoon access at IMOCA Globe Series events)
- 1 space onboard Gentoo during exclusive Sailing Club days
- Limited edition framed photograph, signed by James Harayda
- Personalised Zhik team jacket and cap
- Exclusive WhatsApp group to communicate directly with James and the team throughout the season and before/during/after races
- Exclusive mid-race updates + live call/videos
- Networking opportunities within the Gentoo ecosystem of members and commercial partnerships
- Invite to Annual Sailing Club Evening (with a +1)
- Invite to post-Vendée Globe Evening (with a +1)

Being one of the founding members of the Gentoo Sailing Club comes with some additional unique benefits including:

- Additional sailing opportunities (first come first basis)
- Vendée Globe on-the-water race start experience

GENTOO BUSINESS CLUB

£15,000 + VAT

The Gentoo Business Club allows small businesses to benefit from Gentoo Sailing Team's commercial platform, offering a low partnership fee for high returns. Benefits of joining include those listed in the Gentoo Sailing Club in addition to the list below:

- Company name / logo on the hull (50cm x 20cm)
- Company logo on the Gentoo Sailing Team website
- 3 spaces onboard Gentoo during exclusive Sailing Club days for staff/customers
- Individual partnership announcement and associated press coverage
- Exposure on the Gentoo social platforms (three posts including partnership launch)
- Full Gentoo image and video rights for marketing

To become a member of the Gentoo Sailing or Business Club, please get in touch through Mark Denham on mark@gentoosailingteam.com or James Harayda on james@gentoosailingteam.com