



# **NEW ZEALAND SUPERYACHT ACADEMY**

## **SUPERYACHT DECKHAND**

Internationally recognised superyacht certification

Supporting New Zealand superyacht crew

Stand out. Level up. Get hired.

2025

**AUCKLAND, NZ**

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# WANT TO BE A SUPERYACHT DECKHAND?

Picture this: You wake up in the Bahamas, grab a coffee as the sun rises over the water, and prep the deck of a yacht worth more than most people's lifetime earnings. By the end of the day, you've launched tenders, scrubbed salt off stainless, helped the boss get to shore — and now you're setting up for sundowners with the crew in the aft lounge. This isn't some fantasy. It's the job.

Working on superyachts can take you around the world. From the Med to the Maldives, the Caribbean to the Pacific — you'll travel, earn good money, live onboard, and gain the kind of freedom most people never get.

But here's the truth: it's not all champagne and drone shots. It's hard work, high standards, long hours, and serious pressure. That's where we come in. Our superyacht deckhand course is designed to prepare you for all of it — the work, the pace, the lifestyle, and the mindset. You'll be trained by people who've actually done the job and know what captains and senior crew are really looking for.

You won't just tick boxes. You'll get hands-on. Outside, on the water, learning real skills — not sitting in a classroom pretending. We'll get you job-ready and confident to step on board and back yourself from day one.

# WHY SUPERYACHTS?

Because it's not just a job — it's a lifestyle.

You're on the water, working on boats worth tens of millions, travelling the world, and getting paid well to do it.

Start as a Junior Deckhand and you could be earning €2,500-€3,000 a month, living onboard with no rent, no food bills, and next to no expenses. Keep showing up and doing the mahi, and you can move up fast. Lead Deckhands earn €3,500-€5,000+ a month, with solid tips and charter bonuses on top.

You'll work hard. But you'll also wake up in the Med, the Caribbean, or island-hopping through the Pacific with your crew. Boats. Money. Travel. Mates. That's what most of our students come for — and it delivers.





# KIWI CREW

We don't just train crew — we back them. Every course includes a 'Managing Your Superyacht Salary' session on day one, because it's not all designer bags and sunset selfies. The industry pays well, but knowing how to make the most of that opportunity is everything. We focus on career mapping too — showing students what's possible, what they can earn, and how to build a future from it. And when they come home, we've built a space they can return to, give back, and help lift the next generation coming through.



# SUPERYACHT DECK CREW COURSE

Here's how it all breaks down. This course is structured to give you the full picture — from what it's actually like to live and work on board, to the practical skills and professional standards you'll need to land your first job. Every session is hands-on, fast-paced, and designed to reflect the real expectations of the superyacht industry. Whether you're inside, outside, or on the water, you'll be learning by doing — walking away ready to hit the deck running.



# DAY 1 - 4

## **Day 1 - Introduction to the Superyacht Industry + CV Workshop**

No fluff. We kick off with the real story: what it's like on board, how departments work, how to think like crew, and how to not stuff it up as green crew. You'll also cover Managing Your Superyacht Salary — because you'll be earning decent money, and you'll want to make it count.

## **Day 2 - Get Onboard & Get Stuck In**

You'll step onto a luxury yacht in Westhaven and get familiar with how it all works. Walk the boat, go over safety gear, learn key knots, throw some lines, and finish your VHF Radio practical assessment. Everything you do today, you'll use on board.

## **Day 3 & 4 - Powerboat in the Hauraki Gulf**

This is what you signed up for. You'll be out on Buccaneer 635 HT powerboat with 175hp Yamaha four-strokes — big-beamed, grunty, and built to move. You'll train like you're on charter: launching, docking, navigating, and handling boats under pressure. The Hauraki Gulf delivers the perfect mix of thrill, learning, and views that make your mates jealous.

# DAY 5 – 6

## **Day 5 – Teak, Washdowns & Deck Work That Counts**

Now it's about detail. You'll rotate between teak care and washdown practicals – working fast, clean, and to superyacht standard. The difference between an average deckhand and a great one is how you show up here. This is where you prove it.

## **Day 6 – Final Exam, Guest Judging & Graduation**

You'll be assessed on knotwork, deck skills, attitude, and how you carry yourself. Superyacht industry guests come in to judge, offer feedback, and answer your questions. Then we'll wrap the week with your written or oral exam, a solid Q&A, and a low-key graduation. If you've earned it, this day will feel bloody good.



# WHAT YOU'LL WALK AWAY WITH

You'll finish the course with three internationally recognised IYT qualifications:

- IYT Superyacht Deck Crew
- IYT Powerboat & RIB Master
- IYT VHF Marine Communications

The IYT Superyacht Deck Crew cert is MCA-recognised, which means you can skip the 6-month sea time usually needed and apply for your MCA Yacht Rating Certificate after just 2 months (a big bonus if you're considering this a serious career)





# EARNED, NOT GIVEN

We're watching. Not to trip you up — but to see how you show up. We're looking at your attitude, your work ethic, how you work with others, and how you respond when things get tough. Because that's what matters on board.

If you meet the standard, we'll back you. If you don't, we won't. That's how this industry works — and we do too. We're here to help create competent, confident Kiwi superyacht crew. If that's you, you're in the right place.



# NZ SUPERYACHT ACADEMY



At the New Zealand Superyacht Academy, we do things differently. We don't just teach courses — we train future crew to be confident, competent, and ready to thrive in the global superyacht industry. Everything we do is hands-on, high standard, and designed to reflect what life on board is really like.

You'll be taught by experienced professionals who've worked on some of the world's most iconic yachts. Our training goes beyond certificates — we focus on mindset, presentation, attitude, and the practical skills that actually get you hired.

We're also proudly Kiwi, with a strong reputation for producing smart, grounded, hard-working crew. Our growing community of students is already out there — working in the Med, the Caribbean, the Pacific and beyond — and many of them started right here. If you're ready to launch your career, this is where you do it.



# START YOUR SUPERYACHT CAREER

Whether you're 100% in or just have a few questions — we'd love to hear from you!

Visit [www.nzsuperyachtservices.com](http://www.nzsuperyachtservices.com) to:

- Book your spot on the course
- Schedule a free 15-minute Superyacht Phone Consultation

## **Got a question?**

Email us at [academy@nzsuperyachtservices.com](mailto:academy@nzsuperyachtservices.com) - Or, just flick us a DM — we're here to help! @nzsuperyachtacademy on socials.

Starting a career in the superyacht industry doesn't have to feel overwhelming. Reach out, say hi, and let's get started. Working on superyachts is awesome!