# THIS IS A BLUE FLAG SUSTAINABLE BOATING TOURISM OPERATOR



## WHAT IS A BLUE FLAG SUSTAINABLE BOATING TOURISM OPERATOR?

The Blue Flag programme promotes sustainable tourism development in freshwater and marine areas. It challenges local authorities, beach operators and sustainable boating tourism operators to achieve high standards in the six categories of: water quality, environmental management, environmental education and information, safety and services, social responsibility and responsible tourism. Over the years, the Blue Flag has become a highly respected and recognised eco-label working to bring together the tourism and environmental sectors at local, regional and national levels to ensure sustainable tourism.

All Blue Flag accredited sustainable boating tourism operators have to comply with the general Blue Flag criteria for sustainable boating tourism operators.

All tour operators that offer boat-based tourism activities on motorised boats that are steered by a qualified captain and that embrace sustainable practices in line with the Blue Flag criteria are eligible for an application to become a Blue Flag accredited sustainable boating tourism operator.

#### This includes:

- Seeing environmental education as an integral part of the tourism products
- Assessing and making an effort to reduce the negative impacts on the economic, social and natural environment
- Considering the needs of the tourists, its employees and the environment
- Contributing to the development and distribution of sustainable practices

In addition, only charter boat companies that offer crewed charter boat tours can apply for the Blue Flag to ensure the compliance of the criteria.







### MAIN CRITERIA

- 1 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION & INFORMATION
- 2 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
- 3 SAFETY AND SERVICES
- 4 SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
- 5 RESPONSIBLE TOURISM

## ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR ACTIVITIES



BIRD WATCHING BOATS



**CAGE DIVING BOATS** 



RECREATIONAL DIVING BOATS



RECREATIONAL FISHING BOATS



SEAL WATCHING BOATS



WHALE WATCHING BOATS