



GETTING HIRED • FREE GUIDE

5 mistakes *that keep French speakers ashore.*

What yacht recruiters actually look for, and the five mistakes that cost good French-speaking candidates their first contract.

MISTAKES 1 TO 3

Good profiles, *wrong approach.*

French-speaking chefs, stewards and deckhands have real assets: training, service culture, languages. They are often held back by a few avoidable mistakes.

1 Using a shore CV

Yacht recruiters are not hiring for a restaurant or a hotel. They look for adaptability to life on board, discretion, resilience under pressure and knowledge of yacht service standards.

OUR ADVICE Use a yacht CV: one page (two for senior roles), a professional photo, and clear sections for experience, maritime training with dates, languages and availability.

2 Applying only through public job boards

Public boards are crowded. Many of the best roles, especially French-speaking ones, are filled through referrals and private networks, often before they are posted.

OUR ADVICE Find three to five French-speaking head chefs or chief stewards on LinkedIn and send each a short, personal message in French. At the same time, register with the established agencies of your hub.

3 Ignoring everything beyond your skills

Knowing how to make a sauce is not enough. You will also be judged on presentation, grooming, your ability to live 24/7 in close quarters with a small team, and how you come across on a video call.

OUR ADVICE Rehearse your video interview in a smart, plain outfit, in a quiet place, with a good camera. Smile, look at the lens, keep your energy up.

MISTAKES 4 AND 5

The basics, and *the waiting*.

4 Missing the basic certificates

Even for a galley role, STCW Basic Training and an ENG1 seafarer medical are expected. Without them, an application is usually set aside, whatever your experience.

OUR ADVICE Book your STCW Basic Training now (about five days) and your ENG1 with an MCA-approved doctor. Our free guide **The 3 essential documents** explains both, including the 2026 changes.

5 Waiting for the perfect moment

Many strong French-speaking profiles stay ashore because they don't feel "ready enough" yet. In yachting, action creates opportunity, not the other way round.

OUR ADVICE Start with what you have now. A CV that reads well and the right guidance fill the gap.

Your five fixes

- ☐ A yacht CV, with dated certificates and a professional photo
- ☐ Three to five personal messages on LinkedIn, plus the agencies of your hub
- ☐ A rehearsed video interview
- ☐ STCW Basic Training and ENG1 booked
- ☐ A start date, chosen this week

THE NEXT STEP

You've spotted the mistakes. *Now fix the CV.*

The CV Audit measures your CV against the standard the 40 m+ fleet applies, then rebuilds it by hand. Every date is verified against your own documents. Nothing is invented.

FOR CREW MOVING UP

CV Audit

Pass the first read.

- ◆ A ten-page confidential dossier, with your verdict scored out of 5 on five criteria
- ◆ The Gaps & Flaws report: what gets you filtered, and how we fix it
- ◆ Every certificate checked: validity, expiry and gaps
- ◆ Your CV rebuilt by hand, in PDF and editable Word

Audit and rebuilt CV

Within 72 hours · one-off

€75

Audit clients get the LinkedIn Profile rewrite for €39 instead of €49.

Book your audit · €75

Secure checkout · Stripe

Card, Apple Pay or PayPal, no PayPal account needed. After payment, send your CV to contact@freelanceyachting.com, with your certificates and diplomas if you have them.

Yachting careers, built by experts.

QUESTIONS

contact@freelanceyachting.com