

38th EDITION | MARCH 2024

BOATING INSIDER

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY NBAM

PG 07

NBAM

IFTAR

1445

A CELEBRATION OF
UNITY AND PROGRESS

PG 03

WELCOMING
V.A.M & COMPANY PVT LTD

PG 05

RESIGNATION OF NBAM VP
MS. AMINATH SALAH

PG 09

INTRODUCING RAS'AIN

Welcome aboard!

As the voice of the marine industry in the Maldives, the National Boating Association of Maldives proudly presents to you our monthly magazine, manifestly designed to keep you updated on the pulse of the nation's thriving marine field.

As members of this unique fraternity, dive into an ocean of articles featuring our fellow sailors and their marine-related businesses, from Safari boat operations to sellers of top-notch diving equipment and boat supplies.

Immerse yourself in a sea of knowledge and find your safe harbor within our contents.

CONTENTS

BOATING & MARINE

- P03 Welcoming V.A.M & Company Pvt Ltd to Our Esteemed Boating Community
- P04 Welcome: A Groundbreaking Maritime Internet Service Powered by Starlink
- P05 Resignation of NBAM Vice President Ms. Aminath Salah
- P06 Highrise: Celebrating 15 Years of Excellence
- P07 NBAM Iftar 1445: A Celebration of Unity and Progress

TRAVEL & TOURISM

- P09 Navigating Safely: Introducing Ras'Ain
- P09 Maldives Tourism Sector Thrives: 2024 sees remarkable growth
- P10 Updates to Fuvahmulah City Safari Fees: A new structure unveiled
- P10 Eedhigali Tourism Zone: Addu City's Gateway to Southern Atoll Tourism Development



BOATING
MALDIVES

BOATING
privilege



NATIONAL BOATING ASSOCIATION OF MALDIVES

G. Maavehi, 2nd Floor
Buruzu Magu, Male' 20092
Maldives
Hotline +960 7970033
Email info@boating.mv
Web www.boating.mv

NBAM Management Team

Amir Mansoor, President
Ahmed Ibrahim, Treasurer
Fathmath Zusha Afeef, Secretary General

© BOATING INSIDER BY NBAM

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without the prior written permission of the publisher

For advertising and editorial queries please email to info@boating.mv

Welcoming

V.A.M & Company Pvt Ltd

to our esteemed boating community

With great pleasure, we introduce V.A.M & Company Pvt Ltd as the latest addition to our esteemed boating community. Their inclusion marks an exciting chapter in our collective journey towards excellence in the maritime industry.

A New Dimension of Expertise

Founded in 1979, V.A.M & Company Pvt Ltd has swiftly risen to prominence as the premier destination for marine equipment and products in the Maldives. Their reputation for delivering unparalleled quality and reliability precedes them, underscoring their commitment to excellence.

Expanding Horizons

As they join our ranks, V.A.M & Company Pvt Ltd brings with them a wealth of expertise and a steadfast dedication to customer satisfaction. Their comprehensive range of products and services caters to the diverse needs of boating enthusiasts, promising to enhance every aspect of the boating experience.

A Legacy of Excellence

V.A.M & Company Pvt Ltd's dedication to excellence has not gone unnoticed. Their numerous accolades, including the prestigious Most Preferred

Marine Engine Brand Award at the Maldives Boating Awards, serve as a testament to their unwavering commitment to quality and innovation.

Powering Maritime Success

It's worth noting that more than 450 vessels in the Maldives are powered by Doosan Inboard Marine Engines distributed and serviced by VAMCO. This significant presence underscores VAMCO's pivotal role in driving maritime success and reliability across the region.

An Invitation to Collaboration

With V.A.M & Company Pvt Ltd now part of our esteemed community, we extend an open invitation to all stakeholders to collaborate and innovate together. Let us harness the collective spirit of camaraderie and shared passion to propel the boating industry towards new heights of success.

In welcoming V.A.M & Company Pvt Ltd to our cherished boating community, we look forward to forging new partnerships, driving innovation, and collectively shaping the future of the maritime industry.



VAMCO

www.vamco.com.mv

WELCOME

A Groundbreaking Maritime Internet Service Powered by Starlink

WELCOME
STARLINK | Authorized Reseller



Elcome International LLC, renowned for its innovative maritime technology solutions and boasting nearly 55 years of industry experience, proudly introduces WELCOME. This revolutionary pay-as-you-go satellite internet service for ships and offshore installations worldwide is poised to redefine connectivity standards at sea.

Leveraging Starlink's global maritime offering, WELCOME promises high-speed, low-latency internet access without the burden of fixed monthly fees. Catering to the needs of crew and passengers alike, WELCOME offers attractive pricing plans and unparalleled convenience.

Available in all international waters and the territorial waters of 70 countries, WELCOME delivers bandwidth of up to 350 Mbps and boasts an average latency below 99ms, ensuring seamless connectivity wherever the journey takes you.

Crew members will have the flexibility to purchase data bundles or opt for monthly subscriptions starting at just US\$3, with payment options including international and regional credit cards, online wallets, and other convenient methods.

"We are thrilled to introduce WELCOME, a transformative maritime internet service set to revolutionize connectivity at sea," remarked Asneed Ameer, Senior Manager Connectivity at Elcome. "As an industry first, Elcome is offering a free Starlink Flat High-Performance Kit for qualifying

customers, eliminating upfront investment and fixed monthly costs for crews!"

Recognizing the growing importance of affordable high-speed internet for crew welfare, WELCOME is designed to meet this critical need while offering unprecedented flexibility and convenience.

With WELCOME, crew members can enjoy roaming benefits, enabling seamless data usage across WELCOME-equipped vessels. This ensures uninterrupted connectivity as crews transition between ships.

In a bid to enhance the crew experience further, Elcome will collaborate with content and service providers to extend the reach of their offerings through WELCOME.

With offices in 15 countries and over 600 professionals supporting thousands of vessel owners and operators worldwide, Elcome has already deployed nearly 1,500 maritime Starlink terminals in the past year, with plans for thousands more in 2024. Existing maritime Starlink customers include industry leaders in commercial maritime, oil and gas, defense, yachting, ferry, and cruise sectors.

Scheduled for official launch in May 2024, WELCOME promises to revolutionize maritime internet connectivity on a global scale. Sign up now to be among the first to experience this game-changing service and elevate your maritime internet experience to unprecedented heights.



- 1 REFERRALS TO POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS
- 2 FREE CONSULTATION ABOUT INDUSTRY
- 3 INVITATION TO NBAM EVENTS AND GATHERINGS
- 4 FREE WEBSITE LISTING FOR LIVEABOARDS
- 5 SPECIAL TERMS AND PRICES ON FUEL SUPPLIERS
- 6 FREE WEBSITE LISTING FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS AND MARINE EQUIPMENT SELLERS
- 7 SPECIAL MEMBER PACKAGES ON INSURANCE PREMIUMS FROM ALLIED INSURANCE COMPANY (EXCLUSIVE FOR NBAM)
- 8 SPECIAL ASSISTANCE ON REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES
- 9 SAFETY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CREW MEMBERS
- 10 SPECIAL RATES FOR MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN MALDIVES MARINE EXPO
- 11 MEMBER TO MEMBER NETWORKING
- 12 PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM DISCOUNTS
- 13 FREE LISTINGS FOR MEMBER BOATS ON LIVEABOARDS OF MALDIVES MAGAZINE
- 14 LOGO ON BROCHURES AND ADDRESS CARDS / PROMOTIONS
- 15 SPECIAL DISCOUNTS FROM BOATING PRIVILEGE PARTNER BUSINESSES
- 16 EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS IN NOMINATING TO MALDIVES NATIONAL BOATING AWARDS
- 17 OPPORTUNITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH GOVERNMENT AND AUTHORITIES AS A TEAM AND COMMENT ON REGULATIONS

**MEMBERSHIP
BENEFITS**



Resignation of NBAM Vice President

Ms. Aminath Salah

National Boating Association of Maldives announces the resignation of our esteemed Vice President, Ms. Aminath Salah, effective March 17, 2024.

Ms. Salah has been an invaluable asset to our association, serving with dedication and passion throughout her tenure. Her contributions have significantly shaped the growth and success of NBAM, and her absence will be deeply felt.

During her time with us, Ms. Salah played a vital role in advancing sustainability, fostering collaboration, driving innovation, and advocating for our marine industry. Her leadership and vision have guided us through both challenges and triumphs, leaving an enduring impact on our organization.

In her resignation, Ms. Salah expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve NBAM members, citing personal reasons for her departure. However, she has assured us of her ongoing support for our mission and objectives.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Ms. Salah for her dedicated service and unwavering commitment to NBAM. Her passion and enthusiasm have been a source of inspiration to us all, and we are grateful for the positive influence she has had on our association.

As we bid farewell to Ms. Salah, we reaffirm our commitment to upholding the values and principles she helped instil within NBAM. Plans are already underway to appoint a successor, ensuring continuity in our leadership and operations.

Please join us in expressing gratitude to Ms. Aminath Salah for her exceptional service and wishing her the very best in her future endeavours.



MARINEDO

www.marinedo.com

Celebrating 15 Years of Excellence

Highrise



On February 22, 2024, High Rise Event Organizing Company marks a significant milestone as it celebrates its 15th year anniversary. For a decade and a half, High Rise has been at the forefront of the event management industry, orchestrating memorable experiences and setting benchmarks for excellence. This anniversary is not just a commemoration of time passed, but a celebration of innovation, dedication, and the unwavering commitment to delivering unparalleled events.

From its humble beginnings, High Rise has risen to become a titan in the world of event planning. Founded in 2009 by a team of visionaries with a passion for creating extraordinary moments, the company embarked on a journey fueled by creativity and a relentless pursuit of perfection. Over the years, High Rise has evolved, adapting to the ever-changing landscape of the industry while staying true to its core values of integrity, professionalism, and client satisfaction.

What sets High Rise apart is its unique approach to event planning. Each event is meticulously crafted, tailored to the specific needs and desires of its clients. Whether it's a corporate conference, a gala dinner, a product launch, or a wedding, High Rise goes above and beyond to transform ideas into reality, exceeding expectations every step of the way.

Central to High Rise's success is its team of passionate and experienced professionals. From event planners to designers, technicians to coordinators, every member of the High Rise family plays a crucial role in ensuring

the success of each event. Their dedication, creativity, and attention to detail have been instrumental in shaping High Rise into the industry leader it is today.

As High Rise celebrates its 15th year anniversary, it reflects on the numerous milestones and achievements that have marked its journey. From organizing high-profile events for multinational corporations to creating unforgettable experiences for individuals, every project undertaken by High Rise has left an indelible mark on its clients and guests.

Looking ahead, High Rise is poised for continued growth and success. With a commitment to innovation and excellence, the company is ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities that the future holds. As it embarks on the next chapter of its journey, High Rise remains steadfast in its mission to redefine the art of event planning and continue delivering unforgettable experiences that leave a lasting impression.

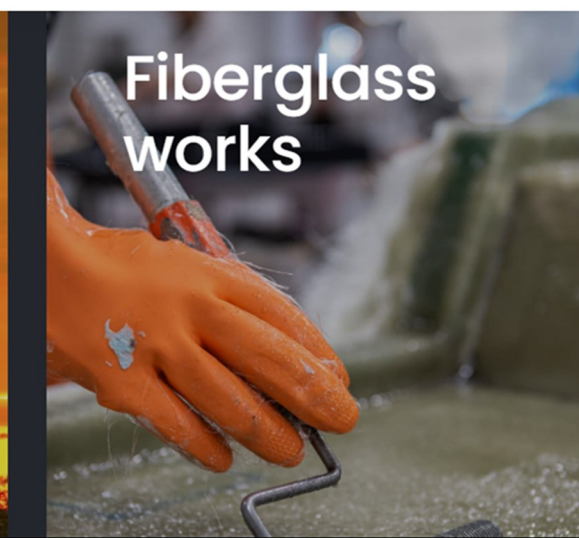
On this momentous occasion, High Rise extends its heartfelt gratitude to its clients, partners, and team members who have been instrumental in its success. As it celebrates 15 years of excellence, High Rise reaffirms its dedication to creating magical moments and looks forward to many more years of success in the world of event organizing. Here's to the past, present, and future of High Rise - where every event is a masterpiece in the making.



SALTED
• FIBER WORKS •



Boat building



Fiberglass works



Landscaping

NBAM's Iftar 1445

A Celebration of Unity and Progress



The National Boating Association of Maldives (NBAM) recently hosted a memorable iftar gathering on the 24th of March 2024 at the picturesque Waters Edge venue. The event brought together members of the association for an evening of camaraderie, reflection, and celebration.

A highlight of the gathering was the presence of esteemed guests, including the Minister of Economic Development and Trade, Mr. Mohamed Saeed, who graced the occasion as the chief guest. In a momentous gesture, Minister Saeed unveiled NBAM's rebranded website, marking a significant milestone for the association's digital presence.

The iftar was attended by a diverse group of NBAM members, reflecting the unity and diversity within the boating community of the Maldives. Amidst the warm ambiance and delicious fare, attendees had the opportunity to connect, network, and forge meaningful bonds.

Adding to the excitement of the evening was a thrilling lucky draw, where attendees had the chance to win an array of exciting prizes generously sponsored by prominent industry partners. Heartfelt thanks are extended to Voyages Maldives, MEQ, Boat Parts, Palmtree Marine, Bags & Soles, SSI/Mares - Dive Point Maldives, and Lily F&B for their contributions to making the event truly memorable.

Boating .mv

A standout feature of the gathering was the unveiling of NBAM's rebranded website, which promises enhanced functionality, accessibility, and user experience. With its sleek design and user-friendly interface, the website serves as a comprehensive hub for boating enthusiasts, providing valuable resources, updates, and information about NBAM's initiatives and activities. To explore NBAM's rebranded website and stay updated on the latest news and events, visit www.boating.mv.

As NBAM continues its journey of growth and evolution, the iftar gathering serves as a testament to the association's spirit of unity, progress, and collective vision for the future of boating in the Maldives.

BE A MEMBER OF NBAM TO ENJOY

BOATING privilege



Built in the traditional Maldivian style, with their signature twin masts, Gurahali is the largest fleet in the group. The vessel can accommodate 14 guests comfortably. The wide beam of this vessel makes it very sturdy and spacious, allowing the guests the privacy on both the aft deck and the upper-deck. Styled in a rustic and minimalistic manner with modern amenities, the Captain and crew takes immense pride in making every journey safe and memorable.



GURAHALI

BY VOYAGES MALDIVES
www.voyagesmaldives.com

Navigating Safely: Introducing

Ras'Ain

to Maldivian Fishermen



In a momentous stride towards enhancing safety and efficiency in the Maldives' fishing sector, the unveiling of "Ras'Ain" marks a significant milestone. This innovative mobile application, launched amidst great anticipation at the National Defense Force Air Force inauguration ceremony, promises to revolutionize the way fishermen navigate and operate within the country's waters.

At its core, "Ras'Ain" is a comprehensive tool designed to streamline operations and promote maritime security. Offering a diverse range of features, the app provides fishermen with essential resources and information to navigate with confidence and safety.

Moreover, "Ras'Ain" delivers vital weather updates directly to users, enabling them to make informed decisions and avoid potential hazards at sea. In the event of emergencies, the app facilitates swift communication through its emergency alert system, ensuring timely assistance when needed.

President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu, in his address at the launch ceremony, accentuated the transformative potential of "Ras'Ain" in modernizing the fishing industry. Emphasizing its role in optimizing resource utilization and reducing search time and expenses, the President underscored the app's importance in fostering sustainable practices within the sector.

In addition to promoting safety and efficiency, "Ras'Ain" prioritizes maritime security by providing marine safety guidelines and facilitating distress calls. This proactive approach to safety underscores the app's commitment to safeguarding the well-being of fishermen and ensuring their continued livelihoods.

Beyond its utility for fishermen, "Ras'Ain" also serves as a valuable resource for divers, offering detailed information on diving sites across the Maldives. This expansion of the app's functionality reflects its versatility and relevance to a wide range of maritime activities.

As "Ras'Ain" sets sail into the waters of innovation, it heralds a new era of safety and efficiency for the Maldives' fishing industry. With its blend of cutting-edge technology and user-centric design, the app promises to empower fishermen and promote sustainable practices for the benefit of present and future generations.



Maldives Tourism Sector Thrives:

2024 Sees Remarkable Growth

The Maldives' tourism sector continues to flourish, with the Ministry of Tourism reporting impressive figures for the year so far. As of the latest update, the nation has welcomed a total of 558,233 tourist arrivals in 2024, marking a notable 14.3% increase compared to the same period last year. This sustained surge in visitor numbers underscores the Maldives' enduring allure as a premier vacation destination.

March has proven to be particularly robust, with 148,456 tourists arriving from March 1st to 24th alone. This represents a commendable 7.6% growth compared to March 2023. Moreover, tourists are opting for extended stays, with the average duration currently standing at 8.1 days for the month of March and 7.8 days overall for the year.

Leading the pack among source markets is China, solidifying its position with 63,647 visitors, constituting 11.4% of total arrivals. Russia closely follows with 58,038 tourists (10.4% market share), while Italy boasts 53,249 arrivals (9.5%). The UK remains a significant contributor with 51,598 visitors (9.2%). Noteworthy contributions also come from:

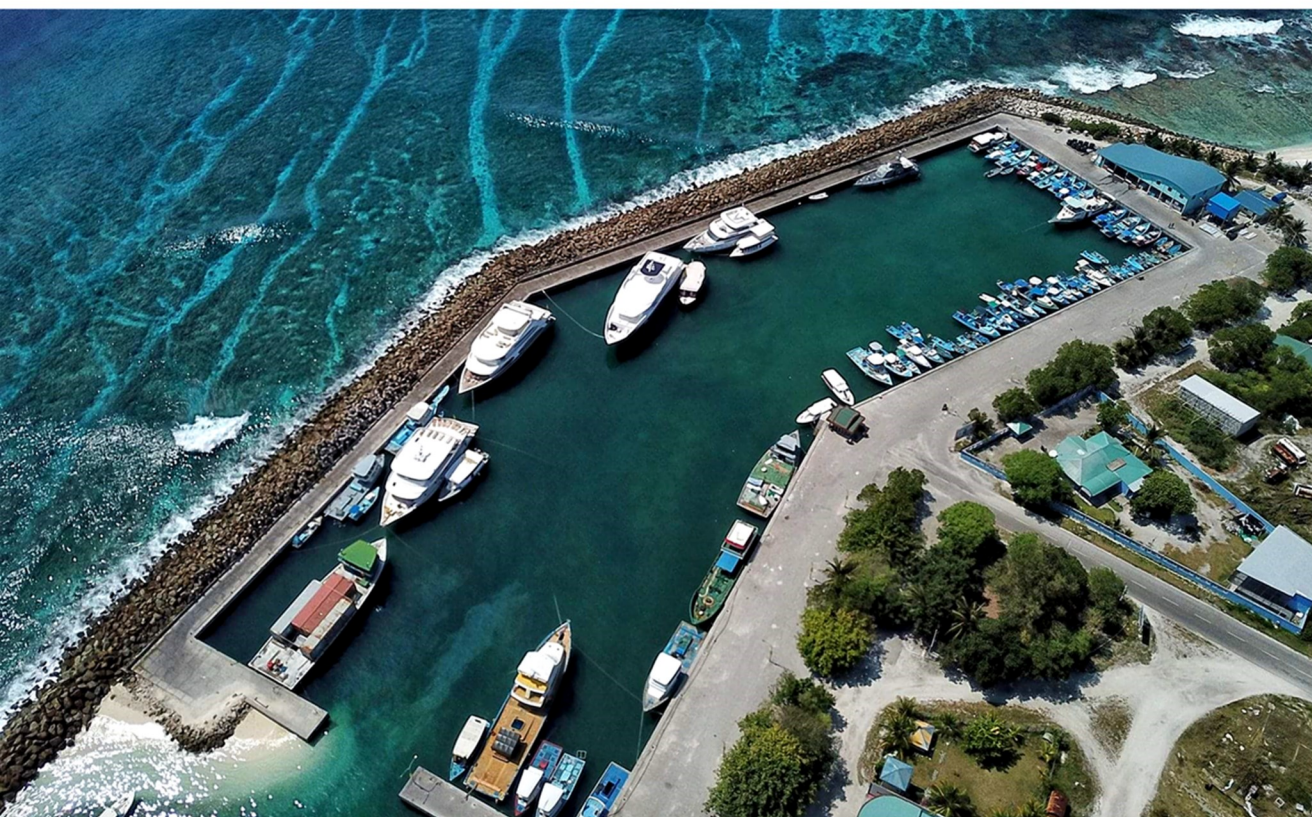
Germany	41,021 visitors	(7.3% market share)
India	33,013 visitors	(5.9% market share)
France	22,117 visitors	(4.0% market share)
United States	18,785 visitors	(3.4% market share)
Poland	13,249 visitors	(2.4% market share)
Switzerland	12,603 visitors	(2.3% market share)

The Ministry of Tourism attributes this continued growth to a multifaceted approach, including successful marketing campaigns, enhanced accessibility, and the timeless allure of the Maldives' pristine beaches, luxurious resorts, and vibrant marine life.

As the Maldives continues to captivate travellers from around the globe, the outlook for the tourism sector remains promising. With its unparalleled natural beauty and unparalleled hospitality, the Maldives stands as a beacon of resilience and hospitality in the global tourism landscape.

Updates to Fuvahmulah City Safari Fees:

A New Structure Unveiled



In response to evolving needs and demands, the Fuvahmulah City Council has recently introduced revisions to the fee structure for safaris entering the city's bustling harbor. The decision, which came about during the council's 11th general meeting, marks a significant departure from the previous fixed fee system.

Effective immediately, the new fee structure aims to provide a more equitable and flexible approach based on the duration of a safari's stay in the harbor. Here's a breakdown of the revised fee system:

USD 150

For safaris docked for less than six hours.

USD 300

Applicable to safaris docked between six and twelve hours.

USD 500

Reserved for safaris docked between twelve and twenty-four hours.

This departure from the previous flat rate system, where all safaris were subject to a fixed fee of USD 500, reflects a concerted effort to better accommodate varying lengths of stay and operational needs.

It's worth noting that prior to this adjustment, a significantly lower fee of USD 50 was levied on safaris entering Fuvahmulah's harbor until 2022. The decision to revise the fee structure and increase it to USD 500 was prompted by capacity constraints and the imperative for safari crew members to access the city effectively.

As the new fee structure takes effect, the Fuvahmulah City Council remains committed to ensuring fair and sustainable practices while continuing to support the vibrant tourism industry that thrives within its shores. These updates reflect a proactive approach to addressing the evolving needs of stakeholders while upholding the city's commitment to progress and prosperity.

Eedhigali Tourism Zone

Addu City's Gateway to Southern Atoll Tourism Development

Exciting news emerges from the southern reaches of the Maldives as the Addu City Council unveils the Eedhigali Tourism Zone in Hithadhoo, Addu City. This expansive zone, spanning approximately 21,000 acres, is primed to become a hub of tourism activity, inviting both domestic and international investors to participate in its development.

With a keen eye on fostering sustainable tourism growth, the council's announcement outlines plans to lease the area for 50 years, providing investors with the opportunity to establish tourism infrastructure, including a city hotel and complementary amenities.

This initiative aligns seamlessly with the recently introduced Addu Coastal Tourism Development Plan by the Ministry of Tourism. This strategic plan, conceived to fulfil campaign promises made during President Muizzu's election, aims to develop 6,000 beds in Addu while creating an estimated 10,000 job opportunities.

As part of the comprehensive tourism development blueprint for Addu, additional initiatives include the establishment of a cultural village, a dedicated wellness zone, and the designation of marine protected areas. Furthermore, plans are in motion to establish a hospitality school within the atoll, underscoring the commitment to nurturing local talent and promoting sustainable tourism practices.

The Eedhigali Tourism Zone stands as a testament to Addu City's dedication to fostering inclusive and sustainable tourism development in the southern atoll. With its strategic location and forward-thinking approach, the zone is poised to become a catalyst for economic growth, cultural enrichment, and environmental preservation in the region. Investors and stakeholders alike are encouraged to seize this opportunity to contribute to the vibrant future of Addu City's tourism landscape.

5th Edition
**VACATIONS
EXPO**
a highrise idea

25th, 26th, 27th APRIL 2024

CENTRAL PARK | HULHUMALE'

SAVE THE DATE



51.536°N 0.9029°W



CLEANTOGLEAM

— MARINE —

CLEANTOGLEAM Deluxe Collection: Elevate your boat's shine with their 13 premium products and 4 essential accessories. Experience luxury, protection, and unparalleled cleanliness for your vessel. Discover the ultimate in marine care today!"

**SKIPPER!
YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE.**



#SafetyFirst

Boating
.mv



MARINE EQUIPMENTS RESTOCKED

SAFETY PRODUCTS

