



## Sailing to Barcelona!

Together to protect our oceans

### *Sailing to Barcelona*

*Sailing to Barcelona* is an exciting initiative launched by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), linking the nautical and conservation worlds for the protection of our oceans, seas and coasts. Held on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, this international gathering of boats will be part of IUCN's World Conservation Congress (5-14 October 2008, Barcelona, Spain), the largest and most diverse gathering to address the world's pressing sustainable development challenges.

Using IUCN's powerful global-to-local networking capacity, *Sailing to Barcelona* will give a voice to creative marine conservation efforts from around the world, while helping to build new and innovative partnerships for future action, and raise awareness beyond the conservation community.

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With the support of the European Commission



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## Welcome Ceremony

▾ 4 October

▾ [Barcelona's Maritime Museum](#)

*Sailing to Barcelona* participants will be welcomed at Barcelona's beautiful Maritime Museum, where each boat's contribution to the protection of coastal and marine biodiversity will be celebrated. Boat captains, sailors, celebrities, and government officials will come together to highlight the need to protect our oceans, seas and coasts, and provide specific examples of what can be done.

## Harbour Village

▾ 4-9 October

▾ [Barcelona Harbour \(Port Vell\)](#)

From 4 to 9 October, the *Sailing to Barcelona Village* will provide a diversity of onboard and onshore activities illustrating the participants' action-oriented contributions to marine conservation. The "Harbour Village" will serve the dual goal of acting as a hub for a variety of Congress gatherings, as well as engaging Barcelona's diverse public and raising awareness in a city that prides itself as being open to the sea.

Moored at Barcelona's main harbour, next to the city's heart, *Sailing to Barcelona* boats will be the centre of activities during six days, hosting interactive educational events onboard and serving as an informal and creative meeting point for World Conservation Congress experts. Onshore, a tent next to the dock will present marine-related photo exhibits and short film projections.



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# Parade & Celebration

↘ 5 October

↘ Barcelona Harbour to Congress Centre

On 5 October 2008, *Sailing to Barcelona* boats representing various corners of the world will parade as a fleet between the Barcelona harbour and Port Forum, the marina next to the Congress Centre. The uniqueness of this sailing event lies in its powerful conservation message, with each participating boat visually representing its precise contribution towards marine conservation. The *Sailing to Barcelona* parade will be an exciting and refreshing event open to the public and featuring high-profile participants, sailors and conservationists from around the world.

Shortly after the parade, *Sailing to Barcelona* boats will be welcomed at Port Forum, next to the Congress Centre where the Congress Opening Ceremony will be held followed by festivities to celebrate IUCN's 60th anniversary.



## Sailing to Barcelona

### Main assets

*Sailing to Barcelona* is much more than a gathering of boats: this unique initiative links the worlds of sailing and conservation with the sole goal of advancing coastal and marine protection. Each of the boats, from ocean research vessels to Tall Ships, will share a common objective: helping to protect marine biodiversity through research, environmental education or awareness-raising.

In addition, *Sailing to Barcelona* provides an innovative platform for interactions between the public and experts working for the protection of our oceans, seas and coasts. The initiative will also serve as a tangible and symbolic link between the expert discussions going on during the world's largest and most diverse environmental gathering, and the city of Barcelona.



# Sailing to Barcelona

## Value added

By becoming an official partner of *Sailing to Barcelona*, IUCN provides you with the opportunity to contribute to the marine conservation goals of one of the world's most respected conservation organizations. In addition you can support the outstanding work of the many smaller initiatives striving to protect the beautiful "blue world" that makes up over two thirds of our planet.

By coming onboard, you can partner with a neutral and science-based initiative promoting the protection of coastal and marine ecosystems, as well as the sustainable livelihoods of those who depend on them. In addition to benefiting from a range of visibility opportunities, you can also help set the example and build responsibility within your organization and with partners.



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**IUCN**, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, is the world's oldest and largest global environmental network. It is a democratic membership union with more than 1000 government and NGO member organizations, and about 10,000 volunteer scientists and experts in more than 150 countries. IUCN brings its members, experts and partners together to develop and implement policy, laws and best practice in biodiversity conservation.

**The World Conservation Congress** is the world's largest and most diverse conservation gathering to address the world's pressing sustainable development challenges. The next Congress will take place from 5 to 14 October 2008 in Barcelona, Spain, and will gather more than 8,000 leaders from government, the public sector, non-governmental organizations, business, UN agencies and social organizations.

**Sailing to Barcelona** is an initiative in partnership with Countdown 2010 for Marine Ecosystems, to help communicate the international targets for 2010 on biodiversity and 2012 on marine protected areas. The initiative has also partnered with Antinea Foundation, an international foundation dedicated to raising awareness on and building partnerships for marine stewardship.

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