

Crew Profiles

Captain – Daniel Rawlins



Daniel grew up on the coast of Durban, South Africa, where his love for the ocean began early. He started sailing at the age of eight with the Royal Natal Yacht Club, setting the course for a lifelong maritime career. In 1998, he joined a 120-foot sailing yacht and quickly rose through the ranks to become captain in 2001.

With decades of experience, Daniel has sailed extensively across a wide variety of cruising grounds and has completed two circumnavigations. Since joining Hyperion in 2010, he has been a steady and dedicated presence on board.

Daniel is known for his calm demeanor, approachable leadership style, and confidence under pressure. He firmly believes in leading by example and fostering a positive, team-oriented environment. When not at sea, Daniel enjoys staying active through cycling, surf ski paddling, and surfing — passions that keep him connected to the ocean he loves.

Captain – Nico Jacklein



Nico has been on board Hyperion since 2011. He has worked his way through the ranks and now rotates as captain with Daniel.

Growing up sailing on the Great Lakes in Canada, Nico spent many years racing and coaching at his local yacht club before discovering the world of yachting. Some of his favourite cruising grounds are the Balearics, Greece, and the Caribbean. Beyond Nico's enthusiasm for sailing in any capacity he spends as much time as possible with his family watching the chaos a little baby can cause. His various hobbies include classic cars, skiing, cycling and kite surfing.

Chief Engineer – Thomas Dawson



Tom has a wealth of experience on large sailing yachts. He brings a calm and confident set of skills to Hyperion's engineering systems and is a very personable crew member, taking pride in keeping the vessel operating like clockwork. If you have any questions about Hyperion's complex systems, don't hesitate to ask him. He is fluent in both French and English as well as conversational Spanish. When off rotation, Tom returns to the UK to his wife and 2 children. In his spare time, he enjoys just about any water sport, a good run and of course sailing.

Chief Engineer – Gavin McIntosh



Gavin grew up in Durban, South Africa and started sailing in the Southern Ocean soon after finishing high school. His career onboard superyachts started in the Caribbean after completing multiple trans-Atlantic deliveries of 35-foot catamaran sailing yachts to the northern hemisphere. He joined Hyperion in March 2021 as one of our rotational Chief Engineers. When Gavin is off rotation, he returns to his adopted home city of Amsterdam. He enjoys golf, cycling and a good run around the squash court, as well as spending valuable time with his wife and young daughter.

First Mate – Lorenzo Vieira



Originally from a picturesque beach town in South Africa, Lorenzo brings with him a deep love for the ocean and all things adventure. A lifelong sailor and passionate surfer, he thrives in sea-based activities and feels most at home on the water. With a keen interest in travel and a calm, can-do attitude, Lorenzo is a fantastic addition to the team, and we're thrilled to have him onboard.

Deckhand – Austin Cornelius



Austin discovered his passion for sailing during summers on Scotland's west coast, mastering dinghies near Tighnabruaich. This love for the sea led him to the yachting industry in 2023, working on 50-meter sailing yachts in Palma, Mallorca. After a Mediterranean season aboard a motor yacht in 2024, he joined Hyperion in November, ready for the Caribbean season ahead.

Off duty, Austin enjoys rugby, Formula 1, and hitting the slopes as a skilled downhill skier with a history of competitive racing. Whether on land, sea, or snow, he's always up for an adventure!

Second Engineer – James Sheldon



Originally from the Bay of Islands, New Zealand, James developed a strong foundation in sailing through competitive youth and Olympic-class dinghy racing. His passion for the sea led him to offshore racing and eventually into the superyacht industry. At home, James enjoys hands-on projects in the workshop, restoring and working on cars, and exploring New Zealand's coastline aboard his family's yacht. As Second Engineer on Hyperion, James is able to combine his engineering expertise with his lifelong passion for sailing, contributing both technically and operationally to the vessel's success.

Chef – Alex Utermark



With 14 years in the yachting industry, Alex has worked on many different yachts but is particularly passionate about classic schooners. Hailing from South Africa, her upbringing dinghy sailing, hiking, and flying with her pilot father led her to the yachting industry. Alex is of Swiss and Dutch heritage and speaks a plethora of languages which prove very useful when sourcing the best local produce wherever Hyperion is cruising. With her adventurous spirit, however, Alex's passions extend beyond the galley: she has her

private pilots' license and continues to pursue her goal of becoming a commercial helicopter pilot.

Chief Stewardess – Gemma Sheene



Gemma joined Hyperion after falling in love with the yachting industry back in her home country of New Zealand during the 2020 America's Cup. With a welcoming and charismatic personality, Gemma takes pride in connecting with guests and crew, creating a warm and harmonious atmosphere on board Hyperion. Her background in event management and business means she will make your trip on Hyperion one to remember. Onboard, Gemma enjoys curating wine lists and putting together elegant table settings, but off duty, Gemma loves a good murder mystery novel, dolphin-spotting and singing along to the best musical numbers.



Second Stewardess – Sienna Scotter

Sienna is from across the globe in sunny Brisbane Australia Sienna knew yachting was for her after a long dance career. She knew she wanted to explore the world make new friends and see what yachting had to offer she loves dancing being in the water making cocktails.