

# A day in the life of...

A CARIBBEAN MARINA MANAGER



**LINDA PEARSON**

MARINA MANAGER, CHRISTOPHE HARBOUR



Linda's first taste of superyachts was when she joined a 47m Perini Navi sailing yacht in December 2006 in a deck/stew position. She had already sailed 35m motor yachts along Australia's Great Barrier Reef before heading internationally.

She worked her way up the ranks to MCA Master 500gt capacity early 2011. Linda has had the pleasure of working on some fantastic yachts such as S/Y Andromeda la Dea, 47m Perini Navi and S/Y Clan VIII, 45m Perini Navi.

Linda now lives at Turtle Beach, on the southeast peninsula which is only a 7-minute drive from the marina. She loves sitting on her balcony overlooking Nevis Island to the south, taking in the great views and Atlantic breezes. She can watch the green vervet monkeys hanging in the trees all around her garden. Her first-floor balcony terrace was built especially to capture the far reaching views.



## DAY BEGINS

The day usually begins with breakfast around 6h30. I love a bowl of fresh fruit and yogurt and pick my mangoes straight off the tree. I have to pinch myself sometimes and really be thankful for where I live. I feel incredibly lucky and try to make the most of every moment on this beautiful Island. It really is pure paradise.

## START WORK

I get to the Marina office in Christophe Harbour around 7h00. Being the early bird gives me time to review the previous evening's emails and plan the day for myself and the team. Our state-of-the-art superyacht marina is a spectacular place, on the edge of the Caribbean and created out of former salt ponds. We now have the largest fuel farm dedicated to a marina in the Eastern Caribbean and a new Customs House is soon to open which will offer fast and efficient Customs & Immigration service and top quality crew and captain facilities.

We're all 'hands on deck' and our guest services and concierge teams are fully set for what could well be a very strong year for this part of the Caribbean. We were very fortunate to have been spared the full impact of the recent storms.

## TYPICAL MORNING

I grab a freshly made cappuccino from Peppe's Kiosk in the Marina Village before heading inside the office. I am generally the first to arrive, which gives me time to review any requests from captains or yachts that have been sent during the night. A captain may ask for suggestions about the best anchorages around St Kitts & Nevis, so that guests can spend the day snorkelling or enjoying watersports. They also place chandlery orders and want to book a time for fuelling. When everyone gets in, we have a short team meeting to discuss the day ahead such as arrival and departure times, bunkering bookings, guest services requirements, services schedules and resort news.



## LUNCH

Lunch is at some point between 12 and 2 depending on the marina operations. I'll either buy a sandwich from Peppe's, or I'll pick up a spicy butter chicken curry from Bombay Blues, my favourite Indian restaurant just 15 minutes away in Frigate Bay. Other days, Christophe Harbour's executive chef, Barnaby Jones at The Pavilion often rustles me up a fresh, catch-of-the-day salad with locally caught Mahi Mahi or Wahoo.



## AFTERNOON

I'll work with the dock team to help with arriving and departing vessels or with those coming for bunkering. I am personally always on the dock for each arrival to give that special welcome. In between dockside work, I deal with enquiries about any number of things from reservations, engineering requests, and storage for sails and containers that follow the vessel around the world to special crane lifting services. Our pre-provisioning service is second to none, so there are considerable logistics involved. I like to take a walk around the dock in the afternoon to catch up with the marina team and the vessels we have in house to see how their day's been and get feedback from guests or crew.



## END OF THE WORKING DAY

If there are crew-only vessels coming, we always try to plan a barbecue in the marina village to spend some time with them. We'll throw fresh local lobster on the grill that local fishermen drop off for us as well as local organic salads. Starting this season, we can host the barbecues at the new special crew area alongside the award-winning Salt Plage beach bar. Depending on when I get out of the office, I will take the dogs Truffle and Dingo for a walk along the beach or around Cockleshell.

## DINNER/DRINKS/END OF THE DAY

This is usually around 6pm or sunset and we either go to Salt Plage or have a little cocktail on my balcony. Then for dinner we head either to Rituals Sushi in Frigate Bay or for special occasions to The Pavilion beach club for Wednesday Night Supper Club or Friday's Parilla Grill Night.

