Royal Sydney
Yacht Squadron

ROYAL PRINCE ALFRED
YACHT CLUB

# INVITATION to ICOYC 2027 RALLY - SYDNEY
# Wednesday 7th April – Sunday 18th APRIL 2027

Dear ICOYC Member Clubs and Rally Participants,

On behalf of the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron and the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club, we are delighted to invite you to Australia for the ICOYC Rally 2027 – Sydney Harbour & Pittwater Discovery Rally, to be held from **Wednesday 7th April to Sunday 18th April 2027.**

This Rally has been designed as a genuine on-water experience, combining the energy and spectacle of Sydney Harbour with the natural beauty and tranquility of Pittwater and the surrounding waterways of Kuring-gai Chase National Park.

The program will begin on Sydney Harbour, where participants will enjoy cruising and sightseeing, exploring the many bays and estuaries that together create one of the world's most beautiful and renowned deep-water harbours. This will include organised on-water activities, opportunities to explore
well-known anchorages, curated onshore experiences, and visits to historic sites.

The program then transitions north to Pittwater via the Tasman Sea. Some participants may prefer to make the short - 15 nautical miles - coastal passage between Sydney Harbour and Pittwater. Alternatively, others may prefer an on-land transfer option via organised coach transport.

Pittwater and Cowan Creek provide a rare combination of protected waterways, National Park anchorages and relaxed Australian cruising culture, all within easy reach of central Sydney.

The Pittwater program will be hosted in association with RPAYC and will offer a relaxed and immersive style of cruising. Participants will explore quiet bays, sheltered waterways and landscapes that have remained largely unchanged for thousands of years, with a program combining informal cruising, shared on-water experiences and a number of relaxed social gatherings.

Throughout the Rally the focus will be on achieving a balance between sailing, exploration and social interaction - offering camaraderie and traditions that define the International Council of Yacht Clubs.

For participants requiring accommodation during the Sydney Harbour phase, options include stays at the RSYS Clubhouse, billeting with members or at nearby hotels ….. providing both flexibility and a welcoming introduction to the Squadron community.

RSYS and RPAYC are working together to deliver a program that reflects the very best of Australian sailing and hospitality, both on and off the water.

Details regarding the itinerary, registration, accommodation and logistics are included with this invitation. Registrations will be limited and further information regarding participation will be confirmed shortly.

We do hope you will join us for what promises to be a distinctive and memorable Sydney Harbour & Pittwater Discovery Rally.

Yours sincerely,

Russell Taylor, Commodore
Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron

Julia Hornsby, Commodore
Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club

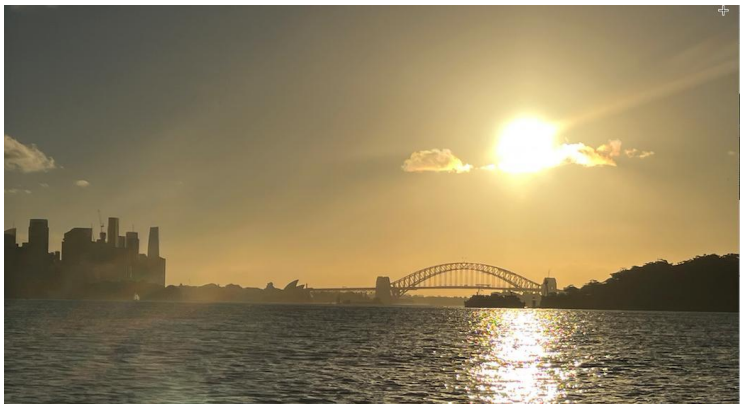
# Rally Overview

## Choice of Dates

The task of setting the dates for the ICOYC Biennial Rally had some headwinds. Once Sandringham Yacht Club set the dates for the 2027 Forum (commencing November 15th) RSYS had to come up with a workable solution to run this associated event as November is not a suitable time for a Rally in Sydney.

It was therefore decided to start the 2027 Rally on Wednesday 7th April and incorporate a 'Sydney Harbour Experience' …… prior to sailing 15 nautical miles north to the magnificent Pittwater area, on Saturday 10th April.

The Pittwater region incorporating the spectacular Cowan Creek is a National Park and remains untouched since Captain Cook charted the East Coast of Australia in 1770. This area is only one hour's drive north of a city of 5 million people …… it is quite amazing.



## The Sydney Harbour Experience

During the first three days (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) there will be opportunities to explore our magnificent harbour from the water, visit the world renowned Opera House, Royal Botanic Gardens, walk the Harbour Bridge (often referred to as the 'giant coat hanger') and discover the early part of Sydney dating back to the 1780's.

The opportunities for visiting this modern city are endless and will be introduced to you. If you have never visited Sydney, April is the perfect time of the year to do so. Further information on these and other sightseeing activities will be shared once your registration has been received.

## The Pittwater Region

Pittwater is the southern gateway to the greater Broken Bay and Hawkesbury River system, including Cowan Creek and the waterways of Kuring-gai Chase National Park. Together these sheltered waterways form one of Australia's premier cruising grounds. This area is essentially a National Park where regulations have prevented development and has been confined to the fringes of the area.

The developed area is known as the 'Northern Beaches'. Beautiful sandy beaches stretch all the way along the coast line from Sydney Harbour. We will sail past these lightly populated beaches on our cruise north.

Pittwater, Broken Bay and Cowan Creek offer spectacular cruising grounds which extend for many miles inland from the sea. When anchored in one of the bays of the area it is as if we have stepped back in time, as there is no sign of habitation! This is the magic of the area.

There are literally hundreds of these bays to choose from and we will be experiencing some of these during our six days in the Pittwater region. On Sunday 11th April, we are planning a visit

to Coasters Retreat (The Basin) and go ashore to do an easy bush walk to experience the local flora and fauna ……. wallabies, goannas, bird life, etcThat day will conclude with us all gathering for a good old fashioned 'Aussie BBQ' …… before heading to Refuge Bay for a raft up, where we will join the RSYS Annual Cruise for some yacht racing and socialising.

## Weather Conditions

Autumn (the Fall) is undoubtedly the most outstanding time of the year to visit our city. The temperature is stable and ranges from 15 to 25 degrees centigrade (59F-77F) each day. The humidity of February has passed, leaving us with beautiful comfortable conditions. Occasional days of rain may occur but they pass quickly allowing for great boating weather. Generally breezes are light with the occasional heavy 'southerly' but once again it will only last for a day.

## 2027 ICOYC Rally Itinerary

A spectacular coastal journey through Sydney's iconic harbour and the natural beauty of Pittwater.

| WEDNESDAY 7 APRIL | THURSDAY 8 APRIL |
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| **Arrival and Welcome** | **Sydney Orientation** |
| • From midday — Check-in, arrival, and registration at RSYS | • Breakfast at RSYS Careening Cove Anchorage / briefing |
| • 5:00 pm — Rally Introduction to host boats and billets | • Neighborhood orientation walk led by RSYS members |
| • 6:00 pm — Cruise Briefing / Welcome from the RSYS Annual Cruise Captain | • Sydney Opera House tour and lunch / Fish Market tour |

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| • 7:00 pm — Welcome canapes and beverages with RSYS Commodore, ICOYC Rally Committee and participants | • Casual home-hosted dinner by the shores of Sydney Harbour |
| FRIDAY 9 APRIL<br>**Sydney Harbour**<br>• Breakfast at the CCA / briefing<br>• Sydney Harbour experience and lunch<br>• Yacht preparation for the cruise north to Pittwater the following day<br>• Casual evening at the RSYS for all Rally participants | SATURDAY 10 APRIL<br>**Sydney to Pittwater**<br>• Breakfast and briefing in CCA<br>• Option 1: Sail to Pittwater aboard an ICOYC host boat for interested participants<br>• Option 2: Bus transfer to Royal Prince Alfred YC, Pittwater<br>• Arrival at RPAYC<br>• Charter boat collection and provisioning<br>• Welcome Dinner at RPAYC<br>• Overnight marina berth at RPAYC |
| SUNDAY 11 APRIL<br>**Pittwater and The Basin**<br>• Breakfast and briefing at RPAYC, then depart for a sail to The Basin<br>The Basin / Currawong nature walk and discovery<br>• BBQ lunch at The Basin<br>• Cruise to and overnight mooring at Refuge Bay / Raft Up | MONDAY 12 APRIL<br>**Cruising / Racing**<br>• Cruising program or sailing race<br>• Overnight mooring / Raft Up — Yeoman's Bay |
| TUESDAY 13 APRIL<br>**Lay Day**<br>• Lay day<br>• Catered lunch on the lawn - Kuring-Gai Motor Yacht Club<br>• Overnight mooring / Raft Up — Yeoman's Bay | WEDNESDAY 14 APRIL<br>**Cruising / Racing**<br>• Cruising program or sailing race<br>• Overnight mooring / Raft Up — TBC |
| THURSDAY 15 APRIL<br>**Cruising / Racing**<br>• Cruising program or sailing race<br>• Overnight mooring / Raft Up — TBC | FRIDAY 16 APRIL<br>**Return to Sydney**<br>• ICOYC fleet returns to RSYS, Kirribilli<br>• Charter boat return in Pittwater |

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| | • Transport back to RSYS<br>• Sausage Sizzle and drink get-together<br>• Free evening |
| **SATURDAY 17 APRIL**<br>**Sydney and Farewell**<br>• Breakfast at the clubhouse / briefing<br>• Unscheduled day — free time to explore Sydney, shop, visit the Australian National Maritime Museum, The Rocks historical area, Botanic Gardens etc.<br>• Options will be discussed at the morning briefing<br>• Final Farewell Dinner in the main RSYS Clubhouse | **SUNDAY 18 APRIL**<br>**Departure**<br>• Breakfast at the clubhouse<br>• Check-out of accommodation (or stay if you wish??) |

*****Participants are advised that weather conditions may require some events to be changed if deemed necessary by the organising clubs.

## Sydney Harbour Charter

Unfortunately, because of limitations and the lack of charter boats available, we cannot offer chartering options for the Sydney Harbour section of the Rally. All participants will be assigned to RSYS and RPAYC members' boats for day trips.

## Pittwater Charter …Saturday 10th April to Friday 16th April

ICOYC guests may wish to experience this magnificent waterway on their own charter boat (motor boats).
To arrange a charter please refer to the Charter Companies direct …… Church Point Charter , Skipper a Clipper and All Sail for details and costs.

Church Point Charter (telephone +61 411 877 116) is located in Newport within 20 minutes' walk from RPAYC. There is an adjacent long term car park. Josh can arrange linen and provisioning at charterers' cost.

Skipper a Clipper (telephone +61 435 067 245) is at Gibsons Marina Bayview with street parking available. This is a 15 min drive from RPAYC.

All Sail (telephone +61 2 9979 6266) is located at Church Point ferry wharf. All Sail is a 20 minutes' drive from RPAYC.

Should you wish to proceed with your own boat hire it will be necessary that you request an onboard linen service. Linen and provisioning will be at charterers' cost.

Food and beverage provisioning and delivery are available. You will need to provide for independent breakfasts and a few light lunches. Following receipt of your Registration you will be advised further.

**Please NOTE: AS THERE IS ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF BOATS AVAILABLE, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO BOOK AND CONFIRM YOUR CHARTER BOAT EARLY** ……. we anticipate they will be snapped up very quickly once this Invitation is received.

The charter boat will serve as your accommodation and transport for the 7 days on Pittwater and Cowan Creek. All racing will be aboard RSYS members' boats.

## Accommodation

The RSYS and RPAYC ICOYC Rally Committee would be happy to assist you to find local accommodation whilst you visit Sydney in April 2027.

The neighbouring harbourside suburbs of Kirribilli and North Sydney are well connected by public transport (train, bus and ferry) and all are just a short walk from RSYS.
A variety of accommodation options are available either onsite at RSYS or at a number of

local hotels and Airbnbs.

The RSYS clubhouse can offer 5 King size rooms and 2 Queen size rooms with shared facilities or 1 Queen room with ensuite. We are also able to offer 5 apartments in adjacent buildings ranging from (1 x 1 bedroom, 3x 2 bedroom, 1 x 3 bedrooms) with private facilities/ kitchen and some with laundry facilities.
In order to book accommodation at the RSYS please email rebekah@rsys.com.au or Telephone: +61 2 9955 7171.

A number of RSYS members have also offered to billet guests.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if we can be of any assistance at 2027icoyccruise@gmail.com

### Accommodation suggestions

The Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron
Meriton Suites
View Hotels
Quest Apartments
Carnarvon Lodge
Stone House
Vibe Hotel North Sydney

## Registration

### Registration Fee

The registration fee for the 2027 ICOYC cruise will be **AUD $1,250 per person.**

Your registration fee includes the following:

- Welcome pack with Handbook
- Welcome canapés and beverage function at RSYS
- Casual Platter and canapés at RSYS
- Sydney Harbour sailing on local members' boats
- Private dinner hosted at an RSYS member's home
- Welcome snacks and 2 course dinner at RPAYC
- Berthing at RPAYC

- Carvery Lunch at KMYC
- Entry to the National Park
- BBQ and guided bush walk at The Basin
- Farewell dinner at RSYS including, canapés, 2 course meal and beverages

*Visa and Mastercard will be accepted for payment.*

## Priority Registration

Registration will be accepted for international guests, as a priority, until 30th November 2026 and then will open for RSYS/ RPAYC and local ICOYC members from 1st December 2026. Closing date for all registrations will be 31st January 2027

## Registration Information

It is not necessary for participants to attend all of the events. However, if you choose not to attend any events the registration fee will not be reduced. For your registration to be complete, payment of the registration fee must accompany this application. To register please complete the online form which can be found here. We reserve the right to add a small amount to the registration fee in the event that prices escalate more than anticipated. All prices quoted are Australian Dollars (AUD).

The registration form is to be completed and registration fees paid for all participants including partners and guests so that we can capture contact information for all participants. Contact information is important so that we can update participants directly and not through the designated boat captain. Once registration is concluded participants will receive an acknowledgment via email. The acknowledgment does not guarantee a space as it is possible that the Rally could be oversold due to places being limited. A final confirmation will be sent as soon as possible.

In the event that the Rally is oversold, your registration fee will be refunded in accordance with the Rally Cancellation Policy that follows. There will be a waiting list and notification will be sent if space becomes available.

When you register, you may not have been able to complete the boat charter reservations. It would be helpful to know if you plan to cruise together on the charter boats. If you have that information at the time of registration, please include it. Please send us the updated information as it becomes available.

All updated registration information should be sent via email to 2027icoyccruise@gmail.com.

Registration Link: https:/y/www.revolutionise.com.au/rsys/events/357686

## Rally Cancellation Policy

If a registrant finds that it is necessary to cancel their registration, the Rally cancellation request must be submitted to the RSYS Finance Office ( 2027icoyccruise@gmail.com) by 1st February 2027 11:59PM AEDT. Prior to 1st January 2027, 95% of the registration fee will be refunded. Between 1st January 2027 and the 1st February 2027 45% of the registration fee will be refunded.
If there is a waiting list and someone from the waiting list registers and pays, the remaining 50% will also be refunded. After 1st February 2027 no refund will be given, unless there is a waiting list and someone from the waiting list fills the space.

## In Conclusion

All of a sudden April 2027 does not seem too far away as 2026 is flying by. The Committee is really looking forward to welcoming many of our overseas and local ICOYC friends to Sydney in April 2027. As has been outlined previously, it is a wonderful time to be on the water and we all look forward to having you join us on Sydney Harbour and Pittwater.

Richard Lawson
Chair 2027 ICOYC Rally Committee
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