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Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

5/12/2019

**AUSTRALIA - OPEN FOR SUPERYACHT CHARTER**

Today, the Australian parliament passed legislation through the Senate with bipartisan support enabling foreign superyachts to charter in Australian waters. The special recreational vessel legislation will allow superyachts use of a coastal trading temporary licence, allowing commercial charter activities. Vessels will be protected from importation and be required to pay 10% GST on the value of the charter. This legislation comes into effect almost immediately, whilst work to amend the Coastal Trading Act to cater for superyachts in the long term continues to be progressed.

Changes to the Coastal Trading Act have gone to the parliament in 2015 and again in 2018 without successfully passing the Senate. In order to allow the superyacht industry to take advantage of upcoming events in the Pacific such as the Tokyo Olympics in 2020 and the America's Cup in Auckland in 2021, the Australian government introduced this legislation separating superyachts from the previous disagreements over coastal cargo operations. This enabled bipartisan support which allowed passage of the legislation in near record time and finalised on the last day of parliament for the year.

David Good, CEO of Superyacht Australia stated "We have been working tirelessly to achieve this for many years for industry. The ability to charter in Australia now supplements charter in New Zealand, Tahiti, Fiji and Papua New Guinea where superyacht charter is already permitted and reinforces the South Pacific as a destination of choice for superyachts."

In order to celebrate this important milestone Superyacht Australia is hosting a 'Grand Soiree' event to be held on a warm summers evening on Saturday 22 February 2020 on Sydney Harbour. "This grand event will be a showcase and celebration of superyachts and chartering; I invite all those interested to join with us." continued Good.

## Superyacht Australia

For more information on the Grand Soiree - visit [www.superyacht-australia.com/sya-grand-soiree/](http://www.superyacht-australia.com/sya-grand-soiree/)

This legislation opens the door for many more high value travellers to come and explore Australia's natural beauty and signature experiences in the comfort of a chartered superyacht. Superyacht Australia has been working hard in partnership with Tourism Australia to showcase what the land down under can offer visiting superyachts. "The Great Barrier Reef, The Kimberley's and Ningaloo Reef, the wilderness of Tasmania and the hustle of Sydney Harbour are all best enjoyed from on the water. Superyacht chartering is really one of the best ways to experience what Australia has to offer." stated Good.

"We look forward to welcoming a huge increase in superyachts to Australia and invite the guests and crew to stay longer and enjoy the Australian experience." concluded Good.

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Image Ref.	Caption	Source
Image 1	MY Mischief cruising Sydney Harbour	Ahoy Club
Image 2	MY Spirit cruising the Ribbon Reefs, Great Barrier Reef	Spirit Luxury Charters
Image 3	MY Ghost 2 cruising under the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge	Superyacht Australia