



PRESS RELEASE

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NauticEd Local Sailing Places

NauticEd's claim to be the World's Most Advanced Online Sailing Education racked up another tick mark today by paralleling Google's recent announcement of Google Places. Google places is designed to serve local communities. Similarly, NauticEd has opened up the technology waterway with the announcement of Local Sailing Places on the Internet at <http://localsailingplaces.com>. Local Sailing Places is a FREE resource for all sailors to collaborate and share information about every sailing waterway and harbor in the world in whatever language they desire.

Grant Headifen, Educational Director and Founder of NauticEd, realized the need for this resource when hundreds of NauticEd students began asking for information about their own local waterway. "We also understood that the best information regarding any sailing location would already be existing in the minds of the locals themselves. Sailing clubs, sailing schools, sailing instructors, charter companies, and local active sailors all know the best local coves, anchorages, the navigation hazards, the best seasonal sailing climates etc. And so we're turning it over to them to provide the information." Says Headifen.

Headifen designed the information distribution technology using the same platform as Wikipedia - the most widely known online user generated content Encyclopedia website. "I use wikipedia almost everyday," says Headifen, "so why not create the world's largest resource for sailors using the same mega successful concept." Like wikipedia, Local Sailing Places will be FREE for all users.

It works like this:

(1) Users can go to Local Sailing Places and do a search for a local sailing location, for example Lake Travis in Austin Texas. The user can then read locally generally information about Lake Travis or where ever. Who the good charter companies are, who the sailing clubs are, who the sailing schools are, which are the best coves to anchor up in, what is a good dock up restaurant to eat at and what their food is like, where are the grounding hazards, seasonal water temperatures, average winds, maps, youtube videos, and photos of marinas etc.

(2) Users can edit the existing knowledge base about that location. If they know of other hazards, another dock up restaurant, or a great island anchorage then they can simply just edit the info.

(3) Users can add an entirely new location. The system asks a series of structured questions which the user then simply answers, uploads photos or embeds youtube videos. They can then send it out to their local sailing buddies to expand on the information. This then becomes live to the world to read and access.

Headifen is leading a sold out flotilla sailing trip to Vava'u, Tonga in August so he's hoping that someone will go in and fill out that location before he arrives.

The NauticEd Local Sailing Places website can be accessed directly from <http://www.NauticEd.org> or by going to <http://www.localsailingplaces.com>.