



ANIMA MARIS
CREW PROFILE



CAPTAIN MARIJO ERCEGOVIĆ

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

Captain Marijo Ercegović was born in 1963 and has been tied to the sea for as long as he can remember. He started working at the age of 11 on sand-extracting ships to earn pocket money and later transitioned to fishing, owning three fishing boats from 1991 to 1997. His journey into tourism began in 1998 when he bought and remodeled his first excursion boat "Pašnjak", operating along the Makarska Riviera.

In 2001, he upgraded to a round-trip charter boat "Ika" and ran weekly charters between Split and Dubrovnik until 2005. That same year, he built his first 30-meter steel yacht, "Vapor". Since then, Captain Marijo has built five more luxury yachts: "Ocean" (2009), "Aurora" (2013), "Diamond" (2015), "Rara Avis" (2018), and the flagship "Anima Maris" (2021). With a Yachtmaster 500 GT license and decades of hands-on experience, he remains one of the pioneers of the Croatian small ship charter industry.

PERSONAL INTERESTS:

When not navigating the Adriatic, Captain Marijo enjoys long walks, cycling, and quality time with his large family. With four children and four grandchildren—many of whom are actively involved in the family's yachting business—he takes great pride in building not only ships, but also a lasting legacy at sea.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN:

Croatian (native), English (professional)



Andrija
FIRST MATE

FIRST MATE ANDRIJA ERCEGOVIĆ

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

Andrija holds a formal education in marine engineering from Pomorska škola in Split and also served in the armed forces. With over 10 years of maritime experience, he started his yachting career as a deckhand aboard M/Y Aurora and later joined M/Y Diamond in the same role. Since the launch of Anima Maris, he has been an integral part of the crew, now serving as the trusted First Mate.

His disciplined background, technical expertise, and calm demeanor make him a dependable leader and a vital bridge between the captain and crew.

PERSONAL INTERESTS:

Off duty, Andrija enjoys playing chess, following Formula One, and spending quality time with his nephew. A genuine cat enthusiast, he adds both precision and personality to the team.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN:

Croatian (native), English (professional), Spanish (basic)



Ivan
CHIEF STEWARD

CHIEF STEWARD IVAN PEZIĆ

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

With a degree in Tourism and Hotel Management from the Faculty of Tourism and Hospitality in Kotor, Montenegro, Ivan brings over 15 years of experience, eight of those years spent honing his craft in Montenegro, working in premium restaurants across Europe, and even Afghanistan. This is his fifth year aboard Anima Maris.

Ivan is known for his strong work ethic, positive energy, and commitment to excellence. His service philosophy is rooted in teamwork: "Always giving my best and delivering quality, that's what brings results. Never a supporter of individualism, teamwork makes the dream work."

PERSONAL INTERESTS:

In his free time, he enjoys football, hiking, biking, and spending time outdoors. Above all, he is a proud father of a young daughter.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN:

Croatian (native), English (professional), Russian (professional)



CHEF NOVAK DOBROVIĆ

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

Passionate chef with over 10 years of culinary experience, including two years working in Germany (Düsseldorf and Hannover) and three years at a fine-dining restaurant in Porto Montenegro, one of the world's most prestigious marinas. Now in his third season aboard Anima Maris, he continues to bring creativity, discipline, and dedication to the galley.

Educated at the Culinary High School in Podgorica, Novak describes himself as an idealist, always striving for perfection in every dish he prepares. His diverse background and relentless pursuit of quality are evident in every plate that leaves his kitchen.

PERSONAL INTERESTS:

In his free time, Novak enjoys spending quality time with his family and practiced judo in his younger years.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN:

Croatian (native), English (professional), German (basic)

Novak

CHEF



Ramona

SOUS CHEF

SOUS CHEF RAMONA HRILIĆ

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

Although originally trained in healthcare, Ramona Hrilić found her passion in hospitality and has brought her strong work ethic and attention to detail into the yachting world. After completing her studies at the School of Health Sciences in Zagreb, she transitioned to the sea, gaining valuable experience as a housekeeper on Il Mare for two seasons and later as a cruise manager on another charter yacht.

Now in her first season aboard Anima Maris, Ramona joins the team as Sous-chef, bringing a hands-on attitude and a love for cooking. Her unique background gives her a calm, structured approach to galley work and a strong sense of guest care.

PERSONAL INTERESTS:

In her free time, Ramona enjoys running and experimenting in the kitchen.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN:

Croatian (native), English (professional), German (basic)



Lorena

ASSISTANT CHIEF STEWARD

ASSISTANT CHIEF STEWARD LORENA RANČIĆ

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

Lorena graduated from the Craft school in Split, Croatia, and brings with her 8 years of experience working in various restaurants, where she developed a strong foundation in hospitality and guest service.

Known for her professionalism and warm demeanor, Lorena is passionate about creating a welcoming and refined atmosphere on board.

PERSONAL INTERESTS:

In her free time, she enjoys reading, as well as exploring the world of fashion and beauty.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN:

Croatian (native), English (professional)



Sara
3RD STEWARDESS

3RD STEWARDESS SARA PEČIĆ

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

Sara Pečić brings a wealth of experience and a strong background in hospitality to her first season aboard Anima Maris. She holds a degree from the Faculty of Tourism and Hotel Management in Omiš, Croatia, and has spent the past several years refining her skills across various roles in the yachting and hospitality sectors.

She worked for four years on yacht Limitless in multiple service positions, managed guest reservations and apartments along the seaside, then continued as a housekeeper for two seasons on Agape Rose and one on Maxita. Known for her reliability and dedication to detail, Sara ensures every guest feels at home on board.

PERSONAL INTERESTS:

In her free time, she enjoys running, watching films and series, and spending quality time with friends.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN:

Croatian (native), English (professional), German (basic)



Andrija
DECKHAND

DECKHAND ANDRIJA ŽELALIĆ

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

Andrija Želalić combines technical education with hands-on experience in the yachting industry. He studied at the Electrical School in Omiš and later pursued Maritime Management at university in Split. He also holds several licenses, including Master 500GT, Engineer up to 750 kW, Medical Brevet, and a B category license.

His career includes two seasons as a deckhand aboard Navilux, one season on Anthea, and another on Dalmatino. Now in his third season on Anima Maris, Andrija is known for his strong work ethic, technical competence, and team spirit.

PERSONAL INTERESTS:

In his free time, he is passionate about all types of fishing, especially spearfishing and angling with a rod.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN:

Croatian (native), English (professional)



DECKHAND IVAN KAROGLAN

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:

Ivan Karoglan brings a versatile background and hands-on experience to his first season aboard Anima Maris. He completed his studies at the School of Graphic Design in Split before retraining as an electrical technician, skills that have served him well both at sea and on land, where he runs an electrical business during the off-season.

Ivan spent five years aboard the mini cruiser Mystique, taking on multiple roles including housekeeper, bartender, and deckhand. He then joined Omnia (ex-Aiaxaia) for one season as a deckhand, further building his seamanship and adaptability.

PERSONAL INTERESTS:

In his free time, Ivan enjoys spearfishing, snowboarding, biking, and recreational football.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN:

Croatian (native), English (professional)



ANIMA MARIS

Bon Voyage!

*The crew information provided is accurate at the time of release.
However, due to the dynamic nature of the yachting industry, changes may occur prior to your charter.
Any replacement crew will be carefully selected to ensure equivalent or superior qualifications and service levels, upholding our commitment to excellence.*