

MARINE AIR TICKETS FOR NON-MARINERS

Non-mariners are often entitled to travel on marine air tickets. Typically, such passengers fall into one of the following two main groups:

- non-marine staff working on board ship, particularly on cruise ships, and sailing with the ship to sea or
- inspectors or technical staff working on new-buildings or vessels in harbour or dry dock, and who do not sail with the ship to sea.

When travelling on a marine air ticket, ship's inspectors and technical staff travelling to or from new-buildings or vessels in harbour or dry dock must carry a letter issued by the ship owner or manager stating the location of the dock or ship yard, the name of the vessel or new-build and the passenger's task or employment on the vessel.

Exact requirements vary from airline to airline. Below, we set out extracts from the rules applied by Lufthansa and by Air France / KLM.

Seaman's book

Once upon a time, a seaman's book was the universal proof of right to fly with a marine air ticket. This is no longer the case. Most marine passengers travel with some other proof of entitlement (such as the letter described above). Seaman's books still are accepted by some airlines, but not by all.

Lufthansa and associated airlines

Eligibility

Passengers travelling with a marine net fare ticket must be travelling to / from a vessel, yacht or floating, manoeuvrable oil rig where they will be / were included on the crew manifest. Excepted are ship's inspectors and technical staff travelling to / from new-buildings or vessels in harbour or dry dock.

Eligible employment categories

Ship's crew / floating oil rig workers / cruise ship personnel / ship's inspectors and technical staff travelling to / from new-buildings or vessels in harbour or dry dock.

Mandatory documentation

A confirmation in English on original letterhead stating name, date of travel, name and location of vessel and passenger's position of employment.

Air France & KLM

Eligibility

- Persons who are joining for, or leaving from, active seagoing duty or work on board a merchant marine vessel (including cruise liners, dredgers and specialist vessels deployed in the offshore oil and gas industries).
- Seaman / technicians / engineers / contractors / inspectors / maintenance staff travelling to carry out work on a vessel whether in dock or at sea.
- Cruise ship crew including on-board entertainers and medical staff, dredging crew, supply vessel crew.

Not eligible

- Spouses, children and infants.



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Passengers travelling on Air France marine fares must carry at least ONE of the following forms of ID for checking by Air France airport staff:

1. Valid Seaman book.
2. Copy of original signing-on or signing-off papers.
3. Valid Cruise Line ID card or copy of valid Cruise Line contract of employment.
4. Copy of crew list for on-signing or off-signing vessel.
5. Letter (on company letter headed paper only) in English which contains the following information:

Passenger name

Date of travel

Vessel name (which passenger is actually travelling to / from)

Port of embarkation and disembarkation

Position or duty on board, eg Captain, Inspector, Engine Maintenance, Contractor etc.

Any passenger travelling on an Air France Marine fare who cannot produce any of the documents previously specified at time of check-in, can be denied boarding.

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