Luke Yeates LLC

trading as Alekona Charters

10152 North Shore Dr

Northport, Michigan

49670

Alekona sailing charter proposal

Our plan is to cruise lake Michigan on short excursions and with occasional longer excursions to lake Huron with the aim of educating people on sailing, navigation, and the ecology of the great lakes.

We are both Northport residents and property owners in Northport. We are a family of three, and hope to be able to run 2 local business J.Zevalkink Photography has already been trading locally since 2016 and the Alekona Charter Company being the second, running a second business here will enable us to remain in the town and send our child to school here.

We have both been sailing yachts and cruising since childhood with over 100,000 miles of ocean and lake cruising between us, we have sailed on every Great Lake and every Ocean of the world. We are extremely passionate about sailing and wish to pass this on to others and future generations. We are very committed to helping the local community and want to increase participation in yachting amongst the local Northport residence. We will offer a 50% discount to any Northport resident who is fit and able to sail for all excursions.

Majority of the trips will be conducted out of Northport. Hopefully from the Marina for ease of access of our guests.

We will need one crew member to help on board during summers, also in the offseason with yacht maintenance. This person will be employed locally in Northport, full training provided, a yachting apprenticeship hopefully leading to a paid for Captains qualification to take command of the ship in future.

We want to run 4 free, day sail excursions (in early/ late season) for the Northport high school kids and teachers. Taking the youth out sailing is a very important part of what we want to achieve, for future crew, and hopefully for future Great Lakes enthusiasts, and sailors.

My wife's mission is to get more women into sailing, in a traditionally male dominated sport, Jessica's plan is to inspire educate the next wave of female sailing skippers. She will be running female only excursions.

On our longest excursions we will be sailing in the De Tour / Mackinaw Island area leaving our marina berth vacant for long periods in July and August in 2024 and hopefully in 2023 also. We will co-ordinate with the Harbor Master to allow the Marina to use our berth for transient boaters during the busiest part of the year, generating extra income from our slip. This also applies to any additional 2 day / 5 day long excursions.

We are willing to take the most exposed marina berth at the end of D dock as our permanent slip. As we understand it is the least used transient slip, therefore having to lightest impact on the Marina berths. That coupled with the commercial dues and the ability to double sell the berth makes it good financial sense for Northport.

The boats information:

US Coastguard registered vessel

Owned by Jessica Zevalkink and operated by Luke Yeates LLC T/A Alekona charter company

Beautiful Classic looking yacht with a clipper bow design, an aesthetically traditional looking yacht in keeping with the feel of the town and marina.

Accommodation for longer sailing trips is 4 sailors plus 2 crew. Day trips can take as many as 6 sailors

Suggested excursions are open to weather conditions however trips to the Manitou islands, Beaver Island, Leelanau peninsula being the most regular voyages.

Every excursion will start and end from Northport. Customers will arrive the day before departure, and leave the day after return. Our intention is to make arrangements with local businesses, to feed and water our guests and give them a tour of the town at the same time.

Below are some photos of the yacht, and us.