

Guidelines for banning single-use plastics on touristic boats

These guidelines explain which **single-use plastic or styrofoam** items should be banned from boats & replaced with the suggested alternatives.

These guidelines are applicable for all: daily boats, safari boats, speed boats, glass-bottom boats & submarines.

The Chamber of Diving & Water Sports recommends **only using reusable items** instead of disposable ones to minimize the amount of waste generated by the boat & the chances of anything flying into the sea.

The Chamber of Diving & Water Sports recommends the following:

Recommended materials	Reasons
Acrylic plastic	Highly recommended - Reusable – long-lasting – a one-time purchase
Metal /stainless steel	Highly recommended - Reusable – long-lasting – a one-time purchase
Least recommended materials	Reasons
Sugarcane or Fiber	Only if no alternative is available– Biodegradable – still creates waste
Paper or wood	Only if no alternative is available – Biodegradable – still creates waste
Banned materials	Reasons
Oxo-biodegradable plastic	Plastic material – pollutes environment – creates micro-plastics
Any single-use plastic or foam item.	Pollutes the environment – creates microplastics

1. Cups

Single-use plastic or foam cups are to be replaced **with reusable plastic “acrylic” or metal cups.** We don’t recommend paper cups as they can fly into the sea & pollute the marine environment. The average foam cup takes **50 years** to decompose.



2. Water

Water bottles are to be replaced with a **transparent water dispenser** to reduce the number of plastic bottles used. The water dispenser must be transparent to ensure hygienic conditions & bought from a certified drinking water company. The average water bottle takes **450 years** to decompose.



3. Single-use sachets

We recommend switching single-use coffee, sugar, jam, honey, butter, and sauce sachets to **bulk or large size containers** to reduce the amount of plastic waste. It takes **around 500 to 1000 years** for these plastic sachets to decompose.



4. Ashtrays

All open ashtrays on boats must be changed to **closed ashtrays** in order to prevent cigarette filters from flying into the sea. Cigarette filters are made from plastic fibers, they take **1 to 5 years** to decompose.



5. Bins

All bins on boats must have a lid to prevent items from flying into the sea. If there are open bins, they must be switched to a closed bin.



6. Clear wrap on food

We recommend replacing the clear wrap on food dishes by a cloche or aluminum paper to reduce the amount of single-use plastics used on board.



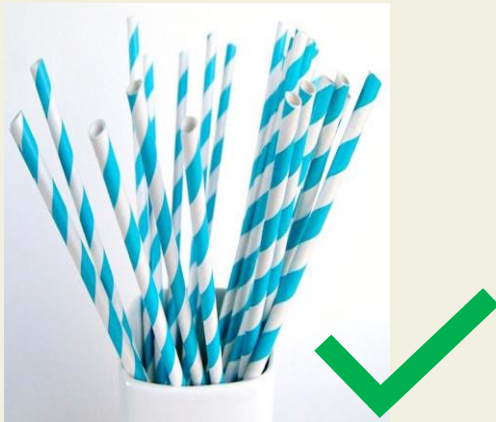
7. Take away food containers

For **the boats who do not have onboard kitchens**, we recommend for them to select biodegradable or reusable food packaging or containers instead of Styrofoam or plastic packaging. This will reduce the amount of waste generated by the boat.



8. Straws

We **don't recommend the usage of straws on boats** as they can easily fly into the sea. If straws are to be used, we recommend paper or reusable straws instead of plastic ones. It takes around **200 years** for a plastic straw to decompose & it's the **11th most found ocean trash**.



9. Items to completely ban from boats: single-use plastic or foam bags, plates, cutlery and drink cups.

