

# The Minitransat regatta prepares sails with 84 sailors who cross the Atlantic alone

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Noticias



Las Palmas de Gran Canaria will be on November 1, 2017 the port of departure of the second stage of the prestigious and extreme transoceanic regatta solo, Minitransat. A total of 84 sailors of 15 nationalities will participate in a voyage of more than 4,000 nautical miles that will depart from the port of La Rochelle (France) on 1 October, with stopover in the capital of Gran Canaria and target in Martinique (Caribbean).

The councilor of Ciudad de Mar, José Eduardo Ramírez, together with the mayors of La Rochelle, Jean-François Fontaine, and Marín (Martinique), Rodolphe Désiré; The president of the Association of the Mini Class, Lucas Montagne and the president of the organization of the race, Patrick Maurin, have presented in the French city the details of the test to the Gallic media, companies of the sector and athletes.

The capital of Gran Canaria has been selected, among different nautical destinations, for its climatic conditions, its port infrastructures, its status as a tourist destination, the island's good airport connections and its experience to host nautical events.

"For Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, it is an honor to share this adventure with La Rochelle and Le Marin with these two cities that we already consider sister cities and with which we hope to collaborate not only in the two editions of the Mini Transat but in others Aspects," said the councilman of Ciudad de Mar.

The mayor recalled that in 2017 Las Palmas de Gran Canaria celebrates its relationship with the sea because it has just been declared by the European Commission on the Atlantic Arc, Atlantic City 2017, replacing the French city of Brest. "In 2017," explained Ramírez, "we are going to host three major nautical events, the Discovery race from Lisbon, the Mini Transat and the ARC, in addition to the Tall Ships regatta."

The nomination of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria as a scale of the Minitransat has been the result of "the inter-institutional effort between the City Council, the Port Authority of Las Palmas and the Cabildo of Gran Canaria," said the mayor. "We are working together excited and prepared to welcome the organization and the sailors with open arms. I am convinced that it will be a great experience for everyone because for the sailing sport in Europe this regatta is an event

and we will take advantage of it, "he added.

The Minitransat is considered among the hardest and most exciting oceanic tests. Its motto: A man, a boat, an ocean, tests the skills of seafarers who will have to face the conditions of the ocean alone, in sailboats of only 6.5 meters in length, with the only help of A GPS, nautical charts of paper and a VHF to receive the meteorological information. Foreign aid is prohibited.

The sailboats will depart from La Rochelle on October 1, 2017, a few days later they will begin arriving in the capital of Gran Canaria where they will remain until November 1, the date of departure of the second part of the voyage that will have its destination on the island of Martinique , In the Caribbean.

The councilman stressed that the capital and the island will benefit from this regatta. "It is undoubtedly an event that will be very profitable for all, not only because of the direct economic impact of the presence of seafarers and their families on the island for a month; But also because of the enormous media impact generated by the event that will confirm us as an Atlantic scale and, of course, the improvements that will be addressed in the facilities of the city's marina.

Lanzaroteña Marta Güemes will be the only Canary Islander to participate in the Mini Transat. The sportswoman, based in France, began in the sport of sailing in the Real Club Nautico de Arrecife at 10 years of age. Now it prepares in Galician waters its participation in this race alone.