

Sailing with World ARC has several advantages for getting work done on your circumnavigation, whether planned maintenance or emergency repairs. If you are unable to diagnose the problem, someone in the fleet may be able to help solve or quantify the problem. The local information section of the Rally Handbook contains details for contractors in each of the countries you will visit.

Please note that the availability of both contractors and spare parts varies greatly around the world. Most contractors will want to use your spares like filters, impellers and oil, so it is important to carry enough for routine servicing and emergency use. Some World ARC boats say they are a 'floating chandlery' with spares and tools for everything onboard.

There will be times when it is possible to plan in advance to get work done. Ensure you always get quotations in writing, especially if there is a language barrier. Agree a payment plan. Test work thoroughly before you depart.

The following information is designed to give you an overview of marine shoreside services along the World ARC route.

Caribbean to Australia

Country	Rating	Comments
Saint Lucia	Good	Well serviced boat yard in Rodney Bay. Good electrical, mechanical and electronic contractors, several of whom work as service agents for major manufacturers. However, December is a busy time with plenty of public holidays so works should be scheduled for before this.
Panama	Good	Typically, equipment gets a good test across the Caribbean Sea, so normally a lot of repair work gets done in Panama. Any planned work should be carefully coordinated with the canal transit schedule. The Shelter Bay Marina boatyard team have proven themselves capable of managing repairs and also organising haulout and hull painting, ready for Galapagos. Work can also be planned in Shelter Bay, to take place on the Pacific side of the Canal.
Galapagos	OK	Basic repair work to a do-it-yourself standard. The chandlery in Puerto Ayora is probably better than you would expect. No marine specialist but very resourceful electricians, fibreglassers, welders and a metal machinist. A shoemaker also does sail repair.
Marquesas Hiva Oa	Limited	Haulout available for monohulls up to 12.8m (42') and some catamarans. There is a small boat yard which can undertake basic marine repairs. There is a resourceful yacht repair business on Nuku Hiva.

Country	Rating	Comments
Tahiti	Expensive	Everything is possible but expensive and contractors will require notice to perform repairs. Haulout available. Sail repair is difficult and unreliable. A good place to plan repairs and book in advance. World Cruising Club's local agent can organise work very quickly and get the boats into a marina but will add a 10% charge.
Fiji	Good	Good value for money and good quality. Healthy competition between the boat yards and service agents in the Nadi Bay area. Fiji is an independent cruising period of the rally so easy to schedule work.
Vanuatu	Limited	Port Vila has a haulout for small monohulls under 13.7m (45') approx. Marine electricians and mechanics are available and mostly knowledgeable. Spare parts can be ordered from Australia with sufficient notice.
Australia	Good	Everything is possible but expensive. Plan well in advance, set an earlier deadline than required and keep reminding your contractors of it. Mackay and Cairns offer better facilities than Darwin (also more likely to need to get parts delivered to Darwin). Raymarine have an excellent service centre in Mackay. Doyle as a loft in Mackay, and it may be possible to order there for delivery to Darwin.

There is detailed information on marine contractors and suppliers for each rally port in the Rally Handbook section 3, Local Information, under 'A to Z of Boat Services'. This information is also available in the Members Area of the website.

Our information is based on the experiences of previous World ARC participants and our team of yellow shirts who visit the destinations on the route. However, businesses do close down, move or change ownership. If you find any of this information has changed or have any recommendations based on your own experiences, please let the World Cruising Club team know, either speaking to your rally yellow shirts, or email mail@worldcruising.com.

Australia to the Caribbean

Country	Rating	Comments
Australia - Darwin	Good	Everything is possible but expensive. Plan well in advance, set an earlier deadline than required and keep reminding your contractors of it. Facilities in Darwin not as extensive as Mackay and Cairns - and you're more likely to need to get parts delivered to Darwin.
Lombok	Limited	There is a small boatyard and basic works can be done with sufficient advance notice. Haulout is available by trailer (up to 38 tonnes)
Cocos (Keeling)	Limited	The island contractors are resourceful but not many are marine focused. There is a limited boat repair facility on Home Island for emergency work only.
Mauritius	OK	A choice of reasonable quality contractors. The chandleries are limited for yacht needs but parts can be flown in. A good sail repairer but with limited capacity.
La Reunion	OK	A choice of contractors, most of whom have workshops in Le Port.
South Africa	Excellent	Independent cruising period of the rally so time is more flexible. Durban contractors will visit Richard's Bay so schedule work in advance. Good for sails (repair and new). The Cape Town contractors are numerous and reasonably priced. There are good chandleries in most ports including Richard's Bay, Durban and Cape Town. Southern Ropes in Cape Town excellent quality and exported all over the world, great place to replace all running rigging. Both North Sails and Ullman have lofts in Cape Town - previous participants have had full sets of sails made here, some shipped them back to the States/Caribbean. Note: Many companies will close for the holiday period (mid-December until 4 January approx.) so you will need to plan ahead.
Namibia	Limited	Only basic works and no sailmaker available.
St Helena	Very Limited	The island has no real ability to deal with yacht repairs, but the locals are friendly and there are some skilled engineers who make be able to help.
Brazil	Poor	Finding a reliable contractor in Brazil is difficult. It's also very difficult to obtain or import spares. During the Carnival period all services tend to be slower than normal. Not suitable for planned maintenance.
Grenada	Excellent	An excellent choice of good quality, reputable contractors for every marine need. Several excellent chandleries too.
Saint Lucia	Good	Well-serviced boatyard in Rodney Bay. Good electrical, mechanical and electronic contractors, including service agents for major manufacturers.