

ON COURSE TO 80 YEARS OF RACING | RUMBO A 80 AÑOS DE REGATA N2E "Returns to Its Roots" To Downtown Ensenada in 2026

Veteran racers will be treated to "something old and something new" after crossing the finish line for the 78th annual Newport to Ensenada International Yacht Race (N2E), as they enjoy post-regatta festivities in downtown Ensenada for the first time in 15 years. And newer competitors will get a taste of the traditions and excitement associated with the city during the April 24-26 regatta.

Through renewed relationships with and commitments from the local government, chamber of commerce and tourism offices, including the Mayor of Ensenada, the Hon. Claudia Agatón Muñiz, racers will see improved entry and customs processing, increased docking at the CruisePort Marina in addition to the Coral, and multiple hotel options in downtown Ensenada that cover all price points.

The historic Riviera Civic and Cultural Center will host the race's trophy and celebratory events, including entertainment and food. Built almost 100 years ago as a hotel and casino, the then-Playa Ensenada Hotel and Casino welcomed many of Hollywood's elite — Bing Crosby and Rita Hayworth, among them — during prohibition. Bar Andaluz, at the Riviera, claims to be the original home of the margarita.

"Returning to downtown Ensenada feels like coming home," said Joe Negron, Commodore for the Newport Ocean Sailing Association. "This race was built on friendship, hospitality and a shared love of the sea. NOSA is grateful to the city and to Coral Marina for helping us honor that legacy. As we move toward our 80th year, we couldn't be more excited to celebrate this next chapter with our racers and our friends in Ensenada."

Registration is currently open for the 2026 Newport to Ensenada International Yacht Race through the NOSA website. In addition to the traditional N2E competition, NOSA also presents the shorter Newport to San Diego race, now in its eighth year. Both races will start April 24, 2026 from the Balboa Pier.

About the Newport to Ensenada International Yacht Race

The Newport Ocean Sailing Association, organizers of the historic Newport to Ensenada International Yacht Race launched its first 125-nautical mile race April 23, 1948, into the small fishing village of Ensenada, Mexico. Denny Barr claimed the top prize for skippering Mickey, a 46-foot sloop, to best overall corrected time. With an emphasis on camaraderie and competition, N2E quickly attracted thousands of racers, becoming an event where fun-seeking novices could race alongside celebrities and world-class sailors. A record 675 boats entered in 1983, earning N2E the title of World's Largest International Yacht Race. A new elapsed time record for a monohull was shattered in 2022 when Manouch Moshayedi's custom RIO 100 crossed the finish line before sunset with a time of 7:02:17. Five other boats also broke the previous record of 9:35:34 that year. Tom Siebela's Orion, a MOD70 has held the elapsed-time record for a multihull since 2016 when it broke an 18-year-old record with a time of 5:17:26.

Trophies are awarded in more than 40 classes for the best in ultra-light, maxi-yachts, spinnaker and cruising classes, so the race remains inclusive, fun and competitive for anyone who wants to race.



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