



MDL MARINAS

News Release  
For Immediate Release  
9th July 2019

## **MDL supports the RNLI with Big Bay ECO Challenge and bumper prize bundle for one lucky winner**

MDL's Torquay Marina is delighted to be organising, and hosting, the Big Bay ECO Challenge on Sunday 21st July 2019, an exciting eco-powered race from Brixham to Torquay Marina.

This friendly, yet competitive, event will see five men pitted against one another in various modes of eco-friendly transport including a road bike, Stand-up paddleboard, Bavaria yacht, BMW i8, and Schiller Bike (on the water).

The idea is to raise awareness of greener ways to get around, commitment to environmental protection and also raise funds for the RNLI.

The race starts from the RNLI lifeboat station at Brixham (10.30am) and the competitors will head across and, in the case of the BMW i8 around, Torbay. The winner of the race will receive extreme kudos and bragging rights for at least a year.

In order to raise funds for the RNLI, a giant bundle of goods has been donated for a prize draw from gracious sponsors. One lucky person will walk away with all the prizes after the race has been won. The bundle includes: one night's stay and dinner for two at the Cary Arms, afternoon tea for two at Belgrave Sands, a Salcombe Gin Hamper, use of a BMW for the weekend (thanks to Ocean BMW), a luxury hamper from Devil's Choice, an adrenaline rib ride from ribride.co.uk, a stand-up paddleboard lesson from WeSUP, dinner at the Elephant Restaurant (courtesy of MDL Marinas), a Clean to Gleam exterior boat wash and cleaning kit bag, a Jet Ski Safari, a Land Rover Experience, a Michigan Marine Propulsion gift voucher and an annual pass for Torquay Marina car park. Anyone wishing to take part in the prize draw can enter online at <https://www.bigbayecochallenge.co.uk>.

Mike Smith, Torquay Marina Manager, came up with the race idea after enjoying riding a Schiller Bike around the harbour and being harangued by Tom Bills, the competing yachtsman who claimed he could easily beat his speeds.

"We've organised the race at one of the busiest times of the year," Mike says, "to give the water bike a competitive edge over the vehicles on the road. It'll all come down to the conditions on the day, and while it's all a bit of good fun it really will serve to highlight eco-friendly modes of transport and raise money for an excellent cause.



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“We have two Schiller Bikes at the marina which can be rented,” Mike continues. “They’re stable and a great way to keep fit without worrying about the traffic. We’re expecting to see a lot more people become actively involved with watersports when they see what amazing facilities we have on offer at Torquay Marina.”

Spectators are welcome to watch the start of the challenge from Brixham RNLI station or view the end from Princess or Holden Pier at Torquay. Or take the proverbial ring-side seat and watch from the water.

Check out more details online at <https://www.bigbayecochallenge.co.uk> or find out more about Torquay Marina at [www.torquaymarina.co.uk](http://www.torquaymarina.co.uk)

**ENDS**

**Notes for editors:**

**Image attached:** MDL’s Torquay Marina

### **MDL Marinas**

- MDL Marinas is Europe’s largest marina group, offering members over 120 destinations to cruise to in the UK, France, Italy and Spain through Freedom Berthing. Currently MDL Marinas manage 18 UK marinas, 1 in Italy and 1 in Spain.
- MDL Marinas is proud to be landlords to over 500 marine business companies, with nearly 260 staff delivering the unique MDL experience to all members, guests and commercial partners.
- The company also advises on worldwide marina developments including Europe, China and Crimea.
- For more information visit [www.mdlmarinas.co.uk](http://www.mdlmarinas.co.uk)

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