

Big Apple Charters Launches Skyline Catamaran for 30 Guests

May 22, 2026

NEW YORK, NY - May 22, 2026 -
Big Apple Charters has launched the Skyline, a custom-built catamaran that carries up to 30 guests, ahead of the 2026 summer season on New York Harbor. The vessel departs from Chelsea Piers in Manhattan and is the largest in the company's fleet.

The Skyline was designed and built for 2026 as a fully equipped event space on the water. It features a full bar at the center of the main space, seating that is both covered and open, and a custom lighting and sound system with Bluetooth connectivity. The vessel also includes a walk-in bathroom and can be fully enclosed, which allows charters to continue across changing weather conditions and a longer stretch of the calendar. The Skyline is available from April through November and departs from 59 Chelsea Piers.

The addition of the Skyline brings the Big Apple Charters fleet to three vessels. The company also operates the Hudson Star, which carries up to 12 guests, and the Manhattan Mermaid, which carries up to 8. With a capacity of 30, the Skyline is positioned for corporate functions, milestone celebrations, and larger private

gatherings that the company's two smaller vessels could not accommodate. Rates for the Skyline start at $1,250 per hour, and each charter is operated by a crew licensed by the United States Coast Guard.

Big Apple Charters was founded by Amal Salameh, who has spent more than a decade hosting guests on New York Harbor. The company is woman-owned and headquartered at Chelsea Piers. It began with a single boat and has since expanded its fleet and the range of events it hosts, which include corporate retreats, proposals, family outings, sunset cruises, and other private charters.

"We built the Skyline to give larger groups a way to experience New York from the water without losing the sense of a private, hosted event," said Amal Salameh, Founder of Big Apple Charters. "With a summer of major gatherings ahead in the city, we wanted to offer a setting that brings people together on the harbor."

The launch comes as New York prepares for a season of large-scale public events. Memorial Day weekend marks the unofficial start of the summer charter season in the region. Later in the summer, the city will mark July 4th alongside America250, the national commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The New York and New Jersey region is also among the host areas for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, which is scheduled to bring matches and visitors to the area during the tournament. These events are expected to increase demand for group venues across the city.

The Skyline is designed to function as an alternative to land-based event spaces. The vessel can host catered corporate events with presentation capability on board, private gatherings for groups who want to see the city from the water, and milestone evenings for larger parties. Its routing on New York Harbor passes landmarks that include the Statue of Liberty, the Brooklyn Bridge, and the Manhattan skyline. The full enclosure allows the vessel to operate as an indoor space when needed, while the open seating areas remain available in clear weather.

Big Apple Charters has stated that every vessel in its fleet is maintained, USCG-licensed, and insured, and that charters are arranged directly with the company rather than through third-party platforms. The company handles event details that include timing, routing, and catering for each booking.

The Skyline is available for reservation now for the 2026 season. Charters can be arranged for corporate events, celebrations, family experiences, and other private occasions on New York Harbor.

Big Apple Charters is a woman-owned private yacht charter company based at Chelsea Piers in New York

City. The company provides catered private charters and event hosting on New York Harbor for corporate clients, celebrations, and individual guests. The company was founded by Amal Salameh and operates a fleet of three vessels. For more information, visit bigapplecharters.com.

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Big Apple Charters

Custom private yacht charters (up to 30 guest)- NYC- New Luxury vessels-upscale experiences. Female owned.

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