



**Bamboo (*Phyllostachys pubescens*  
or *Phyllostachys viridiglaucescens*):**

The bamboo are bound to the sail and are positioned between the sail and the mast. Once the rig is fine tuned, the hoisted sail is flat and without folds, whilst retaining sufficient flexibility to curve in the wind.

The lengths of the bamboo vary depending on their position on the sail and they must not protrude on the leech side any more than necessary, to avoid getting tangled with the main sheet whilst tacking.

You may find suitable bamboo growing locally, alternatively, I have always found Japanese imported bamboo to be of very good quality.

There are many bamboo organisations throughout the world which can also be helpful to you.

Choose mature bamboo (i.e. four years old). If the bamboo has been freshly cut, you will need to let dry in a cool spot, e.g. a cave for six to seven months before using.

The diameter of the bamboo should be consistent throughout its length; if it is not, I recommend that they be doubled (head to toe) for the larger jonques de plaisance. This does not apply to the Jonquinettes.



*Phyllostachys pubescens* at La Bamboueraie d'Anduze, France

*Phyllostachys pubescens* is the largest bamboo and grows in temperate regions. Sometimes called Bamboo moso, it can exceed 23 m in height and 180 mm in diameter.