

RYA Shore based Theory Courses

Essential Navigation and Seamanship Course

The Essential Navigation and Seamanship course provides an introduction to the basic skills required before taking a small boat to sea or taking an active part in running a boat.

Developed by the Royal Yachting Association. It is an introductory program to basic chart work and boating safety. It assumes no prior knowledge and is suitable for finding your way around a harbour or bay while using smaller marine craft such as jet skis, power boats, day sailors or divers. The course can be taken anytime and anywhere as long as you have access to a computer and the internet

Only available on line

Syllabus:

1 - Charts, Publications and Terms		Allow Hours
•	Basic Terms Chart overview Introduction to chart datum and depths	1
2- Buc	pyage	
•	Lateral buoys Cardinal buoys Where to find information	2
3 – Na	avigation	
•	Plotting a position Measuring distance and bearing Position fix Heading	1
4 – Sa	rfety	
•	Personal and boat-safety equipment Safety procedures and briefing Communications Engine checks Rescue procedures	1
5 – Anchoring		1
•	Where to anchor How to anchor	
6 – Tid	des	
•	Tidal streams Tidal heights	3





7 – Electronic Navigation		1
•	GNSS terms GNSS use Using waypoints	
8 – Ru	ules of the Road	1
•	Risk of collision Who gives way	
9 – W	eather Forecasts	1
•	Sources of forecast Terms used in forecast	
10 – F	10 – Pilotage	
•	Harbour information Transits Pilotage Plan	
11 – Passage Planning		2
•	SOLAS V requirements Pre-planning	

The Course includes

- RYA practice Charts
- RYA Course notes
- Chart Protractor

Chart choice

- Dividers
- Access to Online RYA Course

Interactive courses can be taken anytime, anywhere and at your own speed. All you need is a computer and the internet. **The course price is \$340** and we will forward your theory kit by express mail. On successful completion you will receive the RYA Certificate for Essential Navigation.

If you are planning to complete a Day Skipper course, it is not a requirement, we suggest do the Essential Navigation first as many of our students have enjoyed a better outcome.





RYA Day Skipper Shore based Course

A comprehensive introduction to chart work, navigation, meteorology and the basics of seamanship for Competent Crew. You will find this course invaluable if you want to learn how to start making decisions on board

Course dates as per our website 'What's on' page either part time, full time or on line.

Syllabus:

	Allow Hours
1 – Nautical Terms	
Parts of a boat and hullGeneral nautical terminology	
2 – Rope work	
Knowledge of the properties of synthetic ropes in common use	
3 – Anchor work	1
 Characteristics of different types of anchor Factors to take into account when anchoring 	
4 – Safety	
 Knowledge of the safety equipment to be carried, its stowage and use Fire precautions and firefighting Use of personal safety equipment, harnesses and life jackets Ability to send a distress signal by VHF radio Basic knowledge of rescue procedures including helicopter rescue Stability 	e
5 – International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea	3
Steering and sailing rulesGeneral rules	
6 - Definition of Position, Course and Speed	
 Latitude and longitude Knowledge of standard navigational terms True bearings and courses The knot 	





7 – Na	vigational Charts and Publications	2
•	Information shown on charts, chart symbols and representation Of direction and distance Navigational publications in common use Chart correction	
8 – Na	vigational Drawing Instruments	1
•	Use of parallel rulers, dividers and proprietary plotting instruments	
9 – Co	mpass	2
•	Application of variation Awareness of deviation and its causes Use of hand-bearing compass	
10 – C	hart work and Navigation – Traditional and Electronic	6.5
•	Dead reckoning and estimated position including an awareness of leeway Techniques of visual fixing Use of GNSS and chart plotters for position fixing Use of waypoints to fix position Course to steer	
11 – T	ides and Tidal Streams	4
•	Tidal definitions, levels and datum Tide tables Use of admiralty method of determining tidal height at standard port Awareness of corrections for secondary ports Use of tidal diamonds and tidal stream atlases for chart work	
12 – V	isual Aids to Navigation	1
•	Lighthouses and beacons, light characteristics	
13 – M	13 – Meteorology	
•	Sources of broadcast meteorological information Knowledge of terms used in shipping forecasts, including the Beaufort Scale, and their significance to small craft Basic knowledge of highs, lows and fronts	





14 – Passage Planning	4
 Preparation of a navigational plan for short coastal passages Meteorological considerations in planning short coastal passages Use of visual confirmation of waypoints on passage Importance of confirmation of position by an independent source Keeping a navigational record 	
15 – Navigation in restricted Visibility	1
 Precautions to be taken I, and limitations imposed by, fog 	
16 – Pilotage	
 Use of transits, leading lines and clearing lines IALA system of buoyage (Regions A & B) Use of sailing directions Pilotage plans and harbour entry 	
17 – Marine Environment	
 Responsibility for avoiding pollution and protecting the Marine Environment 	





RYA Coastal Skipper/Yacht master Offshore Theory Course

This is an advanced course in navigation and meteorology for candidates for the Coastal Skipper and RYA Yacht master Offshore Shore based Certificate/

The syllabus makes some provision for the revision of subjects in the Day Slipper Course, but those who have not acquired the knowledge set out in the Day Skipper Course are unlikely to be able to assimilate all the subjects covered in the advanced course in the time available.

The assumed level of knowledge before starting this course is the Day Skipper Shore based Course.

Distance-learning students who intend to enter the MCA Large Yacht qualifications, such as Officer of the Watch or Master 3000, will require a formally invigilated exam. This exam will be conducted by an RYA instructor or Examiner through an appropriately qualified RYA-recognised training centre

Course dates as per our website 'What's on' page either part time, full time or on line.

Syllabus

1- Position Allow Hours

- Dead reckoning and estimated position
- Satellite-derived position
- Use of waypoints to fix position
- Radar fixes
- Techniques of visual fixing
- Fixes using a mixture of position lines
- · Relative accuracy of different methods of position fixing
- Areas of uncertainty

2 - The Magnetic Compass

2

- Allowance for variation
- Change of variation with time and position
- Causes of deviation
- Compass checks for deviation, but not correction
- Allowance for deviation
- Different types of compass

3 – Tides 4

- Causes of tides springs and neaps
- Tide tables sources
- Tidal levels and datum
- Standard and secondary ports
- Tidal anomalies (Solent etc.)





4 – Tidal Streams	
 Sources of tidal information Tidal stream information in sailing directions and yachtsmen's almanacs Allowance for tidal streams in computing a course to steer Tide rips, overfalls and races Tidal observation buoys, beacons etc. 	
5 – Buoyage	1
 IALA system buoyage in regions A and B Limitations of buoys and navigational aids 	
6 – Lights	1
 Characteristics Ranges – visual, luminous and nominal Rising and dipping distances Light lists 	
7 – Pilotage	3
 Harbour regulations and control signals Methods of pre-planning Clearing lines Use of soundings Transits and leading lines 	
8 – GNSS and Chart Plotters	3
 Principles of operation and limitations of use Raster and vector charts Datum The importance of secondary means of position fixing via an Independent source and keeping a separate record of position The importance of paper charts 	
9 – Echo Sounders	0.5
Principles of operation and limitations of uses	
10 – Logs (Speed and distance Measuring)	0.5
Principles of operation and limitations of use	
11 – Deck Log	0.5
 The importance of the log as a yacht's official document Layout of log, hourly and occasional entries 	
12 – Meteorology	6
Basic terms, the Beaufort scale	





- Air massesCloud types
- Weather patterns associated with pressure and frontal systems
- Sources of weather forecasts
- Ability to interpret a shipping forecast, weatherfax and weather satellite information
- Land and sea breezes
- Sea fog
- Use of a barometer as a forecasting aid

13- Rules of the Road

1

 A sound knowledge of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, except Annexes 1 and 3

14 – Safety at Sea

2

- Personal safety, use of life jackets, safety harnesses and lifelines
- Fire prevention and firefighting
- Distress signals
- · Coastguard and Boat Safety Scheme
- Preparation for heavy weather
- Life rafts and helicopter rescue
- Understanding of capabilities of vessel and basic knowledge of stability

15 - Navigation in Restricted Visibility

1

- Precautions to be taken in fog
- Limitations to safe navigation imposed by fog
- Navigation strategy in poor visibility

16 - Passage planning

5

- Preparation of charts and notebook for route planning & for use on passages at sea
- Customs regulations as they apply to yachts
- Routine for navigating In coastal waters
- Strategy for course laying
- Use of and visual confirmation of waypoints and routes
- Use of weather forecast information for passage planning strategy
- Sources of local and national regulations

17 - Marine Environment

0.5

• The responsibility to minimise pollution and protect the marine environment

Please give us a call on 02 9326 2399 if you have any questions

