RYA Yachtmaster Coastal and Offshore Preparation and Exam

Learn afloat



Did you know Andrew Simpson Yachting is notfor-profit?

Everything surplus to the running costs of the Centre goes straight back into the Andrew Simpson Foundation to support us in our work to transform the lives of young people through sailing. This means that every time you book a course with us, you are supporting the work of the charity and giving back to young people in your local community!

Minimum Pre-Course Pre-Requisites

Yachtmaster™ Coastal exam pre-requisites Minimum seatime 30 days, 2 days as skipper, 800 miles, 12 night hours.

(NOTE: If you hold the Coastal Skipper practical course completion certificate this is reduced to 20 days, 2 days as skipper, 400 miles, 12 night hours.)

Yachtmaster™ Offshore exam pre-requisites
Minimum seatime 50 days, 2,500 miles including
at least 5 passages over 60 miles measured along
the rhumb line from the port of departure to the
destination, acting as skipper for at least two of
these passages and including two which have
involved overnight passages. 5 days experience as
skipper.

Half the qualifying sea time must be conducted in tidal waters.

All qualifying seatime must be within 10 years prior to the exam.

At least 50% of qualifying seatime must have been aboard vessels of less than 24 metre LOA, and seatime accrued must have been on a vessel relevant to the exam being taken.

VHF Radio Operators Certificate and a valid First Aid certificate are required. It is also recommended that you take the sea survival course, although this is not essential.

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Assumed knowledge

Your navigational skills should be to the standard of the Coastal/Yachtmaster™ theory and your sailing skills should be beyond RYA Coastal Skipper standard.

Student to instructor ratio

5:1

Duration

5 days afloat plus up to 48 hours for the exam depending on the number of candidates.

Maximum 4 candidates for one exam.

Course content

- Responsibilities of skipper
- Close quarters boat handling
- Hoisting, reefing and dropping sails
- Tacking, gybing and efficient sail trim
- Berthing and anchoring
- Rules of the road and signals
- Safety, plus man overboard
- General seamanship, including maintenance
- Navigation
- Meteorology
- Passage Planning
- Navigation in restricted visibility

Ability at end of course

A Yachtmaster™ Offshore is deemed competent to skipper a yacht on passages up to 150 miles from a safe haven, day or night. A qualified Yachtmaster™ Coastal or Offshore is entitled to apply for a RYA/MCA Commercial Endorsement subject to completion of an application form, payment of a fee, successful completion of PPR, and evidence of medical fitness (ML5 or ENG1). Ask us for further guidance on this.