



Andrew
Simpson
Yachting

Professional Skipper Training Programme

— AMBITION, ACHIEVEMENT, ADVENTURE

Set your course

02392 522 777

andrewsimpsonyachting.org

15 Haslar Marina, Haslar Rd, Gosport PO12 1NU

PART OF
THE ASF



Different journeys. *A shared destination*

Qualifying to be a professional yacht skipper can open a whole new world of work, life experiences and adventure. Your ticket really could take you anywhere you want to go.

Designed for *every experience*

- ▶ Completely new to sailing
- ▶ Developing existing sailing skills
- ▶ Turning life skills into a new career

A training programme designed for all levels of experience and backgrounds.

Whichever description fits you best, you have found your way to us with an ambition to become a professional skipper. Our job at Andrew Simpson Yachting is to help you get there.



4 months

TYPICAL COURSE
DURATION



400*

NAUTICAL MILES
LOGGED



On the water,
in classroom & online

75% • 25% • 5%

*2,500 miles for Offshore level

IT'S NOT WHERE YOU ARE
COMING FROM THAT MATTERS...

It's where you *want to go*

Based on the world-renowned RYA Yachtmaster™ Scheme, the course is designed to take you all the way through the preparation needed for the RYA Yachtmaster™ exam.

You have the option to train for the Coastal or Offshore level of qualification, depending on your ambitions. Reaching the standard to become a qualified RYA Yachtmaster™ requires acquiring knowledge, learning new skills and personal commitment. Our team will be on hand to support you at every stage of the journey.

Passionate about *possibilities*

The Andrew Simpson Foundation is a charity creating life-changing journeys on the water, shaping young lives, strengthening communities and transforming futures.

We provide access to sailing and watersports for people from all backgrounds, using the sports as a tool to build confidence, skills, and aspirations.

Our programmes create pathways into careers across the marine industry, helping individuals unlock their potential and pursue rewarding futures on and around the water.

Andrew Simpson Yachting is part of the Andrew Simpson Foundation group, delivering sail cruising, powerboat and shore-based training from our base in Haslar Marina, Gosport.

Located at the entrance to Portsmouth Harbour, we have direct access to the world-class training grounds of the Solent and English Channel.



THE SOLENT



Nick Sheard
Chief Instructor

Nick is an experienced Yachtmaster™ Instructor who has sailed worldwide in the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race. He brings extensive offshore sailing knowledge and experience to the team. Nick has been Chief Instructor at Andrew Simpson Yachting since March 2023, alongside running his own shore-based training centre in Cheshire.



Thalia Burke
Outreach & Communications Coordinator

Thalia oversees sales and marketing while also working on the water as a Cruising Instructor. Thalia is Chief Instructor for Powerboating and combines operational expertise with hands-on instructional experience across a range of training programmes.

Meet the *team*



Sonnie Emeney
Operations Manager

With over 15 years of experience in both sailing and instruction, Sonnie brings extensive knowledge and a passion for developing people within the sport. Sonnie enjoys all forms of sailing and is committed to ensuring participants receive high-quality training and experiences both on and off the water.



Will Keyser
Instructor

Will is a shore based and Cruising Instructor at Andrew Simpson Yachting, teaching many of our yachting, powerboat and shore based courses. He brings extensive instructional experience to the team through his work across a wide range of training programmes.

Realise your ambitions. *Achieve your goals*

Based on the world-renowned **RYA Yachtmaster™ Scheme**, the programme is designed to take you through the preparation required for the RYA Yachtmaster™ exam. You can set your sights on the *Coastal Qualification* or push yourself to the *Offshore Level*.

With either qualification, you can apply for the RYA/MCA Commercial Endorsement – the key to unlocking a wide variety of career opportunities within the marine industry.

At Andrew Simpson Yachting, we strive to provide a flexible and bespoke package tailored to you. Small class sizes mean we can take the time to help you achieve your personal goals.

Our tailored advice, CV support and a close connection to the industry can give you the extra support to progress in your career.

Opportunities exist in a variety of roles in the marine sector including:

Flotilla skipper

Charter skipper

Yacht delivery

Offshore energy

Superyachts

Vessel management

Marine leisure management

Training and instruction

Build your future *on the water*

Our Professional Skipper Training Programme combines time afloat, classroom learning and online study. Every element is designed to build the skills, knowledge and experience you need to become a professional skipper.

The programme is structured into a series of modules, with breaks at key points. These give you time to step away, reflect and spend time with friends and family before continuing your training. From your first day to your final exam, the programme takes around four months to complete.

You'll log at least 400 nautical miles for the Coastal exam, or 2,500 nautical miles if you progress to Offshore level and undertake longer-distance passages. It's a valuable opportunity to experience what it's like to live aboard a yacht for extended periods.

The biggest part of the programme takes place afloat. Alongside developing the fundamentals of yachting, skippering and seamanship, you'll build the additional skills and knowledge needed to support your future career.

Training is delivered by qualified, experienced instructors who combine subject knowledge with extensive practical, real-world experience. We know that becoming a fully qualified skipper is demanding, which is why we provide guidance, mentoring and support throughout your journey.

01



Navigational Theory

02



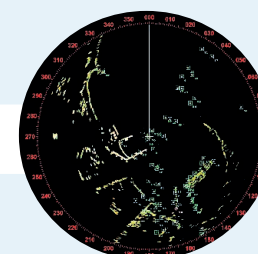
Diesel engine maintenance

03



VHF radio

04



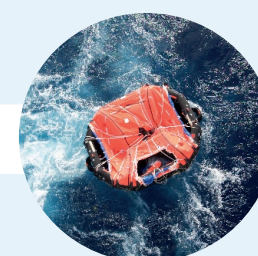
Radar

05



First aid

06



Sea survival

07



RYA Powerboat Level 2

Sample training programme

DAY 1	 GETTING STARTED Programme introduction and arrival Professional Practices & Responsibilities (PPR) Online Course	3 HOURS ONLINE
DAYS 2 – 8	 DEVELOPING YOUR SKILLS RYA Competent Crew	7 DAYS AFLOAT
DAYS 9 – 17	 BUILDING YOUR KNOWLEDGE RYA Combined Day Skipper theory & practical	4 DAYS ASHORE 9 DAYS AFLOAT
DAYS 18 – 22	 EXTENDING YOUR EXPERIENCE STWC (including essential safety training)	5 DAYS ASHORE
DAYS 23 – 27	 TIME ASHORE A short break to rest, reset and prepare for the next phase	5 DAYS ASHORE
DAYS 28 – 29	 PRACTICAL TRAINING RYA Powerboat Level 2	2 DAYS AFLOAT
DAYS 30 – 34	 MILEBUILDING	5 DAYS AFLOAT
DAYS 35 – 36	 COURSE FOCUS RYA VHF Marine Radio SRC, RYA Diesel Engine Maintenance	2 DAYS AFLOAT
DAYS 37 – 55	 MILEBUILDING	19 DAYS AFLOAT
DAYS 56 – 59	 TIME ASHORE A short break to rest, reset and prepare for the next phase	3 DAYS ASHORE
DAYS 60 – 71	 TRAINING & COURSES RYA Radar, RYA Coastal Skipper Theory	7 DAYS ASHORE
DAYS 72 – 76	 EXAM PREPARATION	5 DAYS AFLOAT
DAYS 77 – 78	 COASTAL EXAMINATION RYA Yachtmaster™ Coastal Exam	2 DAYS AFLOAT
DAYS 79 – 97	 OFFSHORE MILEBUILDING & TRAINING Further milebuilding and exam preparation	23 DAYS AFLOAT
DAYS 98 – 99	 OFFSHORE EXAMINATION RYA Yachtmaster™ Offshore Exam	2 DAYS AFLOAT

Outline of the course costs

The cost of the full programme is £10,000, taking you from novice through to RYA Yachtmaster™ Offshore. This includes all training, course support, mentoring and coaching throughout the programme.

We recognise that some applicants may already have relevant sailing experience and qualifications. If you do not require the full programme, our team will work with you to create a bespoke training package and quotation based on what you need to complete your chosen pathway.

Payment plans are available and we may also be able to provide support towards programme costs through our funding initiatives. Further details can be found in this brochure.

The course cost includes:

- ▶ All course training fees
- ▶ A budget for all food when afloat
- ▶ Mooring fees when afloat
- ▶ Handbooks relevant to the course, including the Yachtmaster™ Sailing Scheme Logbook
- ▶ Certification
- ▶ Oilskins
- ▶ Office and administrative support
- ▶ Access to course materials, including charts and almanacs
- ▶ Mentoring and welfare support
- ▶ Dedicated Programme Manager support
- ▶ Lunch and soft drinks when training ashore in our classroom

We believe in being upfront about what your investment covers.

£10,000
STANDARD
COURSE COST

Please see the full investment breakdown below, including any external RYA fees.

Additional costs you may incur:

- ▶ Accommodation ashore
- ▶ Personal travel costs
- ▶ Navigation instruments such as plotter and dividers
- ▶ Stationery, including notepaper, pens and pencils
- ▶ Sleeping bag (or similar) for sea time
- ▶ Warm clothing and appropriate footwear (advice can be provided)
- ▶ Personal spending money
- ▶ Suitable medical certificate (ML5 or ENG1)

Examination fees payable directly to the RYA:

- ▶ Yachtmaster™ Examination Fee **£230 / £266**
- ▶ VHF Examination Fee **£76**
- ▶ Commercial Endorsement Fee **£49**
- ▶ RYA Membership / International Certificate of Competence **£62**

Course payments & financial support

We want to make the cost of your training as clear and manageable as possible. As well as straightforward payment terms, we offer flexible payment plans and can help you explore funding and financial support that may be available.

Paying for the programme

A **10% deposit** is payable when you book your place. The remaining balance is due no later than **one month before the programme start date**.

Once we receive your deposit, we'll send your course joining instructions. These will include your login details for the online **PPR (Professional Practices and Responsibilities) course**.

Spreading the cost

We understand that funding your training is a significant commitment. To help spread the cost of the programme, we offer:

- ▶ 12 to 18 month payment plans
- ▶ The option to **defer payments for up to 6 months after completing the training**, giving you the opportunity to begin earning before repayments commence

If you'd like to talk through the payment options available, please contact us. **A guarantor's signature is required for all payment plan arrangements.**

We strongly advise applicants to cover their fees with **cancellation insurance**. For full booking terms and conditions, please visit the Andrew Simpson Yachting website.

Funding & financial support

There may be financial support available towards your course fees. A number of organisations and charities offer **bursaries, grants and scholarships** to help people pursue careers in the maritime industry.

We can help you explore the options that may be available and support you through the application process.

Potential funding opportunities include:

- ▶ **Trinity House Scholarship (RYA):**
rya.org.uk/network/professional-qualifications/trinity-house-scholarship
- ▶ **RYA Foundation Youth Fund**
rya.org.uk/about-us/our-programmes/rya-foundation/rya-foundation-youth-fund
- ▶ **ASTO – Trinity House Funding**
asto.org.uk/training/trinity-house

How we can help

Finding the right funding can feel daunting, particularly when you're applying to several different organisations. Our team can provide guidance on:

- ▶ Funding opportunities that may be available to you
- ▶ Eligibility requirements
- ▶ Completing funding and bursary applications
- ▶ Supporting documentation and references

If you'd like to discuss your options, please contact us and we'll be happy to help.

QUALITY ON BOARD

Our yacht

Your practical training will take place onboard *Duel*, our Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 389 sailing yacht. We pride ourselves on her cleanliness and maintenance which will be built into your programme as an important skippering skill.

Duel is a sail drive yacht drawing 1.98m. She has three double cabins and sleeps three in the saloon. There is one heads and galley onboard with a gas cooker and fridge. She also has a diesel heater to keep cosy on cooler nights.



JEANNEAU
SUN ODYSSEY 389



3 DOUBLE CABINS
(SLEEPS 3 IN SALOON)



GALLEY
GAS COOKER & FRIDGE



DIESEL HEATER
FOR COOLER NIGHTS

SHORE-BASED ACCOMMODATION

Your base ashore



ON-SITE OPTIONS
LOCAL HOTELS
AIRBNB

Accommodation ashore will be required for parts of the programme, when not residing on the yacht during practical training.

We have a partnership with onsite hotel Rooms at Haslar Marina where our students receive a 20% discount on accommodation. There is also a shared bunk room option sleeping up to four people for those who would like to share with fellow students.

A range of local hotels and Airbnb accommodation is also available nearby. We recommend budgeting between £450 and £1,500 for shore based accommodation, depending on your preferred level of comfort and whether you are willing to share accommodation with other students.

Managing your application

We understand that this programme represents a significant commitment and investment, both in time and money. That is why we encourage every prospective student to have a consultation call with our team before enrolling.

You may want to clarify certain aspects of the programme, discuss any existing qualifications or experience, or simply explore whether this is the right pathway for you. Whatever your circumstances, a one-to-one conversation is an important part of the process. Our aim is to ensure you have all the information and guidance you need to make the decision that is right for you.

Get in touch

We will discuss the options available, answer any questions you may have, and explain the next steps for joining the programme.



CALL

02392 522 777



EMAIL

enquiries@andrewsimpsonyachting.org

We will then arrange a suitable time for a video call or in person meeting for a more detailed discussion about your goals, experience and aspirations.

We look forward to hearing from you and welcoming you on board.

Your journey doesn't stop here

This programme has been structured to take you to RYA Yachtmaster™ Coastal or Offshore level, the qualification required to operate as a commercially endorsed skipper in many jurisdictions. From here, the destinations are limitless.

○ **YACHTMASTER™**
Coastal or Offshore

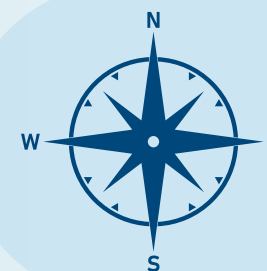
○ **BUILD EXPERIENCE**
Work, gain miles, discover skills

○ **FURTHER TRAINING**
Advance to the next level

○ **CRUISING INSTRUCTOR**
Inspire the next generation

The aim is to provide a platform for you to start work as quickly as possible, continue developing your practical skills, gain valuable experience and build miles. However, we do not want your journey to stop there. There is a clear career pathway within the industry, and we would love to play a part in helping you progress.

There is the opportunity to return and undertake further training, advance to the next level, or even work towards becoming an RYA Cruising Instructor with us.



Opening doors

We also have strong links within the industry to help you take your first steps into a new career. Whether you want to spread your wings abroad or stay closer to home, **we can help connect you with opportunities across the sector.**

We hope you leave us equipped to perform effectively in whichever area of the industry you choose to pursue – someone who is trusted by customers and valued by employers.

Industry links & opportunities

You may like to explore information relating to this course, career opportunities and the industry's governing bodies, available through the links below.

Our organisation

To find out more about the Andrew Simpson Foundation and to access other supporting information please explore the links below.

- ▶ www.andrewsimpsonyachting.org
- ▶ www.andrewsimpsonfoundation.org

Governing bodies

- ▶ www.gov.uk/government/organisations/maritime-and-coastguard-agency
- ▶ www.rya.org.uk

Recruitment agencies & job sites

- ▶ www.crewnetwork.com
- ▶ www.quaycrew.com
- ▶ www.marineresources.co.uk
- ▶ www.quarterdeck.co





Your next *adventure awaits*

If you're taking your first step into sailing,
or building on your existing experience,
we can't wait to welcome you on board.

✉ enquiries@andrewsimpsonyachting.org

☎ 02390 522 777

🌐 andrewsimpsonyachting.org

Andrew Simpson Yachting is part of the Andrew Simpson Foundation group.

Registered address: Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy, Osprey Quay, Portland, Dorset, England, DT5 1SA.

Registered in England and Wales as Andrew Simpson Sailing Foundation (Company No. 08595862). Registered Charity in England & Wales No. 1153060.

Registered Charity in Scotland No. SC055341