

RYA Coastal Skipper Syllabus

The RYA Coastal Skipper course teaches the skills and techniques required to skipper a cruising yacht safely in coastal and offshore passages by day and by night

Passage Planning

- Knows the effects of fouling on boat speed and fuel consumption - Understands fuel consumption at different speeds and can calculate fuel required for a passage, including reserve - Understands Customs procedures and boat stability - Can plan a coastal passage including a consideration of the capability of the yacht, navigation, victualling, weather, ports of refuge, tidal heights and tidal streams, publications required and strategy.

Preparation for sea

- Understands safety equipment required for offshore passages
- Can prepare a yacht for sea including stowage, safety briefing, watch keeping, delegating responsibilities and equipment and engine checks

Pilotage

- Can prepare a pilotage plan, with consideration of surroundings, transits, clearing bearings, buoyage, port or harbour regulations and tidal considerations.
- Can pilot a yacht by day and night

Passage making and ability as skipper

- Understands the practical uses of integrated electronics aids to navigation, including AIS, radar, electronic navigation charts (ENC) and raster navigational charts (RNC)
- Can take charge of a yacht and direct the crew - Can organise the navigation, deckwork, and domestic duties of a yacht on passage - Is aware of the significance of meteorological trends - Is aware of crew welfare on passage - Can use electronic navigational equipment for planning and undertaking a passage, including the use of waypoints and routes

Yacht handling under power

- Understands and takes into account wind and current conditions when planning and executing manoeuvres (practical experience)
- Can control the yacht effectively in a confined space under power - All berthing and unberthing situations in various conditions of wind and tide – pick up a mooring bow- or stern to

Yacht handling under sail

- Understands and takes into account wind and current conditions when planning and executing manoeuvres (practical experience)
- Can use the sails to control the yacht in a confined space - Anchoring and mooring in various conditions of wind and tide - Can sail efficiently on all points of sail, including downwind techniques

Adverse weather conditions

- Understands how to handle a cruising vessel in strong winds
- General conduct in restricted visibility
- Can prepare a cruising vessel for heavy weather
- Can navigate in restricted visibility

Emergency situations

- Understands the actions to be taken when abandoning to a life raft, and during helicopter and lifeboat rescue
- Understands how to carry out the aftercare requirements on a casualty who has been in the water
- Can recover a man overboard under power and sail
- Can describe to crew members the effects of cold water shock on a casualty who has been in the water