



Course Information: Coastal Skipper Practical



RYA Coastal Skipper courses can be taken in either sail or motor yachts, and in tidal or non-tidal waters. Due to our location all our courses are tidal, and your certificate will be endorsed accordingly.

There are two types of Coastal Skipper certificate:

- a. A Coastal Skipper course completion certificate awarded by a training centre on successful completion of a five-day training course**
- b. A Yachtmaster Coastal Certificate of Competence awarded by the RYA/MCA on successful completion of an exam.**

The **Coastal Skipper Practical** course (option a. above) is very much hands-on with little time to teach navigation or other theoretical subjects. It is therefore recommended that you take the RYA Coastal Skipper / Yachtmaster Theory course prior to your practical course so you can put those skills into practice on the water.

Coastal Skipper Practical course summary (sail) (for gaining the course completion certificate)	
Max client / instructor ratio	4 : 1 (note: if a group of clients wish to take the complete yacht for sole use we are licensed to teach up to 5 clients)
Pre-course experience	15 days, 2 days as skipper, 300 miles, 8 night hours
Assumed Knowledge	Boat handling to the standard of the Day Skipper practical sail cruising course and navigation to the standard of the Coastal Skipper / Yachtmaster Theory course
Course content	Passage planning, pilotage by day and night, boat handling, safety and emergency situations
Ability after course	Skipper a yacht on coastal passages by day and night
Minimum duration	5 days (our courses are 6 days long)

If you want to take the exam for a Yachtmaster **Coastal Certificate of Competence** (option b. above), you are not required to take the five-day course first. However, if you have not previously taken RYA courses you may find it useful to complete the course or organise some informal training tailor-made to your specific needs. Please ask us for more details.

If you need a Yachtmaster Coastal certificate in order to work on board a commercial craft subject the MCA's codes of practice, you will need to get it commercially endorsed. You can then work on commercial vessels up to 24m in length, operating in category 3, 4, 5 and 6 waters - that is up to 20 miles from a nominated departure point in fine weather and daylight.

Please note: It is only possible to commercially endorse the Certificate of Competence, not the Course Completion certificate.

If you hold a non-tidal Coastal Skipper certificate, you may convert to a tidal certificate by completing a conversion course of approximately two days (possibly more for those inexperienced in tidal waters).