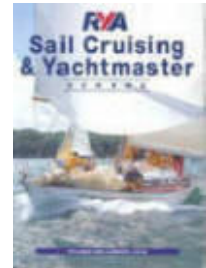

RYA DAY SKIPPER (NON-TIDAL) PRACTICAL SYLLABUS

The following is a copy of the syllabus for the Day Skipper (Non-Tidal) practical course as detailed in the RYA Sail Cruising & Yachtmaster Scheme Syllabus and Logbook (G15).

To complete the course successfully the instructor must “sign off” all the items of the syllabus. Successful students are presented with a course completion certificate.

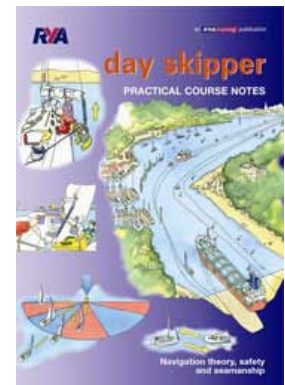


Suggested minimum pre-course experience: 5 days sea time
100 miles
4 night hours

Assumed knowledge: Navigation to Day Skipper Shorebased standard and basic sailing ability.

The course is conducted on board a cruising yacht (7 to 15m LOA), to teach pilotage, navigation, seamanship and boat handling up to the standard required to skipper a small cruising yacht safely by day in non-tidal waters with which the student is familiar.

The minimum age for award of certificate is 16.



1. Preparation for sea

- ❖ Is able to prepare a yacht for sea, including engine checks, selection of sails, securing and stowage of all gear on deck and below.

2. Deck work

- ❖ Can reef, shake out reefs and change sails to suit prevailing conditions.
- ❖ Can prepare an anchor, mooring warps and take charge on deck when mooring alongside, coming to a buoy, anchoring, weighing anchor and slipping from a buoy or alongside berth, or stern or bow mooring.

3. Navigation

- ❖ Is proficient in chart-work and routine navigational duties on passage including:
- ❖ Taking and plotting visual fixes.
- ❖ Use of electronic navigation equipment for position fixing.
- ❖ Use of waypoints.
- ❖ Working up DR and EP.
- ❖ Knowledge of IALA buoyage.
- ❖ Maintenance of navigational records.
- ❖ Use of echo sounder and lead line.

4. Pilotage

- ❖ Can prepare and execute a pilotage plan for entry into or departure from harbour.
- ❖ Understand the use of leading and clearing lines.
- ❖ Use of transits and soundings as aids to pilotage.

5. Meteorology

- ❖ Knows sources of forecast information.
- ❖ Can interpret forecasts.

6. Rules of the road

- ❖ Has a working knowledge of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea.

7. Maintenance and repair work

- ❖ Understands and can carry out maintenance tasks.
- ❖ Know the properties and uses of common synthetic fibre ropes.

8. Engines

- ❖ Knows how to change fuel and water filters, pump impeller and to bleed the fuel system.

9. Victualling

- ❖ Understands how to victual a yacht.

10. Emergency situations

- ❖ Is able to take correct action as skipper for the recovery of man overboard.
- ❖ Understands distress flares & how to use a liferaft.
- ❖ Can operate a radiotelephone in an emergency and send a distress message.
- ❖ Understands how to secure a tow.
- ❖ Understands rescue procedures including helicopter rescue.

11. Yacht handling under power

- ❖ Can bring a boat safely to and from an alongside berth, bow/stern mooring, mooring buoy and anchor.

12. Yacht handling under sail

- ❖ Can bring a boat safely to and from a mooring buoy and anchor.
- ❖ Can steer and trim sails effectively on all points of sailing.

13. Passage making

- ❖ Can plan and make a coastal passage, taking account of relevant navigational hazards, local weather patterns and limitations imposed by the type of boat and the strength of the crew.

14. Night cruising

- ❖ Has experienced sail cruising at night, including leaving and entering harbour. Understands the special consideration for Pilotage plans, keeping a good lookout and identifying marks by night.