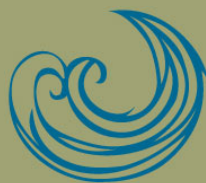


Fastrack to  
RYA Yachtmaster (Coastal)  
ON AUSTRALIA'S WEST COAST



ALBANY – BUSSELTON – BUNBURY – FREMANTLE – ROTTNEST – ABROLHOS ISLANDS – CORAL COAST – EXMOUTH



OCEAN WEST  
*charters*



## **Fastrack to RYA Yachtmaster Coastal – 2 weeks home study – 5 weeks of practical sailing courses**

The Oceanwest RYA Yachtmaster (Coastal) Fastrack course is a fantastic way to achieve your qualification. Using Navathome Australia online theory courses allows you to maximise your time here in Australia, doing what you love to do - sail.

Why spend two weeks of your hard earned annual holiday allowance sitting in a classroom, when you can spend the time studying at home, in the months before your Australian sailing adventure begins. You then get 5 solid weeks of sail training, getting you ready to become a Yachtmaster.

In preparation for the course, we supply you with the RYA Dayskipper theory course and the RYA Coastal / Yachtmaster theory course. These are run as online programmes using Navathome Australia courses. Oceanwest provides you with everything you need to complete the course and provides instructor support throughout. Each theory course will take about 40 hours of study.

The sailing part of the course provides an exhilarating mix of training, travel, team work and adventure. It is an intensive course and you will cover all of the core RYA course modules and be awarded each certificate as you achieve the highest level of competence. You will gain enough sea time and sea miles to take the RYA Yachtmaster (Coastal) exam during the last weekend.

Our course is specifically designed to prepare you for the qualification of RYA Yachtmaster Coastal. A commercially endorsed Yachtmaster™ Coastal Certificate of Competence will enable you to skipper commercial yachts up to 24 metres in length, operating in category 3, 4, 5, and 6 waters - up to 20 miles from a safe haven. In Australia the RYA Yachtmaster Coastal qualification will allow you to skipper commercial yachts up to 12 metres in length up to 15 miles offshore after complying with AMSA Exemption 18.

We have tried to balance the amount of sea time and shore time during the course, so that you get enough free time to recharge and explore this amazing part of Australia.

We are based in the south west of Western Australia, 160km south of Perth, near to the world famous Margaret River wine region and world class surfing capital.

The pristine waters of Geographe Bay boasts unrivalled sailing conditions, and our cruising ground extends north to Fremantle and south to Cape Naturaliste.

During the 5 weeks, you will experience many different sailing conditions as you cover the required sea miles, which will really test your sailing skills.

Western Australia is renowned for producing dependable skippers who are able to cope with stronger winds and bigger seas. You will experience everything from the calmer waters of Geographe Bay to the ocean swells as you clear the Cape.

Please look over the following programme to get a feel of what we do here in Western Australia.



## Fastrack to RYA Yachtmaster Coastal programme

The RYA Dayskipper theory course and RYA Coastal / Yachtmaster theory courses are completed at home as online programmes prior to commencing the 5 weeks of practical sail training in Australia. This will take approximately 40 hours of study per course with online assessments at the end of each course. We will supply you with access to the Navathome Australia online courses with support from Oceanwest RYA instructors

We also supply you with the RYA student packs which include: -

RYA Dayskipper course information and exercises booklet.

RYA Coastal / Yachtmaster course information and exercise booklet.

RYA Dayskipper and Yachtmaster theory handbooks

RYA Training Almanac

RYA practice charts 5 and 6

Portland plotter and brass dividers

## 5 weeks of practical sail training in Australia – Course outline

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Miles	
							Arrival		
1	RYA Competent Crew course					Radio course	Free	130	
2	RYA Dayskipper Practical course					Diesel course	Free	130	
3	1st Aid	Skill builder course				RYA PPR	Free	110	
4	RYA Coastal Skipper practical course					Free	Free	130	
5	Yachtmaster prep week					Exam weekend		100	

This programme provides an approximate time table and mileage for the course.

**600**

Onboard training
Shore based training
Free time



### **RYA Dayskipper Theory Course – Online study of 40 hours**

A comprehensive introduction to Chartwork, navigation, meteorology and good seamanship.

#### **Syllabus**

##### 1. Nautical Terms

- Parts of the boat and general nautical terminology.

##### 2. Rope-work

- Knowledge of the properties of synthetic ropes in common use.

##### 3. Anchor-work

- Characteristics of the different types of anchor.
- Considerations to be taken into account when anchoring.

##### 4. Safety

- Safety equipment carried and its use.
- Fire precautions and fighting.
- Use of personal safety equipment.
- Distress signals and the use of a VHF radio to send a distress signal.
- Helicopter rescue procedures and towing.

##### 5. International Regulations For Preventing Collisions at Sea.

- Steering and sailing rules and General Rules.

##### 6. Definition of position, course and speed.

- Latitude and longitude
- True bearings and courses.
- Boat speed (the knot).

##### 7. Navigational charts and publications

- Information shown on charts, chart symbols, representation of direction and distance.
- Navigational publications in use.
- Chart corrections.

##### 8. Navigation drawing instruments.

- Use of rulers, dividers and plotting instruments.

##### 9. Compass

- Application of variation
- Awareness of deviation and its causes.
- Use of the hand bearing compass.

10. Chartwork

- Dear reckoning and estimated position including an awareness of leeway.
- Techniques of visual fixing.
- Satellite derived positions.
- Use of waypoints to fix position.
- Plotting a course to steer.

11. Tides and Tidal Streams

- Tidal definitions, levels and datum's.
- Tide tables.
- Determining tidal heights at a standard port and awareness of secondary ports.
- Use of tidal diamonds and tidal stream atlases for chart-work.

12. Visual aids to navigation.

- Lights and lighthouses, light characteristics.

13. Meteorology.

- Sources of broadcast information
- Knowledge of terms used in the shipping forecast.
- Basic knowledge of weather systems.

14. Passage planning.

- Preparation of a navigational plan for a short coastal passage.
- Meteorological considerations
- Use of waypoints on passage.
- Importance of confirmation of position by independent sources.
- Keeping a navigational record.

15. Navigation in restricted visibility.

- Precautions to be taken and limitations imposed by fog.

16. Pilotage

- Use of transits, leading lines and clearing lines.
- IALA system of buoyage for Region A
- Use of sailing directions.
- Pilotage plans for harbour entry and departure.

17. Marine environment.

- Responsibility for avoiding pollution and for protecting the environment.



## **RYA Coastal / Yachtmaster Offshore Theory Course Syllabus – 40 hours online study**

This is an advanced course in navigation, meteorology and regulations for candidates for the Yachtmaster Coastal / Yachtmaster Offshore certificate. The assumed level of knowledge before starting this course is the Dayskipper Theory course.

### **1. Position**

Dead reckoning and estimated position, satellite derived position, use of waypoints to fix position.

Radar fixes, techniques of visual fixing and position lines, relative accuracy of different fixes and areas of uncertainty.

### **2. The magnetic compass.**

Allowance for variation, causes of deviation and swing for deviation and allowance. Different types of compass.

### **3. Tides.**

Causes of tides, tide tables – sources, tide levels and datum, standard ports and secondary port calculations. Tidal anomalies.

### **4. Tidal Streams.**

Sources of tidal information (sailing directions / almanacs), allowance for tidal streams when calculating a course to steer and estimated position. Tidal overfalls, rips and races. Tidal observation.

### **5. Buoyage.**

IALA system buoyage for region A, limitations of buoys as navigational aids.

### **6. Lights.**

Characteristics, ranges – visual, luminous and nominal. Rising and dipping distances. Light lists.

### **7. Pilotage.**

Harbour regulations and control signals, methods of pre-planning, clearing lines, use of soundings, transits and leading lines.

### **8. GPS and Chart-plotters.**

Principles of operation and limitations of use. Raster and vector charts, datum, the importance of confirmation of position by an independent source and record keeping. The importance of paper charts.

**9. Echo Sounders.**

Principles of operation and limitations of use.

**10. Logs (Speed and distance measuring)**

Principles of operation and limitations of use.

**11. Deck Log**

The importance of the log as a yacht's official document. Layout and entries required.

**12. Meteorology.**

Basic terms and the Beaufort scale, air masses and cloud types, weather patterns associated with pressure and frontal systems, sources of weather forecasts, interpretation of a shipping forecast, land and sea breezes, sea and land fog, use of barometer as an aid to forecasting.

**13. Rules of the Road.**

A sound knowledge of the International Rules for Preventing Collisions at Sea.

**14. Safety at sea.**

Personal safety, lifejackets and harnesses, fire prevention and fighting, distress signals, safety schemes, preparations for heavy weather, life-rafts and helicopter rescue, capabilities of the vessel and principles of stability.

**15. Navigation in restricted visibility.**

Precautions in fog, limitations in safe navigation, navigation strategy in poor visibility.

**16. Marine environment.**

Responsibilities of the Skipper to minimise pollution and protect the marine environment.



## **Week 1 - RYA Competent Crew course – 5 days**

This course introduces the complete beginner to cruising and teaches personal safety, seamanship and helmsmanship to the level required to be a useful member of the crew of a cruising yacht.

### **Syllabus**

#### **1. Knowledge of sea terms and parts of the boat, her rigging and sails**

To have sufficient knowledge to understand orders given concerning the sailing and day to day running of the boat.

#### **2. Sail Handling**

Bending on, setting and handling of sails.

The use of sheets and halyards and their associated winches.

#### **3. Rope-work**

Handling ropes, including coiling, stowing, securing to cleats and bollards.

Handling mooring warps.

Learning to tie a selection of knots and their correct use.

#### **4. Fire precautions and fire fighting**

Awareness of the hazards of fire and the precautions necessary to prevent fires.

Knowledge of the action to be taken in the event of a fire.

#### **5. Personal safety equipment**

Understand the rules for wearing safety harnesses, lifejackets and personal buoyancy aids.

#### **6. Man overboard**

Understand the actions to be taken to recover a man overboard.

#### **7. Emergency equipment**

Learn how to operate distress flares and when they should be used.

Understand how to launch and use a life-raft.



### **8. Manners and customs**

Learn about flags and courtesies to other vessels, and to be aware of the skipper's responsibility to protect the environment.

### **9. Rules of the road**

Be able to keep an efficient lookout at sea and learn about who gives way to who.

### **10. Dinghies**

Learn how to use a dinghy.

### **11. Meteorology**

Have an awareness of forecasting services and learn the Beaufort Scale.

### **12. Sailing and Helmsmanship**

Understand the basic principles of sailing and learn how to trim sails on all points of sail.

Learn how to steer a compass course under power and sail.

### **13. General Duties**

Participate in the general duties in connection with the daily routine of the vessel. Includes cooking and cleaning the vessel.



## **Week 2 - RYA Dayskipper Practical Course – 5 days**

Following on from the Dayskipper theory course, we practice pilotage, navigation, seamanship and boat handling to the standard required to skipper a small cruising yacht safely by day in familiar waters.

### **Syllabus**

1. Preps for sea including engine checks, sail selection, securing the vessel.
2. Deck work including reefing and sail plan, taking charge on deck when preparing to anchor, picking up a mooring buoy, coming into a berth.
3. Navigation including fixes, electronic equipment, use of waypoints, working out a course to steer, dead reckoning and estimated position, buoyage, nav records, tidal heights and streams.
4. Pilotage – preparing and executing a pilotage plan to enter or leave harbour.
5. Meteorology- practical use of forecasting
6. Rules of the road – Student needs a good understanding of COLREGS etc
7. Maintenance and repair and engine systems.
8. Provisioning the yacht for a passage.
9. Emergency situations - Taking the correct action for a MOB, distress calls, towing and helicopter rescue.
10. Yacht handling under power and sail (lots of tricks to learn under power)
11. How to plan and make a short passage with some night sailing.

### **Weeks 3 – Skill builder course – 4 days**

This 4 day live aboard course will see you sailing the challenging waters of the West Australian coast.

You will develop your yacht handling and offshore navigation skills and get used to running a watch system whilst at sea.

This is a chance to really hone your skills in preparation for the RYA Coastal Skipper practical course.

#### **Course content**

Preps for sea and passage planning

Navigation and Pilotage

Boat handling – berthing, mooring and anchoring.

Sailing skills – helming, sail trim, reefing

Safety drills – Man overboard, safety equipment, heavy weather preps.





## **Week 4 - RYA Coastal Skipper Practical Course – 5 days**

Following on from the RYA Coastal / Yachtmaster theory course, for the more experienced skipper, the aim of this course is to teach the skills and techniques required to skipper a cruising yacht (7-15m) safely on coastal and offshore passages by day and night.

### **SYLLABUS**

1. Passage Planning
  - 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
  - Knows customs procedures
2. Preparation for Sea
  - Is aware of 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
3. Pilotage
  - Can prepare a pilotage plan, with consideration of soundings, transits, clearing bearings, buoyage, port or harbour regulations and tidal considerations
  - Can pilot a yacht by day and night
4. Passage Making and Ability as Skipper
  - Can take charge of a yacht and direct the crew. Can organise the navigation, deck-work 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
5. Yacht Handling under Power
  - Can control the yacht effectively in a confined space under power
  - All berthing and un-berthing situations in various conditions of wind and tide



6. Yacht Handling under Sail

- 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 sailing, including downwind techniques

7. Adverse Weather Conditions

- Preparation for heavy weather and yacht handling in strong winds
- Navigation and general conduct in restricted visibility

8. Emergency Situations

- Recovery of man overboard under power and sail
- Understands action to be taken when abandoning to the life-raft and during helicopter and lifeboat rescues



## **Week 5 - Yachtmaster prep course and exam weekend**

Preparation for your final exam!!

This 5 day course will involve intensive boat handling exercises under power and sail, with each student taking turns in being in command of the vessel.

Specific exercises are undertaken giving students the opportunity to practice for the exam, exercises such as pilotage and blind navigation, emergency situations, navigating to a position with and without electronics, with a student de-brief on each aspect of the course.

During the prep course, we are there to help with any aspect of the course and we can run specific workshops to cover any aspect of the course.

The course is extremely intensive and aims to give you the best possible preparation to help you pass the Yachtmaster exam.

We arrange for a RYA Yachtmaster Examiner to take the RYA Yachtmaster Coastal exam onboard our training yacht at the weekend.