

## **RYA Coastal Skipper Practical Course**

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. Minimum experience required – 15 days sea-time, at least 2 days as skipper, 300 miles and 8 night hours.

### **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