

RYA Competent Crew course - 5 days or 3 weekends

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 with oars.

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.