



RYA COASTAL SKIPPER PRACTICAL TIDAL SYLLABUS

The aim of the course is to teach the skills and techniques required to skipper a cruising yacht (7-15m LOA) safely on coastal and offshore passages by day and night.

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 of harbor 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 organize the navigation, deckwork 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 unberthing 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

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 liferaft and during helicopter and lifeboat rescues