

12-day course to RYA Day Skipper Practical



Pre-course requirements:

- None

What you will learn:

- **Undertaking all normal crew duties**
 - Steering under sail and power
 - Anchoring
 - Trimming sails on all points of sailing
 - Keeping a lookout at sea
 - MOB exercise
 - Safety equipment
- **Navigation and Seamanship**
 - Charts and Publications
 - Passage Planning
 - Buoyage
 - Collision Regulations
 - Electronic Navigation
 - Weather Forecasts
 - Pilotage
- **Taking command of a yacht**
 - Yacht Handling Under Sail and Motor
 - Manoeuvres under power, mooring and leaving berth, different types of mooring
 - Passage-making
 - Night Cruising
 - Taking Charge on Deck
 - Emergency Situations

Next Steps:

- Take a Day Skipper Plus course and learn new techniques
- Charter a yacht bareboat with your friends or family
- Progress to the RYA Yachtmaster or Coastal Skipper and learn how to skipper a yacht by day and night
- Get your Marine Radio certificate

After this course you can:

- Skipper a yacht bareboat in familiar waters by daytime
- Join our flotilla sailing on your first charter from us and take advantage of your discount card
- Practice your new skills on our 2-day weekend sailing immediately after your 12- day course
- Gain more practice and miles on one of our tidal or non-tidal milebuilders

RYA 12-DAY COURSE: COMPETENT CREW + DAY SKIPPER

For who?

This course is for both complete beginners and those who have a little sailing experience.

RYA requirements: 12 years old and above.

Preparation

You will need to complete the RYA Essential Navigation and Seamanship (ENS) online course we will provide you with before coming to Aegina. This is a basic course in navigation and seamanship that is easy to complete within 10 hours in your time. Upon confirmation of your booking, we will send you the codes for online course and send you the course pack via post.

If you want to familiarise yourself with that yacht and get 2 extra days of sailing, we have [Start Yachting courses](#) giving you 26h on a yacht right before your 12-day course.

Who will be on board?

There will be a maximum of 5 students of each yacht, according the RYA regulations. Other students might follow the same course or a higher level. A mix of students allow everyone to fulfilled their respective syllabus while showing you what the next course for you could be!

The instructor on board will be a commercially endorsed RYA Yachtmaster and he/she will also have an RYA instructor's certificate and be qualified to teach sailing. Instructors are selected for their personality and teaching skills, to provide a happy, safe and encouraging environment on board!

A Holiday Feeling?

During this course, you will also have relaxation time: swimming, snorkelling, sight-seeing! You will have dinners ashore in local tavernas and socialise with other crews.

Despite enjoying fun times, we prohibit alcohol while onboard to stay sober while at sea. You are welcome to have a drink in the evenings! Smoking is forbidden below decks.

During the course

Learning goal: after 12 days of practical and theoretical tuition on board of a yacht, you will be able to skipper a small yacht safely by day, in both tidal and non-tidal waters. You will be taught first how to be an active crew on board and then: practical pilotage, navigation, seamanship, boat handling, and night sailing (4h).

Planning:

17:00 on starting date: meeting your crew at our office. Access the yachts, where you will be given a tour of the space and a chance to settle in your cabin. Discuss with instructor the plans for the week, have a first dinner on shore, and sleep on board.

Competent Crew:

First morning: Safety briefing, layout of yacht controls, engine start/stop, navigation equipment, sail sheets, etc.

First day: The aim is for the instructor to find out what you know, your strengths and what needs to be worked on. You will be shown the upper part of the deck and taught how to use the anchor to leave harbour safely. You may also do a little practice with ropes for a great start of your week.

Other days: no worries if you feel a bit overwhelmed. Most things will be covered repeatedly for you to assimilate the skills. You will practice using ropes and winches, trimming the sails, and get your first chance to steer. You will practice Man Overboard in case of emergency. You will also cover all that is expected for a crew member: nautical terms, rope-work and knots, handling the sails, steering the yacht under power and sail, leaving and entering harbours, anchoring, keeping a lookout, using a dinghy, personal safety, sailing manners and customs, and how to live afloat.

Last day: You will get a debrief of your performance and advice from the instructor. If you achieved all tasks of the syllabus, you will be awarded your RYA Competent Crew certificate. We will all have a feedback moment when getting back to the base before ending the course at 17:00 on the fifth day.

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One night on shore:

After disembarking at the end of your competent crew course, you will need to book your own accommodation on shore for one night! You can take this opportunity to relax and enjoy a bed and a shower before meeting the school again the next morning!

Day Skipper:

09:00 on starting date: meeting your new crew at our office. Access the yachts, where you will be given a tour of the space and a chance to settle in your cabin. Discuss with instructor the plans for the week, have a first dinner on shore, and sleep on board.

First morning: Safety briefing, layout of yacht controls, engine start/stop, navigation equipment, sail sheets, etc.

First day: Leaving harbour and start exercises (going about, gybing, trimming, Man Overboard...). The aim is for the instructor to find out what you know, your strengths and what needs to be worked on. You will also discuss a theory plan and your instructor will let you know what is expected from you regarding knowledge and how lessons will be incorporated throughout the week.

Other days: you will take turns as skipper. You will cover: passage planning, pilot yacht into a bay, being in charge of the yacht, take fixes with hand-bearing compass, use GPS Plotter. You will also practice manoeuvres: navigate in confined spaces, go astern, pick-up buoys, anchors, go alongside quay, and med-moor. You will complete a 4-hour night sail that allow you to practice navigating using light characteristics. You will have a short test about your theory knowledge: calculating depths, tidal stream, and course to steer in tidal area.

Last day: You will get a debrief of your performance and advice from the instructor. If you achieved all tasks of the syllabus, you will be awarded your RYA Day Skipper Practical certificate. We will all have a feedback moment when getting back to the base before ending the course at 17:00 on the fifth day.

What is provided?

The RYA course books (Competent Crew & Day Skipper): will help you assimilate the materials learn during the practical.

An RYA Logbook: to record your miles and the details of your experience.

The Essential Navigation and Seamanship course pack that accompanied the online course + access to the interactive course page from RYA.

During group course: breakfast and lunches on board, enough water for the trip, coffee&tea, basic seasoning condiments, and extra money for extra groceries.

Yacht comfort: beddings, towels, first aid kit, coffee machine and milk foamer, dish soaps, snorkelling kits, inverter and bluetooth radio.

All our yachts are fully coded for commercial use and meet both the Royal Yachting Association and Hellenic Registry Standards for safety equipment, which are amongst the highest in the world.

Extras

A few weeks before the start of your course we will provide you with a packing list.

Unless your hands are used to physical work, sailing gloves might help protect your hands when using the ropes. We recommend using a pair of sailing gloves with open-ended fingers (available to buy at our office for 20€).

We recommend a budget of 20-30€ a night for dinners and drinks ashore.

Beach towels if you wish to swim (towels provided on board are shower towels).

Please ensure that you are covered by holiday/travel insurance that covers sailing. In case of injury, medical assistance or transportation home might be required. You will not be sailing more than 10 miles offshore.

You will need your own accommodation the night at the end of your competent crew module.