

HAMBLE

School of Yachting

# — Joining — Information — Pack —

Over 30 years of quality  
tuition and charters



# Welcome aboard...

Welcome to Hamble School of Yachting. This information pack along with the FAQ section on our website should help provide most of the basic joining information you require however please do not hesitate to contact us with any further questions you may have.

## How to find us:

### BY CAR:

Leave the M27 at junction 8 signposted Hamble/Southampton East. This will take you to a roundabout – from the East take the first exit, from the West take the third exit.

At the next roundabout take the second exit. There will be a Tesco store on your left. Go straight across the next two mini roundabouts and the traffic lights. Follow this road for approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile.

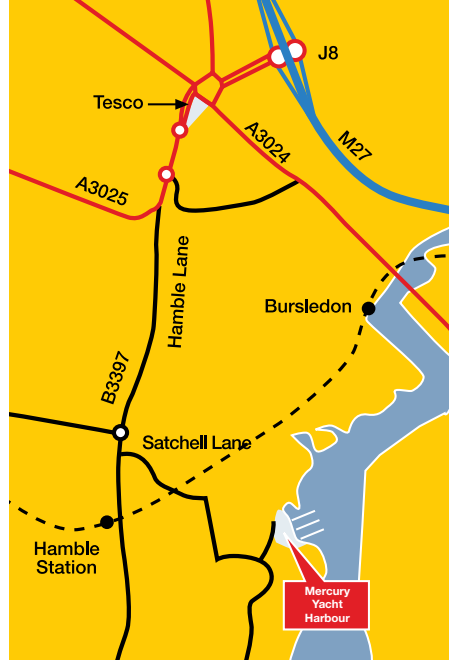
Go straight across the next roundabout and then immediately left into Satchell Lane where there will be a large school on your right.

Follow this road over the bridge and eventually you will see the sign for Mercury Yacht Harbour on your left where there is a free carpark.

For those of you with Sat Nav, our postcode is SO31 4HQ.

### BY TRAIN:

As you will see on the map, there is a train station in Hamble; however it is approximately a  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour walk to Mercury Yacht Harbour. Please note there is not a taxi rank at Hamble station and local taxi companies are

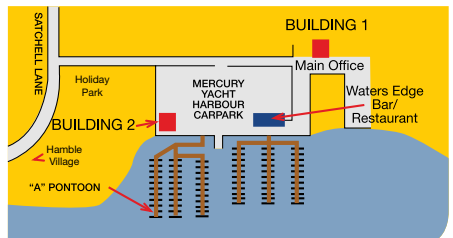


reluctant to run the short trip from the station to Mercury Yacht Harbour.

From London travel to Southampton Airport station. There is a taxi rank at this station. It is approximately a 15 minute taxi ride to the marina.

- Phoenix Cars: 023 8045 8868
- Access Cars: 023 8045 8855
- City Cars: 070 0444 4444
- Fleet Taxis: 023 8045 0100
- Streamline Taxis: 023 8022 3355
- Viking Cars: 023 8040 8633

**Please note that we have 2 separate buildings in Mercury Yacht Harbour. Please make careful note of which building you should go to for your course as detailed on your joining letter.**





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## Check in times

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### Practical Sailing Courses



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1830h on either Friday or Sunday evening: Please report to BUILDING 2, (see map on the previous page). Please note that we do not provide an evening meal on these nights. It will be possible to eat ashore on the first evening, however on summer weekend courses starting on Friday evening, we may set sail that night and therefore not eat until

2200h. It is advisable to have a snack before you arrive. Fees include all food onboard (except evening of joining), mooring fees, loan of wet weather gear and sleeping bag with pillow.

### Practical Motor/Power Courses



0900h on the first day of the course: Please report to BUILDING 2, (see map on the previous page). Accommodation is provided onboard the boat for all Motor Cruising courses but not for Power Boat courses. Fees include mooring fees and loan of wet

weather gear. On Motor Cruising courses breakfast and lunch and a sleeping bag with pillow are provided.

### Shorebased Theory Courses



0900h on the first day of the course: Please report to BUILDING 1 or 2 depending on what your joining letter states (see map on the previous page). Most shorebased courses except Sea Survival are in Building 1 however please do check your joining letter. If you are attending a shorebased course tea, coffee and biscuits are provided but lunch is

not. There are plenty of local eating places, including a sandwich van Monday-Friday. Alternatively you are more than welcome to bring your own lunch. No accommodation is provided however a list of accommodation in the village is downloadable from our website.

# What to expect from a practical course afloat

Sailing is an exciting and challenging pastime and the prime aim of any course at whatever level is to increase your enjoyment and understanding of the sport. For the complete novice your patient and understanding instructor will spend time to familiarise you with the strange surroundings of a cruising yacht and ensure you feel comfortable before setting sail. For the more experienced your skipper will be interested to know what you personally expect from the course and to learn if there are any aspects of sailing that you want to give extra attention to.



The first evening of a sailing course will normally be spent stowing away personal kit and of course all the food for the course followed by a chat about the format for the course, likely ports of call and answering any general questions. On five day sailing courses we will normally go for a bar meal in the marina so everyone can relax and get to know each other.

On weekend courses in the summer we endeavour to set sail on the first evening, weather and crew arrival times permitting, so we may not eat

until quite late. It is well worth having a mid afternoon snack before coming down.

Each night will be spent in a different harbour and in most cases there will be the opportunity to go ashore to sample the local amenities as well as use marina facilities such as showers. If the weather is nice however we often like to really get into the cruising spirit and anchor in a beautiful bay somewhere. The instructor will of course give advance warning of this in case you need any thing from the shops etc.

Living on a cruising yacht is a very different environment from being at home and this is certainly one of the attractions however it can be a surprise to the less experienced! You will need to appreciate that space is certainly more limited and we need to be very careful about the amount of water and electricity we use. Most yachts can hook up to shore power when berthed but otherwise don't expect to be able to plug in lots of appliances like you do at home! Learning to live aboard is all part of the course and for those that have camped or caravanned it shouldn't really throw up many surprises.

**There is an excellent example itinerary of a typical course which can be accessed from the relevant course page of our website.**

Be assured of the best instruction at all times. Like thousands before you we are confident you will enjoy your course with us.

## Clothing...



Most practical courses involve some night sailing so even in summer bring some warm clothing i.e. thin thermal layers, long johns, fleece, woolly hat etc. In the summer don't forget sun block, hats, shorts and so on. Clothes that are quick drying are preferable to jeans. We do not provide footwear so recommend deck shoes or trainers with good grip and non marking soles. In addition if it's likely to be a wet week then you may want to consider sailing boots which can be purchased at the shop here in the marina or at one of the marinas you will be visiting. You will also need to bring a wash kit and towel. All clothing should be packed in a soft holdall. You may find it useful if you have your own torch, penknife and notepad. Come prepared for all the British climate has to offer!

## Wet weather gear and sleeping bags...

Good quality wet weather gear is important and if you don't have your own you can use ours free of charge.

We also supply a sleeping bag with pillow and liner should you not want to bring your own.

## Food and drink...

On sailing courses the fees include all food and drink for the course except the evening of joining. If you have any specific dietary requirements, please be sure to let us know on the booking form. Please note that within the confines of a yacht at sea we can only realistically cater for allergies/intolerances and vegetarians/vegans etc. We are unable to cater for a particular food fad.

Cooking and the preparation of food on board is an essential part of seamanship and everyone is expected to do their share. Don't panic if you're not a budding masterchef as the main meal is a frozen home cooked dish that just needs re heating and side dishes are normally vegetables and rice.

For obvious safety reasons there is a strict no alcohol rule whilst at sea however once moored up at the end of the day please feel free to relax and enjoy a drink or two. Feel free to bring along your own tipples!

\* Motor Cruising courses include breakfast and lunch whilst no food is provided on Powerboat courses.



## Safety...



Your personal safety is paramount. You will receive a full safety brief before sailing so please always follow the skipper's requests. The environment you are entering is very different from that ashore so it's important that safe thinking and practices are adopted by all. We all need to look after ourselves and each other. All required safety equipment is onboard each yacht however please feel free to bring your own equipment such as lifejackets should you have them.

## Travel Insurance...

Please read the terms and conditions contained within the booking form. We are unable to refund or change dates of a course once within 28 days of the start date unless we can sell the space. Whilst the school carries full public liability insurance for its activities

you should satisfy yourself that you are covered for personal injury and cancellation. Please visit our web site for details of providers.

## Exam Candidates...

Although we cannot turn you in to a Yachtmaster Coastal or Offshore in five days, the preparation course will ensure you are aware of the scenarios the examiner will present you with and try and prepare you fully. Emphasis will be on working on your weaker areas during the week. The examiner will join the boat on the Friday evening and the exams will normally continue through until late Saturday or mid morning Sunday. Please remember to bring your log book, passport photo, First Aid certificate and radio licence. You can pay the exam fee by cheque or credit card.

## And Finally...

We all wish you a fantastic time whilst at the school. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.



**HAMBLE**

School of Yachting

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