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PROFESSIONAL SAIL TRAINING


FAST TRACK COURSE



A man in a bright yellow sailing jacket is standing on the deck of a sailboat, leaning against the mast. The boat is white and has a small logo on its side. The background is a clear blue sky with some clouds. The overall scene is dynamic and captures the essence of sailing.

I HAVE ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT SAILING IS A SKILL BEST LEARNED THROUGH THE HANDS.

Hamble School of Yachting has built and maintained a reputation for providing the highest quality RYA tuition as standard, and then developing its programmes to go far beyond minimum qualification requirements. Its students gain extra practical skills and invaluable additional experience through extra courses, sea time, quality mentorship and a well-rounded hands-on approach to learning.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Robin Knox-Johnston'.

Sir Robin Knox-Johnston
Co-Founder and Chairman of Clipper Ventures
and first person to sail solo, non-stop around the world.

IGNITE YOUR AMBITION

**KICKSTART YOUR CAREER IN THE SAILING INDUSTRY
WITH THE PROFESSIONAL SAIL TRAINING PROGRAMME
FROM THE UK'S LEADING INDEPENDENT SEA SCHOOL.**

Hamble School of Yachting's 17 week fasttrack programme equips students with the experience and internationally-recognised Royal Yachting Association (RYA) qualifications required to become a professional skipper.

The fasttrack Professional Sail Training (PST) course is an intensive program of theoretical and practical sailing that is:

- Ideal for launching a career in the marine industry
- Based on over 35 years of experience using the best instructors in the industry
- A flexible modular system
- Focused on training for excellence, not just an exam
- An education, not just a ticket
- Provides quality sea miles, not just quantity
- A carefully structured RYA programme with regular debriefs
- Personal mentoring from a dedicated Chief Instructor
- Inclusive of quality yacht maintenance training
- Delivered on a large yacht fleet and dedicated shore-side teaching facilities

Whether you're looking to take your sailing skills to the next level in a concentrated burst, or you're looking to cast off the lines completely and commit to going from beginner all the way through to RYA Yachtmaster Offshore, Hamble School of Yachting's PST programme is the ideal course.

Take the entire course over 17 weeks, or at your own pace one module at a time.

MODULE 1

Advanced RYA Day Skipper with yacht maintenance skills and offshore miles

MODULE 2

RYA Coastal Skipper

MODULE 3

RYA Yachtmaster Offshore

WELCOME

HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING PRIDES ITSELF ON DELIVERING THE HIGHEST QUALITY TUITION AND TAKING A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO YOUR EDUCATION.

The Professional Sail Training course (PST), delivered by leading RYA instructors, is designed to equip students with the best foundation of skills, industry-relevant experience and internationally-recognised qualifications required to become a professional skipper.

Whilst qualifications are key, I also recognise the enormous value that additional practical skills and experience bring to student development. For this reason, I include extra tuition, contact time and debriefing, over-and-above qualification requirements, that is invaluable for progression.

Whilst the school has a friendly feel, and courses are delivered in a fun way, the PST programme is a big commitment that students and staff take very seriously. As a sign of our commitment to your PST studies, my team and I would be delighted to invite you out sailing with us for a weekend, free of charge, to get a taste what we offer and for us to understand a realistic baseline of your existing skills and give you advice on your best plan of action.

Alternatively, the kettle is always on here at our Mercury Yacht Harbour HQ and we welcome visitors, old and new, to pop in for a chat.

I very much hope that this prospectus answers some of your questions and that we will soon be welcoming you into the Hamble School of Yachting family.

Dave Robson,
Principal, Hamble School of Yachting





THE HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING DIFFERENCE

HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING HAS ALMOST FOUR DECADES OF EXPERIENCE IN PROVIDING QUALITY TUITION FROM ITS BASE AT MERCURY YACHT HARBOUR ON THE RIVER HAMBLE, HAMPSHIRE.

By putting the focus onto its students, and prioritising hands-on experience in addition to qualifications, Hamble School of Yachting sets itself apart from other sailing schools and training centres.

SETTING QUALITY FOUNDATIONS

Whether you're looking to embark on a career in the sailing industry, taking a break from work or looking for a new challenge of long-distance sailing in retirement, it is important to set solid foundations for your journey ahead.

Hamble School of Yachting has a reputation in the industry for the high quality of sailors that come from its courses which provides a valuable head-start when seeking employment.



HIGH CALIBRE INSTRUCTORS

Hamble School of Yachting employs only the best teaching staff. All instructors are hand-picked for their ability to communicate, their knowledge and sense of humour! Instructors receive ongoing professional development from the Hamble School of Yachting via a programme delivered by the Chief Instructor. Very few schools adopt this policy.

STRICT INTAKE LIMIT

Hamble School of Yachting can offer a choice of different yachts on which to sail and a dedicated teaching block equipped with the latest computer and audio visual technology. Numbers of students on the PST course are strictly limited to an absolute maximum of ten on each intake. This allows incredibly high quality supervision and monitoring of training and enables students to get much more out of that vital contact time with each instructor.

THE VERY BEST PROGRAMME

The programme is purposefully organised in such a way that each week has a clear and dedicated set of goals.

Students are debriefed after each task, and at the end of each week, by the instructor and Chief Instructor. This enables the school to identify student strengths and weaknesses at a very early stage and ensure a personal action plan is put into place to build up skills accordingly.

AN ALL-ROUND EDUCATION

Hamble School of Yachting does not try to enrol its students on a ticket collecting exercise for a bewildering array of different courses. This course is focused and carefully designed to turn out high quality sailors with a good degree of all-round seamanship skills.

The school believes there is no substitute for hands on experience and students spend 72 days of the total 98 days tuition at sea learning the skills of their trade.

The weeks spent on practical sailing are carefully divided between skipper development and mileage building to destinations in the English Channel, and "drills and skills" weeks closer to home.

Pilotage in busy or shallow waters coupled with close quarters boat handling is challenging and plenty of time will be spent here honing skills.

The Solent training area provides unsurpassed training challenges and opportunities. Getting the balance right between close quarters work and offshore sailing is crucial and the school believes it has the right mix here. An all-round yachtsman has got to be a good sailor, have polished interpersonal skills and be able to repair and maintain a complex sailing boat often far out at sea.

THE HAMBLE TOUCHES

Hamble School of Yachting is so committed to delivering the best possible experience that it invites prospective PST students to join the team for a weekend of sailing, free of charge. This gives the opportunity for students to meet school's friendly faces, see how the school operates and chat to the brilliant instructors about their ambitions.

It also allows the team to ensure the course is right for the student. For those with more experience it might be suitable to start at module two or three and this will be assessed over the weekend.

VALUE FOR MONEY

Hamble School of Yachting strives to give students the best possible value for money. The school understands that students are investing a large sum of money in their future and want to be sure that they receive the best possible training available. When it comes to tuition, you get what you pay for and Hamble School of Yachting firmly believes it offers the highest quality of training and support to be had.

DEDICATED SUPPORT

Hamble School of Yachting has a small, highly dedicated and skilled team behind it. Once students sign up, they are guaranteed to become "one of the family" and a huge number continue to return and update or continue their studies. If students require some extra help, they will get support from the Chief Instructor to ensure they get back on track.

Going one step further, the school operates an always-open policy and are available 24-hours a day should students need to contact a member of staff.

At the end of the course, students frequently report back that they find it very hard to leave their Hamble School of Yachting family behind!

ONGOING SUPPORT

Hamble School of Yachting has close links with yacht delivery companies and industry partners providing adventure sailing and sail training in other parts of the world.

Hamble School of Yachting's position within the Clipper Ventures group also offers students unparalleled opportunities in big boat racing and race crew training with Clipper Round the World Yacht Race.

A Hamble PST student will be welcomed widely across the industry, Hamble School of Yachting students who have the right attitude have been extremely successful in getting work within the industry with many going on to reach the very pinnacles of success.



COURSE OVERVIEW

THE FAST TRACK PROFESSIONAL SAIL TRAINING COURSE IS AN INTENSIVE PROGRAMME DESIGNED TO EQUIP STUDENTS WITH SUFFICIENT SKILLS AND CERTIFICATES TO FORGE A CAREER AS A YACHT SKIPPER.

The fast track Professional Sail Training (PST) course is designed to progress an inexperienced sailor to a fully qualified professional standard.

Hamble School of Yachting follows the globally-recognised RYA certification programme and graduates of the PST course will be qualified to commercially endorsed RYA Yachtmaster Offshore level - the gold standard in sailing qualifications.

The PST course is also a great option for anyone looking for a life-changing experience; either following retirement, during a gap year, sabbatical or taking leisure sailing to the next level.

THE HAMBLE STANDARD

Led by Principal Dave Robson and his knowledgeable team, Hamble School of Yachting specialises in delivering the very highest standard of training focused on a future career or cruising success, not solely on successfully passing the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Yachtmaster assessment.

Hamble School of Yachting provides all of the requisite instruction to meet RYA syllabus requirements and endeavours to include experience and standards of tuition over and above the minimum requirement that will be of practical benefit to both commercial and leisure sailors for years to come.

The RYA Yachtmaster qualification and training programme is recognised internationally as the gold standard for quality and competence for qualified skippers. External moderation and independent examiners guarantees the consistency and excellence of the qualification. Consequently, this qualification is widely sought across the sailing world by those employing Skippers and crew in a wide variety of roles and locations.

HOW GOOD A SAILOR WILL I BE AT THE END OF THE COURSE?

Individual skill sets will vary from person to person. That said, the PST course enables a student to progress smoothly to RYA Yachtmaster Offshore without interruption, following a fully integrated, seamless programme. The intensity and efficiency of such a course is such that students learn faster and learn more without long periods between training courses where skill and knowledge fade can interrupt progress. Whilst a PST graduate with little prior experience should be aware of their limited years at sea, it is nonetheless likely that they will be as competent a yacht skipper and sailor as another who, with potentially more sea miles, has not benefited from such a focused, intensive training programme.

WHO ELSE WILL BE ON THE COURSE?

Hamble School of Yachting's PST students come from all over the world and the school welcomes its diverse customer base. Students benefit from the knowledge, experience and cultural perspectives of a wide range of like minded individuals embarking on their sailing education. Hamble School of Yachting aims to ensure a small Instructor to student ratio in order to maximise individual development. Other than the distance sailing and self sail modules, students will normally be in a crew of no more than six including the instructor.

FLEXIBLE MODULAR APPROACH

If students are balancing a busy lifestyle with the desire to enhance their sailing skills, they can opt to complete just part of the course to increase their skills to the next level. They can take each module at a time of their choosing; some students have undertaken a module a year to spread costs and fit their sailing journey into already-busy lifestyles. If students have existing RYA qualifications and sufficient practical mileage, they can slot in at the appropriate module level and start from there.

RYA DAY SKIPPER

700 Miles

Start at Module 2, the RYA Coastal Skipper

RYA COASTAL SKIPPER

1500 miles

Start at Module 3 the RYA Yachtmaster

FUTURE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

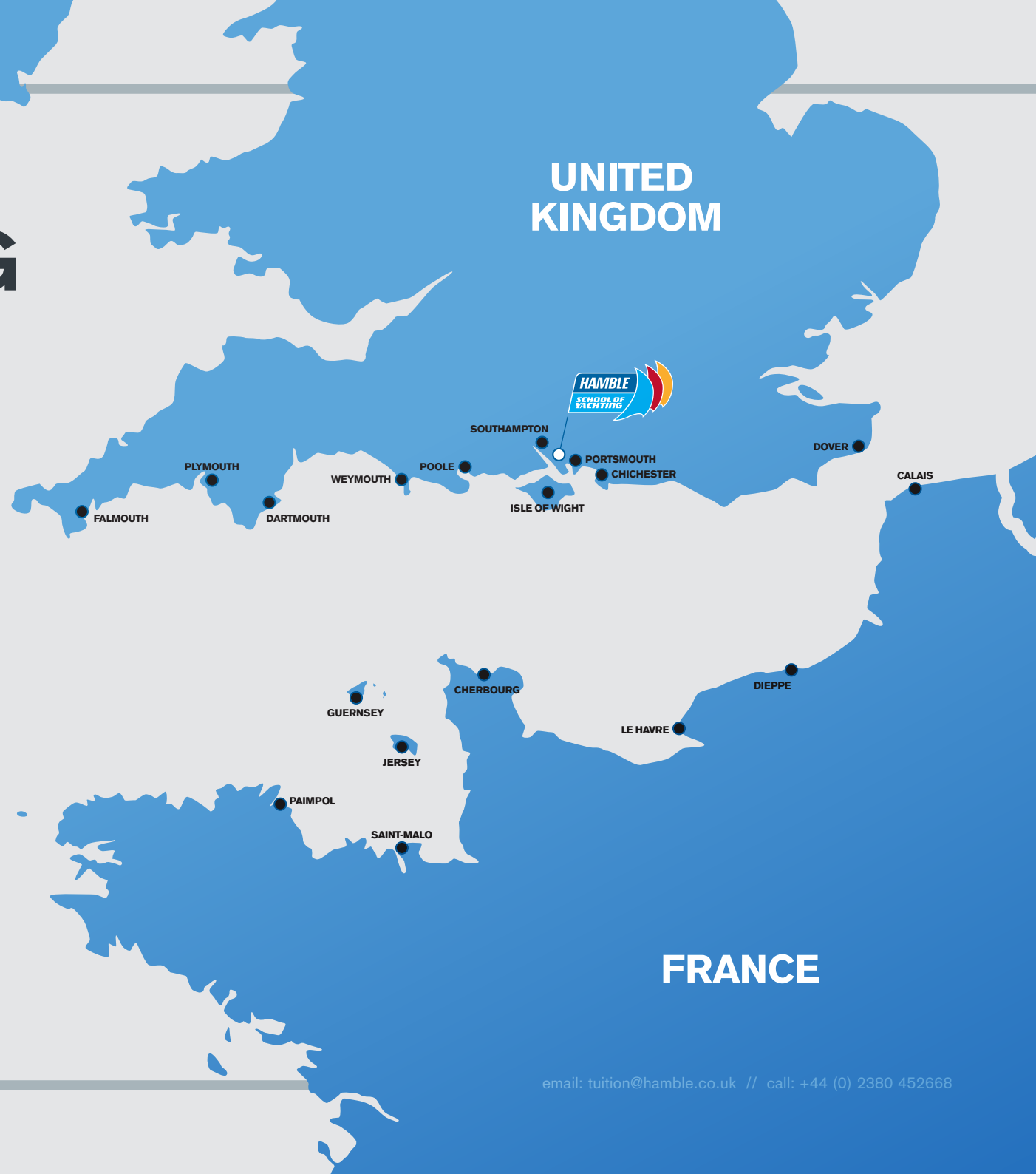
With over 35 years working with organisations and individuals across the industry, and a multi-national client base, Hamble School of Yachting has a broad contact base around the world. Our PST students are sought after by varied organisations and companies and we are happy to provide advice, guidance, introductions and references to enable your ongoing career. Employment opportunities include working on the larger vessels within the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race either as a first mate (Additional Qualified Person), with the chance to work towards Clipper Race Skipper, or the Clipper Ventures training teams.

THE SAILING GROUND

Hamble School of Yachting's HQ is convenient for Southampton Water and the Solent, providing sheltered waters where training can continue in almost any weather conditions. In addition the Solent can offer a sample of almost every type of harbour and anchorage giving a rich variety of pilotage exercises and with large volumes of commercial, local and leisure traffic it provides excellent training opportunities and challenges.

The Solent is also an excellent base for the distance sailing segments of the programme giving access to the Isle of Wight, France and the Channel Islands. It also benefits from opportunities provided by the Dorset, Devon and Cornish harbours to the West and Sussex and Kent to the East. With easy access to these sheltered waters, combined with cruising grounds in three directions, sailing programmes are rarely constrained by weather and wind direction and this ensures that interesting, varied and challenging sailing will be delivered.

Due to the complex nature of the tides, and currents around the Isle of Wight, if you can safely navigate the Solent waters you can navigate anywhere in the world. The Needles Channel on a full spring ebb, with a south westerly force eight, is one of the most dangerous places in the world.



THE PST COURSE EXPLAINED

**THE COMPREHENSIVE
17 WEEK PROGRAMME
IS DIVIDED INTO
THREE MODULES.**

The total course spans 17 calendar weeks. This enables a series of short periods of intensive tuition with no time wasted, followed by brief rest periods.

Although this course is intensive, Hamble School of Yachting's aim is to build a student's confidence as well as their knowledge and experience. It is not a competition. If a student isn't ready to take their exam at the end of the school will be as accommodating as possible and try to organise additional training.

Each Module comprises a mixture of shore-based theory, taught in the onsite classroom, and practical sailing. It is an important aim of the course to accumulate sea miles, including skippered passages, necessary for the final RYA Yachtmaster Offshore qualification. Therefore, each practical session is ascribed a target mileage. Practical sailing sessions are specifically detailed either as dedicated distance sailing weeks or "drills and skills" weeks closer to home in the Solent area. It is a very important feature of a course such as this that there is a good mix of both types of sailing.

Distance sailing exposes students to longer passages offshore that will involve watch keeping routines, crossing busy shipping lanes and advanced passage planning. The "drills and skills" weeks will concentrate on short passages involving lots of pilotage exercises in to and out of different harbours coupled with lots of close quarter handling under sail and power.

Time will also be spent on emergency routines, fog navigation, rudderless sailing, spinnaker handling and sail trim. During all these practical sessions skippering skills are developed and student confidence grows. The student to instructor ratio on board the yachts for the "drills and skills" weeks will be 5:1 maximum. Instructors will hold detailed, personal de-briefing sessions with each student on completion of each exercise and also at the end of the week. Through this system the pace and emphasis of the course can be regulated for each individual student. Progress will be logged and monitored in the PST workbook that is issued at the start of the course.

MODULE 1

RYA DAY SKIPPER

MODULE 1 WILL SEE STUDENTS PROGRESS TO ADVANCED RYA DAY SKIPPER LEVEL THROUGH A COMBINATION OF OFFSHORE SAILING AND YACHT MAINTENANCE TRAINING.

The emphasis is on boat handling and "line-of-sight" pilotage. The student will be introduced to the basic principles of navigation, chartwork, tides and practical meteorology.

This module takes students from the basics of crewing and living onboard a yacht through to being a confident and competent RYA Day Skipper capable of planning, organising and leading inshore passages.

+12

PERIOD		ACTIVITY	TARGET MILES
WEEK 1	Mon-Fri	RYA Competent Crew	150
	Sat	STCW Personal Survival Techniques	
	Sun	SRC VHF Radio	
WEEK 2	Mon-Fri	RYA Day Skipper Theory	
WEEKEND OFF			
WEEK 3	Mon-Sun	RYA Day Skipper Practical Sailing	150
WEEK 4	Mon	Yacht Maintenance:	Rigging and winch servicing
	Tue		Diesel engines
	Wed		Diesel engines/plumbing
	Thu		12v electrics
	Fri		Sail repair and maintenance
WEEKEND OFF			
WEEK 5	Mon-Sun	Distance Sail	400
WEEK 6 - SEVEN DAYS OFF			
		Total mileage	700

CERTIFICATES AWARDED:

- RYA Competent Crew
 - RYA Day Skipper Shorebased
 - RYA Day Skipper Practical
 - SRC/VHF Radio licence
 - Yacht Maintenance Certificate
 - MCA/STCW Personal Survival Techniques
 - International Certificate of Competence (UK citizens only)
- Fee applies if not a member of the RYA.

LEGEND:

- Shorebased
- Practical drills and skills training in the Solent area
- Distance Sail

email: tuition@hamble.co.uk // call: +44 (0) 2380 452668

MODULE 1

YACHT MAINTENANCE

**THIS COURSE IS DELIVERED BY
INSTRUCTORS WITH REAL WORLD
EXPERIENCE.**

An intensive five day hands-on practical course which will equip each student with the basic fault-finding and problem-solving skills needed by a skipper together with knowledge to carry out routine maintenance tasks.

MAIN SUBJECTS COVERED

- Plumbing
- 12 Volt electrical systems
- More advanced diesel engine maintenance and winterisation
- Rigging, splicing and whipping
- Sail repairs
- Winch servicing



MODULE 2

RYA COASTAL SKIPPER

**MODULE 2 STEPS UP A GEAR
AND AIMS TO BRING STUDENTS
TO AN ADVANCED RYA COASTAL
SKIPPER LEVEL.**

An RYA Coastal Skipper should have acquired the level of theoretical knowledge necessary for Yachtmaster.

Students will have progressed beyond RYA Day Skipper mainly in the sense of being capable of planning and skippering extended coastal passages of approximately 20 – 30 miles, using navigational (as opposed to pilotage) techniques, and at night if necessary. An RYA Coastal Skipper should be reasonably competent at boat handling in confined waters under power or sail.

The module starts with the shorebased RYA Coastal Skipper/Yachtmaster Theory course which takes the student beyond RYA Day Skipper theory level and onto the next level. More emphasis is placed on offshore passage planning, advanced tidal calculations and more in-depth knowledge of meteorology.

Once the theory element is completed, the rest of the module is dedicated to practical application of their newly-acquired knowledge and development of your boat handling skills under sail and power. Passage planning and passage making will be practiced outside the Solent area and across the Channel.

The incremental nature of this phase will see students develop in confidence and skill. They will be increasingly able to prepare and execute more demanding passages and utilise skills such as sailing onto/off moorings, departing/arriving in harbours under sail, night navigation and pilotage. By the end of the phase, students will be able to cope with issues such as engine failure and be able to proceed with a plan that brings the boat and her crew safely into port.

Towards the end of week 11 there will be an in-house assessment from either the Chief Instructor or another qualified examiner. This is in the style of a RYA Yachtmaster assessment. Not only does it provide students with an real assessment as to your personal development, but it also prepares students for the eventual RYA Yachtmaster Offshore assessment at the end of Module 3.

Two shorebased weekends see students complete the RYA Weather course, Elementary First Aid and Radar courses.



PERIOD		ACTIVITY	TARGET MILES
WEEK 7	Mon-Sun	RYA Coastal/Yachtmaster Theory	
WEEK 8	Mon-Fri	RYA Coastal Skipper Practical Sailing	150
WEEKEND OFF			
WEEK 9	Mon-Sun	Distance Sail	400
WEEK 10	Mon-Fri	RYA Coastal Skipper Practical Sailing	150
WEEK 10	Sat	STCW Elementary First Aid	
	Sun	RYA Radar Course	
WEEK 11	Mon-Fri	RYA Coastal Skipper Practical Sailing	150
	Sat-Sun	Meteorology	
WEEK 12 - SEVEN DAYS OFF			
		Total mileage	850

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- RYA Day Skipper Shorebased Certificate
- RYA Day Skipper Practical Certificate
- SRC/VHF
- At least 700 sea miles under sail, in tidal waters

CERTIFICATES AWARDED:

- RYA/MCA Coastal Skipper/Yachtmaster Theory
- RYA Coastal Skipper Practical
- RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Coastal Skipper
- Qualification Examination (for those finishing at Module 2)
- MCA/STCW Elementary First Aid
- RYA Radar Course
- Weather Course

LEGEND:

- Shorebased
- Practical drills and skills training in the Solent area
- Distance Sail



MODULE 3

RYA YACHTMASTER OFFSHORE

WITH COMMERCIAL ENDORSEMENT

MODULE 3 AIMS TO GET THE STUDENT TO RYA YACHTMASTER OFFSHORE LEVEL WITH COMMERCIAL ENDORSEMENT.

The gold standard of sailing qualifications, the RYA Yachtmaster Offshore should be able to do all those things expected of a RYA Coastal Skipper but better, for longer and under more adverse conditions.

There are three main objectives in Module 3:

1. The accumulation of sea miles through extended offshore sailing;
2. Personal development as a skipper – Students will have developed practical experience and confidence through extended offshore and coastal cruising;
3. Two weeks of intense exam preparation with a RYA Yachtmaster Instructor in the local area.

The extended sailing is achieved by means of a 19 day distance sail. The first seven days will be with an instructor with the remaining 12 days dedicated as a self sail period without an instructor. This sailing experience is crucial in allowing students to gain real offshore skippering experience and the all-important qualifying passages for the final examination.

Examiners have consistently noted that Hamble School of Yachting students are far more confident due to this real life experience.

There really is no substitute for real skippering experience at this stage in the course. Unlike some other fast track training providers, each student will take it in turn to skipper several passages of over 60 miles and most courses have so far achieved between 500 and 600 miles in an area covering the entire English Channel.

Following two days of leave, students return to start an intensive ten day exam preparation period prior to undertaking the RYA Yachtmaster Offshore assessment with an independent examiner. This ten day period will take the student right back through all areas of the syllabus and will focus very much on “skills and drills” involving lots of close quarters work under power and sail, night exercises, pilotage and skippering skills. The exam will begin on the Wednesday evening and each student will spend approximately 10-12 hours being examined, in blocks of 3-4 hours at a time.

PERIOD		ACTIVITY	TARGET MILES
WEEK 13	Mon-Sun	Distance Sail (with instructor)	300
WEEK 14	Mon-Sun	Distance Sail	
WEEK 15	Mon-Fri	Distance Sail	500
TWO DAYS OFF			
WEEK 16	Mon-Fri	RYA Yachtmaster Prep	120
WEEK 17	Sat-Wed	RYA Yachtmaster Prep	120
	Thur-Fr	RYA Yachtmaster Exam	
		Total mileage	1040
		Overall total	2590

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- RYA Coastal Skipper Certificate
- SRC/VHF
- RYA Sea Survival Certificate/ Personal Survival Techniques
- RYA First Aid Certificate/Elementary First Aid
- At least 1500 sea miles under sail, in tidal waters with considerable boat handling and skippering experience

CERTIFICATES AWARDED:

- RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Offshore with Commercial Endorsement

LEGEND:

- Practical drills and skills training in the Solent area
- Distance Sail





+18

4071



USEFUL INFORMATION

+ HEALTH

It is important that all students appreciate that the PST course is an intensive programme. The practical sessions at sea can be physically arduous and mentally demanding. Students need to satisfy themselves that they have basic physical fitness. Students who intend to work commercially will need to satisfy themselves that they do not suffer from any medical condition that would preclude them from obtaining their commercial endorsement. See the ML5 medical form in this link:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/ml5-medical-report-form-and-certificate-msf-4112



+ COMMERCIAL ENDORSEMENT

If students wish to work commercially with their RYA Yachtmaster qualification they must obtain a commercial endorsement to add to their ticket. Students will need to complete a medical with any UK registered doctor using the ML5 medical form, or via this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ml5-medical-report-form-and-certificate-msf-4112>

Please note that the ML5 medical is only valid for presentation to the RYA/MCA for endorsement for three months from the date of issue so for candidates completing all three modules it will be out of date by the end of the course necessitating another visit to the doctor! The school suggests that candidates who have any doubts about their general health or possible colour blindness they should definitely have a medical before the course and then another one within three months of the end of the course. It would be a shame to start and then discover something like colour blindness bars them from obtaining the commercial endorsement. Of course those candidates not intending to obtain a commercial endorsement do not require a medical.

Students will also be required to pass an online assessment known as the PPR (Professional Practices and Responsibilities course). Successful candidates will be able to print off a certificate.

To obtain the endorsement students will need to present the following to the examiner; PPR certificate, STCW Personal Survival Techniques (or equivalent) certificate, ML5 medical and a completed commercial endorsement form (available from the office) along with a fee for commercial endorsement processing.

+ PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Whereas acceptance for the course does not require any formal sailing qualifications, it is required that students have a minimum of 100 logged, tidal miles. These should ideally have been accumulated within a period reasonably close to the date when the PST course commences.

The reasons for this requirement are:

1. The student will have some idea whether they are likely to enjoy sailing and so will start the course with "eyes open".

2. The RYA Yachtmaster Offshore qualification requires 2,500 logged sea miles. The course is designed to provide this mileage as a minimum, but a 100 miles pre-course requirement provides an additional "cushion" for example in case of ill health.

Hamble School of Yachting will be happy to organise these qualifying miles as preparation for a PST course, and this will also provide an opportunity for discussions with the student regarding their suitability for the PST course. It will normally require approximately one week of typical sailing school cruising to accumulate 100 sea miles.

Students who would like to gauge their suitability for the course can enlist on a Hamble School of Yachting training weekend, at the end of which the instructor will offer a friendly but honest assessment.

The school will not charge for this weekend and it will give prospective students the opportunity to see what is on offer and really gauge exactly what they want from their training.



+ BOOKS AND EQUIPMENT

All books required for the course will be supplied at the start of each module with the G15 Log Book and RYA Competent Crew Course Notes being supplied on registration. However should students already have a G15 log book, they should bring it with them as proof of previous experience. The purchase of a Bretton Plotter, navigational dividers and drawing instruments is the student's responsibility. The school will provide students with a list of additional books which are recommended background reading when the course is booked.

+ CLOTHING

Clothing should be packed in a soft crew-bag (or sports bag). Each student should bring a sleeping bag, however the school can provide this if you are travelling from afar. The school provides quality, industry-leading Musto wet weather gear, however students are welcome to bring their own if they wish. The school is able to offer substantial discounts on the entire Musto range. Please seek the school's advice before spending money on this expensive kit. Students should bring warm clothing including thermal layers, woolly hat and sailing gloves. Students will also need to have a pair of deck shoes and sailing boots. Please feel free to call for advice if you would like more information on any of the above items. The marina has laundry and drying facilities.



+ DOCUMENTS AND MONEY

The practical cruising will include trips to France so students should bring a current passport. Non EU students should call the office for advice on visa requirements.

Money will be needed for:

1. Some food. All catering is included except on shorebased courses where only lunch is provided.
2. Mooring and marina fees. The costs for the mooring fees will be met by the School with the exception of the 12 day self-sail period in Module 3. This cost will be divided between the crew. Students should allow approximately £20 per cruising week. The idea of this is to encourage students into interesting mooring areas such as harbour walls or anchorages rather than expensive marinas!
3. Occasional visits to pubs / restaurants while cruising are at the crew's discretion. There really is nowhere to spend money at sea so don't bring too much!
4. Exam fees will be detailed during the course. Details are available on the RYA website.

www.rya.org.uk/courses-training/exams/Pages/exam-fees.aspx

+ ACCOMMODATION

Students book their own accommodation for the shorebased elements of the PST course. Hamble village has an abundance of B&Bs and there is a holiday park next to the school with several different options.

+ PHOTOGRAPHS

Students will need five passport-sized photos.



TAKE YOUR TRAINING FURTHER

HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING OFFERS FURTHER TRAINING COURSES TO TAKE THE PST COURSE TO THE NEXT LEVEL.



MCA/STCW BASIC SAFETY TRAINING WEEK

A requirement for employment on superyachts, the MCA/STCW training week includes all of the components required for the Basic Training course.

- Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities
- Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting
- Personal Survival Techniques
- Elementary First Aid

NOTE: If completing in conjunction with the PST course, where Personal Survival and Elementary First Aid are included, only Personal Safety and Social Responsibility and Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting modules will be outstanding and the course time is reduced to three days.



RYA SHOREBASED OCEAN COURSE

This course provides all of the theoretical tuition on ocean passage making and astro navigation needed prior to setting off on an ocean passage as mate or skipper.



GMDSS RESTRICTED OPERATORS CERTIFICATE (ROC)

This course provides the necessary knowledge to pass the ROC Operators Licence which will enable the user to operate communications equipment in sea area A1. The ROC is required to upgrade to a Master of Yachts 200gt (up to 150mn from a safe haven) along with a RYA Yachtmaster Offshore Certificate of Competence, the Basic Safety Training Week and satisfactory completion of MCA oral examination.



GMDSS GENERAL OPERATORS CERTIFICATE (GOC)

This course provides the necessary knowledge to pass the GOC Operators Licence which will enable the user to operate communications equipment in sea areas A1, A2, A3 and A4 (worldwide). The GOC is required to upgrade to a Master of Yachts 200gt (unlimited area) along with a Yachtmaster Ocean Certificate of Competence, the MCA/STCW Proficiency in Medical Care Onboard Ship, the

Basic Safety Training Week and satisfactory completion of MCA oral examination.



MCA/STCW PROFICIENCY IN MEDICAL FIRST AID

This is a four day course covering diagnostics and medical management. This course cannot be undertaken without successful completion of MCA/STCW Elementary First Aid which is included in the PST programme.



MCA/STCW PROFICIENCY IN MEDICAL CARE ON BOARD SHIP

This is a five day course which moves on from the Medical First Aid course in that you will be introduced to the diagnosis, nursing and minor surgical procedures commonly required on a vessel offshore. The course cannot be undertaken without successful completion of the MCA/STCW Proficiency in Medical First Aid. Medical Care On Board Ship is a mandatory requirement for Ocean Yachtmasters operating in Category 1 (over 150 NM from a safe haven) and Category 0 (unrestricted) under the MCA Code of Practice.

INDUSTRY OPPORTUNITIES

HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING'S PST STUDENTS ARE WELL-EQUIPPED FOR EMPLOYMENT AROUND THE WORLD.

With a turnover in the UK alone in excess of two billion pounds, yachting is big business! Hamble School of Yachting trains people from all walks of life to become professional skippers.

Skippering yachts is a unique and rewarding career. As a yacht skipper you have ultimate responsibility for the vessel and everyone aboard. A yacht skipper needs to be able to draw upon a large number of technical and personal skills. As a skipper the rewards in terms of personal satisfaction are also huge.

There are many avenues available to the newly qualified yacht skipper and many will work in several different areas during the course of their careers. Broadly speaking the industry is split into two sectors, the yacht sector (that's yachts up to 24metres in length) and the superyacht sector (that's yachts over 24 metres). Work within the smaller yacht sector can include worldwide yacht deliveries, corporate entertainment, being a Flotilla Skipper for holiday companies, or even training to become a sailing instructor teaching various courses to students at sea schools such as Hamble School of Yachting. The common theme is that you will spend time away from home possibly abroad, have the opportunity to sail a varied range of boats and meet a huge variety of people. In the superyacht sector you would start off as a Deckhand and work your way up to Skipper over a period of time. Increasingly the superyacht sector is demanding a certain number of MCA/STCW qualifications.

Those qualifications are granted by the MCA as opposed to the RYA. Four basic qualifications are required to obtain the Basic Safety Training required on a superyacht. They are Elementary First Aid, Personal Survival Techniques, Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities and Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting. Hamble School of Yachting includes the first two within its standard PST programme, the other two are available as an extra module upon completion of the standard course.

Working on multi million pound superyachts in exotic locations such as the Caribbean and the Mediterranean can be a fantastic way of life and pay is generally very good with good career prospects. You will need to be prepared to work extremely hard and to have very high personal standards. The basic qualification required for any of these careers is the MCA/ RYA Yachtmaster Offshore qualification and this is what students on the 17 week Professional Sail Training course achieve.





WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING PST GRADUATES ARE WELL-EQUIPPED FOR A RANGE OF CAREERS IN THE MARINE INDUSTRY.



NAME: Rhiannon Massey

NATIONALITY: British

Rhiannon has been dinghy sailing since the age of seven, has represented Great Britain at International Olympic class level and been a member of the RYA Podium Potential Squad.

WHY PST?

I wanted to do my RYA Yachtmaster as stepping stone into the yachting industry. I really wanted to continue to sail and it's a qualification that so many professional sailing jobs require you to have.

WHY HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING?

I chose to study at Hamble School of Yachting as it has one of the best reputations and has better flexibility in the delivery of training to gain the RYA Yachtmaster qualification.

HOW DID YOU FIND HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING'S PST COURSE?

I really enjoyed the course, we had a range of instructors all of whom were hugely knowledgeable and excellent at teaching. They really helped me gain a huge amount of confidence in my own ability.

WHAT WAS THE BEST BIT ABOUT THE TRAINING?

The best bits were the small group sizes whilst sailing and tailored training to help you develop your weakest elements of the programme. Also being based in the Solent gives so many options for training, pilotage, and all manner of training exercises.

WHO WOULD YOU RECOMMEND IT TO?

I'd recommend Hamble School of Yachting to everyone, at whatever stage in their sailing they are in. From those who have never sailed before to those who just want to become more knowledgeable about all aspects of sailing.

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

Since graduating I've gone on to complete my RYA Cruising Instructor qualification and teach up to Day Skipper level. I am now racing around the world as the First Mate/AQP on the Qingdao team in the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race.



NAME: Chris Anco
NATIONALITY: Canadian

Chris has enjoyed a very diverse career path starting off in aviation and most recently as a renewable energy systems designer and integrator, with a few small into the healthcare field and design and construction industry along the way.

WHY PST?

I consider this starting a new chapter in my book. Too many years behind a desk had me thinking about getting back outdoors where my passion lies. In the early 80's my best friend and I planned on buying a sailboat and travelling the world once we retired. As typically happens life got in the way but the timing is such that I was able to commit to the training I wanted to do. I had not originally intended to seek employment in the sailing industry but my experiences at Hamble School of Yachting were so enjoyable that I now continue to keep all of my options open.

WHY HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING?

Choosing the right school for my training was of paramount importance and I did a considerable amount of research on a number of professional RYA schools around the world. I had set a number of criteria for myself and in the end, Hamble School of Yachting met all of them.

HOW DID YOU FIND HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING'S PST COURSE?

I cannot speak highly enough about the experience over the 17 weeks of the fast track programme, not only the instructors but every single member of the organisation from top to bottom. Everyone is dedicated in their care and commitment to the students and the instructors consistently and enthusiastically apply their professional knowledge and experience to promote student learning. Combining the great instruction with the tides and traffic of the Solent and English Channel, throw in a little "challenging" weather now and then, and you have one of the best learning environments you can possibly experience.

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?

I consider myself "semi-retired" at this point and I am currently working on finishing up my RYA Yachtmaster Ocean qualifications, upgrading my first aid and completing the General Radio Operators Certificate. In the meantime, I'm keeping my eyes open for just the right boat and remain open to working within the sailing industry.



NAME: Fiona Waller
NATIONALITY: British

A chance sail across the Atlantic ignited Fiona's sailing ambitions. After returning and leaving her corporate job, a career change was on the cards.

WHY PST?

A couple of years ago I was lucky enough to have the chance to sail across the Atlantic despite the fact I didn't know how to sail. I absolutely loved it out there but found it frustrating that I didn't know more and felt that I couldn't contribute as much as I would have liked to. I love being on boats and I love the camaraderie of sailing. After quitting my corporate job it seemed the perfect time to learn and see whether sailing commercially could be part of the plan.

WHY HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING?

The reputation spoke volumes and two things particularly stood out for me. Having been out at sea, the thought of doing a course that didn't cover yacht maintenance didn't make any sense. Understanding the principles of the engine, electrics and sail maintenance should be an integral part of any Yachtmaster course, and is included in the PST programme. The other thing was the distance self-sail. The opportunity to take a yacht, without the safety net of an instructor, was the best experience ever. It consolidated everything we had learned and was great for building confidence.

HOW DID YOU FIND HAMBLE SCHOOL OF YACHTING'S PST COURSE?

The course was a fantastic experience and a brilliant way to get fully immersed. It was intense and it was by no means a walk in the park, but a brilliant foundation to build from.





For further information please contact

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