



Start Motor Cruising

Course Outline

This is an entry-level course on the basics of operating and crewing a motor cruiser. If you are a beginner and want to know enough to feel safe and useful aboard and be able to assist the skipper or helmsman in routine tasks then this is the course for you. It includes personal safety, seamanship, handling lines during departure and arrival, picking up moorings, dealing with emergency situations and basic helmsmanship. You will be training with 3 or 4 other students and gain hands-on experience in crewing the boat during manoeuvres in and out of the marina and high speed operation in more open water. The standard course is just one day from 0900 to 1700 but you can also attend in parallel with higher level courses. Coffees, teas and lunch are provided along with all safety equipment.

(Note: If you want to be practice taking control at the helm during manoeuvres then you should consider going straight to the Helmsman or Day Skipper courses in which case this start motor cruising course is not necessary.)

Format Options

- 1 Day aboard a motor yacht (0900 – 1700)

Location

Chatham marina, Kent, or aboard your own vessel anywhere.

Required Previous Experience or Knowledge

None.

Age

Minimum age 8

Whats included

The price includes tuition, all operating expenses, fuel, lunch and coffee/tea/water etc. Wet weather clothing hire (jackets and trousers) is available at £10. There are no other essential extras but you may want to buy one or two books (see below).

What will I need to bring?

The only specialist requirement is some suitable footwear – deck shoes (trainers will do) and in case of rain we recommend sea boots. Further information is provided in the suggested packing list – see below under Downloads.

Books

There is no essential pre-course reading but we recommend the following books prior to or during the course:

- RYA Competent Crew Skills
- RYA Day Skipper Handbook (Motor)

These are available on line from the RYA website or you can buy them in our reception at Chatham

Downloads

- [Recommended Packing List](#)
- [Directions to Elite Sailing at Chatham Marina](#)

Achievement (certificate awarded and ability after the course)

You will be an effective crew member assisting the helmsman or skipper in operating a motor cruiser.

Next Steps

Take a Helmsman course to extend your skills in boat handling. Attend a Day Skipper Theory Course to learn about navigation, pilotage and seamanship, prior to taking a Day Skipper Practical course to become proficient as a motor cruiser skipper. We recommend that at this stage you also get your VHF/Short Range Certificate and take a First Aid Course.



Elite Sailing