



RYA Day Skipper and RYA Yachtmaster Theory Courses – Home Study and Online - Full Details

Elite Sailing Home Study and Online courses are the product of over 20 years of experience in delivering RYA training – practical and shore-based.

The programmes and study materials have been examined and approved by the RYA. They have already proved to be highly popular and enjoyable with many people in the UK and abroad completing their studies and passing the examinations. Feedback from students has been very positive and success rate in the final tests have been excellent.

Prices for our RYA Day Skipper and Yachtmaster Distance Learning courses are extremely competitive because they are our own product with no middleman to pay. And as our past students testify, there is no sacrifice in quality or effectiveness.

Which Course – RYA Day Skipper or RYA Coastal Skipper/Yachtmaster?

Both courses are common to motor and sail.

RYA Day Skipper Theory is the appropriate and necessary course prior to the Day Skipper Practical course. There is no requirement to have done any prior study but if you have never used a map before you might consider getting a book on the subject or doing an introductory course such as the [Essential Navigation and Seamanship](#) course.

RYA Coastal Skipper and Yachtmaster is the most advanced RYA course in coastal navigation. It assumes that you already have knowledge at the level of RYA Day Skipper and that you already have some practical experience as a skipper.

Home Study and Online Course Options

Standard Courses

Standard courses are 100% home study with instructor support available by email. We supply all the materials including RYA charts, exercises, books, almanac and a study guide that breaks the course into a series of 'bite size' modules. The course requires about 50 hours of work. A few people might need less time, but many might need more. Instructor support is available by email and phone.

For each module the study guide will ask you to follow the Elite Sailing slide presentations, do some reading and then attempt specific RYA exercises. Exercise answers are provided so you can check your work immediately. The presentations are in Adobe Presenter format running in a web browser on your PC or Mac. (Currently these will not run on a tablet). The presentations are supplied on a USB memory or via download and you do not need an internet connection to run them. Support will be available for six months from purchase but there is no time limit for completion.

When you are ready you send an email to request the examination. We send you the papers (2 of them – 1.5 hours and 2 hours) by email. You complete them at home and send your answer papers and charts back to us for marking. If you pass, we send the certificate. If your answers do not reach the standard, we send you feedback and offer you an opportunity to study further and retake. If you want a qualification for commercial use you can request an invigilated exam.

The standard options are very cost effective if you are able to study effectively alone. You can start when you like and work at your own pace with no external timetable. If you have several free days available, you can get the course done within a week. But if you find that you are not making progress you always have the option to upgrade to the Premium option (see below), or even switching to a classroom course (if available) just by paying the difference.

Premium (Hybrid) Courses

Home study doesn't suit everyone, so we offer 'hybrid' courses based on the same high quality distance learning and instructor support as for the standard course, plus live, online video tutorials that give you that valuable direct contact with your instructor and other students. The tutorial sessions comprise a series of 9 or 10 sessions spaced over 3 to 5 weeks on weekday evenings 1830 to 2030 London time. Each Series is scheduled on specific dates and when you book you are assigned to a series. Each session comprises a period for questions and answers concerning exercises done as homework and then the instructor will present the new topics live – just as in a classroom. These presentations will be based on conventional slides, group discussion and 'chalk and talk' using an interactive whiteboard. At the end of a session homework is assigned prior to the next session.

The pattern closely follows the study guide so you always know what topics will be covered. If you miss a session you can catch up using the home study materials and guidance from your instructor. Sessions are recorded so you can email a request for a copy the day after your absence.

Most students find that these hybrid courses enjoyable and helpful in getting the course completed in a reasonable timescale. But if you find that despite your best efforts you are falling too far behind the course schedule you can always ask to fall back to a later Series starting either at the stage you left or from the beginning again – at no additional cost.

Extra Help

Private Tuition. Whatever course or option you choose, you can always request additional private tuition. This is a great way to speed up progress or deal with a 'blind spot' in a particular topic. These can be arranged face to face or on Zoom. Price £45 per hour or £60 per two hours.

RYA Day Skipper Theory – Standard Course (Home Study)

Includes:

All RYA Materials as hard copy (charts, almanacs, exercises, course booklet).

Elite Sailing presentations (animated and narrated slides for the whole course) supplied on USB (or may be sent by download).

Instructor Support by email and phone.

Course Certificate

UK Postage (we will quote for postage outside UK)

Extras: Portland Plotter and Dividers. We can supply at £25 extra charge.

Pre-Course Experience: Some prior boating experience desirable but not essential.

RYA Day Skipper Theory Premium (Hybrid) Course

Includes:

Standard Course materials and support plus:

9 X 2 hour live, online video tutorials. These are scheduled 3 times a week at 1830 to 2030 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Overall duration 3 weeks plus unlimited time to revise and complete the exam. New Series start every 3 to 5 weeks.

Extras: Portland Plotter and Dividers. We can supply at £25 extra charge.

RYA Yachtmaster Theory – Standard Course (Home Study)

Includes:

All RYA Materials as hard copy (charts, almanacs, exercises, course booklet).

RYA Navigation Handbook

Elite Sailing presentations (animated and narrated slides for the whole course) supplied on USB (or may be sent by download).

Day Skipper presentations supplied as revision modules.

Instructor Support by email and phone.

Course Certificate

UK Postage (we will quote for postage outside UK)

Extras: Portland Plotter and Dividers. We can supply at £25 extra charge.

Pre-Course Knowledge: RYA Day Skipper Theory.

RYA Yachtmaster Theory Premium (Hybrid) Course

Includes:

Standard Course materials and support plus:

10 X 2 hour live, online video tutorials. These are scheduled 2 times a week at 1830 to 2030 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Overall duration 5 weeks plus unlimited time to revise and complete the exam. New Series start every 5 to 7 weeks.

Extras: Portland Plotter and Dividers. We can supply at £25 extra charge.

How do I enrol on one of these home study/online courses?

You choose your Course and Option (ie standard or hybrid), decide if you want us to supply the plotter and dividers, and then [send us an email](#).

We will enrol you and send you a link to internet pages where you can complete the booking and pay online or by card details over the phone. As soon as you have paid, we send you the complete study pack by Royal Mail Tracked service. Delivery is usually within 3 working days following payment.

If you have booked a hybrid course with online video, we will email the Zoom invitation and link. You simply click on this link to join a session. Zoom will work on any device with a screen and camera and if you've never used the system before we'll be glad to help you.