



# Course Information: Yachtmaster Theory & Practical and MCA Exam



A lot of clients are interested in joining us for two weeks to refresh their theory and gain the **RYA Yachtmaster Theory Shorebased Certificate**, before going on to take the **RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Offshore Certificate of Competence** examinations in either sail or motor yachts, and in tidal or non-tidal waters. Due to our location all our exams are tidal, and your certificate will be endorsed accordingly.

You can commercially endorse a **Yachtmaster Offshore MCA** certificate in order to work on board a commercial craft up to 24m in length subject the MCA's codes of practice - that is up to 60 miles from a nominated departure point.

You don't have to have the Yachtmaster Theory certificate to take the MCA exam, but if you are going further and are thinking of taking your Master of Yachts 200gt examination you will need your theory certificate (contact us at [info@clubyachting.com](mailto:info@clubyachting.com) for other paperwork you may need).

The **RYA Yachtmaster Theory Shorebased Certificate** takes place during your first week with us in our air-conditioned classroom close to the marina. Accommodation is provided (usually on one of our yachts) as is all the charts and books you will need during the course. You will be in safe hands – our Instructors all work for us full time and teach practical courses as well so are able to help you relate the theory to your practical experiences.

The preparation for the **RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Offshore Certificate of Competence** runs for the first part of the second week and helps you to fine tune the skills that you already have acquired.

The exam takes about 8 to 12 hours for one client. It is often run in parallel with other candidates and would take 10 to 18 hours.

When we hold exams we ensure that your crew are of an equivalent standard to your self. Our main aim is to ensure that you look good, thus (unlike some other schools) we don't use the week as a training ground for Competent Crew to make up the numbers! All our preparation is overseen by our Principle Andy Williams, himself an RYA/MCA Examiner for Powerboat, Sail and Motor Cruising.

You will be set tasks to demonstrate your ability as a Yachtmaster and may also be asked questions on any part of the syllabus for all practical and shorebased courses up to that standard.

To take the examination you must:

- be aged 17 or over;
- hold a VHF (SRC) licence;
- hold a current First Aid certificate;
- have completed 5 passages of over 60nm (at least 2 as skipper);
- have completed 2500 nm (at least 50% in tidal waters)

If you are wanting to commercially endorse your certificate you will also need the [Sea Survival](#) and a medical (ML5 or ENG1).