



RYA YACHTMASTER OCEAN EXAM

The Yachtmaster Ocean exam is an oral and written test of your knowledge of ocean passage making including planning, navigation, worldwide meteorology, crew management, yacht preparation, maintenance and repairs. You will also be questioned on your sights taken at sea during an ocean passage.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED:

1. **Your logbook showing that you have completed the required mileage and experience as skipper**
2. **A copy of your VHF Radio Operators License or Short Range Certificate**
3. **A copy of your valid First Aid certificate**
4. **4 ID photographs with your name printed on the back**

!!! ALL ABOVE DOCUMENTS NEED TO BE PRESENT AS COPIES ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE COURSE !!!

RYA YACHTMASTER OCEAN PRE-REQUISITES

1. Examination for the RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Ocean Certificate of Competence is open to candidates who hold RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Offshore Certificate of Competence or the DoT Coastal Certificate (Issued by the Department of Transport prior to 1974).
2. All candidates must have completed a qualifying passage which meets the following criteria:
 - a. It must be undertaken on board a cruising or offshore racing yacht.
 - b. The candidate must have taken a full part in the planning and preparation of the passage, including:
 - i. Navigational Plan
 - ii. Checking the material condition of the yacht and her equipment
 - iii. Storing, with spare gear, fuel, water and victuals.
 - c. Throughout the passage, the candidate must have acted in a responsible capacity, either in sole charge of a watch or as skipper.
 - d. During the passage a distance of 600M by the log must have been run, the yacht must have been at sea continuously for a period of at least 96 hours and the yacht must have been over 50M from land continuously for a period of at least 48 hours or for a distance sailed of 200M.
 - e. Holds a current first aid qualification, as for RYA Yachtmaster Offshore.
3. Candidates who hold a certificate of satisfactory completion of the RYA/MCA Yachtmaster Ocean Shorebased course are exempt from the written section of the exam.
4. Candidates must have completed work at sea which shows that they have successfully navigated a yacht at sea by astro navigation. This must consist of, as a minimum, an extract from the log of a yacht, details of the planning, reduction, and plotting of a sun-run-meridian altitude or sun-run-sun sight and a compass check carried out using the bearing of the sun, moon, a star or planet.

FIRST AID CERTIFICATE

Acceptable certificates include the RYA's First Aid Certificate, First Aid at Work, First Aid at Sea, or any other certificate issued on completion of a course with a recognised organisation and which is a minimum of one day's duration, and includes the treatment of hypothermia, cold shock and drowning.

COMMERCIAL ENDORSEMENT

Candidates for certificates endorsed -'Valid for commercial use on vessels subject to codes of practice issued by the Maritime & Coastguard Agency' must provide a Maritime & Coastguard Agency Certificate of Medical Fitness (ENG I) and a certificate of completion of a Maritime & Coastguard Agency approved basic sea survival course (STCW'95) including First Aid, Fire Fighting and Personal Safety at Sea.

EXAMINATION FEE

£ 154 to be paid directly to the RYA by credit card on the day of the exam.

EXAMINATION PROCESS**Oral**

The candidate must provide the examiner with:

1. A narrative account of the planning and execution of the qualifying passage
2. Navigational records, completed on board a yacht on passages, out of sight of land showing that the candidate has navigated the yacht without the use of electronic navigational aids.

The records must include as a minimum: planning, reduction and plotting of a sun run meridian altitude sight and a compass check carried out using the bearing of the sun, moon, a star or planet.

During the oral test the candidate may be required to answer questions on all aspects of ocean passage making in a yacht, including passage planning, astro navigation, worldwide meteorology, crew management and yacht preparation, maintenance and repairs.

Written

The written exam will include questions on star sight planning and reduction and worldwide meteorology. Candidates who hold the RYA Yachtmaster Ocean Shorebased certificate, Royal Navy Ocean Navigation Certificate or a DoT Certificate of Competence as a Deck Officer will be exempt from the written examination.