

Please read all of this now, and don't wait until just before the course, as it includes important information about pre-course reading and theory courses.

Pre-course reading and training: The RYA publish excellent course notes and it's very useful to study these in advance. They are available direct from the RYA in the UK <https://www.rya.org.uk/shop> or from Boat Books in Auckland <https://boatbooks.co.nz/rya.asp> as well as from various other book retailers.

For all courses: G158 RYA Yachtmaster Scheme Syllabus & Logbook

Competent crew: CCPCN RYA Competent Crew Skills

Day Skipper: DSPCN RYA Day Skipper Practical Course Notes

Coastal Skipper: YSN Yachtmaster Shorebased Notes

Yachtmaster Coastal/ Offshore YSN Yachtmaster Shorebased Notes

Shorebased RYA theory courses: In addition to the above, in order to be well prepared for Day Skipper and above, and to get the most out of the practical course we recommend that you consider completing the appropriate RYA Shorebased online Theory Course via [Ardent Training](#). Remember that to successfully pass the practical course you're required to have the appropriate theory knowledge for the practical course that you've chosen.

Joining the boat: Please be at the boat in Nelson Marina at 10 am on day one of your course. Our yachts can be found at berths C31 & C33, close to the Tasman Bay Cruising Club, a large red building on Cross Quay, Port Nelson 7010.

The course finishes at about 3pm on the last day.

Parking and transport

Car: Plenty of free parking available at the marina

Bus: 20 minute walk to the marina from the bus station in central Nelson

Plane: Nelson airport is less than 8km away: normally about 15 mins by taxi. Local buses also run between the airport and central Nelson.

Sailing area: Our sailing grounds are around Tasman Bay, often including the beautiful Abel Tasman National Park or perhaps D'Urville Island and the outer Marlborough Sounds. <https://sailnelson.co.nz/sailing-grounds/> Nights are spent sleeping aboard at anchor or on moorings in the most scenic spots. <https://sailnelson.co.nz/the-week-on-board/>

Clothing: Nelson is renowned as New Zealand's sunniest location, but the temperature can fluctuate quite widely throughout the day and night, especially in the shoulder season, so at all times of the year please pack warm clothing and a warm hat for early and late in the day, as well as for night sailing. During the day the sun can be very powerful, so a sunhat, sunglasses and sunscreen are essential items. Long sleeved thin tops are a good idea. Soft closed shoes such as trainers are suitable as footwear. Going ashore in the dinghy be prepared to get wet feet on the beach. Please bring your own towel and we recommend that you bring your swimming things.

Food and drink: Sail Nelson provide all the delicious food for the week, but we don't supply alcohol. **If you have any allergies or food intolerances it's important that you tell us about these in advance,** because the provisions for the week are ordered in advance and there is no opportunity to resupply during the course. If you'd like a beer or a glass of wine with your evening meal then please bring this with you. As well as the main meals we provide all the tea, coffee and snacks, but if you have any particular favourite snack items then don't hesitate to bring these with you.

Wet weather gear: Please bring a waterproof jacket and trousers, although if you don't have these we do have some spare ones that we can lend you.

Fuel and Water: The fuel and water tanks are fully topped up before we set off on day one and there is also the opportunity to top up the water during the week if necessary. We also carry bottled drinking water.

Lifejackets and safety gear: All the necessary safety gear, including lifejackets, is provided. Our life jackets are the self-inflating type with built in safety harnesses. We also carry a life-raft, lifebuoys, flares, EPIRB and much more safety gear, too numerous to list here.

Certificates: At the end of the RYA course we issue you with the appropriate certificate for your skill and knowledge level. The cost of the certificate is included in your course fee, but don't forget to bring **a hard copy passport photo** with you if you're going for Day Skipper or above. This will be inserted into your laminated certificate, which we can't issue without the photo.

Yachtmaster certificates are sent out to successful candidates in the post, direct from the RYA.

People on board: In addition to your instructor there will be a maximum of 5 and a minimum of 2 students on each course. Courses are generally made up of couples and/or individuals and we often teach people at different skill levels during the same week.

Accommodation on board: Our yachts have 3 separate double sleeping cabins plus two single bunks in the saloon. So, unless you're a couple no one has to share a double bunk. Please bring your own sleeping bag and we will provide you with a pillow and clean pillowcase. If required we can rent you a sleeping bag and clean cotton liner for a small charge.

Accommodation prior to/after the course: Nelson has a wide selection of excellent accommodation to suit all budgets, but for a nice place to stay, with maximum convenience in terms of location, we recommend the Harbourside Lodge, which overlooks Nelson Marina: <https://harbourside.co.nz/>

Course payment: The cost of your course will have been detailed on your original booking form. To confirm your place on a course we require you to have completed the booking form and also paid a \$600 deposit per person. Until then your booking remains provisional. The balance for your course is due not later than 14 days prior to the course commencing. Payments should be made to Sail Nelson NZ Ltd, Kiwibank. The Account Number is: **38 9016 0463772 00** and please use your name as the reference. For International payments please use the Swift Code KIWINZ22

Cancellation terms: All bookings are unconfirmed until a deposit payment has been received. The balance can be paid at the time of booking or not later than 14 days before your course begins. Payments are fully refundable until 60 days before the course commences, minus a \$100 admin fee. otherwise your payment is non-refundable* and you should utilise your travel insurance if appropriate. *If Sail Nelson has to cancel your course, for any reason, then a full credit or refund will be provided.

Insurance: We carry appropriate insurance and take every care to ensure your safety and that of your equipment, but there are risks inherent in all outdoor activities. The school accepts no responsibility for injury, accident, damage or loss to your person or property. Nor shall it be liable for claims or expenses caused by delays due to sickness, accidents, weather, strikes, war quarantine or other causes outside the control of Sail Nelson either before, during or after the course.

We look forward to you joining us on board and don't hesitate to get in touch with any questions.

Chris Roff and the Sail Nelson team.

