

Royal Melbourne Sail Training Academy

Coastal Navigation including GPS



This shore based **Coastal Navigation course** is conducted over a period of 6 weeknights between 7pm and 10pm. Our guest lecturer is Mr. Stuart Marshall, an experienced yachtsman and Chief Instructor of the Melbourne Sailing School. This course has been updated to include AIS and Chartplotter topics alongside GPS usage. The course is equally suitable for yachting or power boating.

Subjects included in the course are:

- Understanding marine charts, chart symbols (aids to navigation), tidal streams and coastal information
- Use of chart navigation tools such as Breton protractor, parallel rules and one handed chart dividers to chart a course and/or calculate distance
- Setting courses to steer (CTS), allowing for wind, tides, current and leeway
- Effective use of the steering and hand bearing compass. Making adjustments for magnetic variation and compass errors.
- Methods of position plotting using compass, depth sounder and ships log
- **Global Positioning System** use and functions
- Weather reports and forecasting services available
- Lights and shapes, precautions to be taken when sailing at night.
- Buoyage and IALA systems.
- Essential rules and the navigator's responsibility.
- AIS (Automatic Identification System). What is it and how to use it to improve your personal safety & navigation
- Chartplotter usage. How these systems differ to chart usage
- A number of practical exercises of navigation throughout the course, using chart AUS 143 (Port Philip) which is supplied to each student

Who should do this course? A shore based navigation course is important for the crew of Coastal or Offshore boating or yachting trip. Navigation training is considered mandatory for those wishing to become skippers and extend their boating beyond protected waters, such as the bays. The course is open to the boating public, RMYS members & friends. Please note this course is limited to a maximum of 14 students

The course fee of \$385 includes: All course materials including extensive handouts and the use of classroom navigational tools plus a copy of navigation chart AUS 143 Port Phillip valued at \$35 for each student.

Course times: Evenings 7 pm to 10 pm over six weeks. For dates please refer to booking form. Students **MUST** attend at least five (5) sessions in order to obtain sign off, and also complete the test which is conducted in session 6.

What you need to bring: Notebook and pen. Whilst the use of classroom navigational tools are available during classes, students are suggested to also to have their own chart navigation equipment such as a Breton protractor or parallel rule chart dividers to complete homework. Please call if need advice.

Course location: Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron, Pier Road, St.Kilda Melways Map 57 J

Royal Melbourne Sail Training Academy

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