

MCA Small Ships Navigation & Radar Course

The date of your MCA Approved Small Ships Navigation & Radar course is rapidly approaching! I hope you are looking forward to it.

The course starts and finishes in our Centre near Kinlochleven, PH50 4RL. If arriving from the north, please follow the B863 signposted Kinlochleven from North Ballachulish. Follow this road for approximately 8 miles, on your right hand side you will see 2 larch clad buildings, we are here. If arriving from the south, follow the B863 signposted Kinlochleven from Glencoe, follow this road all the way to Kinlochleven and drive out of the other side of the village for approximately 1 mile. The 2 larch clad buildings will be on your left. Unless we have agreed other arrangements, your course starts around 0900 hours and finishes around 1700-1800 hours. Homework will be set as part of the course.

You will need to bring: Yourself! You may wish to bring writing material, but this will be provided for you. We also require you to bring a nationally recognised form of identification such as Discharge Book, UK Driving Licence, or Passport. The course also uses vessel simulators to help you put your knowledge in to practice.

The course consists of both theoretical and demonstration sessions:

Day 1 Rules & regulations, passage planning & navigation in clear visibility.

Day 2 GNSS, setting up, system failure & navigation in poor visibility.

Day 3 Errors & record keeping, AIS & overlays, navigation through heavy traffic & assessment.

Day 4 Introduction to radar, how to set it up, true motion & relative motion, and position fixing with radar.

Day 5 Collision regulations, manual plotting, collision avoidance. Navigation through clear & poor visibility with heavy traffic by radar.

Exam Paper(s) – On day 3 and day 5 there are written assessments. Practical observation using simulators is assessed throughout the course.

You will need to bring a packed lunch or visit a local shop nearby and there will be always plenty of tea and coffee available! You also have the option of having hot food outlets locally.

Our instructors hold huge amounts of experience, with a speciality in small commercial vessel operations. Please feel free to ask as many questions as you need during your course.

If you have any queries please contact me at the number below otherwise, I look forward to meeting you in our Centre.



Ryan Tozer | RYA Principal | Managing Director

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