



Grassroots Sailing is a member school of Sail Canada (formerly CYA), which governs the sport of sailing in Canada. Our programs are taught to high standards, which emphasize safety and good seamanship.

The Learn to Cruise division of Sail Canada, of which we are a part, teaches students to crew or act as skipper aboard cruising sailboats. There are a number of courses laid out to achieve this end.

Catamarans are the growing boat of choice for many as they offer spaciousness, comfort and no heeling. The cruising catamaran course covers terminology and hardware identification specific to cats; identifying the differences between multihulls and monohulls, including systems, boat handling under power and under sail, person overboard, heavy weather sailing, anchoring and docking the boat.



This course is designed to instill complete confidence in captaining a multihull sailboat 38'- 50'. Mixed in with all of the facets to bareboat cruising is a different anchorage every night and ideal sailing conditions. This course can include the Sail Canada Intermediate Cruising Standard (bareboat skipper) cruising certification. See [Intermediate Cruising Course](#) for details.

This course may be combined with a Journey to Passage-making Cruising course which would entail longer passages and night sailing. Students will get a firsthand look at lights at night. As this is open water sailing, watch systems are set up, logs are kept, safety harnesses are worn, steps are taken as if this were a long distance boat delivery. Other skills mastered include Med mooring, night anchoring and MOB's, making landfall at night, navigation and more.



For more details see the Journey to Passage-making Course description

For everyone with an interest in learning to sail catamarans, and ultimately chartering a catamaran, it is recommended that the fundamentals of sailing still be learned on a tiller driven basic keelboat 22-27'. This ensures that students gain an understanding of the principles of sailing, covering interaction of wind and sail, points of sail, tacking and jibing, knots and more. This course will reward each student, with the objective and subjective know how, to command a boat of up to 30'. See [Basic Cruising Course](#) \* for details.

*\*This course cannot be taught on a cruising catamaran.*

## Course Content Synopsis

- *Coaching and practice of Foundation Skills*
- *Living Afloat & Cruising Boat Systems*
- *Weather*
- *Safety*
- *Seamanship*
- *Practical Navigation & Piloting*

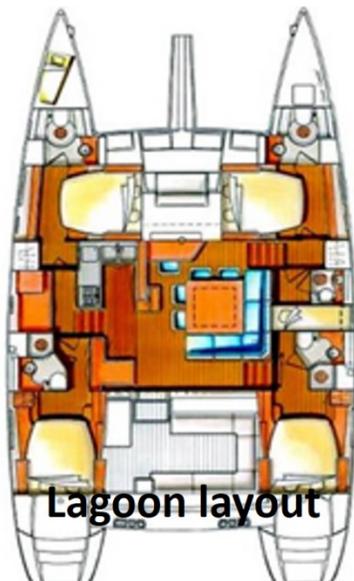
### Objective:

" To be able to cruise safely in familiar waters as both skipper and crew of a cruising catamaran of 10 - 15 meters in moderate wind and sea conditions by day. Program emphasizes on-the-water skills such that the student will gain experience on larger vessels and will come away with a good knowledge of the level they have attained as well as recommendations for the student to be successful should they wish to attain the Intermediate Cruising Standard."

### PREREQUISITES

Basic Cruising Standard. It is recommended that the student have a recognized first aid certificate, a VHF radio operator's certificate and have completed the Basic Sail Canada Coastal Navigation Standard.

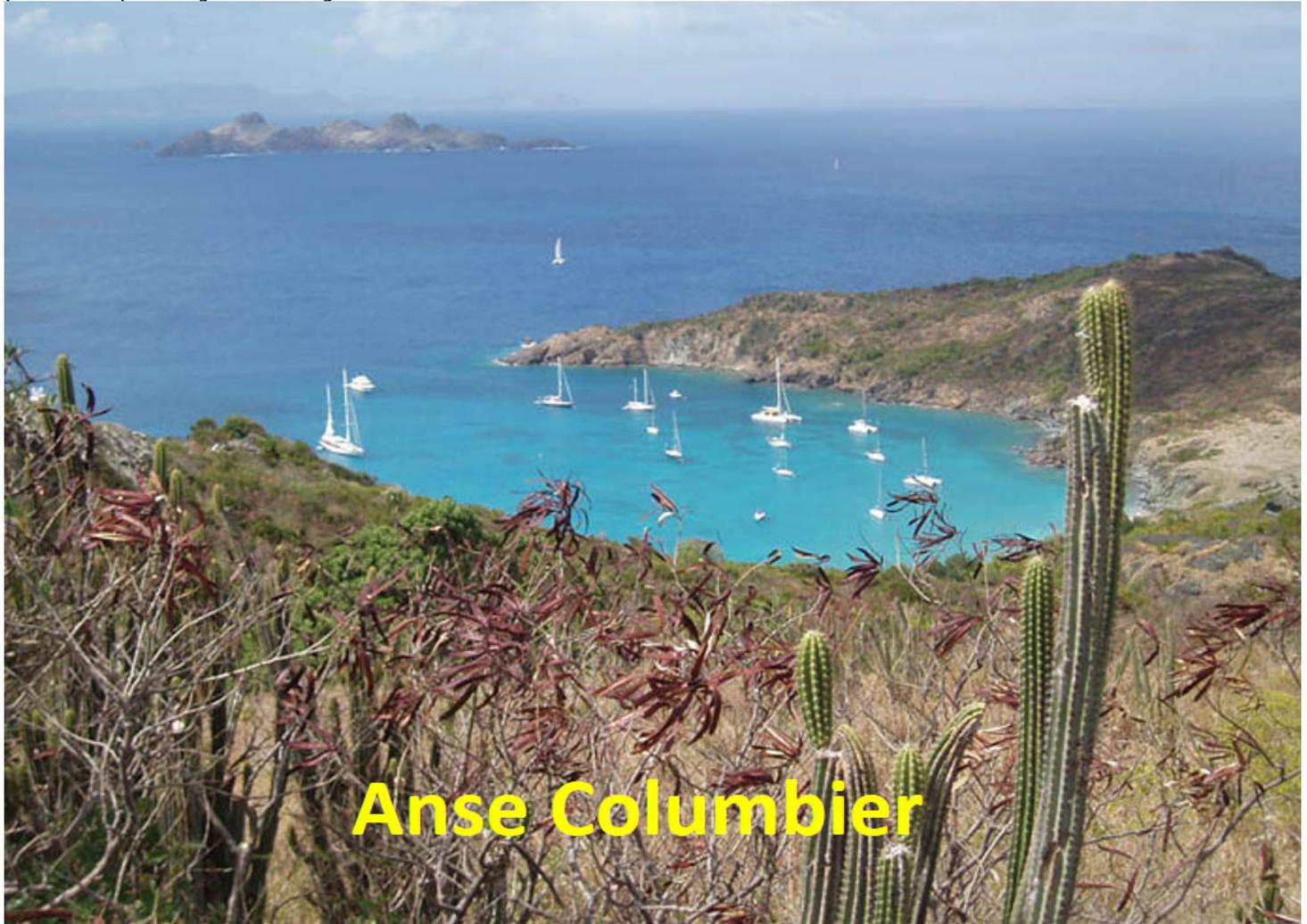
This winter season we are offering this liveaboard course in Sint Maarten, St Bart's and Anguilla. The Learn to Charter a catamaran course is conducted on a Lagoon 500 catamaran.



On this week-long cruise you will explore the upper Leeward Islands on our swift, stable, spacious Lagoon 500. Along the way you will have the opportunity to achieve your Intermediate Cruising Standard and gain valuable big boat experience. Successful completion of the course will qualify you to charter your own monohull or catamaran up to 15 metres in length in the most popular cruising destinations of the world.

This learning vacation is designed to introduce you to the skills unique to multihull sailing as well as give you the knowledge needed to safely enjoy charter boat sailing. You will receive individualized “coaching” tailored to your needs.

The course begins Sunday afternoon. We will spend each night at anchor in one of the many picturesque bays and cays found in these islands.



- Spend the week learning how to anchor, navigate, manoeuvre, trim sails, and skipper a Cruising Catamaran while surrounded by the beautiful crystal blue Caribbean waters unique to this part of the world.
- We provide everything you will need including food for most meals. Students are expected to share in meal preparation and clean-up duties. You just need to pack a few clothes – a swimsuit, your flip-flops and a carry a desire to learn and sail in this tropical environment. Added expenses include the cost of a few meals we will enjoy ashore, course textbooks, and the optional cost of Sail Canada certification.

- Your boat will be in the 15 + metre range.



- During the week your instructor will cover the curriculum for Intermediate Cruising certification. The course will end on Sunday morning and depending on your preliminary study, skills and effort, you will have achieved Bareboat Skipper (Intermediate) certification.
- The Basic Cruising Standard is required to join this course. It is of great help to have on the water experience and knowledge when wanting to achieve this standard within one week.