



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

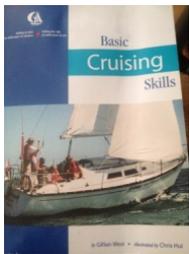
The Learn to Cruise division of Sail Canada, of which we are a part, teaches students to crew, or act as skipper aboard cruising sailboats. There are a number of courses laid out to achieve this end.

The most popular training we do is the CYA Basic Cruising course given in the 7day Cruise & Learn format. This takes a student with no prior experience, over a period of 6 ½ days, to the point where they can skipper a sloop of 6 to 12 metres in familiar waters in good conditions.

This then qualifies them to operate such a vessel in protected waters where they can practice their new skills. We have a sailing club that offers an inexpensive way to gain experience with coaching once the Basic Cruising Standard is achieved.

Those who wish to bareboat charter in the Great Lakes, Virgin Islands or other popular boating areas should then take their Intermediate Cruising Standard which is accepted in these areas as suitable proof of competence. Advanced Cruising training is also available.

Upon successful completion of the course, you will be awarded the appropriate Sail Canada certification to be recorded in your International Cruising Logbook recognized the world over by other national authorities.



The authorized text for the Sail Canada Basic Cruising Standard is Gillian West's book, BASIC CRUISING SKILLS. This text, custom online e-learning, the logbook, registration with Sail Canada and the government mandate Pleasure Craft Operator's Card are all included in the price of the course.

Enquire about our all inclusive package.

We have a sailing club that offers an inexpensive way to gain experience (think of it as an apprenticeship) and provides access to boats, mentoring, racing, recreational sailing and discounts on, other courses, charters, passages etc.

For additional information please go to the Sailing Club link

Objective:

“To be able to cruise safely in familiar waters as both skipper and crew of a sloop rigged keel boat of 6-10 metres in moderate wind and sea conditions by day”



Course Content Synopsis

- Sail boat gear and equipment.
- Introduction to charts
- buoyage system
- Safety
- Rules of the road.
- Weather.
- Basic seamanship.
- Boat handling under sail and power.
- Reefing (reducing sail)
- Heaving to
- Anchoring
- Docking.
- Crew Overboard procedures



This winter season we are offering the Cruise & Learn liveaboard Basic course in Sint Maarten.

The Cruise & Learn Basic Standard is conducted on a Jeanneau 20 and a Beneteau 43.4 which were chosen for their sailing instruction suitability.

The use of the Jeanneau for the first couple of days allows a student to build confidence in learning the Basic Skills before actually continuing the skill building on the Beneteau. Of course the students will be living aboard the 43.5 for the duration of the course. This methodology separates us from most other sailing schools and it has been our experience that students progress faster and more confidently starting their learning curve on a smaller more manoeuvrable boat.