



uSail Beginning Sailing Course

FAQ's



What is the Royal St. George Yacht Club?

The Royal St. George Yacht Club is Ireland's premier Yacht Club. Founded in 1835, the Royal St. George Yacht Club is one of the oldest Yacht Clubs in the world. A Yacht Club with a proud history steeped in the tradition of excellence in sailing. The Royal St. George Yacht Club is renowned for its friendly atmosphere and wide ranging sailing interests of its members along with a Junior sailing program that is second to none.

What is uSail?

uSail is the Royal St. George Yacht Club's Adult Learn to Sail Program which provides world class sailing instruction from beginning sailing to racing and advanced sailing skills and navigation. No prior sailing experience is required to learn to sail.

Where is the Royal St. George Yacht Club Located?

The Royal St. George Yacht Club is conveniently located in Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. We are a two minute walk from the Dun Laoghaire Dart station on the seaward side and fully serviced by public transport.

Is parking available in the Harbour?

Yes, public paid parking is available outside the Royal St. George Yacht Club and the surrounding areas. This parking is managed by the Dun Laoghaire Harbour Co. There are also secure bike racks available on the Club's Forecourt for members and guests.

When can I take my uSail Course?

uSail courses commence in May and run through to October. Courses run on week-day evenings and weekends, or weekends only. Typically courses are run over consecutive weeks with classes taking around three hours (not including the Après Sail/BBQ and debrief). We also run classroom based courses during the winter and a winter race training program on weekends in November and December, and February and March.

Can I bring a friend or friends?

uSail courses have a maximum of four sailing students per class. If you wish to learn to sail with a friend (or friends) we will ensure that you are part of the same class. If you have a group of four we can design the course dates and times to fit your groups schedule.

What clothing and sailing gear is required?

All sailing wet gear and buoyancy aids are provided. Dress for the weather, layers are a good idea along with a hat, sunglasses, sunblock etc. As a reference think of comfortable clothes that do not restrict your movement, like gym or workout clothing. Note that it is usually cooler out on the water than ashore. Bring along your appetite for fun and learning to sail, some comfortable clothing and non-marking footwear. A bottle of water is also advised... it's thirsty work learning to sail!

What do I need to bring along with me?

What type of boat will I be sailing?

You will be sailing our Club 1720 Sports boats. These boats are safe and fun to sail which make them ideal boats to learn on. There is plenty of room for five or six sailors and a coach. The boats are stable and fast, so you can be guaranteed an enjoyable, exciting and safe time learning to sail.

Do I need to be a strong swimmer?

You will be spending the majority of your time in the boat as opposed to the water. It is unusual for a sailor to be in the water during sailing classes, but if you do find yourself in the water you will be wearing a buoyancy aid which will ensure you are comfortable and safe. You should be relaxed in and around the water.

You're lifetime of sailing adventure is about to begin!



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I will need to change my clothes. Is there a changing room and available storage?

Yes, there are secure changing and showering facilities (with hairdryers). As a uSailor you will be a guest of the Royal St. George Yacht Club and provided with a unique access card and locker for your use during your course allowing you similar access to the Clubs facilities and resources as Club members enjoy.

What happens if weather conditions are not sailable?

If sailing conditions are not safe to sail, you will not be going sailing. As part of our uSail courses there are many areas to learn which can be done at the dock or in the classroom as required. Knots, weather, docking, basic seamanship will all be addressed on- shore if you do not sail.

When I complete my uSail course what can I do after?

After the successful completion of your uSail course there are various directions your sailing adventure can take depending on your interests. Our professional sailing staff will be happy to guide you as required. We can help with finding you boats to sail on in Dublin Bay or further afield. If you want to continue your sailing education we offer a uRace Course, if you want to learn about Navigation our uNavigate course is available. There are many sailing opportunities throughout the sailing season. As a RSGYC uSail graduate you will be welcome on many boats.

Can I review anything in advance of my first class?

Yes, you should read the first 25 pages of the Basic Keelboat Sailing Manual that is provided when you sign up for the course. Don't worry about remembering what you read as it will soon become second nature as you 'learn by doing' on the water while you progress through your sailing course.

Is there class room based instruction?

The majority of your sailing class will take place on the water where you learn by doing. At times there may be class room based briefings and de- briefings depending on the topics to be covered or weather.

Après Sail?

At the Royal St. George Yacht Club we believe that learning to sail is as much about the sailing knowledge gained on the water along with the friendships formed both on and off the water. For this reason as part of the uSail program the renowned Après Sail debrief in the Club Bar with complimentary refreshments and nibbles is an integral part of your uSail course.

Anything else?

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or queries you may have. We will ensure that your experience at the Royal St. George Yacht Club is one that you will remember. Daniela can be reached at sec@rsgyc.ie or on 01 280 1811 and will be happy to answer all of your questions.

*We are looking forward to welcoming you to the Royal St. George
Yacht Club.*