

If you have never been sick a day in your life, make sure that you take some sort of sea sick medication before you come for either a sailing class or charter.

When you get sea sick the worst thing that any one can tell you is that you will live.

Welcome to Captain Ed's sailing

Each class meets at Cashman park Newburyport Ma. Cashman Park is located off of Merrimack Street on Sally Snyder Way, which is in the first left after Pentucket medical as you go down Merrimack Street towards Newburyport.

Before class take some sea sick medication if needed.

Dress for the season, sailing is like camping and you should be prepared for any change in the weather.

Bring yourself a lunch and something to drink I usually have light snacks and water on board.

As you travel down Sally Snyder Way towards the water look for me along the wood fence or on the first pier. If you get there before me I will be there very shortly. I will be wearing my life jacket and looking for you. My cell phone number is 508-451-0431

Leave a message since if I am on the water I will have the phone in a water proof bag.

Anyone sailing with me should have the physical capability to be able to get off of a dingy and on to the sailboat. I cannot always get to the dock whether because of other boats that are there or because of to low of tide.

Scheduled 4 class package

Class 1

Basic sailing class I

4 classes each 5 hours long will be held on the Bella Donna
We meet at Cashman park Sally Snyder Way Newburyport.

Classes and charters are scheduled to take advantage of the tide. We go out to the Bella Donna by inflatable dingy. While on the mooring the first thing that we do is a safety check of both the engine and the boat.

We discuss the operations of boat such as the Head (toilet) and Ship to Shore radio. Back on deck we practice raising and lowering the sails.

After going through the systems of the boat we leave the mooring under power as we approach the Gillis bridge (route1)

I take the boat under the bridge upon opening. Once on the other side of the bridge I hand over the helm to one of my new crew who now runs the boat as we learn to navigate the Merrimack River while under power out to the ocean.

As a 4 class package each person will have a chance to do and understand everything on the boat before the four classes are over. While out on the ocean we raise the sails, and practice turning maneuvers such as tacking and jibing, as well as learning to hold a straight course. We bring the boat back up the river under the bridge and back to the mooring.

Back at the mooring we put the boat back in order, then spend some well deserved time unwinding with a glass of wine or ice tea and some snacks before we head home.

Class 2

Basic sailing class 2

5 hours long will be held on the Bella Donna

We do the same as class 1 only at this point we have 5 hours of seamanship under our belt.

We always do a safety and engine check each time we go out.

During the second class we do not have to practice raising and lowering the sails, there is a little less instruction less tacking and jibing however we do practice man over board drills using a dummy.

Man overboard drills are a great way to refine your boat handling skills.

This class is 5 hours long, however we spend a lot less time on the mooring.

We always try to spend some time unwinding before we head home.

Class 3

Basic Navigation Part 1

5 plus hours long will be held on the Bella Donna

We meet again at Cashman park. While we are on the mooring we learn how to use navigation hand tools such as the compass and dividers, parallel rules.

We also discuss the use of the GPs as far as using it to plot latitude and longitude on the charts that we will be using while on the ocean.

While on the ocean we plot a course and follow it. If the weather cooperates we plot a course out to the isles of shoals or out to RockPort. If time and weather allows we get there. If we don't reach a destination we still have great opportunities to sometime see whales seals and other wild life.

Class 4

Basic Navigation part 2

5 plus hours long will be held on the Bella Donna

At this point we have all been on the boat a minimum of 15 hours we are good at holding a course and we know a little about navigation. We will try another destination either Isle of Shoals or out to Rockport.

We also introduce the use of the chart plotter and radar
With any luck a portion of this class will be done at night so that we can explore navigating at night. You will really enjoy this class, as we are now not only working on boat handling, and navigation but developing our cruising skills.

Class 5

Cruising part 1

Held on the Sarah Maria

Plan to spend the whole day on the Sarah Maria as we go out to either The isle of Shoals or out to Rockport using the skills that we have learned during the other 4 classes.

We will drop the anchor or grab a mooring, and go ashore to explore, have a picnic, shop, or swim, or all the above.

This is the spot that I would like everyone to get.

Confidant sailors with some seamanship skills.

On this trip we will be using all of our hand tools, GPs, radar, and my favorite the auto pilot

This should also be a relaxing trip as we are use to being on a boat for extended periods of time.

About the boats

The Bella Donna

The Bella Donna is a 28 ft O'Day
The previous owner used it to race down on Narraganset bay.
It is a fast cruising boat that is real easy to handle. It is also a very comfortable boat with a head and galley though we don't use the stove any more it has a built in cooler and cushions down below if someone needs to get out of the sun or the weather.

The Sarah Maria

The Sarah Maria is the sail boat that I have used the past 11 years as I sailed the East coast from Maine to Savanna.
It is very comfortable as it has a full keel and is very stable.
I cruised her down to Savanna in 2005 leaving her in Thunderbolt Georgia as I had to come home for personal reasons,
I tried to bring her back home in 2007 but the engine seized while traveling through Hilton Head Area.
I left the Sarah Maria at the Scull Creak Marina from the spring of 2007 until the spring of 2008 while she had a new engine installed.
After bringing the Sarah Maria back from Hilton Head, SC
Spring of 2008 she was quite tired so she sat on the hard for the 2009 and most of the 2010 season.

During which time I had a survey done on her and decided to either invest in her or get rid of her which was not an option for me.

As of today the Sarah Maria is virtually a new boat. New motor, new rigging, rudder reworked, new auto pilot, depth finder, Brand new cushions through out.

This boat is a beauty and I am going to use it in a limited capacity during certain Classes of captain Ed's sailing.

The 31 Southern Cross is steered by a tiller

Boat wise

Although everything we do through Captain Ed's sailing is hands on and practical and we touch on all aspects of sailing, seamanship, and navigation, it would be wise to take either a coast guard training class or a class through Boat wise before taking my class or after either way it does not matter they, especially boat wise will get all of the class room material out to you in an interesting manner.

You will bring this knowledge to the class or understand it better after taking my class.