

Congratulations on finishing your sailing course. Now, you probably want to apply your newly acquired skills and go sailing. Most people don't own a boat and may wonder how to get involved in the sailing scene.

Your Friends, Co-workers & Fellow Sailors:

The more people you tell about your sailing experience, the more you will find other boaters. Boat owners often look for crew, be it for a cruise, a day of practice or even for racing.

Clubs & Co-ops

There are several different sailing clubs in Vancouver that offer access to sailboats at a reasonable price without having to own a boat. Often these clubs or co-ops have internal training programs.

West Coast Sailing Club

A club designed specifically for Simply Sailing students to further their sail training. The club operates a San Juan 24 and Dufour 31. The San Juan 24 is for day sailing in English Bay while the Dufour 31 is for day sailing and weekend cruising. Check out the website here for more information:

<http://www.westcoastsailingclub.ca/>

Barnet Sailing Co-op

Barnet Sailing Co-op has multiple Catalina 27s, moored in Port Moody and Vancouver. In the summer, a few are moved to the Gulf Islands or Desolation Sound to provide quicker access to a variety of cruising grounds. The first year of membership is approximately \$1000, which reduces a few hundred dollars each year for the first three years.

<http://www.barnetsailing.bc.ca/>

Skill Development Clinics

Simply Sailing runs Skill Development Clinics throughout the year for those who are feeling rusty if they haven't sailed for a while, or for those who are looking to improve upon or practice certain aspects of sailing. We focus on improving specific skill sets such as docking, anchoring, Crew Overboard, sail trim and more. The clinics are also for students who want to evaluate if they are ready for the intermediate course or generally want to experience sailing on a mid sized cruising boat.

Cruising

Mileage Builder

Join one of our mileage builders to the Gulf Islands or along the Sunshine Coast. This is a great way to put all you have learned into practice and expand your cruising horizon in a relaxed and enjoyable way. Typically these are five day excursions. Longer expeditions are available.

ICC (International Certificate of Competency)

It is now mandatory to hold a recognised International Certificate of Competency (ICC) if you wish to charter a boat in certain European countries. It is generally required for the inland and coastal waters of Mediterranean countries. If you want to do any charter abroad you will be required to provide proof of completion of your ICC.

Private Course

Private training is a great way to learn to sail if you prefer to learn on your own time or if there is a group who would like to learn together. You can always book your own, customized training with family or friends. This allows you to progress at your own pace, and depending on the boat size, the cost includes up to 5 people.

Coastal Navigation

If you are thinking of the intermediate standard and exploring the Gulf Islands, the coastal navigation course is a great course to take. Coastal Navigation is a prerequisite for the Charter Skipper Course.

Please visit our website for more information:

VHF Training

It is highly recommended you take your VHF Radio Operator's Certificate (Marine) – ROC(M). It is required by Industry Canada that all operators of a VHF Radio have the ROC(M) Card.

Chartering

There are plenty of chartering companies around the lower mainland and Vancouver island offering a wide variety of chartering options. The following are some of the local options for chartering.

Blue Pacific Yacht Charter - has a fleet of boats located both in Vancouver and Nanaimo. The Nanaimo location is convenient to explore the Gulf Islands.

Cooper Boating - has three locations to charter from: Vancouver, Sydney and Powell River. Sometimes it is more advantageous to drive towards your sailing destinations, so you have more time to explore.

Desolation Sound Yacht Charters - has a fleet of boats located on Vancouver Island. Ideal to explore Desolation Sound - a world-class cruising ground.

Nanaimo Yacht Charters - Located on Vancouver Island. Ideal to explore the Gulf Islands.

Racing

Several Yacht Clubs in and around Vancouver run regattas on a regular basis. Skippers often look for extra crew. It is not necessary to have prior racing experience. Just bring a smile and a six pack.

Royal Vancouver Yacht Club runs Wednesday night races Go the club before 5 pm on a Wednesday and ask anyone for the "crew circle" – it's down by the docks.

The Vancouver Rowing Club has a coordinator that matches skippers looking for crew with crew looking for a boat. Check out the website for more info: <http://vrccracing.ca/>

Keep in touch!

Follow us on [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#) for the latest news & pictures.

<http://www.facebook.com/simplysailing>

<http://www.instagram.com/simplysailing>

Check out <http://www.simplysailing.ca> for new courses & clinics.

Thank you for choosing Simply Sailing for your sail training needs. It was a pleasure to have you on board.

Fair Winds,

The Simply Sailing Team.