



BICS / US Sailing Bareboat Cruising, International Proficiency Certification Course



Block Island Community Sailing is pleased to offer US Sailing “Basic Cruising”, and “Bareboat Cruising” Certification Courses from our Block Island Home Base. Our three-day sailing course features one half day of classroom instruction and 2 ½ days of cruising in Block Island Sound, Fishers Island Sound, and up the Mystic River to historic Mystic Seaport on “Kalevipoeg” our New York 40 ocean Racer / Cruising training platform.

This course is designed to provide the prospective bareboat charter skipper with the knowledge and confidence to qualify to charter a bareboat in US, the Caribbean or the Mediterranean with US Sailing International Proficiency Certification. (IPC)

Successful completion of the US Sailing courses offered will award each student with their US Sailing, Basic Cruising, and Bareboat Cruising Certificates. These will qualify our students to get their US Sailing International Proficiency Certificate (IPC) which will qualify them to skipper a bareboat charter, without a professional captain and crew, in most parts of the world.

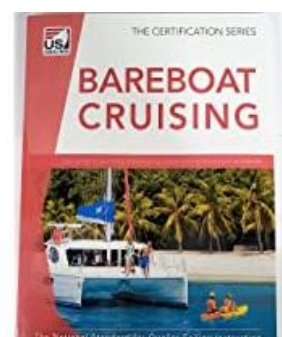
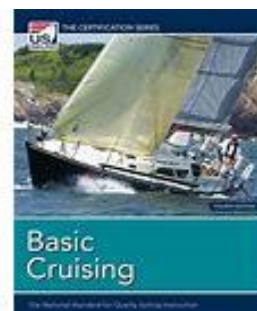
This course starts Friday Morning with a half day of classroom review of the course study materials followed by a provisioning exercise and sailing practice in the Great Salt Pond. On Saturday, We sail to Mystic Seaport for an overnight stay docked right next the historic vessels at the Marine Historic Association and return to Block Island on Sunday morning in time to take the US Sailing written tests needed to qualify for the certification.

Sailing Course Description

Our US Sailing Basic Cruising and Bareboat Cruising Certification Courses prepares you to sail your own big boat and charter cruising boats, on your own, without a professional captain and crew aboard. Depending on weather conditions and the learning pace of others in your class, the following knowledge and skills are learned and practiced. These follow the curriculum and lesson planning in the US Sailing Basic Cruising, and Bareboat Cruising Course Books.

See: [US Sailing Bareboat Cruising Education](#) for more information.

- Planning a cruise including provisioning, itinerary, weather forecasting
- Familiarization with boat layout and sail plan
- Operation of engine, stove, and head
- Routine engine maintenance, and fueling techniques
- Electrical System, including battery and charging systems
- Fresh water system including use and onboard water conservation
- Use and location of thru-hull fittings
- Maneuvering under power and sail with emphasis on safe boat handling in close quarters
- Big boat docking, mooring, and anchoring techniques
- Proper and safe handling of halyards and lines
- Proper and safe use of winches
- Weather forecasts and their impact on cruising route and sail selection
- Sail shape and trim
- Inter-crew communication when trimming sails, mooring, docking, and anchoring
- Genoa roller furling use
- Emergency procedures including steering system failure, grounding, and overboard recovery.
- Big boat heavy weather and reefing techniques
- Sailing wing and wing on bigger boats including boom preventer use
- Knot tying proficiency and which knot to use in any application
- Maintaining a ship's log
- Piloting techniques including set, drift and leeway calculations
- Navigation including the use of charts, navigation markers, and GPS navigation
- Rules of the Road
- Coast Guard requirements
- VHF radio use
- Using lights and sound signals including distress signals
- Use of safety harness



Some Links to Explore:

[Basic Cruising - US Sailing](#) (The national standard for sail training in cruising yachting education)

[Bareboat Cruising – US Sailing](#) (Bareboat Cruising Course leads to the award of an IPC)

[Chartering in European Waters – US Sailing](#) (How to get your International Proficiency Certificate (IPC))

Call BICS at 401 741-5136 to get availability and definitive pricing for each course offering.