



TASTER WEEKEND INFORMATION PACK

2026

TASTER WEEKEND





SIR ROBIN KNOX-JOHNSTON

Sir Robin became the first sailor to race solo and non-stop around the world in 1968-69. Aged just 30, and a perceived underdog in The Sunday Times Golden Globe Race, his determination, skill and bravery has since inspired generations of novice sailors. Through the Clipper Race he has encouraged over 6000 people to step outside their comfort zone and overcome the hurdles in their way. A passionate advocate for sailing safety, valued media contributor, patron of many sailing clubs and associations, explorer and active sailor, Sir Robin continues to be active and involved in all aspects of Clipper Ventures business.

WE BUILD LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCES

Clipper Events offers a myriad of exceptional opportunities to grow and flourish both personally and professionally - we provide access to record-breaking offshore racing yachts and proven, highly experienced professional skippers and staff to deliver unique team development opportunities, experiential learning events or simply a weekend of great fun and personal growth.

We offer the opportunity to open up a whole world of yacht sailing experiences - whether you are a curious novice and wish to dip your toes into a new interest, or develop your skills and expertise to compete in an iconic yacht race against household names in an exhilarating experience on board. The Clipper Race yachts are specifically designed for safe but dynamic offshore racing and sailing whether you are an experienced yachtsman or have limited experience on the water.

Clipper Events is operated by Clipper Ventures PLC which was founded in 1995 by legendary yachtsman Sir Robin Knox-Johnston and William Ward OBE.

A BIT MORE ABOUT US... CLIPPER EVENTS



United by the desire for adventure, ambition, limitless boundaries and sailing excellence, Clipper Ventures and as such Clipper Events, enable extraordinary personal experiences by making them accessible and achievable.

Everything we do revolves around our customers; We listen intently to your requirements, anticipate your needs, and aspire to exceed expectations. Our dedication to being **customer-focused** drives us to deliver exceptional life changing experiences, build lasting memories and provide endless opportunities for personal growth.

We believe in the power of exploration, adventure and pushing boundaries, but collaboration is at the heart of everything we do. By leveraging the collective expertise and talents of our team, we aim to break down silo's, share knowledge freely and support each other to achieve our shared goals - by working in collaboration, we empower each other, amplify our impact and create meaningful results.

Our focus is not only to support the growth of individuals and teams by reinforcing honesty, transparency and accountability throughout our sailing experiences, we aim to empower those around us through skill development , knowledge exchange and shared learning.

We are also committed to creating a sustainable future by protecting our environment, enabling our communities and fostering diversity and inclusion. We believe that positive change can happen across social, economic and environmental dimensions through the power of collaboration.



BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

WELCOME TO YOUR TASTER WEEKEND

We're delighted you'll be joining us for an unforgettable weekend aboard one of our iconic Clipper 68 ocean racing yachts. Over the course of the weekend you'll experience life as crew on board a high-performance racing yacht, learning new skills, working as part of a team and discovering what offshore sailing is really like.

THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

- ⚓ You will sleep on board the yacht for two nights.
- ⚓ You must bring your own sleeping bag and towel.
- ⚓ Accommodation is shared with fellow participants.
- ⚓ No sailing experience is required.
- ⚓ Breakfasts and lunches are provided on board.
- ⚓ Saturday evening dinner in Cowes is at your own expense.
- ⚓ Space on board is limited, please bring only a small soft bag.
- ⚓ Marina shower facilities are available throughout the weekend.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Join us for an unforgettable weekend aboard an iconic Clipper 68 racing yacht for a fun and informative sailing experience on the Solent.

Designed for the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race, these powerful 68-foot vessels have sailed some of the toughest oceans on the planet.

- ✓ Take the helm
- ✓ Hoist and trim sails
- ✓ Learn rope handling skills
- ✓ Experience teamwork on deck
- ✓ Learn basic navigation and seamanship
- ✓ Become part of the crew

WHO IS THIS FOR?

- Complete beginners
- Those considering future sailing qualifications
- Adventure seekers
- Anyone interested in the Clipper Race
- Individuals, couples or groups looking for a unique experience
- No previous sailing experience is required.

KEY DETAILS

Location: Clipper Training HQ, Gosport Premier Marina

Arrival: Friday 09:30

Departure: Sunday 14:00

Accommodation: On board Clipper 68 racing yacht

Experience Required: None

Minimum Age: 18+



OPEN UP A WHOLE NEW WORLD OF EXCITEMENT...

THE DETAILS

WEEKEND OVERVIEW

Join us for an unforgettable weekend aboard an iconic Clipper 68 racing yacht for a fun and informative sailing experience on the solent.

Designed for the **Clipper Round the World Yacht Race**, these powerful 68-foot vessels have conquered the toughest seas on the planet - and now it's your turn to take the helm. Over two incredible days, you'll get a taste of life as crew on board an ocean racing yacht. You'll hoist sails, trim sheets, take the helm, and work as part of a close-knit crew; guided by a professional skipper, first mate and second mate. You'll learn the essentials of teamwork, navigation, and seamanship, while feeling the thrill of a true performance yacht under full sail. By the end of the weekend, you won't just have sailed - you'll have become part of the crew!

Whether you've never stepped on a yacht before, have some prior sailing experience or you're already dreaming of joining a future edition of the Clipper Race, this weekend is your perfect introduction to big boat sailing. We'll teach you everything you need to know in a safe, supportive environment that's all about learning, laughter, and discovery.

AVAILABLE DATES

- 7 - 9 August 2026
- 4 - 6 September 2026

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Onboard berthing & Insurance
- Professional Skipper, First & Second Mate
- Use of Musto BR2 offshore jacket & salopettes
- All coded on board safety equipment, including lifejacket
- Shore-based BBQ buffet, food & soft drinks whilst on board

WHO?

- Open to all over 18s
- Previous sailing experience is not required
- This is open to individuals or groups seeking an unforgettable experience
- Perfect for someone seeking to test out a new pursuit before embarking on qualifications

ON BOARD

- Your allocated bunk will have a privacy screen and private stowage for your personal items..
- Please be mindful of the amount you bring with you.

SOCIAL MEDIA

If you use social media please feel free to post, tag, share and comment!

@ClipperEvents
#ClipperEvents

WATCH THE RACE

Official website:
<https://www.clipperroundtheworld.com/>
Race tracker:
<https://www.clipperroundtheworld.com/>
YouTube channel:
@ClipperRoundTheWorld

WHAT TO EXPECT

ITINERARY

> ROUTE

START

PLANNED ROUTE

PLANNED STOP OVER

FINISH

Gosport - Clipper Training Centre
Solent
Cowes Marina, Isle of Wight
Gosport - Clipper Training Centre



Please note: Sailing routes and timings may change due to weather, tides or operational requirements.

DATES/TIMES:

DAY 1: Friday
ARRIVAL

DAY 2: Saturday

DAY 3: Sunday
DEPARTURE

07 - 09 August 2026
04 - 06 September 2026

2027 dates coming soon

DAY 1 - Arrive 9:30
DAY 3 - Depart 14:00

- 09:30 Arrive at Clipper Training HQ in Gosport (Premier Marina)
- Introduction to Skipper and fellow crew (as well as other participants) before heading to the boat
- Boat familiarisation and safety briefing before departing for your first sail.
- 16:30 Return to Gosport Premier Marina to freshen up (Showers etc available)
- 18:30 Enjoy a meal with the crew
- Overnight on board in Gosport's Premier Marina

- Breakfast on board with fellow crew
- Briefing for the day providing an overview of sail plan
- Depart for full day sail on the Solent- Lunch On Board
- PM - Arrive in Cowes, Isle of Wight where you can enjoy an evening at your own leisure (Dinner at own expense)
- Overnight on board in Cowes

- Breakfast on Board with fellow crew
- Enjoy a leisurely sail back to Gosport arriving around lunchtime
- Cleandown and pack up of boat
- Depart by 14:00

Participants may be asked to assist with simple meal preparation and clearing away as part of the crew experience.

WHAT TO WEAR?

PROVIDED FOR YOU ON BOARD

The below kit will be available for you to use on board for the duration of your Leg(s). However, if you wish to bring your own foul weather gear, you are welcome to do so



MUSTO BR2 OFFSHORE
JACKET & SALOPETTES



SPINLOCK VITO DECKVEST
& SAFETY TETHER

PREP
WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

WHAT TO BRING



REFILLABLE
WATER BOTTLE

We are committed to reducing our impact on the environment. Support us in this by bringing your own refillable water bottle which you can top up on board throughout the day.



ANY PERSONAL
MEDICATION

Don't forget any personal medication you are taking, as well as seasickness tablets if you are prone to getting motion sickness.



ESSENTIAL
ITEMS

Please remember to bring a sleeping bag and towel. Bedding and towels are not provided on board, and both are essential for your stay.



SMALL SOFT
BAG

If you have personal possessions or a change of clothes, make sure you put them in a small soft bag like a rucksack that zips up, so it can be safely stored below deck.

- 01 FOOTWEAR**
 - Light soled or non-marking trainers or shoes (No open toes shoes)
- 02 TROUSERS/ SHORTS**
 - Hard wearing trousers or leggings that dry easily. Shorts for warmer weather are great, but consider fast drying materials if possible.
- 03 JUMPER**
 - A pullover or fleece (think lots of lightweight layers) nothing too heavy or absorbant.
- 04 T-SHIRT**
 - Synthetic or thermal type t-shirt or base layer.
- 05 ACCESSORIES**
 - Consider a cap, sunglasses and suncream if its sunny and gloves and a woolly hat if its cold. Best to remove jewelery ahead of the weekend



YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

VENUE ADDRESS

Clipper Training HQ
Premier Marina Gosport
Mumby Road
Gosport
Hampshire
PO12 1AH

MEETING POINT

Please report to the Training Centre reception on arrival. Clipper Events staff will direct you to your yacht and introduce you to your skipper and fellow crew members.

PARKING

Parking is available on-site at Premier Marina Gosport.

- Parking charge: £5 per day
- Please ensure your parking is validated at reception on arrival or departure to reduce the standard price

EVENT CONTACT

For any questions before or during the weekend, please contact:

Clipper Events
Tel: +44 (0)2393 382 848

TRAVELLING BY TRAIN

The nearest rail station is Portsmouth Harbour railway station, which has direct services to London Waterloo and other major destinations. A regular passenger ferry runs between Portsmouth Harbour and Gosport approximately every 15 minutes. From the Gosport ferry terminal, the marina is a short walk away.

TAXI INFORMATION

Local taxi services and ride-hailing apps operate throughout Portsmouth and Gosport. If travelling from Portsmouth Harbour Station, a taxi to the marina is typically a short journey. The Gosport Ferry is often the quickest route between Portsmouth and Gosport during busy periods.



YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

IS IT SAFE?

Clipper Ventures plc places the highest importance on safety, working with industry bodies to ensure safe practices and uphold strict safety measures.

The professional skipper and first mate on board will lead your team through a safety briefing before leaving the dockside to ensure your guests are fully aware and familiar with the direction being given to them.

I'VE NEVER SAILED BEFORE IS THAT OK?

Absolutely. 40% of our Race Crew have never set foot on a boat before they sign up for the Around the World Yacht Race. Our professional team are experienced in training people of all abilities, and the yachts are designed for beginners but perform like they are for professionals.

WHAT IF THE WEATHER IS REALLY BAD?

It is extremely unlikely that a static event or sailing day would be postponed due to weather conditions. The yachts are built to sail around the world and easily handle windy conditions under the professional guidance of our skippers. Some of our best sailing days have been in strong winds where teamwork has been imperative to sail the boat. For static events, we suggest booking a shore-side venue in the case of inclement weather.

WILL I GET SEASICK?

If you are susceptible to motion sickness, prevention is better than the cure, so make sure you take tablets before you get on board and keep well hydrated. Unfortunately, we cannot supply tablets but they are available in most supermarkets and chemists.

DO I HAVE TO BE REALLY FIT?

Sailing is great for all levels of fitness, however a level of mobility is required to safely move around the yacht. If you are at all concerned about this, please get in touch. If you or any of your guests have a medical condition that may impact them whilst sailing, please let us know. It won't necessarily prevent you from taking part, we just want to ensure that it is safe for you to do so.

DO WE GET ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN SAILING?

The more you put into your sailing day the more you get out and we encourage everyone to have ago. However, if you are happier to sit back and relax, there is always plenty of action to watch both on and off the boat.