

BOATING LICENSE GUIDE

Private skipper/boater license/ radio licenses	Commercial skipper license	Is it a legal requirement to have a skipper's license?	Who issues those licenses?	What International licenses are recognised?	Is the ICC recognise?
CROATIA					
<p>1. Boat Skipper category A is authorised to operate with boats up to 7m with engine power up to 15KW; for navigation areas III and IV</p> <p>2. Boat Skipper category B is authorised to operate pleasure boats up to 18 meters or charter boats up to 18 meters without a professional crew; for navigation areas III and IV If the boat sails under a foreign flag, boater licenses are regulated according to the laws of the country under whose flag the boat sails</p> <p>3. Boat Skipper category C is authorised to operate with any kind of boat up to 18 meters; for navigation area: I, II, all seas globally</p>	<p>Boat Skipper category C, Yacht Master category A or Yacht Master category B - is authorised to operate with any kind of boat up to 100GT for A category, and up to 500 for B category; navigation area on all the seas globally</p>	<p>Yes, it is. According to Croatian law, at least one person on the vessel must possess a valid nautical license and VHF licence (if there is a VHF radio on board).</p>	<p>Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure - Harbourmaster's office in Croatia.</p>	<p>For operating Croatian flag boats and yachts, the following International licenses will be accepted, as listed here</p>	<p>Yes, under Resolution 40</p>
CZECH REPUBLIC					
<p>Velitel námořní jachty C ("Yachtmaster Coastal") Valid for: L max 16m °B max 6 Sailing range = max distance from shore 20NM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on power <p>Velitel námořní jachty B</p>	<p>International Certificate of Competence Yacht-Master</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Ministry of Transport (Ministerstvo dopravy)</p> <p>2. State Navigation Administration (Státní plavební správa)</p>	<p>No international binding treaty exists to support minimum training standards and</p>	<p>Yes, under Resolution 40</p>

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<p>(“Yachtmaster Offshore”) Valid for: L max 24m Sailing range = max distance from shore 200NM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on power <p>Velitel námořní jachty A (“Yachtmaster Ocean”) Valid for: L max 24m Sailing range = worldwide unlimited</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on power <p>All above are valid for both Sailing and Motor yachts.</p> <p>Here is an image of what the license looks like.</p>				<p>systematic recognition for sailing under other flags. All recognition for maritime sailing until now depends on individual Flag decisions worldwide as per UNCOS.</p>	
FINLAND					
	<p>There is only a requirement for a Charter boat driver's license. More information can be found here.</p>	No	Traficom		Resolution No 40 is recognised and accepted
FRANCE					
<p>Licenses are mandatory to drive motorboats only.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Permis plaisance option côtière (Recreational license, coastal): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> boats over 4,5 KW (6 CV); up to 6 miles from shore 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Capitaine 200/500/3000, with two options: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yachts, for motorboats : 	<p>For private boating, it's a legal requirement for motor boats only.</p>	<p>Licences are delivered by local services of the state, under the shared authority of the ministry of</p>	<p>Most foreign licenses are recognized for private boating as long as the</p>	<p>Yes, under article 14</p>

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<p>Possible extension</p> <p>Permis hauturier (offshore licence):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no distance limit on the sea; - no distance limit on lakes and closed waters <p>2. The Permis plaisance option eaux intérieures (Recreational license, inland waters):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - boats over 4,5 KW (6CV); - length < 20 meters <p>Possible extension</p> <p>Permis Grande plaisance eaux intérieures (Yachts licence, inland waters):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no length limit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - under 200/500/3000 UMS ; - up to 20 nm./200 nm./no limit from shore - <p>b. Voile, for sailboats :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - under 200 / 500 / 3000 UMS - no limit from shore <p>2. Petits brevets (Small licenses) – new licenses for coastal activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - up to 6 nm. from starting point and 2nm. from shore - under 160 KW with 12 passengers maximum 	<p>For professional boating, it's a legal requirement for both motor and sailboats.</p>	<p>ecological transition (in charge of transports) and the new ministry of the Sea:</p> <p>Directions départementale des territoires et de la Mer (DDTM) – for private licences</p> <p>Directions Interrégionales de la Mer (DIRM) – for professional licences</p>	<p>document can be translated in case of control checks.</p> <p> Holders of professional STCW licences have to ask for a recognition visa to sail under the French flag.</p>	
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GERMANY									
<p>The recreational boating license inland (SBF Binnen). The sport boat driving license for inland waters (SBF Binnen) is the official driving license for driving sport boats (under motor or sail/surf) under 20 meters (15 min only on the Rhine) in length (without rudder and bowsprit) on the inland waterways. This license is mandatory for vessels under motor with more than 11.03 KW (15 HP).</p>	<p>The recreational boat license sea - Sportbootführerschein See (SBF See) is the official driving license for driving motorized sport boats on the maritime waterways (3 nm). This license is mandatory for vessels under motor with more than 11.03 kW (15 hp).</p>	<p>The skipper must have a radio license:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Offshore or coastline LRC or SRC in water UBI - Offshore or coastal waters: All vessels >12m must have VHF - In-waterer only, if a VHF is on board 	<p>The Sports Coastal Boat License (SKS) is an official, recommended license for driving yachts with motor and under sail in coastal waters (all seas up to 12 nm distance from the mainland coast).</p>	<p>The Sport Ship License (SSS) is an official, mandatory license for the navigation of yachts with engines and under sail in coastal sea waters (all seas up to 30 nm, including the whole of the Mediterranean Sea and the North Sea English Channel).</p>	<p>The Sporting Seagoing Ship License (SHS) is an official, recommended (required for driving sport boats used commercially for training!) license for driving yachts with engine and under sail in worldwide navigation (all seas).</p>	<p>A driver's license is only required for boats with the motorisation of more than 11.03 KW or 15 hp. Exceptions are the Rhine, Lake Constance and sections of the Spree in Berlin. At Lake Constance there is a general patent, the Rhine can be navigated with boats up to 15 meters with the normal inland license, up to 5 hp also completely without a license. The license-free 5 hp upper limit also applies at Lake Constance. The type of licenses can be reviewed here.</p>	<p>The German Federal Ministry of Digital Affairs and Transport has awarded the German Motor Yacht Association e.V. (DMYV) and the German Sailing Association (DSV) to conduct the examinations for the official sport boat licenses in Germany.</p>	<p>A list is not available yet</p>	<p>Yes</p>

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GREECE					
Government Speedboat license. For Sailing yachts, a sailboat skipper license from private sail schools is required	Government Speedboat license	It's a legal requirement. More information can be found here: https://adeies.hcg.gr/ There are private schools that provide the lessons and only exams are government-led.	Hellenic Coast Guard for speedboat, private schools approved by the government for sailboats.	Non-Greek licenses are not recognised. In order to operate as a captain/skipper in Greece, it is required to have a Greek language knowledge certification.	No
ITALY					
License called " Patente nautica ". There are three categories of Patente nautica for vessels under 24 m. Categoria A: It is the one foreseen for ordinary cases. Categoria C: It enables nautical management and it is issued only to persons with motor and sensory disabilities listed in an annex to the domestic legislation. Categoria D: It enables nautical management and it is issued only to persons with disabilities other than the mentioned above	If the yacht is engaged in rental activities (noleggio), also the possession of professional qualification named " Ufficiale di navigazione del diporto " is mandatory to navigate at sea (but this qualification is not mandatory to navigate within inland waters).	Yes, it is a legal requirement to have a skipper's license. For reference: - Decreto legislativo 18.07.2005, n. 171 - Decree of Ministry of Transport 29.07.2008, n. 146 - Decree of Ministry of Transport 10.05.2005, n. 121	Licenses are issued by: - Maritime authorities; - Uffici della Motorizzazione civile delle Direzioni generali territoriali del Dipartimento per i trasporti terrestri e il trasporto intermodale	Article 34 of Decree of Ministry of Transport 29.07.2008, n. 146, disciplines the case of "Comando di unita' da diporto da parte di stranieri in acque	The ICC is recognised, under Resolution UNECE 14, within the "Convenzion e fra l'Italia e la Svizzera per la disciplina della navigazione sul Lago

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				territoriali italiane" and provides for a regime of equivalence.	Maggiore e sul Lago di Lugano, con allegati, fatta sul Lago Maggiore il 2 dicembre 1992." (see article 72 and annex 4).
NETHERLANDS					
<p>There are three types of boat licences for recreational use: Vaarbewijs I, Vaarbewijs II and Groot Pleziervaartbewijs II.</p> <p>Vaarbewijs I is valid on inland waters, canals and rivers.</p> <p>Vaarbewijs II is valid for inland waters and the waters in direct connection with open sea and IJsselmeer.</p> <p>Groot Pleziervaartbewijs II is valid for sailing on boats from 25 up to 40 meters.</p> <p>The licences are valid for both sailing- as well as motoryachts. Vaarbewijs I is valid on inland waters. Vaarbewijs II and Groot pleziervaartbewijs II is valid on inland and coastal waters.</p> <p>For more information on what the licenses look like visit https://unece.org/icc-resolution-no-40 And choose the Netherlands.</p>	<p>Groot Vaarbewijs license is for boats over 40-meter length and boats for commercial use e.g. sailing with passengers.</p>	<p>Yes, If the boat is 15 meters or longer, or sails faster than 20 km/h.</p>	<p>The licences are issued by Centraal Bureau Rijvaardigheidsbewijzen (CBR), which is an organisation that is appointed by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management.</p>	<p>All licences under Resolution 40 are recognised. https://unece.org/icc-resolution-no-40</p>	<p>Yes, under Resolution 40</p>

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<p>If there is a VHF onboard or a handheld VHF you need a 'Basiscertificaat Marifonie' for inland waters. For use on Coastal waters or open sea, you need Marcom A or Marcom B. For more info (only in dutch)</p> <p>https://www.agentschaptetelecom.nl/onderwerpen/marifoons-en-overige-maritieme-communicatieapparatuur/examen-en-bedieningcertificaten</p>					
POLAND					
<p>INLAND SKIPPER LICENSE: -operate sailing yachts which may be equipped with an auxiliary power drive, in inland waters, with hull length up to 12 meters, which may be equipped with an auxiliary power drive, sea waters limited to 2 nm from land during daytime</p> <p>YACHT SKIPPER LICENSE: -operate sailing yachts, which may be equipped with an auxiliary power drive, in inland waters or sea waters, with hull length up to 18 meters,</p> <p>YACHTMASTER LICENSE: -operate sailing yachts, which may be equipped with an auxiliary power drive, in inland waters or sea waters, no limitation to hull length</p> <p>MOTORBOAT HELMSMAN LICENSE:</p>	<p>INLAND SKIPPER, YACHT SKIPPER, YACHTMASTER, MOTORBOAT HELMSMAN, MOTORBOAT SKIPPER, OCEAN-GOING MOTORBOAT MASTER</p>	<p>Sailing yachts – license is required when the hull is more than 7,5 m</p> <p>Motorboats – license is required when engine power is more than 10 kW More information on the type of licenses & pictures of what they look like can be found here.</p>	<p>Polish Yachting Association</p> <p>Polish Motorboat and Water Ski Association</p>	<p>According to law inland sailing: art. 37a, paragraph 6, a person who received permission to practice water tourism in another country can practice water tourism in Poland in terms of owned permissions confirmed by</p>	<p>ICC is recognized and honoured by polish institutions, under resolution 40. For further information on this - Ministry of sport and tourism legal department tel. +48 22 244 31 49</p>

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<p>- operate motor boats of hull length up to 12 meters in inland waters, internal sea waters and other sea waters limited to 2 nm from land during daytime</p> <p>MOTORBOAT SKIPPER LICENSE: -operate motorboats in all inland waters; -operate motorboats of hull length up to 18 meters in all sea waters</p> <p>OCEAN-GOING MOTORBOAT LICENSE: -operate motorboats in all inland waters; -operate motorboats in all sea water</p>				<p>this document.</p>	
SPAIN					
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capitán de yate <24m, no limit 2. Patrón de yate <24m, 150miles 3. Patrón de embarcación de recreo <15m, 12miles 4. Patrón para la navegación básica <8 5miles 5. Licencia de navegación <6m, 2 miles <p>More information can be found here.</p>	<p>PPER, administrative authorisation to work as skipper for charter only.</p>	<p>It is a legal requirement</p>	<p>Ministry of Transport</p>	<p>European and some non-European licenses are recognised. The full list could be accessed here.</p>	<p>No, however, the International Certificate for Operators of Pleasure Craft licenses issued by the Royal Yachting Association in the UK are recognised.</p>

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There is no specific radio license as this is included in the other license types					
SWEDEN					
Over 12 meters “Kustskepparexamen” Skippers Licence. This license is not dependent on types of water but just on length. More information can be found here . Drivers’ licence for PWCs is mandatory from 1 st May 2022 for anyone over 15 years old.	Klass 8	Only for boats over 12 m	The Swedish Council for the education and training of Yachtsmen	There isn’t specific information on this	Not known
TURKEY					
“Certificate of Competency (CoC) for operators of Pleasure Craft” - CoC is not obligatory for private boats with power below 10 hp, rowing boats, canoes/kayaks, Olympic sailboats such as Optimist, Laser, Fin,420, 470 Dragon, windsurf or similar. It is not allowed to accommodate any passenger or cargo for commercial purposes on the pleasure craft. An image of this license can be found here . It is also required to hold a Certificate of Competence for Short Range Radio Operators There is no distinction for sail or powerboats, as well as inland/ coastal/offshore mentioned on the licences issued.	A commercial skipper licence is required for yachts under 24 m and 500GT. Licences are in two categories namely 149GT and 499GT permitting to operate yachts under 150Gt and 500GT	It is a legal requirement to have a skipper’s licence for boats powered with engines over 10 hp.	Licences are issued by the Republic of Turkey- Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure.	There is no official list of recognized licenses. It is required to have a valid sailing license and VHF license. Most national skipper qualifications will be accepted.	ICC under Resolution 40 is accepted.

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UNITED KINGDOM					
<p>There are multiple RYA licenses for different vessel types and sizes. All courses are listed at: https://www.rya.org.uk/training</p>	<p>MGN 280 defines licenses for charter at sea. Annex 3 MGN 280 (publishing.service.gov.uk)</p> <p>MSN 1853 defines licenses for inland waterways, annex 3</p> <p>M Notice Template - MSF 5011 (publishing.service.gov.uk)</p>	<p>Some insurances require it but there is no legal requirement for operating vessels under 24m pleasure</p>	<p>RYA, MCA, IYT, BWSF, IWA, NA</p>	<p>A list of countries accepted towards issuing a UK Flag State of Endorsement can be accessed here.</p>	<p>Yes</p>