PRACTICAL SAILING GUIDE

Weather check before sailing

A short companion to the full guide by Piotr Jurkowski. Adapt it to your yacht, sailing area, season and crew.

Voyage / yacht / dates	

- ☐ Correct sea area, forecast point, date, local time or UTC and units selected.
- ☐ Official marine forecast and warning texts read, including their validity periods.
- ☐ Sustained wind, gusts and direction compared; suitable limits and margins agreed.
- ☐ Wave height, period and direction checked; relevant tides and currents considered.
- ☐ Rain, cloud and lightning layers viewed beyond the immediate route.
- ☐ Observations distinguished from forecast frames; timestamps and coverage checked.
- ☐ Conditions assessed for departure, the passage, harbour entry and berthing.
- ☐ Forecast compared with the actual sky, wind and sea state.
- ☐ Plan matched to the yacht and crew, with shelter and shorter-trip alternatives.
- ☐ Time margin included; useful information saved and a way to obtain updates agreed.

Decision: proceed / shorten / change route / remain in port
Return window / alternative: _____

Plan your sailing trip or training
Scan for the English website, services and contact details.
Ask about your sailing area, crew needs and dates.

This checklist supports preparation. It does not replace the full article, a yacht-specific safety briefing or the skipper's judgement.