

Maritime Apprenticeships

This is a list of the specifically-maritime apprenticeships currently available. Many companies in the maritime sector employ apprentices in other fields, from engineering to marketing, which are not specific to the maritime industry, and we've not listed them here.

In each case we have set out the formal title of the apprenticeship, hyperlinked, on the right, alongside the description in lay terms which we've used on the left. We've included the relevant flag to show where these apprenticeships are available because arrangements differ across the United Kingdom.

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| Level 2  Level 5  | Deck and Engine Room Operatives (called "ratings") on sea-going ships, especially ferries and cruise ships | Able Seafarer (Deck)  Maritime Electrical / Mechanical Mechanic  Deck Rating  Engine Room Rating  |
| | Maritime Caterer: cooking and related skills, at sea | Maritime Caterer  Hospitality, with Maritime Enhancements  |
| | Deck operatives on fishing boats | Sea Fishing  |
| | Marina and Boatyard operative | Marina and Boatyard Operative  |
| | Port operations, which vary widely depending on the port: general cargo, specialist (eg oil, fish), passengers, etc | Port operative  Port operations  |
| | Composite specialist roles within boatbuilding. | Composites Technician  |
| Level 3  Level 5  | Deck operatives on specialist workboats – small boats with 2/3 crew which (eg) support construction work, or take technicians to offshore windfarms | Workboat Operations  Workboat Operations  |
| Level 3  | Trainee skipper on inland waterways (especially the Thames in central London), both passenger & freight | Boatmaster  |

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| | Boatbuilding skills – which cover modern yachts and superyachts, as well as specialist commercial boats and traditional designs. | Boatbuilder  Boatbuilding and Repair  |
| | Marine engineering, for both new builds and repair / refit and maintenance. | Marine engineer  |
| | Coastguard | Maritime Operations Officer  |

Higher Level Apprenticeships, typically for people with substantial prior experience, eg as an officer at sea

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| Level 4  | Port management | Port Marine Operations Officer  |
| Level 5  | Marine pilot | Marine Pilot  |
| Level 6  | Harbourmaster | Harbourmaster  |
| Level 6  | Marine Surveyor | Marine Surveyor  |
| Level 7  | Marine Technical Superintendent | Marine Technical Superintendent  |

There are very good prospects for advancement in all of these maritime occupations, where the ability to *apply* skills and knowledge and understanding is highly valued.

In addition to these apprenticeships, there are also three-year programmes (called **cadetships**) leading to roles as junior officers in the Merchant Navy, certification as an “Officer Of the Watch” (which is recognised worldwide) and an HNC, HND or Foundation Degree as the underpinning academic qualification. You can find out more on the Careers At Sea website (see link below).

Good sources of further information

Apprenticeships in England: www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards

Apprenticeship in Scotland: www.apprenticeships.scot/for-employers/browse-frameworks/modern-apprenticeships/maritime-occupations

Maritime Skills Alliance: www.maritimeskills.org/Apprenticeships

Careers At Sea: www.careersatsea.org

British Marine: www.britishmarine.co.uk/Careers/Marine-Apprenticeships