

COASTAL GUIDE – TRAINING COURSE

This course is the Queensland Canoeing pathway to prepare the participant for the Coastal Guide Assessment to achieve their Australian Canoeing Award Scheme qualification.

Award Definition:

The Coastal Guide Award is for people seeking professional certification in coastal water paddling environments using sit-on-top craft. The Australian Canoeing Award Scheme (ACAS) is the industry benchmark certification designed to meet the needs of the canoeing / kayaking guide industry for education, recreational and tourism sectors nationwide.

Holders of the Coastal Guide Award have demonstrated the ability to plan and conduct guided kayaking activities in sit on top kayaks in coastal conditions defined as:

- Estuaries, embayment's and areas enclosed or partially enclosed by fringing reef or islands
- Areas of exposed coastline that are simple, not involving overfalls, tidal races, difficult landings or open crossings may be included
- Distances of up to 1 nautical mile offshore
- Conditions below Fresh (17 knots) as defined by the Beaufort Scale and used by the Bureau of Meteorology

Prerequisites:

- Personal coastal paddling skills as defined in the ACAS coastal skills award
- Recommended obtaining prior to course:
 - current First Aid and CPR certificates
 - some experience and logged hours working as an assistant or observer under training

Course Description:

- ACAS Coastal Guide Training Course consists of two full days approximately 8:00am to 4:00pm each day
- Participants should expect each day to consist of approximately half a day in a semi classroom-style environment and the other half of each day on the water
- Candidates must be prepared to put their skills into practice and will be required to do some work prior to the course to assist in moving swiftly through the syllabus
- Participants should come prepared for paddling sessions in both the morning and afternoon of the course
- **Please note:**
 - this is a guide training course
 - it is not a skills course
 - candidates are expected to have the personal coastal sea skills as identified in the "Coastal Skills Award" prior to commencement of the course
 - an assessment day is also required to obtain the full certification

Course Cost and Dates:

- Please check <http://qld.canoe.org.au/education/acas-courses/> for advertised dates and cost.
- Craft & equipment hire available
- Course fee does not include Assessment and Australian Canoeing Award Registration Fee
- **Please note:** Courses need to meet minimum registration numbers to run on advertised dates. If sufficient numbers are not registered one week before the program, alternative arrangements will be made with registered participants.

Course Location/s:

- Queensland Canoeing has a number of venues it uses
- The location of the course will be determined from the location of the course participants, which will determine the final cost of the course and if an additional fee is payable
- Other course locations are available for private groups by negotiation

For Bookings and Enquiries Contact:

Steven Rowland, Education and Recreation Officer
qc.education@canoe.org.au or 07 3899 1667

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What I will learn:

- Subject matter that will be covered includes but is not limited to:
 - paddling guiding skills
 - refining paddling technique
 - rescues
 - paddling instruction techniques and teaching methodology
 - ACAS overview
 - minimal impact practice
 - interpreting weather
 - navigation
 - trip, route, float plans and risk management planning
 - group management
- personal and group guiding equipment

Paddle Craft:

This course is designed for sit-on-top craft. The craft you use must be sea worthy, well maintained and have minimum necessary safety equipment and buoyancy that should be used by coastal guides such as (but not limited to):

- Bilge pump
- Paddle float
- Tow system
- Paddle leash
- Split paddles

Equipment:

- It is expected that participants will supply their own equipment including craft, life jacket and paddle
- Please bring your rescue and safety equipment
- Personal equipment will require a safety check prior to commencement to determine its suitability for the paddling activity
- Paddle clothing, including enclosed footwear needs to be suitable to get wet and swim in, be sun-smart and appropriate for the conditions
- Please also bring
 - lunch, snacks, towel, change of clothing and water bottle
 - chair, clipboard, pen and paper

What Next:

- Booking your assessment
- As this is the training to achieve your Coastal Guide certification you will need to book into a separate assessment course to achieve your qualification
- Prior to booking your assessment you should read the assessment requirements for the certification to ensure you can achieve them including the log book requirements within the designated time frame of six weeks from the date of the assessment
- Assessments are conducted over 1 day requiring additional costs for both the practical assessment plus qualification registration with Australian Canoeing
- To complete your qualification in addition to your assessment you will need:
 - current First Aid and CPR certificates
 - meet log book requirements for Coastal Guide

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