

ROLEX FASTNET RACE 2027

Register now for the race of a lifetime



INTRODUCTION

Tall Ships Youth Trust (TSYT) has taken part in the RORC **Rolex Fastnet Race since 2009**, enabling adults and young people from all over the UK, to compete in **one of sailing's most prestigious global events.**

In 2025 two crews of sponsoring adults and young people competed in the 100th Anniversary Rolex Fastnet Race, united by one goal, to challenge themselves at sea. Over five intense days, our crews faced shifting winds, powerful spring tides, long night watches and life-changing moments. Challenger 1 and Challenger 3 rounded the legendary Fastnet Rock together, a rare and unforgettable moment.

Continuing on this achievement, TSYT are entering two of its **iconic Challenger Yachts** into the **2027** RORC Rolex Fastnet Race, and we are offering a group of young people who otherwise wouldn't have the opportunity, and sponsoring adults to take part as part of **our race crew.**

WHY FASTNET?

The Rolex Fastnet Race is a legendary biennial **offshore yacht race**, organised by the Royal Ocean Racing Club (RORC), a challenging **600+ nautical mile course** that starts from Cowes, Isle of Wight, rounds the **Fastnet Rock** off Ireland before finishing in Cherbourg, France.

It's exhilarating, it's challenging, **it's one of the toughest offshore races in the world**, and by participating with Tall Ships Youth Trust it becomes more than just the race of a lifetime – **it truly helps changes young lives.**

This prestigious race is a bucket list for many sailors, it tests your limits in long distance offshore sailing with night watches, potential heavy weather sailing, and big boat spinnaker use. Seeing the Fastnet Rock up close and personal, taking on the Irish sea and the Atlantic is **an epic adventure!**

WHY SUPPORT OUR OCEAN RACING PATHWAY

Young people need chances to thrive and change their lives.

TSYT's innovative voyage programme is **creating a cohort of talented young sailors**, desperate for opportunities to grow their skills and experience.

There are **numerous financial and social barriers to sailing**, particularly to offshore racing. The **TSYT Ocean Racing Pathway** aims to **break down those barriers** through creating opportunities to race in the ultimate challenging environment, enabling young people to compete in one of sailing's most prestigious global events.



Most powerfully, the Fastnet campaign creates **real social impact**; helping to change lives by giving young individuals a **once-in-a-lifetime opportunity** and a genuine springboard into their ocean racing journey or maritime focused future.

By taking on this challenge yourself, you will be instrumental in supporting **young people** to build tremendous resilience, confidence in their own ability and leadership skills that will enable them to **take charge of their own futures**.

WHAT MAKES OUR FASTNET PACKAGE DIFFERENT IS THE CHANCE TO LEARN EVERY ASPECT OF A RACE CAMPAIGN

Taking part in the RORC Fastnet Race 2027 with Tall Ships Youth Trust offers more than a place on the start line, it's a chance to experience one of offshore racing's greatest challenges aboard safe, purpose-built racing yachts designed to withstand the toughest conditions.

Each yacht crew will be made up of youth and adult racers, enabling crews to share experience, grow the team together and mentor their team mates.

You will race with a professional crew who have a collective Fastnet experience spanning over a decade. It's not a passenger experience - you'll get to helm a 72ft yacht, race with spinnakers, plan race tactics, navigate, experience watch systems and contribute to meal planning.

The only limit will be how much you want to learn.





TSYT'S FASTNET PACKAGE

WHATS INCLUDED IN THE FASTNET PACKAGE

This is more than just a race entry, it's a full offshore racing experience. You will receive...

At least 18 days of sailing onboard a 72ft Challenger yacht which includes:

- 3-day weekend teambuilding sail (March)
- 5-day race training voyage (April)
- 3-day qualifying race – Myth of Malham
- 6-7 day Fastnet Race and return passage
- 2-day Sea Survival & World Sailing Safety Course

TRAINING

- All training on board a Challenger 72ft – weekend teambuilding match race in March, five-day race training voyage in April
- Qualifying race weekend – RORC Myth of Malham race in May 2027
- Professional training and support
- Sea Survival and World Safety shorebased courses

EQUIPMENT

- All safety equipment; lifejackets equipped with personal AIS units and tethers

KIT

- Branded polo shirt and crew jacket
- Use of Gill offshore racing wet weather gear

OTHER

- Fastnet race entry
- All meals on board during training and the race

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The TSYT RORC Fastnet 2027 campaign cost for adult crew is **£5,000**.

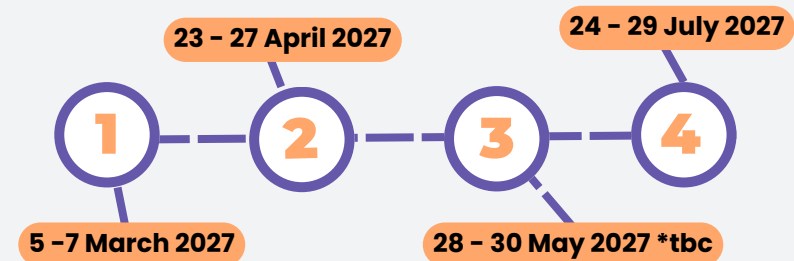
PAYMENT PLAN OPTIONS

- ✓ Non-refundable deposit of £2,000 is required by 30 September 2026
- ✓ Followed by 3 instalments of £1,000 due by the below dates:

- ✓ £1000 due 19 February 2027
- ✓ £1000 due 19 April 2027
- ✓ £1000 due 19 May 2027

In addition to your £5,000 entry fee, we are asking you to help us support the young Fastnet crew members by raising a minimum of £2500. More details can be found in the fundraising section.

REQUIRED TRAINING DATES



OPTIONAL TRAINING DATES

- ✓ 16-18 October 2026
- ✓ 27-29 November 2026
- ✓ 6-8 November 2026
- ✓ 8-10 January 2027





VOICES FROM THE START LINE: FASTNET 2025



“ There’s something magical about a Fastnet campaign with the Tall Ships Youth Trust. It’s not just the training, the sea survival courses or the qualifying races, it’s the journey you go on personally and as a group; it’s about watching amazing young people develop skills they never knew they had, push themselves and keep smiling. Bizarrely, it’s only on the sail home from the finish in Cherbourg that you realise just how special the opportunity to experience the race with young adults actually is, and if we could bottle that, the TSYT campaign would be full for the next 20 years!

Sean, TSYT Adult Race Crew Member ”



“ When the Fastnet training began I was struggling with self-confidence, and the Fastnet campaign helped me to become who I wanted to be, a more confident and self-assured person. The campaign also supported my growth in leadership skills. I’m so grateful that I had the opportunity to develop not only as a sailor but as a person. ”

Lara (19)

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is where your journey truly begins, here you can share your story and help make this prestigious race a reality for 16 young people from across the UK, who wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity,

Adult sponsorship target: £2,500

The entry fee of £5,000 covers your place in the Fastnet campaign, therefore every penny you raise towards the sponsorship target, will enable a young person to take part in Fastnet 2027.

Fundraising to cover the costs of the campaign is a collective effort and TSYT will also support the youth crew with seeking external sponsorship.

We know how positive it can be for young people to work with a role model, so we are looking for people to help them achieve their dream.

Check out our Fundraising Toolkit or get in touch with the team, who will be happy to help get you started.

**SCAN
ME** 

**FIND WAYS TO
FUNDRAISE**



Katie, 26, from Hampshire, took part in the 2025 Fastnet Race and raised an incredible £6,220 for the TSYT Ocean Racing Pathway.

KATIE SAID:

"Taking part in the TSYT Fastnet was a challenging, fantastic and thrilling experience from start to finish. The campaign pushed me well outside my comfort zone, but I was surprised by my own resilience.

The fundraising journey was daunting at first, and I still can't quite believe I smashed my target. The biggest support came from family, friends, and work colleagues, and I am incredibly grateful for that backing.

The experience has given me the confidence to start double-handed sailing, built on the foundational skills and belief gained from the Fastnet campaign, and it continues to shape my development as a sailor."

ABOUT US + OUTCOMES

Tall Ships Youth Trust (TSYT) is a youth development and outdoor learning charity that has been transforming the lives of young people aged 12-25, particularly those facing disadvantages, since 1956.

Out on the ocean, we empower young people to build the skills, confidence and resilience needed to support them on their journey to adulthood and for some, into careers in the maritime sector and the blue economy.

In 2023 we launched our three-voyage programme of **Exploration**, **Empowerment**, and **Leadership**.

Each voyage is designed to develop real-world skills in a dynamic ocean environment:

- **Exploration voyages:** Build teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills.
- **Empowerment voyages:** Strengthen resilience, confidence, and decision-making.
- **Leadership voyages:** Develop leadership abilities by planning and leading full expeditions.

Participants also engage with **marine and coastal environments**, take on **sustainability projects**, and gain **employability skills**. Many return as volunteers, while others discover a lifelong passion for sailing or a career at sea.

IMPACT LAST YEAR



we took **1,224** young people to sea



85% were from disadvantaged backgrounds



57% male and **43%** female



19% were from the global majority



Age breakdown: 12-15 years = 621
16-17 years = 352 & 18-25 years = 251



Certificates: **630** RYA Start Yachting,
126 Competent Crew & **99** DofE Gold Award through residential voyage



Volunteer training: **201** young people recommended to return to TSYT



The benefits of sailing with TSYT are proven, with long-lasting improvements in self-esteem, resilience, and soft skills.

Feedback tells us that due to the intensity of life on board, the results we achieve in just one week would take months to achieve via a land-based provision.

SEE YOU ON THE START LINE!

CONTACT US



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