

## Cross-Border and Sea-Crossing Course

### Guidance for Instructors and Students

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 Whilst it is not a requirement for the first cross-border or sea-crossing of a qualified pilot to be completed with an instructor, there are certainly a lot of things for a pilot to learn and consider. Enjoyment of that first flight abroad may be diminished or even prevented by concerns over the paperwork and planning involved. For that reason, we have included the cross-border and sea-crossing course as one of the activities which earns credit towards the LAA Wings Bronze, Silver, and Gold awards.
- 1.2 The aim of the course is to give the student a sound knowledge and understanding of the administration, procedures, in-flight considerations, and contingency planning, required to conduct cross-border flights including a sea crossing to a safe and competent standard.
- 1.3 Ground instruction and flight training will be provided by a qualified and current Flight Instructor or Class Rating Instructor
- 1.4 Training can be completed through the LAA Pilot Coaching Scheme or using any other appropriately qualified and experienced instructor. For information on finding your nearest LAA coach visit the LAA website.

#### 2 Objectives

- 2.1 At the end of the course the student shall be able to:
  - Describe the additional preparation required to conduct a cross-border and sea crossing flight;
  - Demonstrate the associated pre-flight planning and administrative procedures;
  - Explain the additional in-flight considerations when planning a sea crossing.

#### 3 Course Structure

- 3.1 The course shall comprise of a minimum of two hours theoretical ground training and a minimum of two flights: one cross-border and sea crossing outbound flight and one return flight.
- 3.2 Ground training and flight instruction shall be conducted by a Flight Instructor or Class Rating Instructor qualified in accordance with EASA FCL.905.FI or FCL.905.CRI or ANO Schedule 7. Ground instruction shall be in the form of lessons and briefings given by the instructor.

#### 4 Pre-course Entry Requirements

- 4.1 It is assumed that the course will be completed post licence issue, so the student shall hold either an EASA Part-FCL, LAPL, or UK national licence valid for use abroad on the aircraft used for the course.

#### 5 Training Records

- 5.1 Training may be conducted by any LAA coach or other instructor who is suitably qualified and experienced. The course is not required to be conducted under the auspices of an Approved Training

Organisation or Registered Facility.

- 5.2 A training record of all ground training and flight instruction shall be maintained during the course and returned to LAA Head Office upon completion.

## **6 Course Completion**

- 6.1 A Course Completion Certificate will be signed by the instructor and provided to the student upon completion of the ground training and flight instruction specified and where the student has achieved a safe standard of operation in normal and simulated emergency procedures.
- 6.2 The student's logbook should also be signed by the instructor in the remarks column against all flights completed during the course.
- 6.2 Satisfactory completion of the course counts as one activity towards those required for award of the LAA Wings Bronze, Silver or Gold awards. More information is available on the LAA Wings website at [www.laawings.co.uk](http://www.laawings.co.uk).
- 6.3 A sample Course Completion Certificate is provided for use at Appendix 5 to this document.

## **7 Ground Training**

- 7.1 Pre-flight briefings may be combined with the associated long briefings. Two long briefings are provided: the first covering administration and procedures; the second covering additional pre-flight planning and other pre-flight considerations required to safely conduct a cross-border and sea-crossing flight.
- 7.2 Ground Training Lesson 1 and 2 are provided at Appendix 1 to this document.

## **8 Flight Training**

- 8.1 The course consists of an outbound and return flight where the student is provided with instruction in the additional planning and in-flight considerations when conducting a cross-border and sea-crossing flight on the outbound flight. Student practice and consolidation of procedures with additional scenario based training is conducted during the return flight to include simulated emergencies and contingency planning.
- 8.2 There are no solo exercises stipulated on the course.
- 8.3 Flight Training Exercises 1 and 2 are provided at Appendix 2 to this document.

## **9 Comments**

- 9.1 Comments and feedback from instructors and students on the course content are welcome. E-mail your feedback to: [coaching@laa.uk.com](mailto:coaching@laa.uk.com).



Jon Cooke  
Head of Training & Pilot Coaching Scheme Chairman  
Light Aircraft Association

# Appendix 1:



## Ground Training – GT1

**Lesson 1:** Administration and Procedures

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Aim:** To understand the procedures relevant to cross-border and sea crossings in single-pilot aeroplanes

### Lesson Content:

- 1 Required Documents
  - Personal: Pilot and Passengers (passport, visa, EHIC, etc)
  - Aircraft (required documents as per EASA and/or ANO)
  - Permissions (Permit to Fly / Military marking scheme)
  - Pilot (licence, medical, passport, interception procedures)
  
- 2 Administrative Procedures
  - Maps and charts
  - AIP, Flight Guides, NOTAMs (High level routes, French AZBA)
  - Flight Plan filing, time windows, opening, delaying, closing and cancelling (paper and electronic)
  - Aircraft Performance (TODR, LDR, Density Altitude)
  - Customs and Immigration Declaration - General Aviation Report
  - Special Branch
  - Obtaining weather information
  - National Requirements (PPR, 8.33khz, Mode S)
  - Drawback of duty on fuel
  - Insurance and maintenance considerations (limitations, repairs, pilot maintenance)
  - Refuelling facilities (Credit card, TOTAL, cash, etc)
  - Mobile phones, data services, and credit cards (useage abroad, additional fees etc)
  - Passenger Briefing (safety brief, survival equipment, weather delays)
  
- 3 Survival Equipment
  - Life Jackets
  - Immersion Suit
  - Life Raft
  - Flares, spray hood, mirror, torch, whistle, gloves, etc.
  - ELT and PLB
  - Training in use of survival equipment (GASCo)
  
- 4 ATC Procedures and Phraseology
  - FIS
  - FR only
  
- 5 Recommended reading
  - Pilot Operating Handbook – Emergency procedures including ditching
  - LAA Technical Leaflet 2.08 – Travelling abroad in a Permit to Fly aircraft
  - CAA Safety Sense Leaflets 1, 2, 11, 20, 22, 23 ([www.caa.co.uk/safetysense](http://www.caa.co.uk/safetysense))

**Performance Standard:** The student shall be able to describe the administrative procedures with reference to the associated documentation.

# Ground Training – GT2



**Lesson 2:** Pre-Flight Planning

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Aim:** To learn the additional procedures and considerations when planning a cross-country flight which includes a border crossing and sea crossing

## Lesson Content:

- 1 Flight Planning
  - Weather forecast and actual
  - Map selection and preparation
  - Controlled airspace, Danger areas, prohibited areas, and restricted areas
  - Minimum altitudes for VFR
  - Route selection
  - Use of GPS
  - Alternate selection and diversion planning
- 2 Preparation of VFR PLOG
  - Headings and times
  - Equal time point
  - Fuel planning
  - Mass and Balance, Performance
- 3 Information
  - NOTAMs
  - AIP, Flight Guides, and charts
  - Airside access (Identification, Hi-Viz, etc.)
  - ELT and PLB requirement
  - Radio Frequencies, including 8.33khz and Mode S requirements
  - Alternate aerodromes (suitability, selection, information)
  - Aeroplane documentation
- 4 Notification of flight
  - Pre-flight administration (booking out, PPR, etc)
  - Submitting Flight Plan (via paper and/or electronic)
  - Customs and Immigration Declaration – General Aviation Report
  - Special Branch
  - Arriving at non-customs airfields
  - Closing of Flight Plan
- 5 Aircraft Inspection
  - Additional considerations
- 6 Threats and Errors associated with flight in Reduced Visibility
  - Meteorology revision (sea, fog, haze, and local weather phenomenon)
  - Human Performance and Limitations (physiological sensations, etc)
  - Basic Instrument Flying skills and proficiency
  - Situational Awareness (e.g. obstacles or terrain)
  - Review of flight in poor visibility or poor horizon techniques

**Performance Standard:** The student shall be able to describe the pre-flight planning procedures and demonstrate completion of the required calculations. The student shall also demonstrate sufficient knowledge of threats and errors associated with sea crossings.

## Appendix 2: Flight Training

### Flight Exercise 1 - FE1

**Duration:** As required

**Aim:** To learn the in-flight procedures associated with cross-border and sea crossing in normal operations

**Air Exercise:**

- 1 Pre-flight preparation and aircraft inspection
- 2 In-Flight
  - Opening of Flight Plan
  - Workload Management
  - Decision Making
  - Minimum weather conditions for continuation of flight
  - FIR crossing and reporting procedures (mid-channel or coast)
  - Radio Telephony procedures
  - Flight Progress and Equal Time Point
  - Diversion options and planning
  - VFR Waypoints
  - Use of FIS
  - Approach and landing procedures
- 3 Post Flight
  - Refuelling
  - Closing of Flight Plan
  - Post flight administrative procedures

**Skill Standard:** The student shall demonstrate correct VFR navigational techniques whilst maintaining heading, height and altitude. The student shall also carry out checks and drills in accordance with the aircraft checklist and make Radio Telephony calls in accordance with CAP413. Display appropriate airmanship and TEM.



## Flight Exercise 2 – FE2

**Duration:** As required

**Aim:** To learn the in-flight procedures associated with a return flight from abroad to the UK including a sea crossing and complete scenario based training to include emergency drills and flight in reduced visibility

### Air Exercise:

- 1 Pre-flight preparation and aircraft inspection
- 2 In-Flight
  - Opening of Flight Plan
  - Workload Management
  - Decision Making
  - FIR crossing and reporting procedures (mid-channel or coast)
  - Radio Telephony procedures
  - Flight Progress and Equal Time Point
  - \* Simulated Emergency and practice ditching procedure
  - \* Simulated Flight in Reduced Visibility
  - Uncertainty of position and lost procedure
  - Approach and landing procedures
- 3 Post Flight
  - Closing of Flight Plan
  - Post flight administrative procedures

**Skill Standard:** The student shall demonstrate correct VFR navigational techniques whilst maintaining heading, height and altitude. The student shall also carry out checks and drills in accordance with the aircraft checklist and make Radio Telephony calls in accordance with CAP413. Demonstrate correct use of emergency procedures whilst displaying appropriate airmanship and TEM skills.

**Note:** Flight Exercise 1 or Flight Exercise 2 may be carried out as observer of another trainee flight so that, for example, both flights required by this syllabus can be completed on an outbound and return training flight for two students.

\* Items marked with an asterisk (\*) must be completed with the student at the flight controls.

## Appendix 3: Student Record



<b>Course</b>	<b>Cross-Border and Sea-Crossing Course</b>		
<b>Name</b>			
<b>LAA Membership No</b>			
<b>CAA Reference</b>			
<b>Address</b>			
<b>Telephone Number</b>		<b>Mobile</b>	
<b>E-mail</b>			
<b>Date Course Commenced</b>		<b>Date Course Completed</b>	
<b>Licence Held</b>		<b>Ratings</b>	
<b>Licence/Logbook Checked</b>		<b>Pre-entry Requirements</b>	
<b>Comments</b>			
<b>Course: Hours Flown</b>		<b>Ground Training Hours</b>	
<p>I certify that the above Training Record is correct</p> <p>Flight Instructor Name/Signature: _____ Date: _____</p>			



# Appendix 5: Course Completion Certificate



## CROSS-BORDER AND SEA CROSSING COURSE COURSE COMPLETION CERTIFICATE

I certify that (name)..... CAA reference .....

has satisfactorily completed a course of  
..... hours ground training and ..... hours flight instruction  
in cross-border and sea crossing procedures including normal and emergency procedures  
in accordance with the syllabus of training provided in LAA Wings Leaflet 1.

**Flight Instructor or Class Rating Instructor**

Name.....

Signature.....

Date.....