



Round the Island Race

Saturday 1st July 2023

Spectator Guide

organised by the
Island
Sailing
Club 

For more information and full entry details visit
www.roundtheisland.org.uk
or call the Island Sailing Club on **01983 296621**

Follow us on social media for all the latest news
before, during and after the race

 facebook.com/roundtheislandrace

 [@RoundtheIsland](https://twitter.com/RoundtheIsland)

 [roundtheislandrace](https://www.instagram.com/roundtheislandrace)

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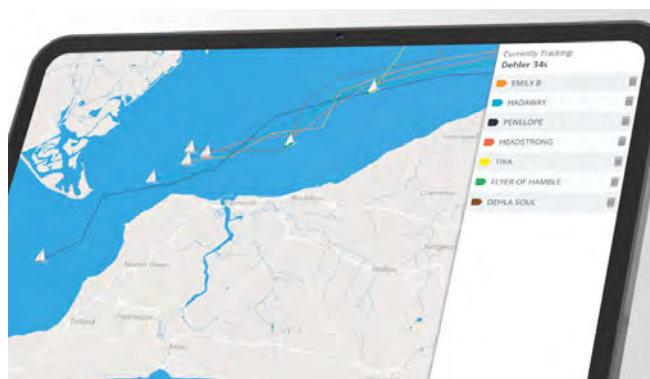


HOW TO FOLLOW THE RACE

Whether you're watching at home or joining the action around the Island, there are a number of ways that you can follow the race.

Our live Race Blog on the event website will be providing a running commentary on the progress of the race - along with pictures and video clips - from the first start at 0800 through to the finish. Meanwhile, our tracking system will be monitoring the position of all 1,100 boats taking part, so you can see exactly where your favourite boats are on the racetrack.

We'll also be live on all the usual social media channels (see the front cover for details), and of course, you can watch the race in person from one of the vantage points around the Island using our guide below to the likely times at which the fleet will pass different places during the 50 nautical mile course.



THE COURSE

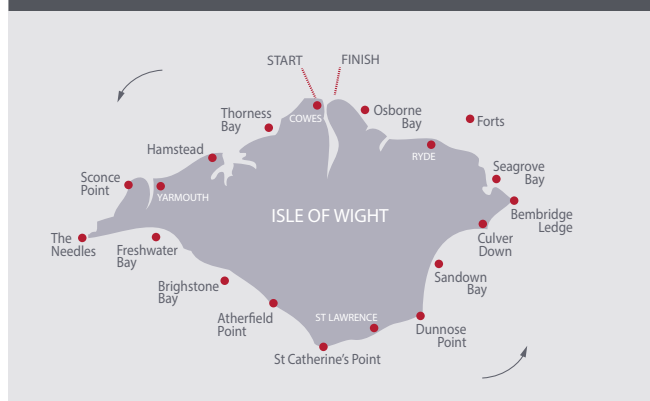
The Round the Island Race course really couldn't really be much simpler!

The boats cross the start line at Cowes in eleven separate groups, starting every 10 minutes from 0800 until 0930 and heading in a westerly direction towards Yarmouth.

The boats pass round the Needles Lighthouse, along the south-west coast of the Island to St. Catherine's Point and then up across Sandown Bay to round the Bembridge Ledge Buoy.

The fleet then makes its way either side of No Man's Land Fort and across Osborne Bay to the finish line back at Cowes.

THE COURSE MAP

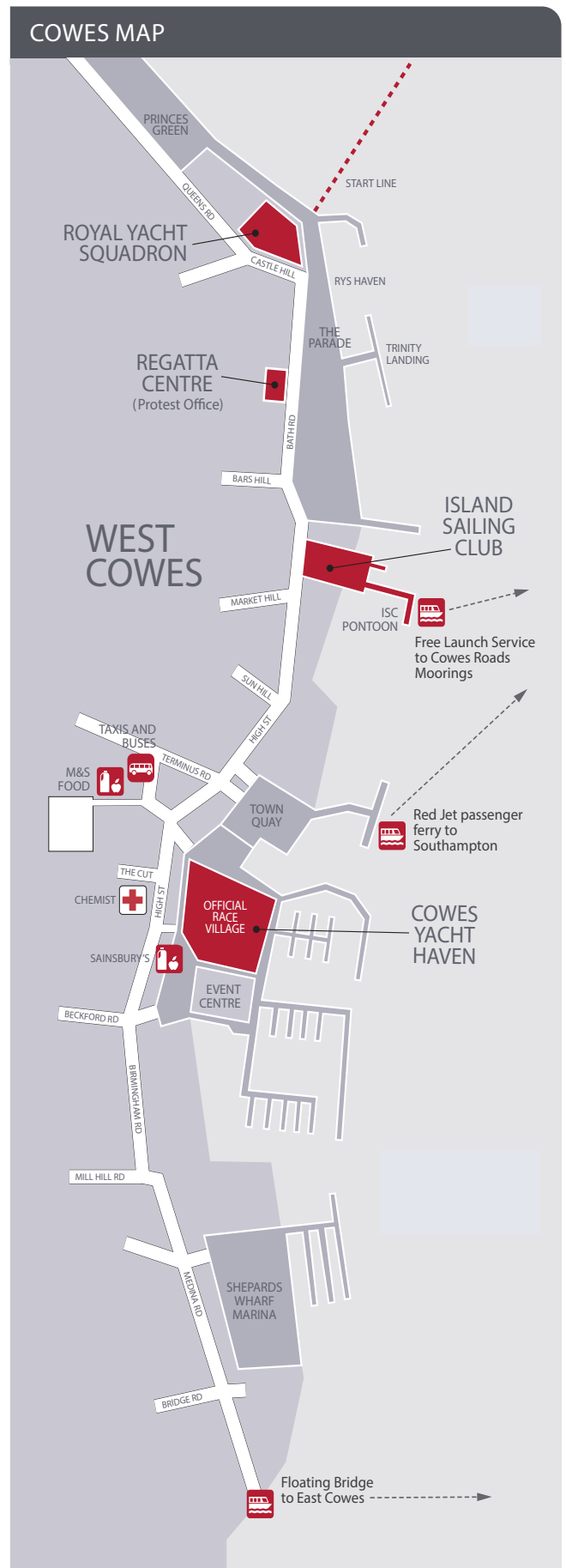


VANTAGE POINTS

ISLAND VANTAGE POINTS	APPROX. TIMES YACHTS WILL PASS AND HOW TO GET THERE	
COWES Start	0800 - 0930	Via Ward Ave., Baring Road & Castle Hill to the Parade and the Green either side of the Royal Yacht Squadron.
SCONCE POINT	0930 - 1200	From Yarmouth, drive towards Freshwater. Turn right after 1/2 mile and follow signs to Fort Victoria.
THE NEEDLES	1000 - 1330	From Freshwater or Totland follow signs to the Needles Car Park. Park and walk up West High Down to Needles Battery. Best view to south of Coast Guard Station.
CHILTON CHINE	1045 - 1400	From Freshwater or Totland follow signs to the Needles Car Park. Park and walk up West High Down to Needles Battery. Best view to south of Coast Guard Station.
ST. CATHERINE'S POINT	1130 - 1530	From Freshwater, Rookley or Ventnor go to Niton. Take loop road to Buddle Inn. Park and walk down cliffs by lighthouse.
VENTNOR	1145 - 1600	Park on Cliff at West End of Esplanade.
BONCHURCH	1200 - 1630	Take lane down to sea opposite Bonchurch pond. Take left turn and park in car park at bottom, which is the best view.
CULVER DOWN	1230 - 1730	From Brading, take Bembridge road. After 1 mile, turn right and follow sign for Culver (on a bend, and lane hairpins up!)
RYDE PIER	1330 - 1830	From Ryde Esplanade, drive up pier and park at end. Parking is free for 30 mins, charges apply after that.
COWES Finish	0930 - 2000	Via Ward Ave., Baring Road & Castle Hill to the Parade and the Green either side of the Royal Yacht Squadron.
MAINLAND VANTAGE POINTS	APPROX. TIMES YACHTS WILL PASS AND HOW TO GET THERE	
HURST POINT	0930 - 1230	From Lymington drive to Milford on Sea, take road to Keyhaven, but turn right towards Hurst beach after half a mile. Park at end and walk up Hurst Spit to Hurst Castle.
GILKICKER POINT	1330 - 1930	From Gosport drive through Alverstoke towards golf course. Take road through golf course to Gilkicker Point and Fort.



START TIMES			
FLEET FLAG	CLASS	CLASS ID FLAG	START TIME
Green	Open 60		0800
	IRC Group 0		
	IRC Group 1	None	
	Class 40		
Day-Glo Orange	Clipper Yachts		0810
	Multihulls Grand Prix and MOCRA Racing	None	
	Multihulls Grand Prix and MOCRA Racing		
	Multihulls Bridgedeck Catamaran Cruiser		
	Diam 24		
Pink	Gaffers Division 1, 2 & 3		0820
	Sportsboat		
	J/70		
Black	Sunsail 41		0830
	ISC Rating System Group 4	None	
Blue	ISC Rating System Group 4	None	0840
	IRC Group 2	None	
	J/80		
Silver Grey	J/88		0850
	IRC Group 3	None	
Turquoise	ISC Rating System Group 5	None	0900
White	ISC Rating System Group 6	None	0910
	Classic Racing Yachts racing under ISCRS		
	Modern Classic Racing Yachts racing under IRC		
Day-Glo Green	ISC Rating System Group 7 (0.931 to 0.974)	None	0920
	Nordic Folkboat		
Purple	ISC Rating System Group 8 (0.930 and below)	None	0930



OFFICIAL RACE VILLAGE

The Island Sailing Club is thrilled to welcome back the Official Race Village, in partnership with the Cowes Yacht Haven. It's a great place to enjoy some drinks and food with your crew and other competitors. It is open from 1700 on Friday 30th until late on Race Day.

The Village is free to enter for all competitors, supporters and race spectators with a large bar and a Food Court, offering a variety of options.



There will also be music from 1800 onwards on the Saturday. Perfect for listening to with a cold beer in your hand!

The Race Sponsors and the Island Sailing Club also have stands in the Race Village, so take a walk around the Village and enjoy the entertainment, games and giveaways.

OPENING TIMES - SOCIAL

RACE VILLAGE - BARS & FOOD COURT

FRIDAY 1700 - 2300

SATURDAY 1000 - 2300

ISC BAR - AT THE ISLAND SAILING CLUB

FRIDAY 1100 - 2300

SATURDAY 1000 - 0000

ISC DINING ROOM - AT THE ISLAND SAILING CLUB

FRIDAY 1200 - 1600

SATURDAY 0700 - 2200

SUNDAY 1330 - 1600

SUMMER GARDEN - AT THE ISLAND SAILING CLUB

FRIDAY 1200 - 2300

SATURDAY 1200 - 2300

SUNDAY 1200 - 2300

To book a table for food in the Dining Room or the Summer Garden please call the ISC on 01983 249434 or 01983 296621.

RED JET CROSSINGS

SATURDAY 1ST JULY (morning crossings)

Southampton to Cowes

departs: 0640 0715 0750 0825 0900

Cowes to Southampton

departs: 0715 0750 0825 0900 0935

Crossing time is approximately 28 minutes
Please check on the day at www.redfunnel.co.uk

THE ONLINE PHOTO GALLERY

Whilst we employ professional marine photographer, Paul Wyeth (pwpictures.com) to capture all aspects of the race (see event website for images), participants and spectators are encouraged to record their own unique experiences too.

Our online photo gallery allows anyone to share their pictures of the race with fellow competitors and sailing fans around the world. In 2022 thousands of images were uploaded by people taking part, and many wonderful shots were featured on the Round the Island Race website.

If you'd like to share your pictures of the 2023 race, just select your favourite images and upload them via the website (rtir.me/upload) from the day of the race.

Once they've been approved by the ISC, your pictures will be available for everyone to see - and because each image will be tagged with the name of the boat featured, you'll also be able to see who has captured pictures of your own race around the Island.

ISLAND SAILING CLUB RACE MERCHANDISE

This year the Club is also offering Round the Island branded items such as water bottles, neck buffs & Round the Island Limited Edition Wessex Gin as well as the infamous tankards. All fantastic memento or crew gifts.

All items can be ordered directly from the Island Sailing Club website at rtir.me/merchandise or in person at the Sailing Club over race weekend.

