

# ACA Coastal Kayak Leader Training & Assessment

## Thoughts

I am an experienced paddler. I would like to be sure I have the skills and knowledge to lead trips for my club, camp, scout, or friends with confidence.



**Prerequisites:** *ACA Essentials of Kayak Touring* or equivalent and/or ACA Coastal Kayak Level-2 Skill Certification.

**Next Step:** This course is excellent preparation for those considering an ACA Instructor program.

**Topics Covered** This course will concentrate on basic skills and training needed for a competent adult paddler to lead beginners on protected waters under gentle conditions. Curriculum covers basics of trip planning, group screening & communication, risk assessment & mitigation, navigation, group management and recovery skills. Candidates are given assessment and a written exam to document competency at the time of training.

**Requirements** this 16-hour course is designed for the committed on-water leader with demonstrated competency in ACA Level-2 skills (see Prerequisites).

**Basic Equipment:** properly outfitted sea kayak with integral flotation and deck-lines, appropriate navigation equipment, touring paddle and related safety equipment including PFD, spray skirt, paddle float, pump, sling, tow system. Group first-aid and spare equipment is advised. This equipment can be provided if needed, although it is expected that students at this level would use your own equipment. Please advise us on any equipment you may need before the class.

**Personal Equipment:** bring clothing suitable for immersion (synthetics, no cotton) and water shoes. Come prepared for frequent immersion while practicing skills. Use of nose-clips, earplugs, and/or swim goggles during immersion is acceptable, though not required. Other items may include sunglasses, sunscreen, hat with visor, bug repellent, windbreaker or paddle top, and spare (dry) clothing.

**NOTE:** We are not responsible for lost or damaged personal items. Plan to leave electronic keys, cell phones, etc. on shore or in a floating, waterproof container. Consider retention aids for prescription glasses, hats and other items dear to you.

## Special Requirements

Please bring a desire for serious fun, a willingness to practice skills and push your comfort level. Please advise us of any personal issues when registering so that we can prepare for special equipment. Let us know in confidence of any medical issues prior to the start of class. We can accommodate most concerns.

## Costs and Fees

Class Fee	Boat and Gear Rental	ACA Certification Card
\$225.00	Available, Inquire	Included (if successful)