

Go West Rally 2026

From the CA's Solent, Wessex, South West and Channel Sections



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A rally along the English Channel Coast

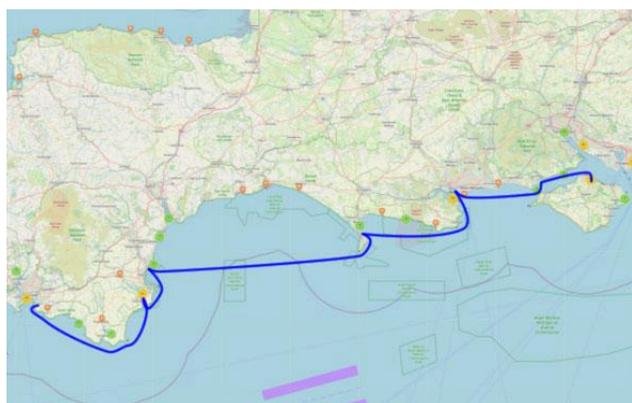
- Join the whole rally or just parts
- Cruise to other ports in between rally ports
- Cruise from port to port alone or with rally friends
- Start 12th May on the Isle of Wight, ends 7th June on the Yealm
- Sailing and socialising together
- Walks, visits and more



This "Go West Rally" is a new event from the Cruising Association provided by CA Sections (Solent, Wessex, South West and Channel) who have got together supported by some local CA Member hosts to offer a sociable "Relay Rally" for 2026. The event is open to all CA members.

The idea is to gather together in various ports along the Channel coast for sociable get-togethers over 2-3 days and then have a couple of days (usually) to cruise independently to the next port; but you might also choose to cruise in company with your new friends from the rally.

You don't need to do the whole rally but can book to participate at just one port or as many as you wish. But note there are not the same number of berths available in all locations (particularly Poole due to the Poole Regatta) so if you are keen to do the entire rally book early.



The dates (arrival and departure):

Folly Inn: Tues 12th to Thurs 14th May

Lymington: Fri 15th to Sun 17th May

Poole: Sun 17th to Tues 19th May

Portland: Sat 23rd to Tues 26th May

Torquay: Fri 29th May to Mon 1st June

Dartmouth: Mon 1st to Wed 3rd June

The Yealm: Fri 5th to Sun 7th June.

You can then cruise home or onwards, with your new rally friends or alone.

There will be a rally WhatsApp group for liaison between members during, before and after the rally.

As well as the programme's events we will suggest other optional activities you might like.

Book early as spaces are limited.



The Folly Inn - Isle of Wight

The Folly Inn and its visitor pontoons are just up river from Cowes.

While here you can not just socialise as part of the rally but also...

Get the water taxi to Cowes to explore the town or attractions such as Osborne House (Queen Victoria's IOW house)

Or walk up the riverside path to Newport

Or visit St Mildred's church which is an interesting building and site of the grave of Uffa Fox



Tuesday 12th May – Meet at the Folly Inn

Berthing is on the pub's alongside pontoons for up to 9 boats, and then for more on the mid-river pontoon, rafted together in a good sheltered location.

In the evening we plan pontoon drinks so bring your own drinks.

Then dinner at the Folly Inn.

Wednesday 13th May

There will be an optional "day trip" including a walk to Whippingham and then options to head by bus to Osborne House or Newport before returning back by bus or walk. Details will be in the guide for participants.

Pontoon potluck supper.

Thursday 14th May and Friday 15th May

If continuing with the rally to Lymington arrive there on Friday 15th May.

In the interim or not as part of the rally stay on at the Folly to visit other attractions or cruise onwards alone or with your new rally friends to visit other ports and attractions in the Solent.

Lymington

This is an attractive harbour and town in the western Solent with an interesting market in the High Street on Saturdays as well as walks to the Nature reserve via the Normandy Marsh.

Friday 15th May - Meet at Lymington

Arrive at Lymington Yacht Haven.

In the evening we plan pontoon drinks so bring your own drinks and maybe nibbles.

Pub meal at The Mayflower.

Saturday 16th May

The same options as above for individual visits or just socialise with the rest of the rally.

Market day in town.

Afternoon walk through the salt marshes and nature reserve perhaps as far as Keyhaven.

Dinner at the Royal Lymington Yacht Club.

Sunday 17th May

If continuing with the rally to Poole head on to arrive there on Sunday 17th May.

If not then stay in Lymington to visit other attractions or cruise onwards alone or with your new rally friends to visit other ports and attractions in the Solent.

Poole

Poole harbour claims to be the one of the largest natural harbours in the world and Poole Town has much history of nautical and other kinds. Options include the Poole Cockle Trail walk, Poole Museum, the RNLI Poole



Old Lifeboat Station Museum, and from Poole Quay you can get a ferry to Brownsea Island for its walks and wildlife or the Harbour Circular tour.

Sunday 17th May - Meet in Poole

We berth at Poole Town Boat Haven.

Optional walk of Poole town - self-guided walking tour with Tourist Office leaflet.

In the evening we plan pontoon drinks and nibbles. Bring your own.

Monday 18th May

Dinner (3 courses with preselected choices) in the Harbour View room at the RNLI College at 1830.

Tuesday 19th May - Friday 22nd May

If continuing with the rally to Portland you might stay on in Poole or start heading west perhaps visiting some of the local anchorages or visiting Weymouth on your way to arrive in Portland on Saturday 23rd May.

Alternatively stay on in Poole; note though that because of the International Paints Poole Regatta Poole Quay Boat Haven is fully booked and one reason why the longer gap in time to the next rally point. So visit other attractions or cruise onwards alone or with your new rally friends to visit other ports and attractions in the area or onwards to or towards Portland - you might even anchor in Poole Harbour; or anchor or take a buoy in Studland Bay; or head on to one of the other local anchorages.

Portland

Portland has much to offer for visits including the Quarry and Sculpture Park, Portland Castle, Chesil Beach, D-Day Centre, Portland Lighthouse etc.

Saturday 23rd May - Meet in Portland

In the evening we plan pontoon drinks. Bring your own drinks and maybe nibbles.

Dinner at "Salt" Restaurant in the marina.

Sunday 24th May

The same options as above for individual visits or just socialise with the rest of the rally.

Monday 25th May

The same options as above for individual visits or just socialise with the rest of the rally.

Tuesday 26th May to Thursday 28th May

If continuing with the rally arrive in Torquay on Friday 29th May.

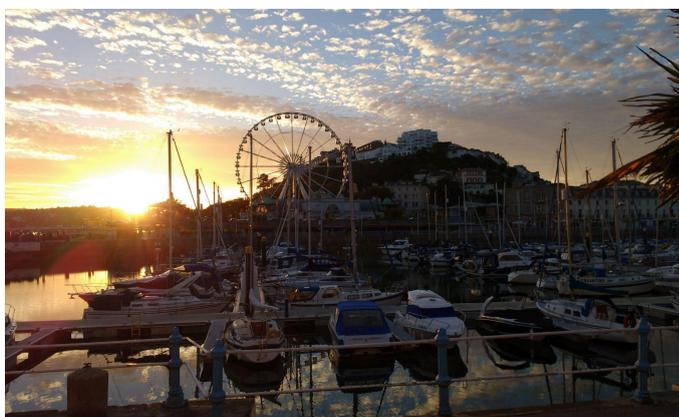
In the interim stay in Portland to visit other attractions or cruise onwards alone or with your new rally friends to visit other ports and attractions in the area (e.g. Weymouth) or onwards to or towards Torquay (maybe visit Brixham).

Torquay

This lively town has a picturesque sea-front and marina as well as a number of tourist attractions both in town and further away.

Friday 29th May - Meet in Torquay

In the evening we plan pontoon drinks. Bring your own drinks and maybe nibbles.



Saturday 30th May

English Riviera Air Show: watch the show from midday from the terrace of the Royal Torquay YC or go to Paignton for the ground and air display.

We hope we may be able to arrange a group meal - possibly a barbecue - at the Yacht Club but cannot confirm at this stage.

Sunday 31st May

English Riviera Air Show: watch the show from midday from the terrace of the Royal Torquay YC or go to Paignton for the ground and air display.

Monday 1st June

If continuing with the rally, cruise on to arrive in Dartmouth Monday 1st June.

Alternatively visit other attractions in Torbay such as local anchorages or perhaps Brixham.

Dartmouth

This attractive port is well sheltered and easy to enter at any state of the tide and in nearly any weather conditions. With a picturesque river front, good shopping, good walks, steam train and food facilities there are many reasons to visit. Also upriver at Dittisham is Greenway House - a National Trust property and Agatha Christie's house as it was in the 1950s.



Monday 1st June - Meet in Dartmouth

This attractive port is well sheltered and easy to enter at any state of the tide and in nearly any weather conditions. With a picturesque river front, good shopping and food facilities there are many reasons to visit.

Cruise onwards and meet up in Dartmouth where we will berth on the outside of DA pontoon. In the evening we plan pontoon drinks so bring your own drinks.

Tuesday 2nd June

River trip (or walk) to Dittisham and informal lunch at a pub.

Drinks at 1830 and then dinner at the Royal Dart Yacht Club (via lower ferry or water taxi).

Wednesday 3rd June and Thursday 4th June

Stay on in Dartmouth to visit other attractions (maybe across the river to Kingswear or up river to Dittisham or beyond) or cruise onwards alone or with your new rally friends to visit other ports such as Salcombe or onwards to or towards the Yealm.

The Yealm

The River Yealm is unique in its unspoilt nature as indicated it being a Special Area of Conservation and Site of Special Scientific Interest. It has no marina but instead mooring buoys and mid-river pontoons for visitors. It has two villages with pubs and a few shops plus areas to explore by boat (tender) and walking.

Friday 5th June - meet in the Yealm

In the evening pontoon drinks and nibbles. Bring your own.

Saturday 6th

Lunch at Yealm Yacht Club



Sunday 7th June

The rally has ended but you may choose to cruise onwards alone or with your new rally friends. There are still many interesting ports to visit further west such as Plymouth, Fowey and Falmouth as well as interesting river valleys to explore and anchorages. You might even get as far as the Isles of Scilly.

Further passage and other details will be provided prior to the event to those who have booked.



Booking

These marinas and restaurants are popular during the summer and we need numbers early to secure your place.

Costs

The items identified below are all to allow you to select your options and to make initial payments through the CA booking system. Many items are to be paid on arrival.

Note that many marinas are now limiting the size of boats for rallies. If your boat is >14m LOA or draft >2m special arrangements may need to be made by you and we reserve the right to exclude boats over this size if necessitated for particula

Item	Price (on Eventbrite)	Notes	Max numbers
Rally Fee (per boat)	£15	Includes Relay Rally 2026 flag	50
Rally Deposit & Berth Booking (per boat)	£30	This deposit allows us to make advance booking payments for berths and will be refunded by the end of the rally for all who take part.	50
Folly Inn Isle of Wight			
Folly Inn Pontoon Berth (Tues 12 to Thurs 14th May, 2 nights)	0	This pontoon is attached to the shore at the Folly Inn but only has space for 9 boats of a certain size. Otherwise book the Folly Reach Berths. Payment to be made to HM on arrival.	9
Folly Reach Pontoon Berth (12-14th May, 2 nights)	0	This pontoon is not attached to shore so water taxi or dinghy to be used. Payment to be made to HM on arrival.	6
Dinner at Folly Inn on Tues 12th May	0	Specify number wishing to eat. Actual orders and payment direct to the restaurant on the night.	45
Lymington			
Berth at Lymington Yacht Haven (Fri 15th to Sun 17th May, 2 nights)	0	Payment to be made to the marina on arrival.	10
Berths at Town Quay may also be booked by members directly.	0	Book your own but indicate so here.	5
Pub meal at The Mayflower on Fri 15th	0	Not formal but give numbers to indicate numbers so we may book.	30
Afternoon walk through salt marsh and nature reserve etc. on Sat 16th	0	Specify numbers for planning purposes.	30
Dinner at Royal Lymington YC on Sat 16th May.	0	<i>Two courses, ????</i>	30
Poole			
Berth at Poole Quay Boat Haven(Sun 17 to Tues 19 May, 2 nights)	0	Boats <=12m Payment to be made to the marina on receipt of their invoice.	8
Berth at Poole Quay Boat Haven(Sun 17 to Tues 19 May, 2 nights)	0	Boats >12m Payment to be made to the marina on receipt of their invoice.	2
Dinner at the RNLI College on Mon 18th May	£40	Three course meal options to be selected.	35
Portland			
Berth at Portland Marina (Sat 23 to Tues 26 May, 3 nights)	0	Payment on arrival at the marina office.	15
Dinner at "Salt" Restaurant at Portland Marina on Sat 23 May.	£10	Details of menu, prices and choices awaited. But deposit of £10 is due>	30



Torquay			
Berth at Torquay Marina (Fri 29 May to Mon 1 June, 3 nights)		Payment to be made to the marina on receipt of their invoice.	15
Dartmouth			
Berth at Dartmouth (Mon 1 to Wed 3 June, 2 nights)	0	Deposit to be made to the marina on receipt of their invoice, and balance on arrival.	10
Dinner at Royal Dart YC on 2 Jun	0	Order on the evening from the menu.	35
Ferry boat trip to Dittisham on 2 Jun, and pub lunch	0	Specify numbers for planning purposes.Payment direct to ferry..	30
Walk (approx 4 miles) to Dittisham on 2 June, and pub lunch	0	Specify numbers for planning purposes.	30
The Yealm			
Berth on mid-river pontoon (Fri 5 to Sun 7 June, 2 nights) boat <9m LOA.	£50.40	Choose relevant boat length overall.	3
Berth on mid-river pontoon (Fri 5 to Sun 7 June, 2 nights) boat <10m LOA.	£56.00	Choose relevant boat length overall.	4
Berth on mid-river pontoon (Fri 5 to Sun 7 June, 2 nights) boat <11m LOA.	£61.60	Choose relevant boat length overall.	6
Berth on mid-river pontoon (Fri 5 to Sun 7 June, 2 nights) boat <12m LOA.	£67.20	Choose relevant boat length overall.	6
Berth on mid-river pontoon (Fri 5 to Sun 7 June, 2 nights) boat <13m LOA.	£72.80	Choose relevant boat length overall.	4
Berth on mid-river pontoon (Fri 5 to Sun 7 June, 2 nights) boat >=13m LOA.	£78.40	Choose relevant boat length overall.	3
Lunch at Yealm YC on 6 Jun	£35	This price is estimated so there may be a small refund or extra to pay.	40

Book early to ensure your place as spaces are limited.

The link for booking is as follows:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/go-west-rally-2026-tickets-1982076719825>

And on the CA web site - <https://www.theca.org.uk/events/go-west-rally-2026>.

Bookings are subject to standard CA Terms and Conditions and Rally T&Cs as on the next page.

If you have any queries, feedback or comments, please email channel@theca.org.uk.



Terms And Conditions

1. The skipper shall be a fully paid up member of the CA.
2. Should the rally have to be cancelled before it starts then all monies will be returned to participants. The organisers retain the right to vary the programme if necessary.
3. A vessel or participant may withdraw from the rally but will still be liable for costs. Booking fees will not be refunded but other costs may be recovered if the places are taken by another vessel or suppliers agree to reduce their charge, which the organisers will use reasonable efforts to achieve.
4. Vessels attending the events are to be covered by adequate third party and public liability insurance; minimum £2,000,000 for any one accident.
5. The Event Organisers and Organising Body shall not be in any way liable for any loss, damage, death or personal injury howsoever caused to the owner, skipper, his/her crew or other persons on a boat, as a result of their taking part in the Meet, Rally or Cruise-in-Company. Moreover, every skipper/owner warrants the suitability of his/her yacht/boat for the Meet, Rally or Cruise-in-Company and that his/her boat is insured for taking part in the Meet, Rally or Cruise-in-Company;
6. When on a Meet, Rally or Cruise-in-Company with the CA the safety of any yacht/boat and her entire management including insurance shall be the sole responsibility of the owner/skipper who must ensure that the yacht/boat is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by a crew of sufficient number and experience who are physically fit to face bad weather. The owner/skipper must be satisfied as to the soundness of the hull, spars, rigging, sails and all other gear. He/she must ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained, stowed and in-date and that the crew know where it is kept and how it is to be used.
7. Participant and boat details may be provided to third parties such as marinas where direct payments for bookings are required.

The vessel is insured and I have Third Party and Public Liability insurance cover of at least £2,000,000 for any one accident. My insured cruising range covers the area relevant to this event. I am aware that the Cruising Association and the Rally organisers accept no responsibility for the safety of my vessel, or its crew. The decision to sail and all handling of the vessel and its tender are the responsibility of the skipper who should take his/her decisions knowing the abilities of his/her vessel and of his/her crew. I confirm that I have read and agree to the General Conditions that apply to the CA Sections' Rallies/ Meets and Cruises.

