

Dark Angel Joining Instructions

Clothing and Sun Protection

All students are required to wear non marking flat footwear. Deck shoes are ideal as they are specifically designed to be non slip on shiny boat surfaces; however non marking training shoes will suffice.

Even on hot sunny days life on the water can be cooler than on dry land. With this in mind it is inadvisable to attend the course in only shorts and T-shirts. We advise all students to ensure that they have long trousers, a jumper, a hat and a windproof jacket. If there is a problem with warm jackets we can provide you with a Marine Matters jacket for the duration of the course if you forewarn us.

The suns power on the water is intensified by the reflective surfaces around you. We advise all students to wear a higher factor sunscreen than you would normally.

We will have a plentiful supply of cold drinks and water on board. It is advisable to drink more than you would normally as while the sun is dehydrating you constantly the cooling effect of the wind makes you feel as if you are not perspiring at all. Even on calm days there will be plenty of apparent wind on a Motor Cruiser.

If you suffer from sunburn or dehydration you will tire easily and find it difficult to concentrate as well as being uncomfortable. All these factors will mean that you will get less enjoyment and benefit from your course.

Internet Access (Oceanwave) :

If you are staying onboard during your course, and wish to obtain internet access, we are pleased to advise that Swanwick Marina has Oceanwave broadband facilities. Using your laptop, simply search for wireless networks and select OCEANWAVE, then follow the on-screen directions. For further information on this service or for purchasing USB wireless dongles, call Oceanwave on 08451 240404 or visit www.myoceanwave.com The helpdesk is open 9am to 6pm, 7 days a week.

Travel

Dark Angel, our Sealine F44 school boat, is berthed at the Swanwick Marina, Bridge Road/Swanwick Lane, Swanwick, Southampton. On arrival at the Marina please report to the Marina Office to obtain confirmation of the boat's location and the gate code for access purposes. Your Skipper will meet you on board.

Swanwick Marina is perfectly placed with easy access to the M27 at either junction 8 or 9.

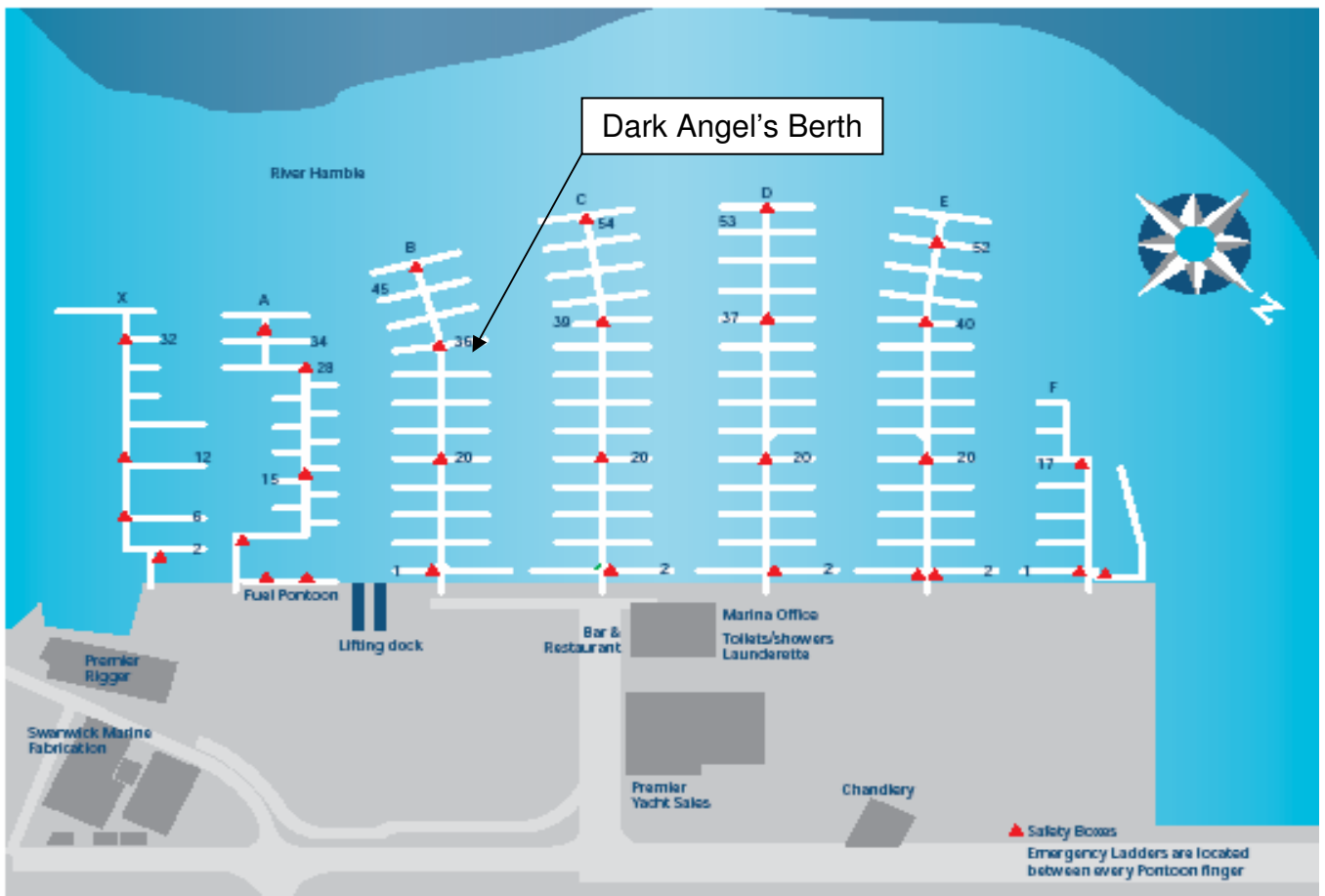
By Car

GPS postcode: Spinnaker Pub (opposite Marina) SO31 7EB.

Approach from M3/Southampton on the M27 at junction 8. Exit the motorway onto the roundabout and take the third exit up the hill. Stay in the left lane and take the first left at the next roundabout. After about one mile you will pass under a rail bridge and over a road bridge. At the traffic lights turn right into the Marina.

Approach from Portsmouth/Fareham on the M27 at junction 9. Exit the motorway onto the roundabout and take the first left. Move to the right lane and at the next roundabout follow signs for A27 west, you will also see brown signs for River Hamble, take the 5th exit. Stay in the left lane and go straight on at the next roundabout, and again at the next one (by Kams Palace and the BP garage). Go straight on at yet another roundabout and continue on this road until you reach a set of traffic lights at the bottom of the hill. Turn left at the lights into Swanwick Marina.





Each pontoon has a security gate which requires a code for access which you can obtain from the Marina office on arrival.

By Train

The nearest train station to the Swanwick Marina is Bursledon. Train access is excellent at Bursledon with the train station being just over the road from the Marina. Once you have alighted from the train follow the road down hill from the car park. At the junction with Bridge Road turn right under the rail bridge and over the road bridge. Immediately after you cross the bridge turn right into Swanwick Marina.

Accommodation

While attending a course with Marine Matters UK Ltd you are welcome to stay onboard our school boat or you may wish to stay ashore at a local B & B or Hotel. If staying on board, bed linen and towels are provided for the duration of your course.

Sunnyside B&B, 01489 573910

This family owned and run B&B is about 300m from the marina and Dark Angels berth. You will get good food in the morning and a good level of customer service. Room rates vary depending on accommodation but are £35.00 - £40.00 for single occupancy and £50.00 - £60.00 for two occupants. For more information see www.sunnyside-bb.co.uk

Norman House B&B, 01489 576458

This family owned and run B&B is about 200m from the marina and Dark Angels berth. You will get good food in the morning and a good level of customer service. Room rates vary depending on rooms but are £35.00 for single occupant in a double room and £50.00 for two occupants or for a twin room £35.00 for a single occupant and £55.00 for two occupants. For more information see www.280normanhouse.co.uk

The Solent Hotel, 01489 880000

For those that wish to make more of a luxury break of your course you can try the Solent Hotel and Spa at Junction 9 of the M27. Prices range from £66.00 - £95.00 per night depending on the time of year and if you want B&B only or dinner included. For more information see www.solenthotel.com

If you have any difficulty with any the directions above call our office on **01489 579 589**. If you call us out of hours your call will be forwarded to the duty mobile at no extra cost to you.