# **MARITIME SECTOR**

of the UK's trade moves by sea

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196,400 people are employed in the maritime sector

The UK has over 11,073 miles of coastline



Oil and gas extraction employs around 40,000 people on about 200 UK offshore installations

You could coach water sports, like windsurfing and sailing

Fancy an active and exciting career? Read on...

Think you have what it takes to work at sea?

£8.6 billion

(annual turnover of the maritime sector)



## **MARITIME**

Careers Insight

The maritime sector is key to the British economy (not surprising as we're an island nation!) and involves shipping, maritime leisure and port industries. This sector is particularly important in providing skilled employees and hardware to companies in the marine industries from around the world.

Maritime is a very broad and varied sector, because it basically involves every industry where business takes place in harbours, at ports or on vessels. Marine engineering is also an area in this sector, which has plenty of job opportunities. This involves designing and constructing both ships and equipment to be used at sea or on the water.

Here are some of the major areas in the sector and the jobs roles available...

### **Commercial Sea Fishing**

This can be a rewarding area as there are a range of occupations in this area, depending on the vessel size, types of catch and the area in which you are fishing. On any vessel the range of roles could include, Skipper, Mate, Deckhand or Engineer.

#### **Marine Leisure**

This part of the industry is concerned with having fun! All recreational activities that take place at sea, or on inland water, come under this category. This can include anything from designing or working on super-yachts to working as a water sports instructor or coach.

#### **Maritime Search and Rescue**

Everyone recognises the iconic orange lifeboat, and these are the people who keep us safe in the sea. Search and rescue activities include lifeboats and helicopters and have to react quickly to emergencies; the RNLI has 4.800 lifeboat crew members.

## **Merchant Navy**

The Merchant Navy is the flashy name for all commercial shipping, which is a huge industry, so there are lots of different job roles. You could be working on small tug boats, huge container ships or commercial ferries, and there's a demand for skilled staff.

#### **Ports and Harbours**

There are a huge variety of ports in the UK, with some employing thousands of people, and many focusing on a particular aspect, like fishing ports or passenger ports. Job roles vary on the type of port you are working in.

#### Salary

Starting salary after completing a marine industry apprenticeship can be anywhere between £12,000 and £17,000.

## **GET QUALIFIED**

To get into engineering, you'll need hands-on experience and a good head for maths and science...

#### **Apprenticeships**

An Apprenticeship is a great way into this sector; both of these are NVQ level 2:

- Maritime Occupations Marine Industry
- Sea Fishing Tugboat Operations

## **Advanced Apprenticeships**

The Marine Industry Apprenticeship can be done at NVQ level 3 too:

- Maritime Occupations Marine Industry
- Sea Fishing Tugboat Operations

#### A Levels

Here are some A Levels that are relevant to the sector:

- Design & Technology
- Marine Science
- Sciences
- Physical Education

## **Foundation Degrees**

A Foundation Degree is a university-level qualification that is equivalent to the first two years of an Honours Degree. They are different from Honours Degrees as they involve learning in the workplace as well as at university or college.

## **College Courses**

A college course can also be a great route into this sector. To see which colleges have relevant courses in your region check out

www.opendoorsmedia.co.uk.

## **USEFUL LINKS**

www.opendoorsmedia.co.uk - The best careers site on the web. www.maritimeskills.org - Sector skills council for the maritime sector. www.careersbox.co.uk - Home to a fantastic library of free careers videos.

