

## Course Aim

To equip ship visitors with a full appreciation of protocol, personal safety and security issues relating to port facilities and ships.

## Course Objectives

- ① To provide an overview of shipping organisations
- ② To introduce maritime industry custom and practice
- ③ To describe ship types, shipboard organisation, trades and specific hazards
- ④ To highlight the current security issues
- ⑤ To facilitate the personal safety of people visiting port facilities and ships

The course also provides ship visitors a unique networking opportunity and forum to share best practice.

This is the first formalised training course for ship visitors. It is a joint venture between a number of highly respected maritime voluntary organisations.

The ILO says: “This course should make ship visitors more effective in their support of seafarers, and should also help in giving practical effect to the ILO Maritime Labour Convention 2006.”



**The Nautical Institute** is accrediting the course. The Institute is the international professional body for qualified seafarers and others with an interest in nautical matters. It provides a wide range of services to enhance the professional standing and knowledge of its members, who are drawn from all sectors of the maritime world.

**ICMA (the International Christian Maritime Association)** is endorsing the course as a basic tool for ship visiting and the on board care of seafarers. ICMA is a free association of Christian non-for-profit organisations working for the welfare of seafarers.



**The International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) Seafarers' Trust** is funding the course. The Trust is dedicated to the spiritual, moral and physical welfare of seafarers irrespective of nationality, race or creed.

**The International Committee on Seafarers' Welfare (ICSW)** is coordinating the course. The ICSW is an international umbrella organisation dedicated to the implementation of the ILO Instruments on Seafarers' Welfare.

Cover picture by Freek Visser, Netherlands.

# Ship Welfare Visitor Course



Ship board protocol

Personal safety

Port and ship security

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What is the course?  
Ship board protocol

The Ship Welfare Visitor Course (SWVC) is a two-day attendance course designed by the ICSW and accredited by the UK Nautical Institute. It is an introduction to maritime terminology, maritime organisations, ship types, shipboard routines, protocols, seafarers' issues and personal safety in port facilities and onboard ship.

Port and ship security

What are the aims of the course?

Ship board protocol

ICSW aims to improve ship visitors' understanding of procedures and protocols when entering port facilities and boarding ships. The course introduces participants to personal safety and security issues relating to port facilities and ships. The course:

Personal safety

- provides an overview of shipping organisations
- introduces maritime industry customs and practices

Ship board protocol  
Personal safety

- describes ship types, shipboard organisation and points out specific hazards to safety relevant to each ship type
- highlights the current security issues which concern port authorities and shipping companies, and which affect ship visitors' free access to the port and ships
- facilitates the personal safety of ship visitors

Personal safety

Port and ship security

Ship board protocol

Personal safety

Port and ship security

## What are the other advantages of taking the course?

The course provides a unique networking opportunity and a forum for sharing best practice amongst individuals and organisations involved in ship visiting. Faith-based missions, welfare practitioners, seafarers' centres, port welfare committees, unions, and port authorities are able to share time together to interact and forge better local relations.

## Will the course help ship visitors gain better access to ships?

For ship visitors elsewhere around the world, the ICSW-issued SWVC ID pass will establish the competence of the pass-holder and hopefully make it easier for him or her to gain access to ports and ships.

## Who can participate in the course?

Anyone with an interest in gaining more understanding of seafarers' needs and well-being, and their places of work, will find the course relevant and useful.

This could include:

- union members
- volunteers offering services to seafarers
- staff members from a seafarers' centre,
- port authority staff
- ships' agents

Ship visitors who go on board to assist the welfare needs of seafarers, and are supported by a recognised organisation are eligible to attend.

## Is there an assessment at the end of the course?

Yes. At the end of the course, participants are expected to fill out a questionnaire to assess their grasp of the course material. Those who successfully complete this assessment will receive accreditation and be issued an access-card SWVC ID pass.

## Is there a local instructor I can contact?

We have qualified instructors now in most areas of the world. Your local contact details are below. However you can also send an email to [icsw@icsw.org.uk](mailto:icsw@icsw.org.uk) with your name and contact details and we will put you in contact with your local instructor.

## How much is the course fee?

Transportation fares to the course venue and accommodation costs are at the expense of the local organisations. All course materials, lunches, and snacks, will be covered by the ICSW from a grant given by the ITF Seafarers Trust.

## Local Contact: