

The Kitesurf
Centre



Fastrack Kite & Watersports Instructor Course



The Kitesurf Centre Ltd



Broomhill Sands, Camber, East Sussex
TN31 7SB - +44 (0) 7563 763 046

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What's it all about?

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The Fastrack Instructor Course introduces complete beginners to 5 different kite and watersport disciplines and provides training for them to not only accomplish the sports themselves, but achieve a level of ability, experience, expertise and the qualifications to go on and instruct others.

The exciting schedule concentrates on Powerkiting, Kite Landboarding, Kite Buggy, Kitesurfing and the fastest growing watersport in the world, Stand Up Paddleboarding. It also covers power and safety boating, personal nutrition and first aid applied to extreme sports instruction.

Whilst the theoretical side covers all the knowledge needed regarding the sports and instruction, information relating to the industry and how to get a job including travelling the world. - an easy task with all the qualifications!

The course helps participants find a job placement upon graduation either in the UK or among the many schools overseas. We first ran the course in 2015 and had a fantastic outcome. The students went on to instruct in Kenya, Brazil, South Africa, Fuerteventura and right across the UK.

Since the initial course we have refined and improved the syllabus to help improve results further.

Every centre worldwide favour instructors with recognised qualifications in multiple sports, which is why this course puts you in a great position to begin a new and exciting career!

Perhaps you're taking a gap year or a sabbatical from the 9-5 or just want to change career entirely to travel the world? This is the ideal opportunity which is not only great fun, but opens many doors worldwide.



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Why become an instructor?

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Rather than us telling you why you'd want to be an instructor we've asked a few of our instructors to make a short video expressing their own thoughts, check them out below.

[Instructor Video](#)

Among the information our instructors have presented we have listed some points we feel are most important as a qualified multi-sport instructor.

- Travel to exotic places whilst earning a good income
- Follow the summer – 6 months in the northern hemisphere and 6 months in the southern.
- The BKSA and RYA qualifications are recognised worldwide
- A good career path with chances to be involved in the industry
- Shortage of instructors worldwide means finding a job is relatively easy (less than 70 qualifying annually in the UK each year)
- Work outdoors 99% of the time
- Relaxed atmosphere
- Meet loads of new and interesting people every day - who often become friends
- Be involved with fun and exciting teams
- Learn foreign languages
- Participate in the sports you love - all the time
- Gratifying seeing your students learn and improve
- Being a multi qualified instructor means you could be doing something different every day
- Healthy
- Fun!



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Summary of the sports covered

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The choice to include such a range of sports in the 8 week program is for several reasons.

- 1) All the sports contribute and complement to the learning and improvement of one another.
- 2) A multi-sport participant (& eventually instructor) becomes much more rounded in their knowledge & skill set.
- 3) Any watersports centre around the world would prefer instructors who can instruct in different sports
- 4) It is a lot more enjoyable having some variation, even the best jobs become repetitive if it's the same each day.

The sports explained.....



Powerkite - Power kiting or traction kiting is a great introduction into the world of all the other kite sports, as well as being great fun in itself! Learn to harness the power of the wind while controlling the kite. Powerkiting can be anything from flying a simple two line kite, to skidding and getting big air on a small 4 line kite.



Kite Buggy – A step further from powerkiting but using the skill set learnt to now generate power to pull the 3 wheeled buggy along the beach. This is a very popular sport and is easy to teach to all ages. Kite buggying can be anything from cruising up and down the sand to 60mph speed runs



Kite Landboarding – Kite landboarding or kite mountain boarding brings together the excitement of flying a kite with the thrill of riding an off road board; taking aspects from kitesurfing, snowboarding and skateboarding, it can be performed either on a sandy beach or inland in a field or park. This sport has a very quick progression curve and like buggy is a popular sport due to its accessibility.

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Summary of the sports covered continued

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Kitesurfing – A wind powered surface watersport using a kite and a board to move across the water. Kitesurfing harnesses the power of the wind through a large parachute type kite to propel a rider across the water on a small surfboard or a kiteboard.

Although the name includes surfing, kitesurfing does not need waves, the wind is the only force needed to power you along. Flat water locations such as Camber are favoured by riders looking to perform freestyle as the water is smooth so easier to take off and land on. With the large range of conditions to ride in, whether 'surfing' in the waves, going for big jumps, taking out a GPS for a speed record, learning a new freestyle trick or on a long distance adventure kitesurfing never becomes boring or repetitive. It has been the fastest growing watersport in the world for the past 10 years until SUP arrived.



Stand up paddleboarding - Abbreviated as SUP, this is a new and exciting watersport. It is accessible to a wide range of people and a great way to get fit, explore the rivers and surf the ocean. SUP uses a large stable surf type board with plenty of width and volume. Starting in a standing position a long single ended paddle can be used to propel the board forwards

Many surfers have converted because of the versatility of the new sport and you're unlikely to find a watersport centre in the world that doesn't offer it due to the varying conditions it can be enjoyed in and the range of customers it attracts. A must have instructor qualification.



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Qualifications Achieved

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The course is jam packed with learning, instructor courses and qualifications. Needless to say it's a busy 8 week period!

Here's what's included...

- BKSA Powerkite Level 1
- BKSA Kite buggy and landboard Level 1
- BKSA Kitesurf Level 1 & 2
- BSUPA Stand up paddleboard (SUP) Level 1
- BKSA Powerkite instructor
- RYA Powerboat Level 2
- RYA - First Aid – Water specific course
- BKSA Kitesurf Instructor 1
- BSUPA Stand up paddleboard Instructor

The range of qualifications on offer provides the opportunity to find a mixture of work in the future or to specialise in a certain sport. Taking these assessments alone without the instruction or equipment comes to a total of over £3,500.

The advantage of becoming a multi-sport instructor is the versatility it offers to potential employers and by being able to teach and work no matter what the location, conditions or school. For example, if there is light or no wind at certain times of year where you're working, kitesurfing would be difficult to teach but it may be a beautiful location for holiday makers and ideal for stand up paddleboard lessons, tours and adventures around islands or caves – the Caribbean for example!



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8 week schedule

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|---|---|--|---|
| Week 1 BKSA Introduction to Powerkiting and kitesurfing Level 1 with basic applied theory | Week 2 Kitesurf riding development with video analysis BSUPA SUP Level 1 & BKSA Kite buggy & landboarding level 1 | Week 3 - BKSA Kitesurf Level 2 Fitness & Nutrition Teaching styles & Methods Equipment repair & maintenance | Week 4 RYA Powerboat Level 2 & First Aid Training and Assessment Riding development & mock practical lessons |
| Week 5 BSUPA SUP Instructor assessment Level 1 & job placement applications. | Week 6 Powerboat training applied to kitesurf with rescue techniques & safety equipment Site & Risk assessments at Kent & Sussex beaches | Week 7 Kitesurf instructor course preparation including instructor professionalism, incident reporting (HSE) and light wind alternatives | Week 8 – Kitesurf Instructor Training Course & assessment |

Theory Topics covered

- Risk & site assessments
- Wind (and affects), weather systems
- Instructing skills, teaching styles & methods
- Kite & watersports locations worldwide
- Jobs, employability & teaching abroad,
- Incident reporting (HSE)
- Introducing the details of the BKSA & its schemes
- Kite and board styles, aero and hydrodynamics
- Fitness & nutrition techniques
- Light wind alternatives
- Instructor professionalism
- Rescue techniques and safety equipment / crafts

The 8 week program focuses on improving personal riding, understanding of the sports and theory behind them for the first 4 weeks before turning more attention to instructing techniques, coaching, shadowing qualified instructors and assessments for the second half. Personal participation in each discipline continues throughout to improve development and for a break from the classroom. A typical day will cover a practical and theory session which may be in the classroom or mixed with a practical session on the beach.

The course layout is a rough guide and sometimes changes depending on the weather conditions. Theory starts at a basic level and advances as the course progresses. From week 2 onwards personal presentations covering the theory topics are introduced to not only develop a depth of knowledge but also to practice speaking in front of groups and to instil confidence and importantly improve presentation skills. Video coaching and analysis is used throughout the course, this allows students to have their own riding analysed as they progress and also get used to debriefing one another. The aim of the course is to enter the final assessments in an overqualified position & go on to be excellent instructors. All assessments are examined by external examiners.

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Prerequisite

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Your entry level of experience and ability is not too important as the course starts right from the beginning covering all the basics but we do require you to have a basic knowledge and understanding of kitesurfing and kite sports. We recommend taking a BKSA level 1&2 introductory lesson with us or your local BKSA school before the course starts. Upon booking onto the course, we will send you a powerkite (if you don't already own one) so you can get to grips with flying it, understanding basic aerodynamics and how kites fly. .

The Fastrack Course will still start from the beginning even for those who have some experience in the sports as not only will the activities be taught, but also teaching methods as well as gaining invaluable experience in how to instruct at the same time. This course will run differently to our usual introduction to kitesurfing courses and is a vital part of the curriculum.

GCSEs, NVQs and A Levels are not essential as to be a good instructor needs its own set of attributes. Friendly, patient, hardworking, passionate and energetic takes you far further than a university degree. Many of our instructors would be the first to admit they were never that successful at school, but that has not stopped them enjoying fantastic careers both here in the UK and abroad.

The course has a lot to fit in 8 weeks so be prepared for some early starts, late finishes and long weeks. Although challenging, it's also very rewarding.

It's advised that you have a reasonable level of fitness as it can be quite demanding.

Applicants must be 18 or older and complete the [Booking Form](#) upon application

Military & Resettlement Programs

If you're in the military and are looking to be a qualified instructor on either a 4 or 8 week program this could be the ideal course to join. Whether you're able to join for the full duration or just part it's worth contacting us to see what we can offer. The course falls under the ELC Scheme and funding is available.

This is also a good opportunity for more experienced kitesurfers or watersports enthusiasts who already have some experience but limited leave available. Contact us for more details.

If you're planning to leave the military or are in the process then this could be a good opportunity to start a new career in something completely different. Funding is available; please contact us for more details.



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Action Plan & Career Path

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After finishing the ITC on week 8, each individual is given an action plan. This varies on how the external BKSA examiner believes the participant can improve in each discipline, which can be anything from improving riding ability to meteorology knowledge or everything in between. In addition they also set the number of shadowing hours - these are hours in which you assist a fully qualified instructor to further your knowledge and gain experience with real students, whilst taking on more responsibility. The amount of hours given on the action plan is once again chosen by the BKSA examiner depending on their assessments during the ITC week. These usually vary between 20 to 40 hours, so not too long, but again vital to gain further experience and technical skills. These hours may be carried out at The Kitesurf Centre or on a placement at any BKSA registered school.



We have contacts for work opportunities both in the UK and across 4 different continents with registered schools, so we should be able to help with starting a career for the future.

The qualifications will allow travel to countries far and wide. The majority of our instructors spend 6 months of the summer in the UK and then 6 months abroad each winter, either in watersports or doing ski and snowboarding seasons. This allows them to not only miss the cold UK winter but also explore incredible places. Others plan to spend 6 months abroad but we don't then see them for a few years! There is a general lack of instructors across the world and with the sports' only increasing in popularity the opportunities are certainly readily available.

Throughout the course we'll work on watersport specific CVs and help with applying for work placements after the course, whether it's in the UK or abroad.

Kitesurfing and watersport instructors jobs can be very well paid in more developed countries but working in certain less developed countries should be considered as a fun experience rather than a high income.

There is also the opportunity to become a safety or powerboat driver. Some of our friends have gone on to become videographers for industry brands, pro riders, moved to Richard Branson's watersports Island in the BVI's and one teaches kitesurfing from a luxury yacht for the rich & famous!

With kitesurfing likely to become an Olympic sport in the near future, the national governing bodies (such as the BKSA is for Britain) are becoming governed by the IKA under one umbrella. This is good news as it means the BKSA qualification stretches even further and can be used in any of those countries

Within the UK there is also the chance to further your career within the BKSA's learning structure to become a senior instructor, national trainer or even examiner.

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Work Opportunities

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Below is a selection of potential kitesurfing destinations to work at from around the world which hopefully gives an idea how on how great these qualifications are for travelling.



Watamu, Kenya



Safety Bay, WA



Gokova, Turkey



Abu Soma, Egypt



Tarifa, Spain



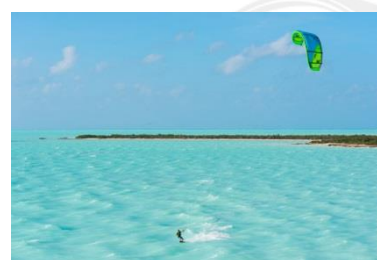
Fuerteventura, Canary Islands



Dakhla, Morocco



Langebaan, South Africa



Turks & Caicos, Caribbean

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What's Included & What's Not?

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Everything to do with the training is included in the cost-equipment (see next page), instruction, qualifications, assessments and personal & liability insurance.



What's not included?

Transport – Weekends are planned days off during the course, so if you have transport it's up to you whether to bring it or not. There isn't any transport provided outside the course but public transport is available in Camber & Rye

Food & drinks – We suggest bringing your own food & drink each day, however, there are catering vans locally and our classroom is above a pub.

Accommodation – We offer self-catered accommodation for the duration of the course, but it's not included in the course price. Please see details below and the prices and funding page for more information.



The days are often quite long and the start / finish times can sometimes be variable due to tides, weather, wind etc. So we suggest that if you live more than 30 minutes away it is worth staying in our accommodation. It is very reasonably priced and saves a lot of travelling time which can be difficult after a day on the water and you're tired.

Classroom

Due to the duration of the course and the time spent covering the details of the sports; the Fastrack Course has its own classroom in the centre of Camber away from the wind, crowds and distractions. This is a 5 minute walk from the beach and accommodation, but offers plenty of quiet space for presentations, warmth and refreshments. Each student is provided with all their own equipment to use during the course which is theirs to keep and use in the future. In previous courses The Kitesurf Centre has provided all the equipment but it is now a BKSA requirement that each student has their own kit and is familiar with it when taking the assessments on an instructor training course.

The advantage this offers is that the equipment can be used to practice out of course hours and everyone becomes qualified with all the equipment they need to begin their new career.

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Equipment

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What's included...



5mm winter wetsuit

CE approved helmet

Kitesurf harness

5mm wetsuit boots

Bar & lines

Mystic buoyancy aid

Multiuse kitesurf harness

Kitesurf board

2 x kitesurfing kites (different sizes)

While booking we take information such as dimensions which help us prepare the equipment for the start of the course. All neoprene and personal gear is brand new. The kites and board may be used or ex demo



Once booked onto the course we will ship a powerkite to your chosen address which can be used to practice flying and learning the basic skills and aerodynamics.

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The Kitesurf Centre – FastTrack Kite & Watersports Instructor Course

Prices & Funding

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Having accredited certified qualifications means there is an apprenticeship available from the government. Their grants offer up to 50% of the course costs for 18 – 21 year olds. Please contact us for more information.

The total cost of the course, instruction, equipment and all qualifications is £4,999. This includes personal equipment which for the 2017 course and any future courses is a compulsory requirement requested by the BKSA. If you have your own equipment already this will reduce the price to £3899.

There are no further costs during the course nor upon completion.

The course can be paid in 3 instalments in the 3 months leading up to the start date. For limited applicants there is the option to pay for half the course in advance and then have the remaining 50% deducted from wages while working at The Kitesurf Centre as a qualified instructor upon successful completion of the course. There will be limited spaces available for these positions. Please contact us for more information.

Military resettlement program

There is government funding for military personal whether still in service or upon leaving. Please contact us for more details.

Accommodation - We strongly recommend staying locally if you live more than 30 minutes from Camber due to the long irregular hours and heavy workload. We have sourced accommodation locally for £13 a night (cheaper than camping!) over the 8 week period. Availability is limited.



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What to bring

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A lot of the course is based on the beach so please bring appropriate clothes. It's often windy and can be cold, so thick jackets and waterproofs that you don't mind getting sandy. Don't forget the warm weather gear too, plenty of sun cream, caps / hat and sunglasses.

Stationary – there will be some classroom time, when taking notes, drawing diagrams or preparing for your own presentations.

Laptop, tablet or smartphone – although these aren't essential, if you have one they can be useful for research as well as quiet times.

Food and drink – you are recommended to bring packed lunches and snacks are suggested when out on the beach all day and time may be too limited to go for a 3 course meal.

Beach towel



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Terms & Conditions

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The Kitesurf Centre will provide tuition, insurance and all the necessary equipment required for the student to undertake the course. The student must accept that all courses are weather dependent and that this may adversely affect the scheduling of the course.

If in the judgement of The Kitesurf Centre a course is unable to start due to weather conditions or because safety could be compromised for any reason, then it will be rescheduled. If in the unlikely situation that any part of the program cannot be completed within the 8 weeks it is the responsibility of the student to contact The Kitesurf Centre within 3 months to re-schedule any unfinished sections.

Students registered on to a course, will be charged full payment, regardless of whether or not the student completes the course.

Students are required to notify The Kitesurf Centre at the time of booking the course of any medical condition that may be relevant to any activity to be undertaken on the course and which could be considered a risk to their or others health and safety. All information given will be treated with strict confidentiality. Any student found to be failing to provide such will effectively void their insurance cover and The Kitesurf Centre will not be held in any way accountable. In addition the student will be requested to end their attendance at the course with no refund.

All courses are booked for the specified dates and are non-transferable. If a student misses their specified start date, a refund or alternative date will not be offered.

No course booking is confirmed before full payment or the first instalment is received. Each course has a strict limit of 4 people - filled on a first come first served basis.

All decisions regarding the management or cancellation of any course are at the absolute discretion of The Kitesurf Centre whose decision shall be final. The course requires a minimum of 3 people, should there be less than this the Kitesurf Centre reserves the right to cancel the course with a full refund.

The Kitesurf Centre unfortunately cannot control the weather and this may have an adverse effect on the 8 week schedule. Please be aware that the schedule is an outline and will be amended as necessary to suit the prevailing weather and sea conditions.

Anyone caught with or found to be taking illegal substances will be excluded immediately without refund.

Accommodation is on a limited basis and cannot be guaranteed to every applicant.

All equipment provided will be in good working order and tested prior to use. Each student will be provided with new wetsuits, boots and gloves. The other items may be ex demo or used but can be upgraded if wanted.

The Kitesurf Centre cannot guarantee or estimate how many shadowing hours each student will receive at the end of the Instructor Training Course. These are decided by and entirely at the discretion of the external BKSA Examiner whose decisions are final.

Due to working around tides, weather and wind the course hours vary and may not be 9-5 each day. We recommend staying in our recommended accommodation, and not more than 30 minutes travel away. The course runs from Monday to Friday but weekends may be called upon if necessary. The course leader will give plenty of notice should this be the case.

Students must be aware that power kite, kitesurf and watersports are potentially dangerous and are undertaken entirely at the student's risk. By enrolling onto a course and completing and signing the booking form the student confirms that he/she has read, understood and accepts these Terms & Conditions.

Teaching kite and watersports is not for everyone, if you do not like being outside in the sun, spending time with interesting people, travelling the world, participating in fantastic sports or working with fun people in a relaxed atmosphere then please do not apply. On a serious note, do consider the career this course could lead to.

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