

Defence Instructions and Notices (Not to be communicated to anyone outside HM Service without authority)	
Title:	Exercise Macaronesia Express 2018-19 – Expression of Interest
Audience:	All Service Personnel
Applies:	Immediately
Expires:	30 Apr 2019
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Content:	Information for potential applicants (or commanders and unit sailing officers) keen to participate in an offshore sail training exercise in a 42' JSASTC operated sail training vessel based in the Canary Islands,
Sponsor:	Joint Services Adventurous Sail Training Centre (JSASTC) Gosport.
Contact:	EMH Barham, Project Officer, JSASTC Tel Mil 9380 65316, Civ 02392 504316 Email: NAVYNPS-PEOPLESPTJSASTCPPO@mod.uk J Greatorex, Training and Fleet Operations Manager, JSASTC Tel Mil 9380 65924, Civ 02392 765924 Email: NAVYNPS-PEOPLESPTJSASTCTFOM@mod.uk Note: JSASTC email addresses will change into a new address when we convert to MODNET.
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Supplements (Please click on the links to access >>>>)	Annex D - Exercise MACARONESIA EXPRESS Expression of Interest Form
Related Info:	JSP 419 Adventurous Training in the UK Armed Forces
Classification:	OFFICIAL

EXERCISE MACARONESIA EXPRESS (ME)

1. **Introduction.** JSASTC will continue to provide a range of challenging offshore experiences within their capabilities. This DIN is to advertise the intention to deploy and forward base a JSASTC vessel in the Canary Islands from Sep 18 until Apr 19. Units wishing to utilise this vessel are requested to contact JSASTC in order that the likely uptake of the deployment can be best gauged.

Concept

2. **Exercise Concept.** Units will bid for the use of HMSTV Osprey, an MoD owned 42' sloop, in order to run their own Type 3 ATX. Within the safe system of training, JSASTC will provide the vessel with suitable operating procedures when manned at safe levels. This will provide an MoD operated asset over the winter period in a challenging sailing environment which will enable unit training.

3. **Sailing Area.** The training area will extend from the UK to the Macaronesia region of archipelagos in the North Atlantic. The likely islands that can be reached are Madeira and the Canary Islands. The delivery Legs will include a challenging Biscay passage.

4. **Background.** JSASTC is currently in the middle of an offshore fleet renewal program, disposing of the Nicholson 55' fleet by 2020 and evaluating alternative vessels and operating models for the future training programme. A mid-range fleet concept of operations will be tested this winter through the deployment of HMSTV Osprey to Lanzarote within exercise MACARONESIA EXPRESS (ME).

5. **Eligibility.** It is intended that this exercise will be open to all serving RN, Army and RAF, Regular and Reserve Force units. Cadet Force units should seek advice from the Project Officer as to their eligibility. Offshore sailing is both physically and mentally demanding. Units should therefore have a spirit of adventure and be willing and capable of managing the administration behind this Type 3 ATX.

6. **Specific Aims of the Exercise.** Ex ME will be made up of over 20 Legs, generally of 7 days duration, over the period of Sep 18 until Apr 18. Units can bid for successive or multiple Legs. The specific aims of the exercise are to facilitate unit ATX, to enhance leadership skills through offshore sailing. Units will generate their own specific unit aims for their JSATF(A) and process their own DIPCLEAR, which will develop operational planning skills. Sailing aims can be focused on the following key areas:

a. **An Experience of Challenging Offshore Sailing.** The exercise will operate within the ideal winter sailing area of the Canary Islands. The reliance on teamwork, learning safe drills and overcoming the stress of sailing in offshore and at times high wind conditions will be the principal outcomes of the exercise. These skills and essential attitudes are considered directly commutable to those needed when serving on operations.

b. **Afterguard Development.** Ex ME will support the development and expansion of the competence of afterguard for future ocean exercises. Ex ME will provide Day Skippers with a range of roles, normally as Mates. The manning will be as per Annex A.

c. **Skipper Training.** Ex ME can provide an opportunity to train skippers (who can support future major expeditions including TRANSGLOBE 20-21). Noting the requirements for a skipper to be already suitably qualified and experienced.

d. **YM Ocean (YMOc) Sights.** Ex ME can provide an opportunity to practice YMOc sights and follow on applying skills taught in the YMOc shore-based course. The delivery Legs may provide the potential for a YMOc qualifying passage, however, this is subject to the passage design.

7. **Expeditionary (Location) Aims.** All of the Legs are designed with the intent of achieving a specific expeditionary aim, such crossing to another island. The ability to achieve this destination is highly dependent upon the prevailing weather conditions, the crews' collective capability and in some instances the capabilities of the vessel.

Training Governance

8. **JSASTC Responsibilities.** The exercise will be managed as a Type 3 AT event (a deployed exercise) within the JS AT Scheme, owned by each unit. OiC JSASTC will be the DDH for the vessel only.

- a. **Pre-Deployment Trg.** JSASTC will provide a pre-deployment familiarisation package for all skippers, to ensure the safe take-over of the vessel and safe operation and management. These are provisionally scheduled as per Annex B.
- b. **Sailing Areas.** Passage plans will be reviewed and authorised by JSASTC.
- c. **Maintenance.** JSASTC will manage and facilitate repairs and maintenance. JSASTC will be responsible for vessel maintenance costs unless deemed due to negligence, when units will be asked to fund repairs.
- d. **Skippers.** If requested and unit funded, JSASTC will consider applications to provide skippers to Legs which would benefit from additional coaching or training. Units will manage all other aspects of the deployment.
- e. **Berthing.** JSASTC will own the berthing fees for the deployed 'home port' (Marina Puerto Calero).

9. **Unit Responsibilities.** Units will be responsible for arranging travel for the deployed Leg of the exercise. They will generate CILOR and if necessary fund cleaning materials from unit budgets. They will manage all DIPCLEAR activity and will crew the vessel in accordance with the mandated qualifications and assessed experience.

- a. **Exercise Risks.** JSASTC has evaluated the generic sailing risks associated with the safe operation of the vessel and determined the minimum manning to be 'coastal sailing'. This is documented within a standing activity risk assessment that should be reviewed and amended by each unit. Any essential amendments to this will be dynamically managed on each Leg by the skipper and their CO. Units will produce a sailing plan that will be assured by both JSASTC and their CO/UATO.
- b. **Costs.** The ex will cost £50 per vessel. This will cover the cost of the vessel tracking system, which is met from JSASTC non-public funds. Units will own all costs associated with travel, fuel, gas, cleaning materials and CILOR. They will fund all berthing fees when deployed away from Marina Puerto Calero. A refundable deposit of £200 will be required at booking, to pay for very short cancellation leading to extraordinary costs and also for vessel cleaning if not left at an acceptable standard. Deposits will be returned when a short PXT is submitted.
- c. **Fit to Train.** All service personnel using the vessel require permission from their Commanding Officer and must be considered to be fit enough to undertake the training. Advice can be sought from JSASTC as to the impact of any medical limitations for those who are recorded as being below MFD. Those below MFD should follow the procedures contained within JSP 950, Vol 1, Ch 2, Leaflet 1-2-12: Assessment of Medical Suitability to Attend Courses and Training.
- d. **Mil Swim Test (MST).** All personnel participating must have a mil swim test competence recorded on JPA, and remain fit and able to swim, this will be identified within the unit JSATF(A).

e. **Administration.** All units are expected to contribute to the smooth running of the exercise, meeting requested deadlines and fulfilling handover routines.

10. **Dates & Details.** All Legs (less the delivery Legs) will commence at Callero Marina, Lazarotte. Proposed dates and locations are at Annex C.

a. **Deployment Leg 1.** Fri 15 Sep Gosport to Lisbon (Cascais Airport)

b. **Deployment Leg 2.** Sun 30 Sep Lisbon to Lanzarote.

c. **Leg 3 to Leg 21.** The crews will change over on Sunday. Skippers hold achieve a face to face handover.

d. **Maintenance Periods M1 and M2.** JSASTC to lead.

e. **Return Leg 22.** Sun 17 Mar to Sun 7 Apr. This is currently designed as a 3 week Leg.

Next Stage of Development

11. **Expression of Interest.** Units should not commit to any costs until after the deployment is confirmed. Units interested in the deployment should contact JSASTC using the 'Expression of Interest' pro-forma at Annex D.

12. **Follow Up.** Additional information will be requested if the ex is confirmed. The email address and phone number provided in your application will be used for this purpose; please provide contact details which you access regularly.

13. **Timetable.** The following dates are proposed:

a. **25 May.** Last call for a submission of an intention to participate. This will provide JSASTC with the feedback as to the viability of the deployment.

b. **1 Jun.** Ex Go/No Go decision point. OiC JSASTC will provide further planning guidance, based on the feedback from units.

c. **8 Jun.** Given a suitable level of interest, the exercise will be confirmed and units will be invited to go-firm on their expression of interest.

d. **Jul/Aug.** Pre-Deployment Training period. Skippers to complete CT40 Trg.

14. **Summary.** Ex ME can be a relatively low cost, challenging ATX. Suggestions on the design of this deployment should be made to the PPO or TFOM, as per contacts on the front page. Please indicate your expression of interest for this exercise via the form enclosed. We look forward to hearing from you to answer any questions and to assist you in confirming your intent to participate in this event.

Mike Barham

EMH BARHAM
JSASTC Prog & Project Officer
9380 65316

Annexes:

- A. Vessel Manning Requirements.
- B. Familiarisation Trg Events.
- C. Proposed Leg Dates.
- D. Expression of Interest Form.

VESSEL MANNING REQUIREMENTS EX MACARONESIA EXPRESS

	Area of Operation	Skipper Qualifications	Mate Qualifications	Minimum Crew Qualifications	Minimum Manning Level	Maximum Manning Level
Comfortina 42 Osprey Category 1 Up to 150NM from a safe haven	Coastal sailing (Canary Based)	RYA Yachtmaster Coastal First Aid SRC Sea Survival	RYA Day Skipper First Aid SRC	Two RYA Comp Crew	Six	Eight
	Offshore sailing (Delivery Legs)	RYA YachtmasterOffshore Diesel Maintenance Sea Survival First Aid	RYA Yachtmaster Coastal First Aid SRC Sea Survival	Two RYA Comp Crew	Six	Eight

Notes

1. Legs 1, 2 and 22 are manned as JSASTC 'Offshore Sailing'.
2. Leg 3 - 21 are manned as per Coastal Sailing.

PROPOSED CT40 FAM TRG

1. Dates. The provisional dates for the CT40 Familiarisation Package are as follows: 5 Jul, 6 Jul, 16 Jul, 17 Jul, 30 Jul, 31 Jul, 9 Aug, 10 Aug. Leg 1 Skippers will be familiarised on arrival, with a docs check before the Leg commences.
2. Aim of the CT40 FAM. The aim of the FAM is to confirm skippers' knowledge of the vessel operating systems, maintenance requirements, handover routine and exercise governance. It will also provide an opportunity for passage planning. This is a legal requirement to attend, mandated by the MCA. All skippers must complete this package before the vessel deploys.

PROPOSED LEG DATES

Leg	Start	End	From	To	Notes
1	Fri 15 Sep 18	Sun 30 Sep 18	Gosport	Lisbon	Delivery Leg 1 Arrive at Gosport by 0900 hrs.
2	Sun 30 Sep 18	Sun 14 Sep 18	Lisbon	Lanzarote	Delivery Leg 2
3	Sun 14 Sep 18	Sun 21 Sep 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	Rig check will be completed on arrival by local contractors
4	Sun 21 Sep 18	Sun 28 Sep 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
5	Sun 28 Sep 18	Sun 4 Nov 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
6	Sun 4 Nov 18	Sun 11 Nov 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
7	Sun 11 Nov 18	Sun 18 Nov 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
8	Sun 18 Nov 18	Sun 25 Nov 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
8	Sun 25 Nov 18	Sun 2 Dec 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
M1	Sun 2 Dec 18	Sun 9 Dec 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	Maintenance Period

Leg	Start	End	From	To	Notes
9	Sun 9 Dec 18	Sun 16 Dec 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
10	Sun 16 Dec 18	Sun 23 Dec 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
11	Sun 23 Dec 18	Sun 30 Dec 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
12	Sun 30 Dec 18	Sun 6 Jan 19	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
13	Sun 6 Jan 19	Sun 13 Jan 19	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
14	Sun 13 Jan 19	Sun 20 Jan 19	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
15	Sun 20 Jan 19	Sun 27 Jan 18	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
16	Sun 27 Jan 18	Sun 3 Feb 19	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
17	Sun 3 Feb 19	Sun 10 Feb 19	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
M2	Sun 10 Feb 19	Sun 17 Feb 19	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	Maintenance Leg Safety Equipment Service
18	Sun 17 Feb 19	Sun 24 Feb 19	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
19	Sun 24 Feb 19	Sun 3 Mar 19	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	

Leg	Start	End	From	To	Notes
20	Sun 10 Mar 19	Sun 10 Mar 19	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
21	Sun 10 Mar 19	Sun 17 Mar 19	Lanzarote	Lanzarote	
22	Sun 17 Mar 19	Sun 7 Apr 19	Lanzarote	Gosport	Return trip to Gosport. Units can split this if required.