



Pilgrim of Brixham BM45

Vacancy for a Seasonal Skipper

We are seeking to recruit a seasonal skipper with experience of large gaff-rigged sailing vessels to be based in Brixham for 10 weeks in 2027. A skipper who can sail Pilgrim with flair and who inspires the ship's company, is able lead on training for volunteers and guest crew.

Pilgrim of Brixham is the oldest surviving sailing trawler built and rigged in the port of Brixham. She is a fully restored 22m/100ton wooden gaff rigged ketch built in 1895. In 2027 we will be cruising the coasts of Devon and Cornwall and visiting the Channel Islands, Brittany and the Isles of Scilly. Pilgrim is MCA coded (Cat 2) for a total of 15 (passengers and crew) and typically accommodates 10 guests. Cruises in 2027 feature weekends, short-breaks and holidays. We believe guests should be encouraged to participate in sailing activities whenever possible to enhance the overall enjoyment of their time aboard.

Pilgrim is owned and operated by a registered charity - the Pilgrim Heritage Sailing Foundation. The Skipper will be supported by an employed Bosun/Mate who is experienced in sailing the vessel and additional volunteer crew. The Bosun/Mate is a qualified and certified Cat 3 skipper.

Pay: Negotiable dependent on qualifications and experience.

Period on Engagement: 21st June 2027 – 29th August 2027

Qualifications and Experience Required:

- RYA Yachtmaster Offshore (Sailing) Commercially Endorsed
- Full ENG1 or ML5 Medical Fitness Certificate
- Previous experience of gaff-rigged vessels required
- Excellent communications, and social skills with crew, guests and volunteers
- Team player able to organise, motivate and co-ordinate volunteers
- Ability to work and interact effectively with Trustee Leadership Team
- Experience in a similar role desirable

Informal exploratory calls/visits welcome. Applications close 14th December 2026.

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed in January 2027 and any contracts concluded will be subject to satisfactory references and safeguarding clearances.

Applications can be made online [here](#) and CV's can be uploaded as part of the online application process.