

Interreg



Co-funded by
the European Union

IPA South Adriatic

Skills



INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

Sustainable Development of the Yachting and Cruise Industry

June 29th – July 4th, 2026 | Kotor, Montenegro

Join the next generation of Blue Economy leaders in the South Adriatic!



UCG

Univerzitet Crne Gore

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Pioneering the Blue Economy The "Sustainable Development of the Yachting and Cruise Industry" is an interdisciplinary, lifelong learning programme organised as an international summer school. Taught entirely in English, it is designed to address market needs in marinas, cruise ports, and maritime agencies.

Host Institutions: The programme is jointly implemented by premier maritime institutions at the University of Montenegro:

- **Faculty of Maritime Studies, Kotor**
- **Institute of Marine Biology, Kotor**

With institutional cooperation from the Port of Kotor and Porto Montenegro Marina.

Project Context: This initiative is developed within the SA SKILLS project ("High LEVEL and market-respondent Competences for a Blue and Digitalized Smart and Skilled South Adriatic"), co-financed through the Interreg IPA South Adriatic Programme 2021–2027 (<https://skills.southadriatic.eu/>).



WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Target Audience: We welcome applications from university students, young professionals, maritime and tourism sector employees, public administration representatives, and researchers interested in sustainable maritime development.

Admission Requirements:

- Active university student status **OR** completed minimum four-year secondary education.
- Mandatory proficiency in the English language.

Guaranteed Regional Representation: To foster cross-border cooperation, the programme ensures a balanced cohort of participants with minimum quotas from SKILLS partner regions:

- Puglia (Italy): 5 participants
- Molise (Italy): 5 participants
- Albania: 5 participants
- Montenegro: 5 participants

(Selection prioritizes relevance to the Blue Economy, motivation, and regional/gender balance.)



THE CURRICULUM

7 Thematic Modules The academic curriculum is structured around cutting-edge maritime topics:

1. Sustainable Development of Nautical and Cruise Tourism
2. Contemporary Management of Marinas and Cruise Ports
3. Safety and Security in Marinas and Cruise Ports
4. Planning and Development of Marina and Cruise Port Infrastructure
5. Assessment of Main Navigational Parameters
6. Smart and Digital Marinas and Cruise Ports
7. Green Marinas and Cruise Ports

Immersive Classroom Environment Theoretical lectures, case studies, and discussions take place in the state-of-the-art Blue Economy Training Center (BETC) at the Institute of Marine Biology, University of Montenegro in Dobrota, Kotor.



PRACTICAL LEARNING & FACILITIES

Beyond Theoretical Knowledge

The programme goes beyond standard lectures, featuring 20 hours of hands-on practical teaching and field visits.

Advanced Nautical Simulators

Participants will engage in demonstration exercises using cutting-edge Wärtsilä simulators equipped with RADAR/ARPA and ECDIS technologies for route planning and collision avoidance at the Faculty of Maritime Studies, University of Montenegro.

Marine Biology Laboratories

Students will visit marine laboratories at the Institute of Marine Biology, University of Montenegro to understand marine ecosystem protection, an essential component of the Blue Economy.



FIELD VISITS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Experience real-world operations through guided technical tours of the region's leading maritime hubs.

Port of Kotor Analyze the infrastructure, operations, and sustainable management of a major Mediterranean cruising destination.

Marina Porto Montenegro Explore innovative marketing strategies, luxury customer experience, and modern management at a world-class superyacht marina



LOGISTICS, FEES & CERTIFICATION

Tuition: Free of Charge! All participation costs are fully covered through the Interreg IPA South Adriatic Programme (SA SKILLS project) for selected participants.

Academic Credits: Upon successful completion of the 90-hour workload (which includes 50 hours of independent study), graduates will receive:

- **A Certificate of Completion**
- **3 ECTS credits** (aligned with the European Qualifications Framework)

Accommodation: Organizer will provide accommodation in apartments for selected participants.



Skills

About the SA SKILLS Project

The SKILLS project aims to bolster the availability of skilled labor in the South Adriatic region's Blue Economy sectors. The project operates through a consortium of regional partners from Montenegro, Italy, and Albania. *Total Budget: 4.799.677,09 € (EU Funding: 3.983.815,88 €)*

Project Partners:

- University of Montenegro - Institute of Marine Biology (Lead Partner)
- Puglia Region (Italy)
- Molise Region (Italy)
- State Agency for Strategic Programming and Aid Coordination (Albania)
- Ministry of Economic Development of Montenegro
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (Albania)

<https://skills.southadriatic.eu>

Apply Now and Secure Your Spot!

For applying, please fill in the Application form at the following **LINK**.

For more information, programme schedule, and application details, please visit: <https://skills.southadriatic.eu/>.