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(****)	rs oura 1.1 - Spars	Quantity	Description
		1	Mast
Þ		1	Boom
8		2	Spreaders
	(=0000000 00000)	2	Spreader Ends
		2	Clevis Pin & Split Ring
	•/ <u></u>	(OPTIONAL)	Bowsprit
		(optional) 1	Spinnaker Sock
	1.2 - Rudder Pack	Quantity	Description
		1	Rudder Assembly
		1	Tiller
		1	Tiller Extension
	Communities and a second	2	Screws
€€ €			

1.3 - Customer Pack	Quantity	Description
	1	Shroud eye bolts
	1	Shroud recess bars
	1	Plastic bobble (Main halyard)
Image: Color Colo	1	Shroud adjuster plates with nut and bolts
	1	40mm block with becket (mainsheet)
	1	Shroud VernierCovers
	1	20mm block (Downhaul)
	1	Rig Pack (Lever Type)

1.4 - Customer Rope Pack	Quantity	Description
	1	Mainsheet
	1	Jib Sheet
	1	Downhaul 1
	1	Downhaul 2
	1	Mainsheet Strop
	1	Main Halyard
	1	Forestay Tie
	1	Forestay Take Up (Shockcord)

1.5 - Asymmetric Spinnaker Pack	Quantity	Description
	3	Block, BBB30 Single, Stand-Up
	1	Ring Ø28/20/Ø4mm ST
	1	Camcleat 27
	1	Lineguide 27
	1	2-P Eye
	1	Block, BBB30 Single, Swivel
	2	Block, ARB45 Single
	1	Stopper Knob 6mm
	3	Screw Pozi Pan M4 X 25
	8	M/Screw, M5 X 8,Pozi Pan
	1	Screw Pozi Pan M4 X 12
	1	Block, BBB30 Cheek
	1	Block, BBB30 Single, Strap

1.7 - Asymmetric Rope Pack	Quantity	Description
	1	Spinnaker Sock Tie
	1	Halyard Take Up
	1	Spinnaker Halyard
	1	Spinnaker Sheet

Toura

2 - Introduction

Congratulations on the purchase of your new RS Toura, and thank you for choosing an RS product. We are confident that you will have many hours of great sailing and racing in this truly excellent design. The RS Toura is an exciting boat to sail and offers fantastic sailability and performance. This manual has been compiled to help you to gain the maximum enjoyment from your RS Toura, in a safe manner. It contains details of the craft, the equipment supplied or fitted, its systems, and information on its safe operation and maintenance. Please read this manual carefully and be sure that you understand its contents before using your RS Toura.

This manual will not instruct you in boating safety or seamanship. If this is your first boat, or if you are changing to a type of craft that you are not familiar with, for your own safety and comfort, please ensure that you have adequate experience before assuming command of the craft. If you are unsure, RS, your RS Dealer, or your national sailing federation – for example, the Royal Yachting Association – will be able to advise you of a local sailing school, or a competent instructor.

RS Sailing highly recommends using RS supplied equipment for usage and storing of your craft. Deviation from using RS supplied equipment, such as sails and storage solutions, will require consultation with RS Sailing. Failure to do so may affect Warranty claims and Goodwill outcomes

For further information, spares, and accessories, please contact: RS Sailing Premier Way Abbey Park Romsey Hampshire SO51 9DQ Tel: +44 (0)1794 526760 Email: info@RSsailing.com

For details of your local RS Dealer, please visit www.RSsailing.com

-Toura

3 - Preparation

Your RS Toura comes complete with all the components necessary to take the boat sailing. In order to commission it, you will need the following tools:

- Pliers or a shackle key
- Small, flat-bladed screw driver
- PVC electrician's tape
- Pozi-drive screwdriver
- Adjustable spanner (small)

Including adding a spinnaker system please allow three hours to fully prepare your RS Toura.

Whilst your RS Toura has been carefully prepared, it is important that new owners should check that shackles and knots are tight. This is especially important when the boat is new, as traveling can loosen seemingly tight fittings and knots. It is also important to check such items prior to sailing regularly.

To simplify the commissioning process, please take care when unpacking the items from the boat as cross contamination of pack contents can cause confusion. A calm and orderly environment will assist the process.



Rigging Guide

4 - Hull



PLEASE FOLLOW RIGGING GUIDE IN CORRECT ORDER



A.1 - Toestraps

Start by attaching the toestraps to the thwart across the middle of the cockpit.

To do this you will need a pozidrive screwdriver.

Make sure you attach the toestraps the right way round. The ends with the webbing loop attach to the thwart. The ends with the buckle **DO NOT** attach to the thwart.

The forward toestraps are separate and the aft toestraps are joined together in a V shape.







Rotate the toestrap retainer back into position and replace the screw.

Repeat for all four toestrap retainers on the thwart.





4.3 - Asymmetric spinnaker fittings.

If you have purchased the asymmetric spinnaker pack (which is available as an option), there are a number of fittings that must be added before you can rig the boat.

To complete this section you will need:

•Asymmetric spinnaker kit

Pozidrive screwdriver



Screw a 30mm block from the asymmetric spinnaker kit into these holes using the two M5 x 8mm bolts provided.





 d)
 Attach the spinnaker halyard cleat using the M4 x 25mm bolts provided.



Make sure cleat opens towards the stern of the boat.



If overtightened the jaws may not close properly.









бига 4.3 - Asymmetric spinnaker fittings. n) Rigging the Tack Line Make sure that the bowsprit is fully extended. Block A 30mm (*** Tack line Tack line **o**) Keeping the bowsprit fully extended, pull the tack line (that emerges from the inboard end of the bowsprit) tight and tie to the eyelet in the bottom of the bowsprit channel with a bowline. p) Rigging the Launch Line Take the rope that emerges from the side of the inboard end of the bowsprit and feed it through block A at the bow (from

starboard to port).

q)

Tie a 30mm block from the asymmetric spinnaker pack onto the end of this rope using a bowline.

Adjust the stopper knot at the other end of this rope so that the bowsprit can retract fully into the boat without the 30mm block hitting block A.

Block A



Make sure the 30mm block does not meet up with the halyard block when the pole is extended.

64Ca 4.5 - Adding the Spinnaker Sock



Remove the two screws and washers from inside the spinnaker chute.





b)

Add the screws through the tongue of the spinnaker sock back into the holes that they came from.







Slide the port side of the front edge of the spinnaker sock into the opening of the track on the tack bar.

4.5 - Adding the Spinnaker Sock



Make sure the port side is fully inserted into the track and then insert the starboard side into the track opening. This can be a little tricky as you will need to bend it back on itself to get to the opening, but as long as the starboard side is fully inserted first it shouldn't be too hard.



In the spinnaker pack there should be some elastic for the rear of the spinnaker chute.

Use this elastic to tie the aft end of the spinnaker chute to the eyelet (with the 30mm block on it) on the port side of the cockpit.



64 5.2 - Fitting the Spreaders to the Mast

It is worth taking time to ensure that this section is completed correctly. Improperly fitted spreaders will result in undesirable sailing characteristics, and may even result in failure of the mast.

- a) Carefully unpack the spreaders from the top of the mast, being sure not to damage any of the securing split rings.
 - he Primary pin fits through the bracket's **primary hole** and through the bracket's **primary hole** and through the **aft ho**
- **b)** The shrouds and forestay are in the rigging pack.

The Primary pin fits through the bracket's **primary hole** and through the **aft hole** in the spreader.

The Adjuster pin fits down through **hole 1** in the bracket and **hole A** in the spreader.



Tape up all the securing pins and rings to prevent them from being damaged, or from damaging the gennaker or spinnaker.

5.3 - Attaching the Shrouds to the Mast



5.4 - Spreader ends



The spreader end cap incorporates two shroud wire slots to give a tight grip on either 2.5 or 3mm wire. The sizes are identified on the front face of the end cap (See diagram above). The RS Toura uses 3mm shroud wire so the 3mm slot should be used.

The end cap can also be rotated so that the shroud can be positioned at either the forward or aft position of the spreader end (see diagram above). For the RS Toura the end cap should hold the shroud in the aft position.

To attach the shroud, slacken the end screw, rotate the end clamp if necessary, then insert the shroud. Ensure that the shroud is tensioned between T-Terminal and spreader tip, then tighten the screw firmly.

This method "locks in" the dihedral angle.

Length Adjustment:

The position is described by the number of adjustment holes visible. For the RS Toura there should be 1 hole visible as shown in the diagram above.



All clevis pins and bolts must be fitted with the flat head on top, and the pins must be locked with a split ring.

Tape all split rings, pins and the outboard end of the spreader extrusion.



This will reduce chafe on the mainsail and prevent flailing sails/halyards becoming damaged. Self-amalgamating tape is best, but PVC electrical tape is an adequate alternative.



c) Pass one end of the jib halyard through the cleat on the port side of the mast at the base and then pass through the turning block. Tie off both ends of the jib halyard at the bottom of the mast so that they are easily accessible once the mast is stepped in the boat.

5.6 - Jib Halyard - Purchase Rig Tension

a)

For the Purchase Rig Tension system the Jib halyard will need to be fitted to the mast.

There will be a mousing line between the sheave at the top of the mast and the exit point at the bottom.

Attach the rope end of the halyard provided in the rigging kit to the mousing line at the top of the mast, then pull the rope down the mast until appears at the exit point.







5.6 - Jib Halyard - Purchase Rig Tension





Make sure the elastic is tight enough that the ring on the end of it is tight against the small ring on the mast.

64(Ca 5.9 - Spinnaker Halyard Mast Turning Blocks

a)

Shackle the 30mm block for the spinnaker halyard to the eye closest to the mast head (just above where the shrouds and forestay join the mast).



Use pliers to tighten.

b)

Temporarily secure one end of the spinnaker halyard at the bottom of the mast. Once the mast is stepped in the boat this end will go to the front uphaul block.

Pass the other end of the spinnaker halyard up the mast, through the 30mm block and back down the mast.

c)

d)

Pass the end of the spinnaker halyard down the mast and through the metal ring on the end of the takeaway elastic.



When rigged, this end will attach to the head of the spinnaker.





Temporarily tie off both ends of the spinnaker halyard at the bottom of the mast so that they are easily accessible once the mast is stepped in the boat.

If you wish to fit the optional trapeze kit you must do this before stepping the mast. See Section 12 for instructions.





5.10 - Attaching the Masthead Float (optional)

If you have purchased the optional masthead float, you will have to fit it before stepping the mast in the boat.







BEFORE PICKING UP THE MAST, CHECK THAT YOU ARE NOT IN THE VICINITY OF OVERHEAD POWER CABLES

a) Before stepping the mast, familiarise yourself with how the "foot" (bottom end) of the mast will fit into the "step" (fitted to the boat).

Locate the mast foot in the mast step and lay the mast in the boat.





b)

Slip the neoprene boot up the shroud, pointed end to the top.



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F

If not already fitted, slide the adjuster plate onto the shroud eye bolt.



d)

C)

Attach the shroud to the middle of the shroud adjuster plate with the clevis pin and split ring provided.

In light winds use hole 2 or 3.

In strong winds use hole 4, 5 or 6.

Push the pin in from outboard towards the centreline of the boat.

Wrap PVC electrician's tape around the split rings for security, and to avoid snagging. This is particularly important if you don't have the neoprene vernier covers.

oura 5.11 - Shrouds

e)

If using hole #4,5 or 6 use the M5 bolt and Nyloc in the top hole of the Vernier. Make sure the shroud passes outside the bolt.

If using hole 2 or 3 use of the bolt is not required



Ensure that the thread goes well into the nyloc of the nut, but do not bend the Vernier.





g) Repeat **steps a-f** on the other side of the boat.

5.12 - Stepping the Mast

Ensure that the forestay is fitted correctly and loose at the lower end. Ensure all 3 halyards are tied to the eye on the front of the mast.



BEFORE STEPPING THE MAST, CHECK THAT YOU ARE NOT IN THE VICINITY OF OVERHEAD POWER CABLES

Now the mast is ready to be put up in the boat, or "stepped".



Check that both ends of the main halyard, jib halyard, and spinnaker halyard are tied off at the bottom end of the mast so that they are within easy reach when the mast is stepped.



Note: It is recommended that the mast should always be stepped with 2 people. If the wind is blowing, there will be a lot of pressure at the top of the mast making it wave around. Consider finding a second helper if you feel you will struggle!

a)

Pass the mast, foot first, into the boat over the stern so that the foot lines up with the mast step. See Fig.1

b)

One person inside the boat should line the foot of the mast up correctly with the mast step so that the pins on either side slot into the grooves of the mast step. **See Fig. 2**

C)

You can now lift the mast with one person inside the boat and another helping from outside the boat until the mast is upright.

Once the mast is vertical attach the forestay



If the boat is in a trolley, do not walk aft of the balance point!



5.12 - Stepping the Mast

Forestay - Rig Tension - Lever System

d) One person should continue to hold the mast upright while the other attaches the forestay to the furling drum with the clevis pin and split ring provided. Wrap PVC tape around the ring to prevent it catching on the sails.

Once the forestay is attached, pull the lever on the forestay the whole way down to put tension into the rig.

This needs to be hard to do. If it feels loose adjust the shrouds accordingly.



5.12 - Stepping the Mast

b)

Forestay - Rig Tension - Purchase System

Attach the lower part of the forestay to the deck clip on the jib furler beam using the rope provided, several loops will be needed, then tie off.





6.1 - Fitting the boom

To complete this section, you will need:

- The boom
- The gnav bar


6.2 - Gnav control line



6.3 - Rigging The Mainsheet

a) Rigging the Mainsheet Strop

Find the 40mm block with a becket and the mainsheet strop from the rope pack.

Take the mainsheet strop and fold it in half to form a loop.

Pass this loop through the base of the block.



6.3 - Rigging The Mainsheet







64Ca 7.1 Preparing the Sails.

c) There are also faint lines on the sail to show where to place the national letters (although these are optional and not supplied as standard.)



oura 7.2 Battens



• Batten key should be on clew of sail.

Check the inboard ends of the battens are positively located in the inboard plastic end fitting. To tension, turn the key clockwise until the cloth becomes just tight. If it is over tightened you will have trouble tacking the head of the sail in light weather. Insufficient tension and the sail will set up too flat with wrinkles running down from the head.

oura 7.3 Sail Care

Wash salt off sails after use and dry. Roll from the head. It is easier to fold the head in (as shown) so the top of the battens coincide before starting rolling. Store sail in its bag in dry conditions away from sunlight. Although the sail is made from a quality high denier fabric it is best to slightly slacken the top 2 battens' tension for long term storage.

When using a new sail for the first time, try to avoid extreme conditions as high loads on new sailcloth can diminish the racing life of the sail.



If your sail is stained in any way, try to remove it using a light detergent and warm water. DO NOT attempt to launder the sail yourself. A sail can be temporarily repaired using a self-adhesive cloth tape, such as Dacron or Mylar. The sail should be returned to a sail maker for a professional repair. Check for wear and tear, especially around the batten pockets, on a regular basis.

7.4 - Hoisting The Jib - Lever Rig Tension

To complete this section, you will require:

- The jib
- The jib sheets
- The top furling unit as attached to the jib halliard



7.4 - Hoisting The Jib - Lever Rig Tension



64Ca 7.5 - Hoisting The Jib - Purchase Rig Tension

To complete this section, you will require:

- The jib
- The jib sheets

a)

The furling line emerges from under the beam through the cleat underneath the Port side.

Ensure that the furling unit is fully charged so that all the furling line is wound round the unit (turn anticlockwise) and very little left at the cleat.



b)

Attach the end of the jib halyard to the top swivel using the shackle provided.

Attach the head of the jib to the swivel using the clevis pin and ring. Ensure the swivel guide runs freely on the forestay.





Attach the tack of the jib to the furler unit using the clevis pin and ring.

Rig Tension - Purchase System

c) Hoist the jib by pulling on the jib halyard. Hoist until the wire halyard appears.

> Hook the rig tension cascade to the loop in the end of the wire halyard. It may help to obtain sufficient slack at this point if one crew member pulls firmly forward on the forestay.

> Feed the tail of the cascade through the roller valley cleat on the side of the mast and through the turning block at the base of the mast.

Pull on some rig tension, a generous heave should be sufficient. Tidy the tail away in pocket on spinaker bag



Ensure that the tensioning purchase is not twisted or fouling other systems (it should be the one closest to the mast).



d)

Once the jib is hoisted, tensioned and cleated off. Untie the forestay from the tack bar.



7.5 - Hoisting The Jib - Purchase Rig Tension

d)

Move the forestay back to the port side of the mast and infront of the mast beam. Using the bungee take up provided, tie off the end of the forestay and then tension the shock cord and tie off through the center of the spinnaker halyard block located under the mast beam.

d)

Find the middle of the jib sheet, fold it back on itself, such that the two ends are together. Grab the folded mid point and pass it through the cringle in the jib clew, and then pass the two loose ends through that loop and pull tight. The result should look like this.

Jib Sheet Arrangement

e)

Lead one end of the jib sheet along the side of the boat and then down to the jib fairlead and cleat. Thread it through the fairlead and through the jib cleat. Repeat with the other end of the jib sheet, making sure they pass either side of the mast. You can either tie a figure-of-eight knot in each sheet, or tie the two ends together. Preferably tie together.







Furling System

f)

Furling and unfurling the jib is best done from the front of the cockpit, or standing on the Port side of the boat adjacent to the shroud - in both cases with good access to the furling cleat.

To furl the jib, hold a little tension on the jib sheet and then firmly pull the furling line from the cleat. To unfurl, it is the reverse – pull the sheet and ease the furling line through the cleat.



NB. Furling the jib – take care the spinnaker halyard does not get caught at the top of the jib furler – pull it in towards the mast to keep it clear of the top of the jib.

7.5 - Hoisting the Mainsail

To hoist the mainsail:

a) Unroll the mainsail.



Put the boat head to wind.

b) Take the end of the main halyard that emerges from the top of the mast, and tie it to the head of the mainsail, by making a byte in the rope and passing it through the cringle and back over the head of the sail and then pass the bobble through the byte and pull tight.





Tying the main halyard



Put the top of the main sail into the opening in the mast track, just above the gooseneck mast collar, from the starboard side of the boat.

d) Holding the main sail in line with the mast, pull on the end of the main halyard. Pull the main sail up to the top of the mast. You will need to keep the sail in line with the mast to make pulling it up easier, especially when passing the batten pockets. If you are hoisting full sail ensure that the luff reefing slug, used for and adjacent to the reef point, stays OUT of the mast track.

7.5 - Hoisting the Mainsail



When the sail reaches the top of the mast, cleat off the main halyard in the cleat on the Starboard side of the mast.

Tie a figure-of-eight knot in the tail.

f)

The main halyard tail can now be tidied away into the pouch on the sail. There are two pouches on the sail for the main halyard. Use the lower one unless the mainsail is reefed.







RS TOUCA 7.7 - Downhaul





8 - Gennaker



8.1 - Rigging the Asymmetric Spinnaker

A CALCOLOGICAL CONTRACTOR

a)



Take the end of the spinnaker halyard without the plastic bobble on it and feed it down the port side of the mast and down to the mast step.



Feed the end of the spinnaker halyard back towards the cockpit (again passing underneath the spinnaker sock). Pass it through the cleat and then the block just to the port side of the centreboard case.



d)

These two blocks must not touch when the pole is fully extended. If they touch you need to adjust the length of the launch line (see section 4.3p).

e)

Pass the spinnaker halyard through the block at the aft end of the spinnaker sock and then through the spinnaker sock towards the bow.

You may need to use the tiller extension as an aid to threading the halyard up the spinnaker sock.



f)

Bring the tail of the spinnaker halyard out through the mouth of the spinnaker sock and pass it through the metal rings on the spinnaker before tying it to the rope eyelet on the back of the spinnaker with a bowline.



1000 8.1 - Rigging the Asymmetric Spinnaker

Shackle the two ratchet blocks from the asymmetric spinnaker pack to the shroud eye bolts on either side of the boat. The shackle should be attached forward of where the shroud adjuster attaches.



j) Find the middle of the gennaker sheet and double it over to form a loop.

Pass this loop through the eyelet at the clew of the gennaker.

Pass the rest of the sheet through the loop and pull it tight. This is the same arrangement as the jib sheet, so you will have done it before.

k)

i)

With the gennaker on the port side, thread one end of the gennaker sheet through the block by the port shroud adjuster plate, in the direction of the arrow on the block .



Lead the other gennaker sheet around the Jib luff and through the block on the starboard side. Tie the two ends of the gennaker sheet together.





Rigging Guide

9 - Foils

To complete this section you will need:

- The rudder pack
- A large flat-bladed screw driver

PLEASE FOLLOW RIGGING GUIDE IN CORRECT ORDER

Toura 9.1 - Rudder a) In the rudder pack you will find the rudder, tiller, tiller extension and two small flathead screws. Insert the tiller into the stock. Line up the holes, making sure that the tiller extension joint is on the top of the tiller, Then attach using the screws provided. b) Attach the tiller extension. LOCKING GUDGEON - PUSH TO RELEASE

To put the rudder down -

1. Lift the tiller slightly to unlock the blade.

2. Push the tiller aft until the blade is fully lowered (it will normally 'clunk' into the front of the rudder stock).

3. Push the tiller firmly down to 'lock' the blade.

PS 0417 9.1 - Rudder

To pull the rudder up -

- 1. Lift the tiller slightly to unlock the blade.
- 2. Pull towards you (into the boat) until the blade reaches it's maximum up position.
- **3.** Push the tiller gently down to hook over the top of the stock.





As a safety feature the rudder will unlock and come up if it hits the bottom.

PS TOULA 9.2 - Centreboard

a)

The centreboard retainer is a rope with a plastic hook which attaches to a red bungy on the opposite side of the centreboard case.

Un-clip the centreboard retainer.



b) When you are in deep enough water, rotate the centreboard into position.





10.1 - Rigging your reefing line.

Reefing enables the less-experienced or younger sailor to continue sailing in stronger winds. Your RSToura is fitted with a single-line reefing system. The reefing line is black and red and is installed in the boom ready to rig through the sail. You will see it either end of the boom, next to the outhaul line, which is usually blue. At the front end of the boom the reefing and outhaul lines share the same block, as they do not need to be pulled on at the same time.

Please follow the instructions for reefing, ensuring that the reefing line is threaded the correct way through the mainsail. One person may reef the mainsail while sailing on a gentle close reach, sails eased, on a starboard tack.

Make sure you are in plenty of clear water while reefing.



10.2 - Reefing the Mainsail

a)

With the mainsheet uncleated, fully ease the kicker whilst steadily pulling the reefing line from the front end of the boom. This, as you can see from the picture will start to concertina the sail at the aft end first.



646 10.2 - Reefing the mainsail



When the clew has fully tightened, ease the main halyard whilst continuing to pull the reefing line.

The luff will fold down.



Make sure the reefing clew slug is inserted into the track on the mast. Then hook the cringle on the sail through the hook on the top of the boom

d)

Re-cleat the main halyard, when the reefing position is lowered down to the boom. Tie a sail tie through the cringle in the middle of the sail and around the boom with a reef knot. Now fully tension the halyard again to get sufficient tension in the luff of the mainsail.

e)

Finally re-tension the kicker for some control of the leech.



HINT

The jib is a very effective strong wind sail area because it is low down and maintains a balanced helm. So slab reef before you lose the jib – it's more fun for the crew!



11 - Trapeze Kit

Contents:

- 2 x trapeze wires and adjuster
- 1 x elastic takeup
- 1 x lowers
- 2 x shackles
- 2 x length of rope







The chance of entrapment is increased with the use of trapeze equipment. The lowers, trapeze rings and harness hooks all contribute to the change in risk. Please ensure the crew, safety equipment and any additional support is suitable for the environment before venturing afloat.



Toura 11 - Trapeze Kit

RS Toura rigging manual.



c) Take the trapeze elastic and tie a bowline in one end. d) Feed the other end through the port shroud eye bolt (from outside towards the middle of the boat).







Rigging Guide

12 - Outboard bracket



Toura 12 - Outboard Bracket The optional outboard bracket pack contains: Outboard bracket Pintle Bolts, nuts and Eye bolts x 2 washers x 4 0 \bigcirc a) First bolt the pintle to the outboard bracket through the second and third row of holes as shown. 06 The outboard bracket is universal and can be set up in different ways for different RS boats, so it is important that you assemble it correctly or it will not fit the Toura. b) Fit the outboard bracket to the boat by dropping the pintle into the hole on the top of the transom on the starboard side.

Toura 12 - Outboard Bracket

O

c)

If you have assembled the bracket correctly, the bottom two holes on the outboard bracket should now line up with two threaded inserts on the aft face of the transom.

Insert the two bolts and tighten using 13mm socket and ratchet. You are now ready to attach an outboard motor to the Toura.



Rigging Guide

13 - Sailing Hints



Toura 13 - Sailing Hints

13.1 Introduction

The RS Toura is a very rewarding boat to sail – to fully appreciate its handling, you should be comfortable with the basic techniques of sailing small boats. If you lack confidence or feel that a refresher is in order, there are many approved sailing schools which can be recommended. See **www.rya.org.uk** for more information.

While we offer you a few hints to aid your enjoyment of your new boat, they should not be considered as a substitute for an approved course in dinghy sailing. In order to build your confidence and familiarise yourself with your new boat, we recommend that you choose a fairly quiet day with a steady wind for your first outing.

13.2 Launching

With the sails fully hoisted, and the rudder attached, the boat should be wheeled into the water, keeping it head to wind as far as possible. If you have a crew, s/he can hold the boat head to wind whilst the trolley is stowed ashore.

TOP TIP

If the tide is coming in as you launch, make sure that you leave the trolley far enough up the beach that it will not be swept away.

13.3 Leaving the Beach

The easiest way to get going is for the helm to step aboard while the crew holds the boat. The helm should put a little centreboard down, then move back to his normal position and lower some of the rudder blade. Then, s/he may instruct the crew to push the bow off the wind and climb in. The crew will then lower the centreboard as depth allows. As soon as the water is deep enough, the centreboard should be fully lowered, and the retaining elastic clipped to the rope handle to prevent it retracting into the hull in the event of a full inversion.

TOP TIP

If you are using the jib, pulling this sail in as you leave the beach will ensure that the bow continues to swing away from the direction that the wind is blowing from.

As soon the water is deep enough, make sure that you lower the rudder blade fully. You will know it is fully down if you feel a gentle "thud" as the front face of the blade hits the front face of the stock. Push the tiller down to lock the blade. Pull the sail in and you are away! For the best performance, you should ensure that you and your crew position yourselves so that the boat is sailing through the water as upright as possible.

TOP TIP

As a general rule, sit further forward in lighter winds and further aft in stronger breezes.
13.4 - Sailing Close-Hauled and Tacking

When sailing close-hauled, or as close as possible to the wind, it is important to get the boom as near as possible to the centreline, especially when sailing the with the mainsail and jib. The kicking strap should be firmly tensioned for upwind work.

The jib sheet should be pulled in fairly hard when sailing upwind – tighter in stronger winds and less so in lighter winds. Sail to the jib tell-tails, keeping the one on the back of the sail streaming and the one closest to you either streaming or lifting upwards slightly.

To tack, push the tiller extension away from you and, as the boat starts to turn, step across the cockpit facing forwards. Once the boat has completed the turn, bring the tiller back into the centre before sitting down on the new side, with the tiller extension behind your back. When you are settled, swap the mainsheet and the tiller extension into the new hands.

If the boat slows right down and feels lifeless when close-hauled, you could be sailing too close to the wind. Ease the mainsheet and 'bear off' ie. turn away from the wind for a while to get the boat going again.

13.5 - Sailing Downwind and Gybing

When sailing downwind, both sails should be let out as far as possible. To gybe, pull the tiller towards you and, as the boat starts to turn, step across the cockpit facing forward. Once the boat has completed the turn, bring the tiller back into the centre before sitting down on the new side, with the tiller extension behind your back. Often, the boom will not want to come across until you have nearly completed the gybe, so it often pays to give the mainsheet a tweak to encourage the boom over at the moment that you want it to come! Don't forget to duck your head as the boom comes over. Once you are settled, swap the mainsheet and the tiller extension into the new hands.

13.6 - Using the Gennaker

If you are inexperienced in using a gennaker, choose a fairly quiet day for you first excursion. A gennaker nearly doubles your sail area, and should be treated with a healthy degree of respect!



For your first hoist you should be sailing downwind on a broad reach, with the wind coming over the helm's aft shoulder. The crew should sit in the centre of the boat, astride the centreboard case, and hoist the gennaker by pulling the gennaker halyard from the port side of the centreboard.

Toura 13 - Sailing Hints

The gennaker halyard pulls the bowsprit out at the same time – when the gennaker is hoisted, you are ready to go. The crew, or the helm if sailing singlehanded, should now pull gently on the leeward gennaker sheet until the gennaker has filled. Gennakers may be effectively used from a close reach to a broad reach so, to get downwind, one should become adept at gybing. It is not possible to tack with the gennaker hoisted. For the best effect, the gennaker sheet should always be eased as far as possible, so that the luff is just on the point of curling.

Gybing with the gennaker is fairly straightforward. Like the jib, it should be pulled across at the same time as the mainsail comes across. As soon as it has been pulled in and filled with wind, it should again be immediately eased for maximum efficiency and speed

To drop the gennaker, reverse the procedure used to hoist. The boat should be sailing on a broad reach, and the slack in the gennaker downhaul is pulled in from the left hand halyard block As the gennaker downhaul goes tight, the gennaker halyard should be popped out of the cleat. Then, pull the remainder of the gennaker downhaul through until the gennaker is pulled sharply into the chute. Dropping the gennaker on tighter reaches is harder, and requires more effort on the gennaker downhaul.

TOP TIP

Tie a rope bobble onto the gennaker halyard, about 10 cm from the bowline that is attached to the head of the gennaker. This will make dropping the gennaker easier.

HINT

The gennaker can "bunch up" when entering the chute. This can be minimised by keeping some tension on the gennaker sheet, preventing the clew from being sucked into the chute with the main body of the gennaker.

When the gennaker is fully lowered, tidy the sheets and the halyard to keep the cockpit area clear.

13.8 - Three essential knots

Bowline

The bowline is a reliable knot used for tying a loop in rope. It is extremely strong when under load, and unties easily once free of load. Some people use the rhyme "the rabbit comes out of the hole, round the tree, and back down the hole" as a way of remembering how to tie a bowline.

Take the end of the piece of rope and assess how big a loop you require



Make a small loop in the rope







Contraction



Pass the tail around the standing rope

Thread the tail back through the loop, and tighten



Knot-on-knot

A 'knot-on-knot' is useful for tying the end of a rope to a sail or a fitting, and is particularly reliable due to the manner in which the rope binds upon itself.

Tie a single overhand knot in the end of the rope. Feed the rope through the sail or the fitting, and tie another overhand knot in the rope.

Pull the rope tight so that the rope binds on the original overhand knot.





Figure-of-Eight

The 'figure-of-eight' knot is used as a stopper knot, preventing ropes from slipping through fittings. Like the bowline, the

'figure-of-eight' knot unties easily once free of load.

Make a loop in the end of the rope

Lead the tail underneath the standing end of the rope

Lead the tail of the rope back through the loop, and tighten

