Ship Chartering Contracts: Mastering Maritime Agreements

25 – 29 October 2027
Amsterdam (Netherlands)



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Why This Course

In the maritime industry, chartering contracts form the backbone of shipping operations and commercial agreements. Professionals must understand the legal, commercial, and operational aspects of charter parties to negotiate effectively, manage risks, and resolve disputes. This intensive 1-week program equips participants with the knowledge and practical skills needed to navigate the complexities of ship chartering, from laytime and demurrage calculations to contract negotiation and dispute resolution.

What You'll Learn and Practice

By participating in this course, you will:

- Understand different types of charter parties and their applications.
- Master the legal and commercial aspects of chartering contracts.
- Develop skills in negotiating and drafting charter party agreements.
- Accurately calculate laytime and manage demurrage and despatch.
- Apply risk management strategies and dispute resolution mechanisms in chartering.
- Make informed operational and commercial decisions in shipping contracts.

Program Flow

Day 1: Introduction to Ship Chartering

- Overview of maritime trade and the shipping industry
- Types of charter parties: voyage, time, and bareboat
- Key stakeholders in the chartering process
- Legal frameworks governing charter parties

Day 2: Charter Party Clauses and Negotiations

- Essential clauses in charter party agreements
- Negotiation strategies and techniques
- Risk allocation between charterers and shipowners
- Case studies on successful charter party negotiations



Day 3: Laytime and Demurrage

- Principles of laytime calculation
- Concepts of demurrage and despatch
- Exceptions and special considerations in laytime and demurrage
- Practical exercises on laytime and demurrage calculations

Day 4: Operational Aspects and Performance

- Vessel performance and speed claims
- Bunker clauses and fuel efficiency considerations
- Safe port and safe berth warranties
- Off-hire events and calculation methods

Day 5: Dispute Resolution and Risk Management

- Common disputes in chartering contracts
- Arbitration and mediation processes
- Insurance and P&I club coverage
- Emerging trends in ship chartering operations

Training Methodology

This program blends theoretical knowledge with hands-on practice to ensure practical learning:

- Case studies analyzing real-world charter party scenarios
- Practical exercises in laytime and demurrage calculations
- Interactive negotiation simulations and risk assessment workshops
- Group discussions on dispute resolution, operational challenges, and maritime industry trends

Beyond the Course

Participants will leave the program able to:

- Confidently negotiate and draft charter party agreements.
- Accurately calculate laytime and manage demurrage claims.
- Apply risk allocation and dispute resolution mechanisms effectively.
- Make informed operational and commercial decisions in chartering operations.
- Navigate the legal and commercial complexities of maritime contracts with confidence.

