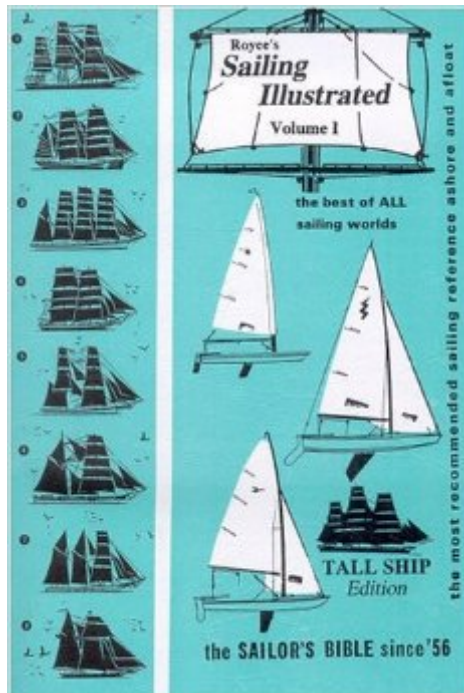


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# Royce's Sailing Illustrated, Vol. 1: Tall Ship Edition



## Synopsis

Royce's Sailing Illustrated, Volume 1 is an on-the-water manual providing any information desired about sailing. It covers a wide range of topics, from sail and hull ratios to types of knots and ways to detect a thunderstorm. Illustrations and maps enhance the instruction of every passage. A glossary and index allows finding your area of interest very simply. This book is issued in conjunction with Royce's Sailing Illustrated, Volume 2 and Royce's Powerboating Illustrated.

## Book Information

Paperback: 368 pages

Publisher: Royce Publications; 9th edition (1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0911284087

ISBN-13: 978-0911284089

Product Dimensions: 1 x 5.2 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (20 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #124,554 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Vehicle Pictorials > Ships](#) #107 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Sailing](#) #132 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Ships](#)

## Customer Reviews

I have shelf after shelf of books on sailing and boating, but only Royce's Sailing Illustrated is essentially worn out. This and the accompanying workbook are the only books of which I have two copies; one set at home and one set the boat. If you want an excellent introduction to sailing, buy, borrow, or steal this book. It's still no substitute for actually spending time at the tiller (and making your own mistakes), but Royce, through this little book, will teach you more than a boat-load of much more expensive volumes (or most sailing "schools", for that matter).

This compact work is not only a very good distillation of the ways of a modern sailor, but is arguably the most essential book to keep on board one's small boat for reference by the captain or the most novice of crew. It's keys to success are it's clarity of explanation and ease of reading. Of the 50 or so boat-related books in my library I rank this one among my top five in frequency of use.

I've never sailed, but bought this to understand what was going on in the rigging as I read Two

Years Before the Mast, and have since found it an invaluable companion in reading such books as In the Heart of the Sea, The Loss of the Ship Essex, the Patrick O'Brian Aubrey/Maturin books and others. Much to my surprise, the book included diagrams of the Pilgrim in which Dana sailed and some of the other ships mentioned in Dana's book, and of the Essex as well. Many of the wide variety of sailing ships mentioned in O'Brian are also shown. Fascinating reference to deepen the understanding of this literature.

Dunno what happened to the copy I bought many years ago, however it was a delight to revisit Royce's book. Even after 35 years of sailing, I learn a few more tidbits of sailing thanks to this book. There is a lot of information to absorb so I find the book most enjoyable by reading maybe just one or two pages at a sitting, similar to eating fine chocolates, leaving some goodness for later. For the most part, the book is a fantastic reference. I found one annoyance and I cannot understand why the content of a book would be printed with a light blue colored text. I find the lightly colored text difficult to read, too little contrast. Also, I would rather have seen contemporary sailing expounded upon rather than digressing back to the tall ships, trivia, though some people might find this to be of interest. Still, a must book for all who enjoy sailing.

This book is a must for any sailing enthusiast. It not only provides useful information on all aspects of sailing, sail boat design by does so with numerous sketches and pictures. A wonderful book for a reference annual.

I buy a copy for everyone I introduce to sailing. My children, grandchildren and now a friend who has just purchased his first boat. This book is the basic book on sailing and it should be on sailors bookshelf.

I have two copies of this book. The last one I bought was about \$ 25. They are getting very expensive, if you can find one at all. It is filled with sailing wisdom, lore, drawings and information from an old salt. I would never go on an extended voyage without this little jewel. I just wish I could find my other copy, as the one I just bought is getting worn out.....

I certainly agree that "The process of puzzlement and Gestalt will occur in repeated iterations" when reading Royce and I also believe it is "arguably the most essential book to keep on board one's small boat for reference by the captain or the most novice of crew". However, high performance

sailboat design has created the need for a new sailboat primer and Royce's work is badly in need of update. The fall of the American sailor in world competitions such as the Americas Cup and Around Alone is directly related to the popularity of Royce whose work even in 2003 results in the manufacturing of new pocket cruisers that sail like those illustrated. There has been a revolution in sailboat thinking and today this book should be viewed for historical interest rather than as a primer for learning how to sail because boats designed for high performance are sailed much differently than the style advocated in Royce.

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