

CAREERS **ROYAL MARINES** RESERVE

YOUR ROLE • THE PEOPLE YOU'LL MEET • THE PLACES YOU'LL GO



RESERVES

WELCOME

For most people, the demands of one job are enough. However, some of you need more of a challenge, and they don't come much bigger than joining the Royal Marines Reserve.

The Royal Marines Reserve is a part-time force of civilian volunteers, who give the Royal Marines extra manpower in times of peace and humanitarian crisis or war. You'll be trained to the same standards as the regular Royal Marines, have to pass the same commando tests and, of course, wear the same coveted green beret.

The obvious difference is that, as a Reservist, you combine service as a fully-trained Commando with your civilian career. It's a unique way of life that attracts people from all backgrounds. But, the nature of commando training and service means we can't just take anybody who fancies a challenge. We, and you, have to be absolutely sure it's the right thing for you and that you're physically and mentally up to the job.

It's a long, tough road to the green beret. But if you like the idea of travel, sport, adventure and, most importantly, the satisfaction of completing the world's toughest military training and getting paid for it, this is where it begins.

We wish you every success and look forward to welcoming you to the Royal Marines Reserve.

Visit royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr or call 08456 00 14 14

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PART OF THE ELITE

The Royal Marines provide the flexible, hard-hitting and highly mobile military response Britain needs in the modern world. Using Royal Navy ships as floating bases, we launch a huge range of operations, from humanitarian aid missions to tackling enemy positions, rescuing civilians or prisoners, and securing positions for other units.

As a Royal Marines Reservist, you'll be one of about 600 people who combine their civilian day jobs with serving part-time as fully-trained Commandos. Some are former regular Royal Marines, or have served with other armed forces, but most have no previous military experience. What we have in common is that we're all volunteers.

Like the regular Royal Marines Commandos, you'll be trained to operate in any location, environment and terrain. We're specialists in mountain and extreme cold-weather warfare, trained in climbing, skiing, and mountaineering. We've developed expertise in jungle and desert warfare and we can live and fight in the most hostile conditions on Earth. We're also trained in close-quarter combat in built-up areas, where lives depend on teamwork, discipline, weapon-handling skills and the ability to think on your feet.

As a Reservist, you'll complete exactly the same rigorous commando course as the regular Royal Marines. We do not make allowances, and there are no favours given. As a result, though, you'll be able to do the same job to the same standard. The proof is that roughly 10% of the Royal Marines Reserve are currently serving on long-term attachments in regular Royal Marines units.

Once you have some experience, you'll have the chance to specialise in assault engineering, anti-tank warfare, signals and the other skills that make us a self-contained fighting force able to deal with any situation we come across, without having to wait for reinforcements.

Ever since the Second World War, when today's commando training was developed to allow seaborne attacks on occupied Europe, we've been among the first to be sent into an international crisis. This was the case in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“Green berets are not handed out like sweets. They have to be earned.”

David, Marine and Teacher

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

As a Reservist, you'll join the 'trained strength' of one of the world's elite fighting forces. Here's what you could be part of.



MORE THAN WORDS

The Royal Marines' motto is Per Mare Per Terram – 'By sea, by land'. It first appeared on our caps at the Battle of Bunker Hill, during the American Revolutionary War, in 1775. More than 200 years later, it still very much applies, but you could also add 'by air', as we often use Sea King or Chinook helicopters, deployed from Royal Navy ships or land, to reach our area of operations.

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

“Be patient, be motivated
and the rewards are there.”

Gareth, Marine and
Automotive Technician



WORDS OF WISDOM

Like all elite units, we have our own language that reflects our unique culture and identity. It may sound confusing at first, but by the time you get your “green lid, spinning dits with your bezzie oppo about being in the sticks, working in the ulu on ops or how pusser has given you the latest Gucci kit to try out”, it will be second nature. “Then when the Boss calls endex on a yomp, you may be on your chinstrap, but after digging out blind the scan will be hoofing (even if it's only a bag-rat or an oggy) and you'll have earned a few zeds in your gonk bag. Gen dit. BZ.”

EQUIPPED FOR THE MODERN WORLD

3 Commando Brigade is at the heart of today's Royal Marines. It's made up of three operational commando units – 40, 42 and 45 Commando – each of about 650 to 700 men. It's supported by other Royal Marines units, including raiding and landing craft, helicopters, air defence, electronic warfare, logistics and communications specialists.

As a light amphibious brigade, we have a range of vehicles and weapons, from armoured vehicles and snowmobiles to heavy machine guns, mortars and anti-tank weapons. Together, these give us the flexibility and versatility we need to respond to any situation, anywhere in the world.

By joining us as a Reservist, you'll be part of the 'trained strength' of the Royal Marines and a central part of the Corps. It's a unique challenge, demanding levels of fitness, discipline and determination second to none. It's not for everyone. But if you have what it takes to wear the green beret, there's literally no other job like it.

Really?

Only 40 Commando is referred to as 'Forty': 42 and 45 are always called 'Four-Two' and 'Four-Five' Commando.

Really?

'Bootneck' – A Royal Marines Commando. The name comes from the piece of leather that they used to have on the collar of their uniform.



YOUR PLACE IN THE TEAM

Although you'll be serving part-time, you and your fellow Reservists are very much part of the Royal Marines' overall strength. The whole point of putting you through the same training as the regular Royal Marines is so you can slot in alongside them whenever the need arises, anywhere in the world. You won't be treated any differently and no one will be able to tell the difference.

What's more, being part of a Reserve force doesn't mean you're being kept 'in storage'. In fact, today's huge demands on Britain's armed forces means that Reservists are more likely than ever to be called out for active service, with over 70% of Royal Marines Reservists having been called into action since 2003.

The Royal Marines Reserve offers a fantastic way of life, but the training and exercises you'll do are more than just a fun way to spend your evenings and weekends. One day, you'll almost certainly get to do it for real. Maybe not tomorrow, but sometime during your period of service.

Being a Royal Marines Commando isn't something you simply put aside along with your green beret when you get home on a Sunday evening. The physical demands of the service mean that, even if you're only with us one weekend in four, you need to keep your fitness levels up in between. Sometimes, you'll also need the kind of determination and motivation that gets you round our assault course to balance your home, work and Royal Marines Reserve commitments.

In return, we promise you opportunities to see places and do things most people only dream of, with some of the best friends you'll ever make.

GOING FURTHER

As well as your ongoing commando company training in your own Royal Marines Reserve unit, you'll have opportunities to go on specialist training in areas like combat first aid and reconnaissance (missions to gather information) run by both Royal Marines Reserve and regular Royal Marines units. You may also be able to apply to serve for longer periods with the Regular Corps anywhere in the world through the Full-Time Reservist Service (FTRS) contract.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A RESERVIST

Serving with the Royal Marines Reserve offers opportunities, experiences and friendships you'll rarely find in civilian life.



When did you first consider becoming a Reservist?

"I'd always been interested in a Royal Marines career, but while at university in Bristol I found out about the Royal Marines Reserve unit based locally. I was attracted by the flexibility a Reservist career offered, allowing me to balance my military aspirations with a civilian career."

What does being a Reservist mean to you?

"Making great friends! The shared experiences make you pull each other along through training. Every time I thought I couldn't go on, I'd just look at the other lads and think what a waste it would be to give up after all we'd been through."

JON MARINE AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPER





JOINING, TRAINING AND SPECIALISATIONS

You've seen who we are, what we do and how we do it. Here's how we go about turning your ambition into a reality.

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or call 08456 00 14 44



GENERAL DUTIES MARINES AND OFFICERS

Really?

'Run ashore' – the term used by Royal Marines to describe a night out on land.

GENERAL DUTIES MARINE

Just like the regular Corps, you'll be known as a Royal Marines Reserve Recruit throughout your training, and you will become a General Duties Marine when you finish your training. You could be called out or 'mobilised' to serve with the regular Corps, wherever they are in the world, almost as soon as you've finished your training.

You'll spend time as a General Duties Marine developing a range of commando skills. You'll then be given the chance to train for one of the specialist jobs such as Assault Engineer or Sniper.

ROYAL MARINES RESERVE OFFICER

As a Royal Marines Reserve Officer you will be part of our senior management team. On operations, you'll need skills in leadership, planning, tactics and making decisions. And, at all times, you'll be responsible for the morale, training, effectiveness and the well-being of the men under your command.

If you want to become an Officer in the Royal Marines Reserve, you must first qualify as a Royal Marines Commando before we will consider you.

GENERAL DUTIES MARINE

Age:	16 to 32.
Nationality:	British, Irish, Commonwealth or British dual citizenship.
Qualifications:	No specific qualifications are needed for this job.
Sex:	This job is open to men only.

ROYAL MARINES OFFICER

Age:	17 to 26.
Nationality:	British or British dual citizenship. Nationality restrictions may apply for certain specialist jobs.
Qualifications:	180 UCAS points and five GCSEs (A* to C) or Scottish Standard grades or the equivalent, which must include English and maths. If you have other qualifications, we will consider your application individually.
Sex:	This job is open to men only.

HOW TO JOIN

Once you've decided that you're interested in a career in the Royal Marines Reserve, it's time to begin the formal recruitment process.

HELPING YOU SUCCEED

The recruitment process might seem a bit involved, but that's because we want you to be absolutely sure it's the right decision for you. We also have a duty to choose people with the right attitudes

and personal qualities to take on the responsibilities of life in an armed service. During the process, you'll have plenty of opportunities to show us what you're made of and we'll help you make the most of your potential.

Don't forget

We're here to help. If you have questions or concerns at any stage in the process, please ask your Careers Adviser or local Royal Marines Reserve unit. It's what they're there for.



GET IN TOUCH

Call **08456 00 14 44**. You'll be asked a few basic questions to check you're eligible to apply. Or you can fill in a short form online at **royalmarines.mod.uk**. You can also visit your local Royal Marines Reserve unit. (Their details are at the back of this publication and on the website.)

MEET US

We'll book you a place at a recruiting presentation at your local Royal Marines Reserve unit or detachment, where you'll learn more about us and the job options open to you.

FIND OUT MORE

After the recruiting presentation you'll have a chance to ask questions and to meet current recruits and serving Reservists. You'll then fill in a short application form. While you wait for your application to be processed, you'll be given a place in your local Royal Marines Reserve unit's Holding Troop. This will allow you to join in basic fitness training and get to know some of your prospective 'oppos'.

SHOW US WHAT YOU'VE GOT

We'll arrange for you to take the recruit test (RT), which covers basic English and maths, problem-solving and understanding of mechanics. We'd recommend you work through the examples at **royalnavy.mod.uk/careers** before you sit the real thing. If you don't pass the RT first time, don't worry, as you can take it again. You will be advised what the timescales are likely to be.

YOUR WAY AHEAD

After the RT, you'll have a formal interview with a Careers Adviser. As well as discussing your education, work experience, background and interests, it's your chance to show us how much you know about the Royal Marines Commandos and your role as a Reservist, and show us your commitment to being part of the elite.

FIT TO JOIN

You'll need to take a medical, an eye test and the pre-joining fitness test. You can find current test details at **royalmarines.mod.uk**. You will also need to receive security clearance before you move on to the next stage in the recruitment process.

PUT IT TO THE TEST

Your final challenge is the 'selection weekend', held at your local Royal Marines Reserve unit. You'll take part in a series of physical tests and teamwork exercises designed to show us that you have the fitness, determination and positive attitude we're looking for in the Royal Marines Reserve.

WELCOME ABOARD

When you've passed the various tests, you'll be ready to begin phase one of your training course.

MAKE SURE YOU'RE READY

The recruitment process and then commando training involves fitness tests and plenty of strenuous physical activity. You'll have a much better chance of being successful if you're already in good shape. To help you, we've put together an online training programme called 'Get Fit to Apply', which you can see at **royalmarines.mod.uk**

Visit royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr or call **08456 00 14 14**

COMMANDO TRAINING

To earn the green beret, Royal Marines Commandos complete one of the world's longest, toughest military training courses. You'll be doing exactly the same. The only difference is, you'll be combining it with your day job.



You may be a civilian volunteer, but as a Reservist, you'll go through exactly the same training as the regular Royal Marines. That's because you're working towards the same green beret. And, one day, you'll be serving alongside them as an equal. We divide the basic recruit training into three phases.

PHASE ONE: INDIVIDUAL SKILLS TRAINING

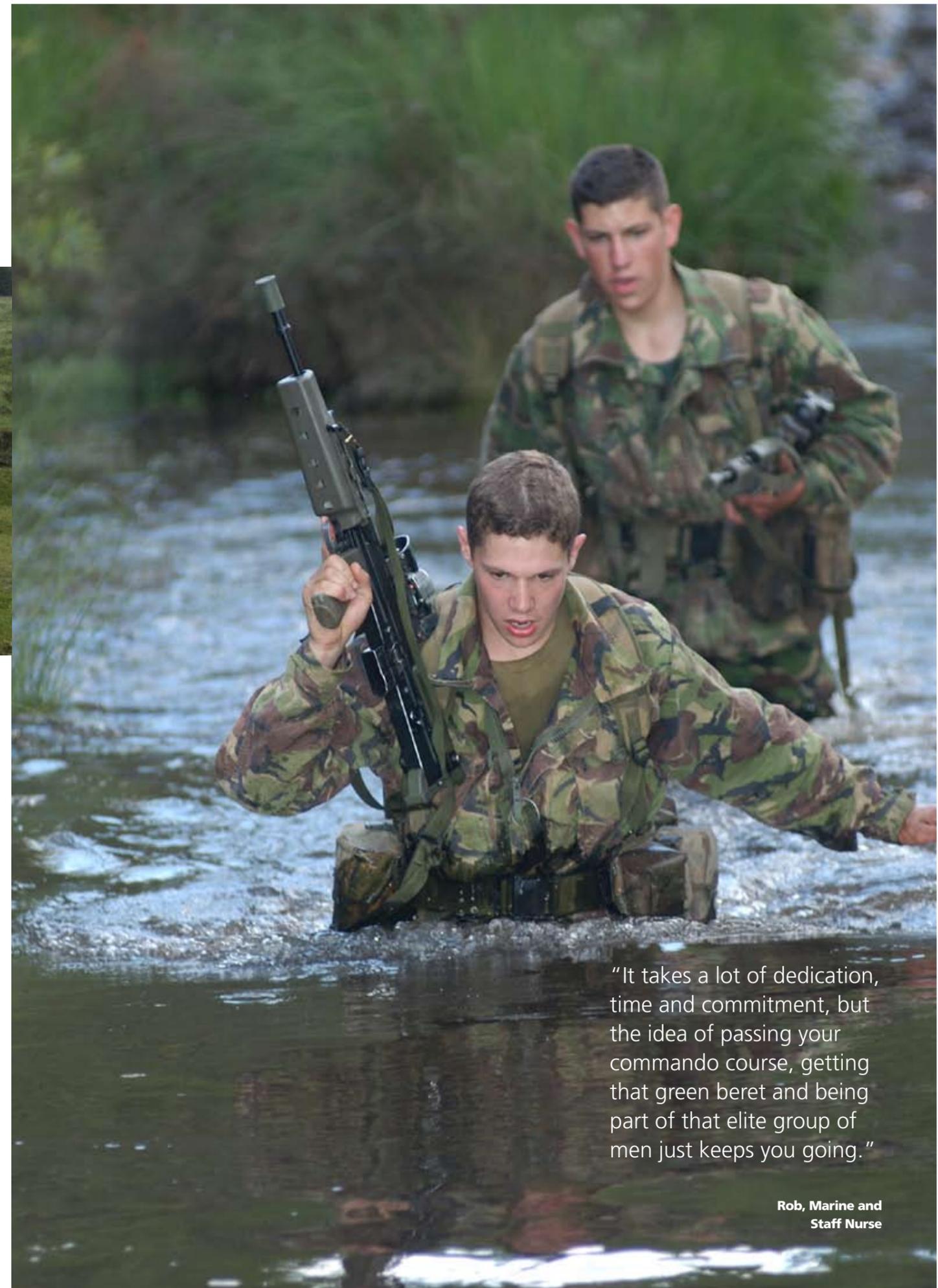
Your initial training will usually last six to eight months. During this time, you'll need to put in seven training weekends, plus one training evening a week. At the end of it, you'll bring together everything you've learned so far on a two-week course at the Commando Training Centre Royal Marines (CTCRM) in Lympstone, Devon.

PHASE TWO: TACTICAL TRAINING AND THE COMMANDO COURSE

Like phase one, this lasts six to eight months, during which time you'll be asked to complete eight training weekends and one training evening a week. Phase-two training ends with the two-week commando course at CTCRM, when you'll carry out the four commando tests. If you successfully complete these tests, you earn the right to wear the green beret of a Royal Marines Commando.

PHASE THREE: FIELD FIRING AND AMPHIBIOUS TRAINING

This consists of a two-week live firing course, which ends in a live firing troop attack on Dartmoor, and a weekend of amphibious training.



"It takes a lot of dedication, time and commitment, but the idea of passing your commando course, getting that green beret and being part of that elite group of men just keeps you going."

Rob, Marine and
Staff Nurse

Really?

'Green beret' – Awarded to those who successfully pass the gruelling Royal Marines commando course.

COMMANDO TRAINING

Commando training isn't just about physical fitness. It also covers the huge range of practical military skills you'll need to operate effectively in the field.

PHASE ONE: INDIVIDUAL SKILLS TRAINING

Phase one covers your individual skills training, when you'll learn the basics of being a Royal Marines Commando. Over your first six to eight months with us, your training will cover the following.

BASIC FIELDCRAFT

As a Royal Marines Commando, you'll need to stay healthy and fit to fight while living in the field, often far from outside support. You'll learn to construct different types of shelters, or 'bivvies', prepare different types of ration pack and master the arts of camouflage and concealment.

NAVIGATION

By the end of the course, you'll be able to find your way across all types of terrain using nothing more than a map and compass, in all weathers and by day or night.

WEAPON TRAINING

Even if you've never handled firearms before, using the 5.56mm rifle will soon become second nature. You'll learn how to maintain it and complete a live firing test.

PHYSICAL TRAINING

Physical training, or 'phys' as it's known in the Royal Marines, forms the backbone of everything you'll do in the Royal Marines Reserve. We'll help you build your fitness before the commando tests, but you'll have to put in a lot of effort in your own time, too.

COURSE AT CTCRM

Phase one ends in a two-week course at CTCRM. We'll assess you on your progress so far on weapon training, camouflage and concealment and make a timed run over the assault course. We'll also introduce you to phase two and the commando tests yet to come.

PHASE TWO: TACTICAL TRAINING AND THE COMMANDO COURSE

Your next six months' training builds on phase one and develops the skills and knowledge you'll need to serve effectively in a commando unit.

During phase two, you'll do all your phys carrying your rifle and wearing your personal load-carrying equipment. Gradually, we'll up the weight until you reach the full 10kg of kit, plus your 4.6kg rifle, you'll be expected to carry during the commando course.

BATTLE PREPARATION

Now you'll find out just how tough commando training can really get. You'll be pushed to the very limits of your skills, strength and endurance.

FIELDCRAFT AND TACTICS

As well as more advanced fieldcraft skills, you'll start learning basic patrolling techniques. By the end of the course, you'll be confident on reconnaissance and fighting patrols, mounting observation posts and setting ambushes.

THE COMMANDO COURSE

All your training in phases one and two has been leading up to this point. The two-week Reserve Forces Commando Course (RFCC) at CTCRM is where you put your basic training into practice and show us you meet the physical and professional standards we look for in a Royal Marines Commando.

Your first major challenge is the battle physical training (BPT) pass out. This is a series of four physical tests you'll need to pass to continue on the commando course. Carrying a full 10kg of kit, plus your rifle, you'll have to complete:

- a 30-foot rope climb;**
- a 20-metre fireman's lift;**
- an assault course; and**
- a full regain** (this is when, while wearing 21 pounds of webbing and carrying your rifle, you will crawl across a rope which is 10 foot above water.

When you are halfway across you will drop down, but stay hanging to the rope using your hands. Using a specific technique, you will need to pull yourself back up and continue along the rope until you have passed over the water).

Once you've passed the BPT, there's another important test. As the name suggests, the '12-mile load carry' is a 12-mile march along roads and across country, with 31kg of personal kit, plus your rifle.

You will then have to complete the four-day field exercise. Everything you've learned about fieldcraft, weapons and tactics, plus your physical condition, will be put to the toughest test yet. It's a hard four days, but you'll learn a lot about yourself and come out of it stronger and more determined than ever to make it over the final hurdle.

COMMANDO TESTS

Final hurdles don't come much bigger than this one. The four legendary commando tests are the ultimate proof that you're ready for your green beret.

1 The endurance course

You will work your way through two miles of tunnels, pools, streams, bogs and woods, then run four miles back to camp, all while you're in combat equipment and carrying a weapon, and all in less than 72 minutes. When you get back, you'll have to get six out of 10 shots on target in a shooting test.

2 The nine mile speed march

You need to complete this in 90 minutes, while carrying your equipment and a rifle.

3 The Tarzan assault course

Consisting of an aerial slide, ropes course, assault course and 30-foot wall, which you will need to complete in 13 minutes, while carrying your equipment and a rifle.

4 The 30-mile march

A 30-mile march across Dartmoor, which you will need to complete in under eight hours with your equipment and a rifle.



"Research what's involved before you turn up. Plenty of fit people come to the Royal Marines Reserve but don't make it through training because they aren't prepared for the mental aspect and the different types of fitness involved."

Jon, Marine and Software Developer

Really?

'Speed march' – Royal Marines term for running in formation, at an average speed of 6mph, while carrying your weapon, webbing and survival equipment, at the end of which you will have to be fit to fight.



COMMANDO TRAINING

Once you complete the final phase of your training, you'll be ready to serve alongside regular Royal Marines as a full member of 3 Commando Brigade.

PHASE THREE: FIELD FIRING AND AMPHIBIOUS TRAINING

Following on from the commando course, phase-three training gives you the extra skills you'll need to serve alongside regular Royal Marines on exercise or operations. You'll be back at CTCRM, this time with your green beret, for a two-week course designed to hone your tactical, technical and teamwork skills. You'll take part in troop attack exercises using live ammunition and grenades, machine guns and grenade launchers. For most, though, the highlight is the chance to take part in an amphibious assault.

Attacking from the sea using rigid raiding boats and landing craft is the Royal Marines' unique speciality. Now, you'll have all the skills you need to be part of it.

FURTHER TRAINING AND TRAINING IN SPECIALIST QUALIFICATIONS

Once you've completed your phase-three training, you'll be a Royal Marines Commando, ready to serve with regular Royal Marines on operations. From here, all kinds of further training options are open to you, such as jungle, mountain and cold-weather warfare. Once you've gained some experience, you'll have the opportunity to train for one of the specialist jobs outlined over the page.

Just like in the regular Corps, promotion within the Royal Marines Reserve is entirely on merit. When you're picked for promotion, you'll go on a command course at CTCRM, specifically designed to prepare you for the new tasks and responsibilities that will go with your new rank.

What inspired you to join the Royal Marines Reserve?

"I've always wanted to be involved in the armed forces; my grandfather served with the Royal Marines in landing craft during the Second World War. I didn't want to be a just a 'TA soldier' though. I wanted the training to be as close as possible to what the regulars do."

And was it?

"If anyone says the training's easy, they're not telling the truth. It takes a lot of dedication, time and commitment. You need to be fit, prepared to get cold, wet and exhausted, and to listen to your training team. Above all, keep smiling; that's what 'cheerfulness in the face of adversity' means."

**ROBERT
MARINE AND STAFF NURSE**

Really?

'Bergen' or 'small child' – The Royal Marines name for their largest pack or rucksack. The pack can weigh over 100 pounds fully loaded, depending on your task or role.



"We're the world's only Reserve force trained to survive and fight across all environments – arctic, jungle and mountain."

Tim, Marine and Graphic Designer



COMMANDO SPECIALISATIONS

Visit royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr to see full details of each specialist job.

Just like the regular Corps, everyone starts out as a General Duties Marine. Once you've built up some experience and skills, you'll be given the chance to train for one of the Commando specialist jobs. Your particular career path will depend on the needs of the service, plus any previous military experience and existing specialist skills you may have.

ASSAULT ENGINEER

Assault Engineers are trained to build bridges, field defences, obstacles and other structures used in commando operations. You'll also be trained in mine warfare, demolition and using explosives.

GENERAL PURPOSE MACHINE GUN SUSTAINED FIRE (GPMG SF)

You'll be one of a two-man team, controlled by a Gun Line Commander, operating one of our most potent long-range weapons. The GPMG is a portable, fully-automatic machine gun, mounted on a tripod, which you'll use to protect your oppos in defensive positions and support them during attacks with sustained, rapid fire.

LANDING CRAFT

Landing Craft Specialists are responsible for transporting Royal Marines Commandos from ship to shore. To carry out your tasks, we will train you to drive small, high-speed raiding craft such as rigid raiders, inflatable raiding craft and the new offshore raiding craft.

SKILLS AT ARMS INSTRUCTOR

Every Royal Marine is expected to become an expert marksman, who can handle the wide range of weapons we use in the Corps. As a Skills At Arms (SAA) Instructor, it'll be your job to train new recruits and more experienced Royal Marines Commandos in using small arms safely and efficiently on the range and in the field.

CIVIL MILITARY CO-OPERATION (CIMIC)

As a trained member of the Civil Military Co-ordination (CIMIC) team you will deploy with the Royal Marines to areas of conflict. Here you'll be responsible for working with the civil community to gain their trust and understanding to promote regeneration and help return the area to stability.

HEAVY WEAPONS ANTI-TANK

As an Anti-Tank Specialist, you'll be trained to identify enemy tanks and other armoured vehicles, then use the Javelin anti-tank missile system to put them out of action. The Javelin can also be used as a 'bunker buster' to clear heavily fortified buildings.

PHYSICAL TRAINING (PT) INSTRUCTOR

As a PT Instructor, you'll be responsible for developing and maintaining military physical fitness among recruits and trained personnel.

SNIPER

This is a specialist job demanding teamwork, concentration and self-reliance of the very highest order. You'll be one of a two-man team operating from concealed positions, often separated from the rest of your unit for long periods. That you need to be an outstanding long-range marksman with excellent eyesight goes without saying. You'll also need to work well under pressure.

DRILL LEADER

You'll be a central figure in the lives of raw recruits, with a crucial role in turning them into fully-trained Royal Marines Commandos. You'll also uphold our worldwide reputation for parade-ground precision, taking overall responsibility for ceremonial drill on state and other occasions.

HEAVY MACHINE GUN (HMG)

As a member of an HMG crew, you'll be trained to handle and fire this formidable weapon, which can be carried by hand or mounted on a vehicle. You'll also learn the tactical skills needed to hit targets effectively at a distance of up to 4.5 kilometres.

RECONNAISSANCE OPERATOR

The success of the mission depends on knowing where and how strong the enemy is. As a Reconnaissance Operator, it'll be your job to find out. You'll be trained in climbing and cliff-assault techniques, allowing you to gather vital intelligence and get it back to your unit in total secrecy.

SWIMMER CANOEIST

Swimmer Canoeists are members of the Special Boat Service (SBS). Once you've passed the UK Special Forces Selection Course (a big achievement in itself) you'll be trained to the highest standards in surveillance, reconnaissance, parachuting and survival skills.

DRIVER

As a Driver, you'll be trained on a range of vehicles, such as customised Land Rovers, heavy support vehicles and the fast, agile Viking armoured vehicle, developed specifically for the Royal Marines.

HEAVY WEAPONS MORTAR

Mortars are an important part of the Royal Marines' range of weapons. You'll learn how to operate these vital weapons and accurately direct fire onto targets up to 6 kilometres away.

COMMANDO OFFICER SPECIALISATIONS

CIVIL MILITARY CO-OPERATION (CIMIC) OFFICER

Civil Military Co-ordination (CIMIC) Officers are trained to build relationships between communities in areas of conflict and the military. You'll be responsible for commanding a small team of dedicated CIMIC specialists working among the local population or be employed as a Staff Officer in a headquarters co-ordinating CIMIC over a wide area.

LANDING CRAFT OFFICER

Landing Craft Officers are specialists in amphibious operations. You'll be trained to plan and oversee beach assaults and raiding operations, command landing craft and supervise maintenance.

MEDIA OPS

The media rightly take a keen interest in our activities, whether we're on exercise or operations. Making sure they get accurate information when they need it is the job of our specialist Media Operations Officers. In this vital job, you'll have the role of upholding and further improving the reputation of not only the Royal Marines but the entire UK armed forces and, ultimately, the nation as a whole.

As a Royal Marines Reserve Officer, certain other specialist jobs are open to you. These specialisations need military, technical and leadership skills of the very highest order, so the selection process is extremely rigorous. However, by the end of your training, you'll be ready to take on one of the most challenging and rewarding management jobs in the armed forces, or anywhere else for that matter.



ROYAL MARINES RESERVE LIFE

We're going to ask a lot of you.
So in return, you can expect a great
deal from us.

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“An operational tour will always be the most challenging thing you can do as a Reservist. However, I’m driven by the constant varied challenges that the Royal Marines Reserve provides in all aspects and environments.”

Martin, Marine and IT Manager



YOUR COMMITMENT

Being part of the Royal Marines Reserve isn't just a hobby. You'll be a trained member of the UK's elite amphibious forces, with all the responsibilities that go with this unique military job.

As a Reservist, you'll serve part-time, unless you're called out for an operational tour of duty. However, you'll need to keep your skills and fitness at a consistently high level, which means you'll be expected to put in the following training throughout the year.

NON-CONTINUOUS TRAINING (NCT) – 12 DAYS EACH YEAR

This is made up of midweek drill nights and weekends. Each two-hour drill night is equivalent to a quarter day's training, so doing four will give you one day's NCT. Weekend training, which normally runs from 20.00 hours on Friday to Sunday afternoon, counts as 2.5 days. Most Reservists are with us for at least one weekend a month.

CONTINUOUS TRAINING (CT) – 14 DAYS EACH YEAR

Wherever possible, we like you to complete your CT each year as a single 14-day block. We understand, though, that your work or other circumstances may sometimes make this difficult. If you have valid reasons, your Commanding Officer may allow you to put in several shorter periods (each no less than 72 hours) to make up your 14 days.

By completing your minimum training commitment satisfactorily, you'll also qualify for your yearly tax-free bounty, on top of the pay you'll receive for every hour's service you give, for more details turn to page 29.

DEPLOYMENTS

You'll almost certainly go on at least one operational tour of duty during your service. As a part of the Royal Marines' trained strength, you can be called out, or mobilised, to serve anywhere in the world in response to a military threat, or a natural or humanitarian disaster.

You can be mobilised once you've completed all three phases of your training. During your mobilisation, which can last anywhere from a few weeks to 12 months, you'll serve alongside regular Royal Marines, doing exactly the same work in identical conditions. You may also have the opportunity for longer-term service with the regular Corps under a Full-Time Reserve Service (FTRS) contract. This will normally be for up to two years, during which time you'll be paid the same as your equivalents in the regular Royal Marines.

In recent times, Reservists have seen active service in Bosnia, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, the Caribbean, Georgia, the Congo, Iraq and Afghanistan.

What kind of commitment does serving with the Royal Marines Reserve involve?

“Royal Marines Reserve training needs great commitment and dedication, so you should not take the decision to join lightly. Achieving a balance between work, family and the Royal Marines Reserve is difficult, as they all involve commitment. I believe the key is being flexible and honest with all three to achieve the best balance.”

What do you feel you get in return?

“The rewards at the end of training are well worth the time, effort and pain. Joining the Royal Marines Reserve is not like joining a club, or taking part in a hobby, but being part of something very special that anyone outside the Royal Marines family will struggle to understand.”

ANDREW MARINE AND OPERATIONS MANAGER AT A NEWSPAPER



WHAT WE CAN OFFER YOU

Serving with the Royal Marines Reserve brings a huge range of personal and professional rewards. But as well as unique experiences, long-term friendships and a huge sense of satisfaction, you'll enjoy plenty of practical, real benefits, too.

Really?

'Blueys' – Armed Forces' slang for letters home – from the colour of lightmail airmail envelopes. E-mails are therefore 'e-blueys'.



"The best aspect of the Royal Marines Reserve is the friends and colleagues that I have met during my time."

Andrew, Marine and Operations Manager

You have a PhD in chemistry; why the Royal Marines Reserve?

"I missed my chance to join full-time earlier in my life. The Royal Marines Reserve offers a way to pursue the same challenges and opportunities while having a civilian career and being paid for something I enjoy doing!"

What have been your personal highlights during your 10 years' service?

"Two things really stand out. The first was being chosen for the Cenotaph guard on Remembrance Sunday. The focus of the city of Bristol was on me and the Royal Marines Reserve. The second was the Special Forces selection course for the SBS Reserve; walking 64 kilometres in 18 hours and passing Escape and Evasion and Interrogation was and will always be the hardest thing I've ever done!"

**DAVID
MARINE AND
CHEMISTRY TEACHER**



PAY

Although, as a Reservist, you're a volunteer, that doesn't mean we expect you to do all this for nothing. Quite the opposite, in fact. You'll be paid at the same rate as your equivalent in the regular Royal Marines for every drill night and training weekend as well as when you are deployed for longer.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

As well as qualifications and specific military training, serving with the Royal Marines Reserve will help you develop other skills and personal qualities that will prove invaluable in any civilian line of work. The leadership potential, self-discipline, self-motivation and ability to work in a team you'll gain through the Royal Marines Reserve will be of enormous benefit to your employer and co-workers and greatly improve your employment and promotion prospects.

BOUNTY

If you complete your minimum training commitment for the year satisfactorily, you'll also be paid a lump sum each year, which we call a 'bounty'. You'll currently receive £395 in your first year, rising to £1556 a year after five years' service. Remember, this is on top of your pay for going on any training. Better still, the bounty is tax-free, so you get to keep every penny.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

As a member of the Royal Marines Reserve, you're as much a part of the Corps as the regular Royal Marines. That means you have access to many of the same opportunities for sport, recreation, travel and adventurous training, too.



SEE THE WORLD

For centuries, people have joined us to see the world and visit places they might otherwise never get to go to. The opportunity to travel is still one of the attractions of serving with the Royal Marines Reserve. In recent times, Reservists have served on operations in Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan and joined humanitarian relief missions in many other countries.

A SENSE OF ADVENTURE

Being able to dig deep and find something extra within yourself is at the heart of the Royal Marines Reserve ethos. It's the kind of fighting spirit, grit and positive attitude we like and which our adventurous training courses are designed to encourage. You don't have to pick activities related to your job; this is a chance to try something you've always wanted to do, or maybe done before and want to take further.

These courses offer a real taste of adventure, whether you're diving in the Red Sea, snowboarding in the Alps, caving, hang-gliding, mountaineering, parachuting or sailing. For some people, it's a once-in-a-lifetime experience. For others, it's the start of an interest that stays with them long after they leave the service.

PLAYING FOR FUN

Keeping yourself in peak physical condition is an important part of life in the Royal Marines Reserve. We encourage you to take part in sport, both for the fitness benefits and the fantastic social life that goes with it. As a member of the Royal Marines Reserve, you have access to the Royal Navy's superb sporting facilities and activities, ranging from 'traditional' sports like football, rugby, hockey and cricket to archery, bobsleigh and fencing.

AND TO WIN

It's not just on exercise and operations that Reservists and regular Royal Marines get to work together. There are also opportunities for members of the Royal Marines Reserve to represent the Royal Marines in a variety of sports such as boxing, football, rugby and fencing.

Really?

'Commando'— All Royal Marines, except those in the Royal Marines Band Service, are first and foremost Commandos.



"If you can commit the time, you have the chance to get involved in almost everything the regular Corps does, be it deploying to the front line on operations, or carrying out adventurous training all over the world."

Chris, Marine and Retail Manager

Have you been on exercise or operations during your service?

"In 2007, I took part in Exercise 'Commando Strike' in the Falkland Islands. A year later, I went to Belize on the annual multinational exercise 'Tradewinds'. I've also been deployed to Iraq on Operation TELIC as part of the Royal Navy training team mentoring the Iraqi Riverine Patrol Service on counter-smuggling operations in southern Iraq."

What about specialist training for yourself?

"I've made two trips to Pickel Meadows (the US Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in California) where I completed the novice ski survival course and the infantry winter warfare course. I've always found everyone gets on with each other, and the training and teamwork make working together in tough, stressful environments successful."

**LEON
MARINE AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEER**





AND FINALLY...

In this section:

- **Your questions answered** - Page 34
- **Equal opportunities** - Page 36
- **The Naval Service** - Page 38
- **Royal Marines Reserve unit contact details** - Page 40

Visit royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr
or call 08456 00 14 44

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Even when you've decided to join us, you're bound to have questions. These are some of the questions we get asked most often by people thinking of becoming Royal Marines Reservists, and their families. You can find others on our website or the team at your local Armed Forces Careers Office (AFCO) or Royal Marines Reserve unit will be happy to answer those we didn't cover here.



Q: HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO SIGN UP FOR?

A: Like the regular Royal Marines, you will join the Royal Marines Reserve on an open engagement which will take you to age 45. You can join when you're 16. You can give us one month's notice to leave at any time, except of course if you are mobilised.

Q: WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND?

A: As a civilian volunteer, you're not bound by the same conditions as regular Royal Marines. You can ask to be discharged at any time before your period of service is up by giving a month's notice in writing and returning any kit you've been issued. The only exceptions are if you've been called out on permanent service, or you're on a Full-Time Reserve Service (FTRS) contract. Please go to royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr for more details or ask the team at your local AFCO or Royal Marines Reserve unit.

Q: CAN I SEE IF I LIKE IT BEFORE I APPLY?

A: Yes, you can. We run familiarisation courses throughout the year and each of our units holds a number of 'Meet The Marines' events each year. These are very popular and give you a chance to talk to serving Royal Marines Reservists face-to-face about life in the Royal Marines Reserve. These events are free and open to everyone. For more details, visit royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr or ask the team at your local AFCO or Royal Marines Reserve unit.

Q: ARE THERE AGE LIMITS TO JOINING?

A: You can join the Royal Marines Reserve from age 16. As a general rule, you must begin your training before your 33rd birthday. If you're older than this but have previous military experience, we'll consider your application on an individual basis.

Q: DO I HAVE TO TELL MY EMPLOYER I'M JOINING THE ROYAL MARINES RESERVE?

A: The skills and personal qualities you'll develop in the Royal Marines Reserve can be a great benefit to any organisation and most employers are extremely supportive. However, there will be times where your Royal Marines Reserve commitments will affect their business, especially if you're called out on permanent service.

When you join the Royal Marines Reserve, you must give the Ministry of Defence (MOD) permission to tell your employer, so they can know about the benefits, rights and obligations that go with having a Reservist on the team. The MOD will wait for four weeks after you've given this permission, so you can talk to your employer if you prefer. If you change jobs, the MOD will tell your new boss, but again you'll have a four-week 'window' to tell them yourself if you'd rather.

Q: WHEN COULD I BE CALLED OUT ON OPERATIONS OR ACTIVE SERVICE?

A: Having successfully completed phase-three training, you may be called out if the UK is threatened with or actually under attack, or there's a similar national emergency. You may also need to serve if the Government decides to send UK forces to protect life and property in another country, or to help people caught up in a man-made or natural disaster.

Q: DO I HAVE TO GO?

A: As a Reservist, you are part of Her Majesty's armed forces. Your call-out notice will tell you exactly where to report and when; if you don't turn up, you could be charged with being absent without leave (AWOL) or even desertion. If there are genuine reasons why you can't be called out, you or your employer may apply for an official leave of absence.

Q: WILL I ALWAYS BE PART-TIME?

A: Yes, unless you're either called out for permanent service, or you're accepted on a Full-Time Reserve Service Contract (see next question).

Q: AS A RESERVIST, CAN I SERVE FULL-TIME?

A: Once you've completed your phase-three training, you can apply for one of the Full-Time Reserve Service (FTRS) contract opportunities you'll often see advertised at your Royal Marines Reserve unit. When you're accepted, you'll serve with the regular Corps on exercise or operations, wherever they are in the world, on the same terms and pay, for between three months and two years, depending on your availability and the needs of the service.

Q: HOW CAN I KEEP IN TOUCH WHILE I'M AWAY?

A: All our ships and shore units have satellite phones for emergencies. We also give everyone serving abroad 20 minutes' worth of free satellite calls a week (this increases to 30 minutes if you are serving in Afghanistan). All Royal Navy ships have email access and mobile phones are also allowed on board. However, there may be some restrictions about when they can be used.

Q: WILL A CRIMINAL RECORD STOP ME FROM JOINING?

A: Not necessarily. Under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, convictions are said to be 'spent' after a period of time, which varies according to the offence. As long as you have no 'unspent' convictions, a criminal record should not prevent you from entering the Royal Marines Reserve. Your local AFCO or Royal Marines Reserve unit will be able to give you advice.

Q: WHAT'S THE POLICY ON DRUG USE?

A: We do not tolerate drugs in the Royal Marines Reserve or any area of the Naval Service. If you're found guilty of drug use, you will usually be discharged from the Royal Marines Reserve and may be prosecuted.

Q: I LIVE OVERSEAS. CAN I JOIN?

A: When you apply, you must be a British, Irish or Commonwealth citizen. We do not accept asylum seekers into the Royal Marines Reserve.

Q: I'M DISABLED. CAN I JOIN?

A: If we accept your application, you'll have to pass a full medical examination. If you fail to meet the minimum standard for entry because of an illness, injury or other condition, we won't be able to offer you a career with the Royal Marines Reserve.

Q: IF I FIND IT'S ALL GETTING ON TOP OF ME, IS THERE SOMEONE I CAN TALK TO?

A: We know that commando training can be very tough on people psychologically and emotionally, as well as physically. If you're struggling, please talk to a member of the training team. You can also speak to one of the welfare advisers or a Chaplain. When you speak to any of these people, they will keep any information you give them confidential, except if you tell them about something illegal or possibly life-threatening. If this is the case, they have a duty to tell the Commanding Officer.

Q: HOW LONG WILL I BE AWAY ON DEPLOYMENT?

A: It depends, but generally between two weeks if training with the Royal Marines Reserve, and 12 months if mobilised.

Q: IF I HAVE ANY MORE QUESTIONS, WHERE SHOULD I LOOK?

A: You'll find the answers to any of your questions at royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr or by talking to the team at your local Royal Marines Reserve unit.



“It’s great to be part of the Royal Marines family, and knowing that our Reservist training will allow us to fit seamlessly into the regular Corps.”

Duncan, Marine and Student

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

In the Royal Marines Reserve, we look for people with the commando ‘state of mind’. Show us you’ve got it and you’re in – whatever your background.

Really?

‘Company’ – All the personnel in a fighting sub-unit within a Royal Marines Commando or Royal Marines Reserve unit.

We believe in equal opportunities. This means we’ll treat all applications equally.

The UK Government has a policy of not allowing women to serve in front-line combat roles. This means that women cannot become Royal Marines Commandos. However, women can join the Royal Marines Band Service.

We also accept women serving in other parts of the Naval Service or from other armed forces on the All Arms Commando Course. Those who finish the training may be posted to support roles in 3 Commando Brigade.

We’ll make every effort to take specific religious and cultural requirements, such as diet, into account where possible. Please remember though, that we have to consider factors such as operational needs, health and safety and our duty of care to all our personnel.

We offer everyone employment and promotion in the Royal Marines Reserve on the basis of their ability and merit, nothing else.

We do not accept bullying or harassment of any kind within the Royal Marines Reserve. We encourage anyone suffering any form of abuse to report it. We always treat any complaints seriously, sensitively and in absolute confidence.

Those found guilty of bullying, harassment or other unacceptable behaviour will be dealt with swiftly and appropriately. If you have any other questions on our equal opportunities policy, visit royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr or consult the team at your local AFCO or Royal Marines Reserve unit.

THE NAVAL SERVICE

We hope this publication has given you an insight into life in the Royal Marines Reserve and the career opportunities available to you. But, the Royal Marines Reserve is just one part of the Naval Service.

To see what other career opportunities there are, visit the websites shown below.



ROYAL MARINES (RM)

The Royal Marines are an elite unit – they have to be physically tough, mentally strong and totally dedicated to wear the coveted green beret. They work in harsh environments, including mountains, jungles and deserts, and show ‘courage, determination, unselfishness and cheerfulness in the face of adversity.’

royalmarines.mod.uk



ROYAL MARINES BAND SERVICE (RMBS)

Historically, drums and bands have been central to the Naval Service. Today, the Royal Marines Band Service are thought of as some of the world’s most talented and versatile military musicians. But as well as making music, they’re also Royal Marines, trained for medical support and other operational roles.

royalnavy.mod.uk/careers



ROYAL NAVY (RN)

The Royal Navy you’re probably most familiar with is made up of the Surface Fleet – aircraft carriers, frigates, destroyers and other vessels – and the Submarine Service. All of which, except ballistic submarines, are armed with conventional weapons. The Fleet Air Arm delivers air power and air support, operating fast jets and helicopters from warships and bases on land.

royalnavy.mod.uk/careers



ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE (RNR)

The Royal Naval Reserve are an important part of the Naval Service, and are made up of more than 2000 men and women (about a quarter of them are former Royal Navy personnel) who combine military and civilian life. As fully-trained members of the team, they help the Royal Navy meet its operational needs in times of crisis, tension and war. And although they’re volunteers, Reservists get paid for any training and work they do.

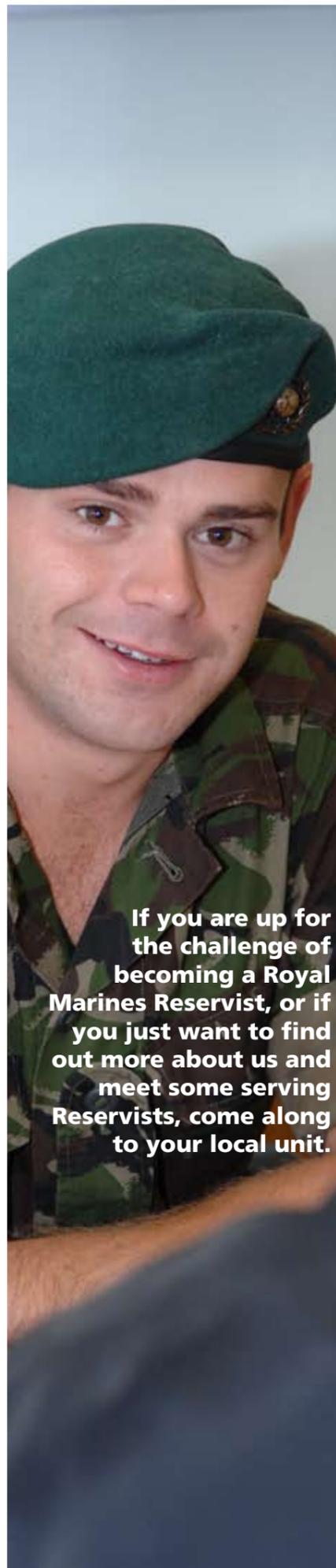
royalnavy.mod.uk/rnr



ROYAL FLEET AUXILIARY (RFA)

The Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA) supplies Royal Navy ships with the fuel, food, stores and ammunition they need to stay operational while at sea. It’s a civilian service, made up of over 2000 officers and ratings trained to Merchant Navy standards, with military skills that allow them to provide close support in combat operations.

rfa.mod.uk



If you are up for the challenge of becoming a Royal Marines Reservist, or if you just want to find out more about us and meet some serving Reservists, come along to your local unit.

Royal Marines Reserve Merseyside has detachments in the following places.

Liverpool

Royal Marines Reserve Merseyside (HQ and Liverpool Detachment)
Naval Regional HQ
East Brunswick Dock
Liverpool
L3 4DZ
Freephone: 0800 783 9529

Birmingham

Royal Marines Reserve Merseyside (Birmingham Detachment)
c/o HMS Forward
42 Tilton Road
Birmingham
B9 4PP
Freephone: 0800 783 9529

Royal Marines Reserve London has detachments in the following places.

London

Royal Marines Reserve London (HQ and London Detachment)
2 Old Jamaica Road
Bermondsey
London
SE16 4AN
Phone: 020 7237 4331

Chatham

Royal Marines Reserve London (Chatham Detachment)
Collingwood Block
Khyber Road
Chatham
Kent
ME4 4TT
Phone: 020 7237 4331

Henley-on-Thames

Royal Marines Reserve London (Henley Detachment)
RFCA Centre
Friday Street
Henley-on-Thames
Oxfordshire
RG9 1AM
Phone: 020 7237 4331

Manchester

Royal Marines Reserve Merseyside (Manchester Detachment)
TA Centre
215 Upper Chorlton Road
Manchester
M16 0BH
Freephone: 0800 783 9529

Nottingham

Royal Marines Reserve Merseyside (Nottingham Detachment)
HMS Sherwood
Calfont Drive
Nottingham
NG8 3LT
Freephone: 0800 783 9529

Portsmouth

Royal Marines Reserve London (Portsmouth Detachment)
Building 185
HMS Excellent
Whale Island
Portsmouth
Hampshire
PO2 8ER
Phone: 020 7237 4331

Cambridge

Royal Marines Reserve London (Cambridge Detachment)
TA Centre
450 Cherry Hinton Road
Cambridge
CB1 4HQ
Phone: 020 7237 4331

Royal Marines Reserve Scotland has detachments in the following places.

Glasgow

Royal Marines Reserve Scotland (Glasgow Detachment)
37-51 Birkmyre Road
Govan
Glasgow
G51 3JH
Freephone: 0800 085 7179

Edinburgh

Royal Marines Reserve Scotland (Edinburgh Detachment)
HMS Caledonia
Rosyth
Fife
KY11 2XH
Freephone: 0800 085 7179

Greenock

Royal Marines Reserve Scotland (Greenock Detachment)
Navy Buildings
Eldon Street
Greenock
PA16 7SL
Freephone: 0800 085 7179

Royal Marines Reserve Tyne has detachments in the following places.

Newcastle

Royal Marines Reserve Tyne (Newcastle Detachment)
Anzio House
Quay Side
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE6 1BU
Freephone: 0800 032 5094

Royal Marines Reserve Bristol has detachments in the following places.

Bristol

Royal Marines Reserve Bristol (HQ and Bristol Detachment)
Dorset House
Littlefield Place
Clifton
Bristol
BS8 3NA
Phone: 01179 733 523

Dundee

Royal Marines Reserve Scotland (Dundee Detachment)
TA Centre
Strathmore Avenue
Dundee
DD3 6SQ
Freephone: 0800 085 7179

Aberdeen

Royal Marines Reserve Scotland (Aberdeen Detachment)
Gordon Barracks
Bridge of Don
Aberdeen
AB23 8DB
Freephone: 0800 085 7179

Inverness

Royal Marines Reserve Scotland (Inverness Detachment)
Cameron Barracks
Inverness
IV2 3XD
Freephone: 0800 085 7179

Leeds

Royal Marines Reserve Tyne (Leeds Detachment)
Ceres Division
Carlton Barracks
Carlton Gate
Leeds
LS7 1HE
Freephone: 0800 032 5094

Cardiff

Royal Marines Reserve Bristol (Cardiff Detachment)
TA Centre
Morgan Street
Cardiff
CF10 4FG
Phone: 01179 733 523

Lympstone

Royal Marines Reserve Bristol (Lympstone Detachment)
Commando Training Centre
Lympstone
Devon
EX8 5AR
Phone: 01179 733 523

Belfast

Royal Marines Reserve Scotland (Belfast Detachment)
Palace Barracks
Holywood
County Down
BT18 9RA
Freephone: 0800 085 7179

Hartlepool

Royal Marines Reserve Tyne (Hartlepool Detachment)
Easington Road TA Centre
Hartlepool
Cleveland
TS24 8JY
Freephone: 0800 032 5094

Plymouth

Royal Marines Reserve Bristol (Plymouth Detachment)
Millbay TA Centre
Citadel Road
Plymouth
PL1 3BQ
Phone: 01179 733 523

Poole

Royal Marines Reserve Bristol (Poole Detachment)
RM Poole
Hamworthy
Poole
Dorset
BH15 4NQ
Phone: 01179 733 523

Visit royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr

CONTACTING US

We hope this publication has given you an insight into what life in the Royal Marines Reserve is like and what opportunities are open to you.

VISIT

royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr

- Chat to real people in the Royal Marines Reserve in our regular live chats.
- Keep up to date by signing up to our monthly newsletter.
- Discover a whole range of other useful links.

**GET FIT TO APPLY
PRE-JOINING FITNESS PROGRAMME
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
PAY AND BENEFITS
SPECIALISATIONS
TRANSFERABLE SKILLS
BOUNTY
TRAINING
FAQS
CTCRM
NEWSLETTER**

CALL

08456 00 14 44

- Check if you're eligible to apply.

GO TO

Your local Royal Marines Reserve unit

- Meet Royal Marines Reservists and experience Royal Marines Reserve life first-hand.

We want you to succeed and will do all we can to help. If you have any questions, or would like any further information or advice, please get in touch today.

This publication is for guidance only. The facts in it may change without notice and it is no form of legal contract.

We can change daily rates of pay, travelling expenses, tax free bounty rates and job opportunities, with or without notice. Major as well as minor changes may be involved. However, we make every effort to make sure the details in this publication are correct. This publication is not an offer by the Royal Marines Reserve to any person. Publications are prepared and printed several months before being distributed so cannot always immediately reflect changes in details or in some cases a particular offer.



**Visit royalmarines.mod.uk/rmr
or call 08456 00 14 44**



RESERVES