RYA Training Material Time Zones

In the **Training Almanac's tide tables**, all times are printed in **local time (UT for northern territories and SPT for southern peninsula) but do not include daylight saving time (DST)**. Many students trip here, believing that all the times are in UT.

Time Zones

- In the **Northern Territories**, the local time zone is **UT**.
- In the **Southern Peninsula**, the local time zone is **one hour ahead of UT, and we call it SPT**.
- The tide tables for **SP ports** display **TimeZone -0100** in the top left corner. You can ignore this, it's just saying that if you need to convert back to **UT,** you minus 1 hour. However, **there is no need to convert to UT**, just stay in the local time zone for your calculations.

Daylight Saving Time (DST)

- If it is **summertime** (indicated by a **white/non-shaded area** in the tide tables), you must **add one hour for DST immediately** when taking the time from the page.
- **This applies to both Northern and Southern ports**, except for **Secondary Ports**.
  - For **Secondary Ports**, DST should **only be added at the end of all calculations**, not at the start.

Tidal Streams / Tidal Atlas / Tidal Diamonds

- The **reference port** for tidal streams is **Victoria** (Northern Territories, **UT** time).
- If you're working in the **Southern Peninsula (SPT)**, **add one hour** to Victoria's time to match your local time.
- If **DST is in effect**, you should **add a total of two hours** (one hour for SPT and one hour for DST).
- The goal is to have your **tidal stream atlas filled out in a way that makes sense to you**, using the same local time that you're working with.

Key Exam Tip

👉 **Always annotate the time zone you are working in**—this helps us, and you, to follow your workings and could be the difference between a pass or fail.
💡 **Your answer doesn't have to match the exam answer exactly**—as long as it is correctly adjusted to a different time zone, we will mark it as correct.