

## boat

S1 W2

/bəʊt \$ ˈboʊt/

noun [countable]

1 a vehicle that travels across water:

*a fishing boat**The boat **capsized** (= turned over) in heavy seas.**a boat trip around the islands*

by boat

*Some of the beaches can only be reached by boat.*

on/in a boat

*MacKay said he would sleep on his boat.*

→ LIFEBOAT,  
MOTORBOAT,  
POWERBOAT,  
SPEEDBOAT,  
STEAMBOAT

2 (informal) a ship, especially one that carries passengers:

*We're taking the night boat to St. Malo.*

3 be in the same boat (as somebody) SAME

to be in the same unpleasant situation as someone else:

*Everyone has lost their job. We're all in the same boat.*

→ GRAVY BOAT,  
SAUCE BOAT,

→ burn your bridges/boats AT BURN<sup>1</sup> (18),→ miss the boat AT MISS<sup>1</sup> (14),→ push the boat out AT PUSH<sup>1</sup> (15),→ rock the boat AT ROCK<sup>2</sup> (3)

## COLLOCATIONSense 1

### verbs

sail a boat *They're sailing a boat down the coast of Portugal.*

row a boat *Are you any good at rowing a boat?*

take a boat out *Why don't we take the boat out on the river?*

steer a boat *He steered the boat carefully to the shore.*

launch a boat (= put it in the water) *Where's the best place to launch the boat?*

tie up/ moor a boat (= tie it to something so that it stays in one place) *You can tie up the boat to that tree. |*

*How much does it cost to moor a boat here?*

a boat rocks (= moves from side to side in the water) *The little boat was rocking in the wind.*

a boat capsizes/ overturns (= turns over in the water) *Will stood up suddenly and the boat capsized.*

a boat overturns (= turns over in the water)

a boat sinks *The boat sank in a storm.*

## ADJECTIVES/NOUN + boat

a fishing boat *The fishing boats go out to sea early in the morning.*

a rowing boat (BrE)

a sailing boat (BrE)

a canal boat (also a narrow boat (BrE)) (= for use on canals) *We had a holiday on a canal boat in France.*

a pleasure boat (= a small boat that people use on a lake, river etc)

## boat + NOUN

a boat trip *You can take a boat trip to the islands nearby.*

a boat race *There's a boat race on the river tomorrow.*

## THESAURUS

### types of boat

yacht a large boat with a sail, used for pleasure or sport

sailing boat (BrE), sailboat (AmE) a boat that uses one or more sails

rowing boat (BrE), rowboat (AmE) a small boat that you move through the water with oars

**dinghy** a small open boat used for pleasure, or for taking people between a ship and the shore

**catamaran** a sailing boat with two separate HULLS (= the part that goes in the water)

**trimaran** a sailing boat with three separate HULLS

**barge** a large low boat with a flat bottom, used for carrying heavy goods on a canal or river

**canal boat** (also **narrow boat** *BrE*) a boat that you use on canals

**canoe** a long light boat that is open at the top and pointed at both ends, which you move along using a PADDLE. Canoes are for one to three people

**kayak** a light boat for one or two people, that is pointed at both ends and covered on top. A kayak has round holes on top in which the people sit, and you move it along using a paddle.

**punt** a long thin boat with a flat bottom that you move by pushing a long pole against the bottom of the river – used for pleasure

**houseboat** a boat that is specially made so that you can live on it

**pleasure boat** a small boat, for example a sailing boat or a rowing boat, that people use on a lake, river etc: *People were out on the lake in pleasure boats.*

→ SHIP

### Word origin

**Language:** Old English

**Origin:** *bat*