



Great Yarmouth Port Company

(As Agent for Great Yarmouth Port Authority)

Local Small Craft Information

Telephone Contacts

Harbour Office - 01493 335501

Port Marine Services - 01493 335511

Haven Bridge Booking - 01493 335522

Port Marine Services VHF Radio – Channel 12

*VHF communications and telephone
conversations with Port Marine Services are recorded*

E-Mail and Internet

harbouroffice@eastportuk.co.uk

www.eastportuk.co.uk

EastportUK House, South Beach Parade, Great Yarmouth NR30 3GY

Communications/Reporting

Port Marine Services (PMS) operates on VHF Channel 12 with call sign “Yarmouth Radio”. Contact should be made with PMS prior to entry or departure, before letting go from a berth and when outward bound, when passing through Haven Bridge.

Small craft must comply with the Port Traffic Signals displayed at the entrance (see the information at the end of this information sheet).

Passage through the Harbour

The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972 (Colregs) apply in the port along with local byelaws. The Haven is a busy commercial port and small craft should not hamper large ships manoeuvring in the river (see Rule 9(b) of the Colregs). Maintain a listening watch on VHF Channel 12 for any communication from Port Marine Services (Yarmouth Radio) or ships underway and keep to the starboard side of the channel unless advised otherwise. Keep clear of ships propellers, bow thrusters and wash and be aware that ships may swing anywhere within the river. Small craft must not anchor in the river except in an emergency.

Speed in the Harbour

All vessels should maintain a slow speed in the river. Mariners are reminded that the maximum speed of 7 knots is not necessarily a safe speed and a slower speed may be appropriate. Take care with vessel wash and avoid causing a nuisance to other vessels either moored or underway and pay particular attention to small craft moored in the river.

Tide and Wind

There is a rise and fall of tide of approximately 2.0 metres (spring tides) within the port. Tidal flows in the harbour can be very swift particularly during spring tides when rates in excess of 3 knots can be achieved. Mariners should be aware that during certain wind & meteorological conditions tidal flow rates can reach 5-6 knots; these conditions usually occur during the winter months.

Slack water at the entrance is approximately 90 minutes after HW/LW but this may vary with weather conditions

At the entrance to the port, sea conditions can become confused with wind over tide particularly on the ebb or with wave reflection from the pier and breakwater structures.

Inside the Haven there is generally good shelter however wind over tide with northerly or southerly winds can cause uncomfortable conditions on the berths at Town Hall Quay and fenders should be carefully adjusted during these circumstances.

This information sheet should be read in conjunction with the Admiralty Sailing Directions, North Sea (West) Pilot, NP54.

Berths

Owners of small craft moored within the commercial area of the port should, when on board their vessels, be extra vigilant at those times when large ships are passing or swinging nearby. For the safety of your own craft and personnel, you should maintain a visual lookout or listening watch on VHF Channel 12 for shipping movements in the vicinity of your vessel. Consideration should be given to vacating enclosed spaces when vessels are passing close by. All vessels should have evacuation and emergency procedures in place. Adequate moorings should be in place and tended at all times with extra vigilance when negative or positive surge tides occur.

Local Byelaws

The Port has Byelaws that are available for inspection at any time. Below is a short summary of some of those byelaws which may be of importance to small craft owners:

- 15 Vessels passing through the outer limits shall give priority to a vessel entering or leaving the port.
- 16 Vessels must comply with the Port's traffic signals.
- 17 Vessels not confined to the main channel shall not hamper other vessels using the channel.
- 20 Vessels may only be launched with permission from Port Marine Services.
- 39 Vessels shall be kept in a moveable condition.
- 47 No person shall lay down any buoy or similar tackle within the port area.
- 48 No person shall throw rubbish into the water or place it in such a position that it can be blown into the water.
- 49 No person shall cast, place or use any drift, trawl, or other net in the port area.
- 54 No aquaplaning, water-skiing or towing of persons through the water is allowed.
- 55 No sailboards are allowed within the harbour.
- 56 No diving within the port area.
- 57 No swimming within the Haven

Outer Harbour

Vessel owners and skippers should be aware that there is no small craft moorings in the Outer Harbour and these vessels should not enter this Harbour.

**Great Yarmouth Port
River Port**

Haven Bridge - Reporting Point

The bridge is manned 10 minutes before lifting when the traffic control lights are activated and Channel 12 VHF is manned. The Bridge Master will contact vessels booked to transit.

Users can book a Breydon Bridge lift at the same time as a Haven Bridge lift.

Vessels with a low air draft should pass under the bridges if there is sufficient clearance.

Town Hall Quay

Visiting Small Craft.
Layby area for vessels awaiting a bridge lift.

River Port Entrance

Small craft to contact Yarmouth Radio on VHF Channel 12 prior to entry or departure, before departing the berth or prior to transit.

Traffic Signals Inbound

Traffic signals are displayed from a tower on the North Wall. See the information below.

Traffic Signals Outbound

Traffic signals are displayed upriver from a tower on Brush Bend. See the information below.

There is a sign on the Gorleston (west) bank indicating a point where vessels must not pass when waiting for clearance to sail.

Atlas Reporting Point & Swinging Area

Small Craft Moorings in this Locality

Ocean Reporting Point

Pilot Station

Traffic Stopping Point Outbound. STOP

Lifeboat

Outer Harbour Traffic Control Signals

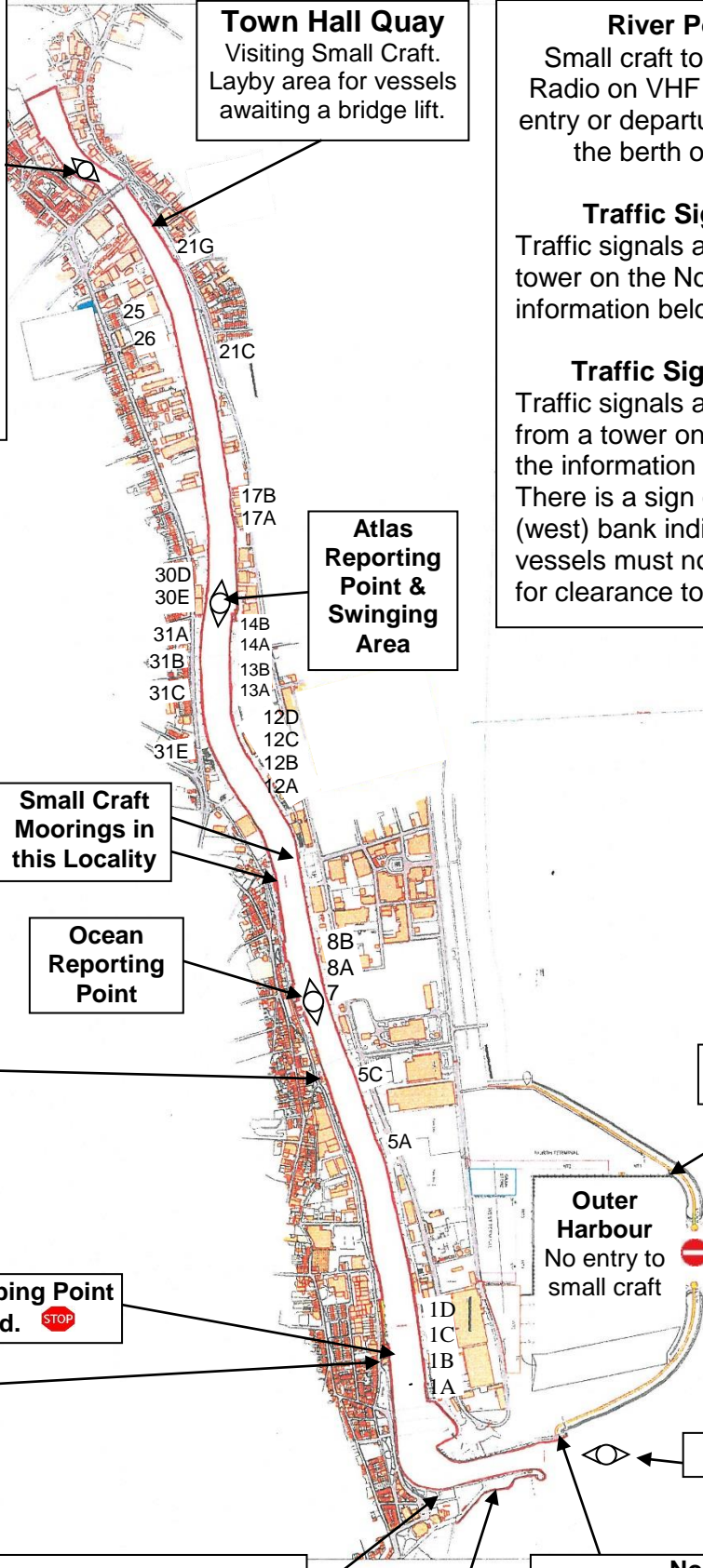
Outer Harbour
No entry to small craft

River Port Entrance

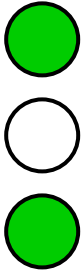
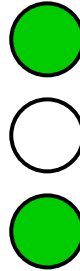

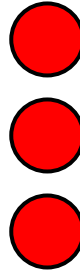
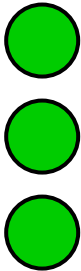
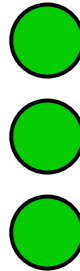
Brush Bend
River Port Traffic Control Signals

North Wall
River Port Traffic Control Signals

Gorleston Pier



RIVER PORT TRAFFIC SIGNALS

INBOUND VESSELS <small>(Exhibited from the tower on the North Wall)</small>	OUTBOUND VESSELS <small>(Exhibited from a tower in Brush Bend – Gorleston side)</small>
OCCULTING LIGHTS SHOWING TO SEAWARD	OCCULTING LIGHTS SHOWING UPRIVER
<p>Vessels may only approach the entrance and proceed inward when specific advice to do so has been received. (Occulting 12 secs)</p>	<p>Vessels may proceed outward only when specific advice to do so has been received. (Occulting 12 secs)</p>
	
<p>Vessels not to approach entrance. (Occulting 12 secs)</p>	<p>Vessels not to approach Brush Bend or entrance. (Occulting 12 secs)</p>
	
<p>Vessels may proceed if safe to do so. (Occulting 12 secs)</p>	<p>Vessels may proceed outwards if safe to do so. (Occulting 12 secs)</p>
	
FLASHING LIGHTS SHOWING TO SEAWARD	FLASHING LIGHTS SHOWING UPRIVER
<p>Emergency Port Closed. (Flashing 2 seconds)</p>	<p>Emergency Port Closed. (Flashing 2 seconds)</p>
