



Seaham Harbour Marina

KAYAK INFORMATION 2019-20



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Welcome to Seaham Harbour Marina

We are extremely proud of our multi-award winning marina. We're always working hard to ensure Seaham Harbour Marina is a fun and entertaining day out with plenty to see and do, as well as ensuring the marina is offering top facilities for our berth holders.

We have invested heavily in recent years and Seaham Harbour Marina is now home to a fantastic range of cafes, restaurants and shops.

The Marina is the perfect destination for fun family days out in the North East, learn more about the history of Seaham and the marina in the heritage centre and feel the sand between your toes on the beautiful slope beach before calling into one of the excellent cafes.

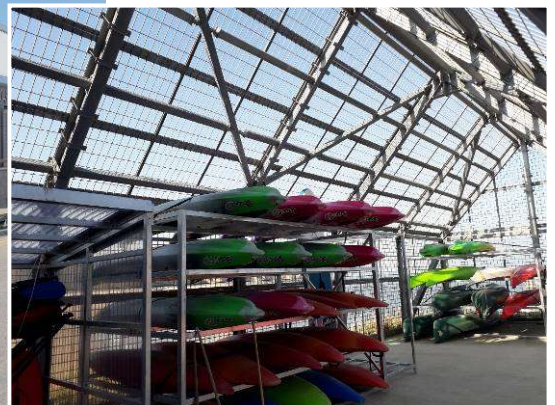
Additional completed projects that we hope you'll enjoy at our Marina are:

- ▶ a boat lifting crane
- ▶ improvements to the boatyard
- ▶ pontoon extensions



Activities planned from our Activity Centre for the year ahead include:

- ▶ kayaking
- ▶ stand up paddle boarding
- ▶ canoeing



Background

Over the last 15 years Seaham Harbour Marina has worked hard to bring about the regeneration of Seaham North Dock.

After the demise of the pits in the early 1990s the North Dock fell into a semi derelict state. The redevelopment of the Dock was one of the key objectives of the Seaham Regeneration Strategy undertaken in 1994. It was agreed the most appropriate way to bring about the restoration of the North Dock was to undertake a phased approach.

In 2006 the Council completed phase one of the redevelopment. This phase involved the undertaking of public accommodation works, restoration of the limekilns, viewing areas and secondary sea defense work.

The second phase of the redevelopment completed in 2012, aimed to bring economic life back to the North Dock, by creating conditions to support a working marina. This included the creation of the flagship building 'The Waterside' (comprising 12 commercial units), construction of a marina using floating pontoons to accommodate up to 96 leisure craft, reinstatement of the dock gates, improved slipway and improved public access to areas of the North Dock.

In partnership with East Durham Heritage Group, we have developed the former lifeboat house into a visitor attraction which is now home to the restored George Elmy lifeboat.

General information

Our slipway is a rough concrete construction with a 1:8 gradient. There will be water on the slip 3 hours either side of high tide however outside of this time when the water is off the slip it is possible to launch vessels from the hard sand below the slip. It is advisable to avoid launching or retrieving vessels at low tide on spring tides due to rocky areas and soft sand further out into the basin.

Avoid using the slipway when there is a swell on the slip, side wash can cause the vessel to lift in the swell potentially causing unsafe retrieval and launching.

If you are unsure when and how best to use the slipway please see the marina staff who can offer their advice.

Parking vehicle & trailer (if used)

The Marina offers free on-site parking, however during busy periods there can be no guarantee of available spaces. Vehicles should be parked in the main marina car parks. Please see marina staff on the day for information.

Please note:

- *Vehicles and contents are left in the car park at owners' risk.*

FAQs

1. What is the fee for launching a kayak and when can I pay?

The marina will accept annual fees but no single launch fee. The fee for an annual launch is £60 which runs from 1st April to 31st March. Anyone wanting to launch their kayak during this period will still need to pay the full amount which their launch will still expire on 31st March.

2. Where can I launch my kayak?

Kayaks can be launched either on the slipway or slope beach. Take extra care when using the slipway and please appreciate that the slope beach is a public beach.

3. Where do I park my vehicle (and trailer if used)?

Vehicles should be parked in the car parks available. Please see marina staff on the day for further information.

4. Will I receive any paperwork to say that I am eligible to launch?

You will receive a permit that can be displayed in your vehicle so marina staff can recognise that you have paid the annual fee.

5. What are the periods of boating movements to & from the marina and the shipping movements from the port?

The marina dock gate is open 3 hours either side of high tide therefore boating movements will reflect this 6 hour window. Shipping movements are 2.5 hours before high tide & 2 hours after high tide.

6. Do I need to keep away from the fairway when boating & shipping movements are in progress?

Yes, you should not enter the boating & shipping lanes during these periods or in the least keep well into the sides of the inner wave screen and north pier.

7. What are the restricted areas?

The restricted areas are the marina, within about 30 metres of the dock gate and the inner harbour areas south of the south pier drum head and south of the inner wave screen drum head (port boundary). Please ask for plan of restricted areas if you are unsure.

8. What are the marina opening & closing times for access?

The summer opening times are from 8am to 7.30pm. If you require access to kayak outside of those times then you can purchase a key for the main site gates, keys are £3 to cover cost of key.

9. Does the marina stipulate what safety gear I need when I go kayaking?

The marina expects the kayaker to be responsible for his or her safety while on the water. It is recommended that kayaker's should refer, in the least, to the British Canoeing safety requirements.

Conditions for the launch & recovery of vessels

1. For these Conditions, vessel will mean any type of vessel, dinghy, canoe, kayak, raft, yacht or any other craft that intends to be launched or retrieved from the slipway, beaches or any other part of the Harbour.
2. Any person wishing to launch any type of vessel anywhere within the Harbour should report to the marina office or marina staff giving information of when leaving and when due to return.
3. Users must adhere to any safety information, safety checklist or other safety measures given to those by the Marina, marina staff or other safety authority or safety personnel. The Marina expects users to be responsible for their safety while on the water. It is recommended that the user should refer, in the least, to the British Canoeing safety requirements.
4. If using a trailer then users must have a second person directing vehicle and trailer movements when manoeuvring adjacent to the lifeboat house and throughout reversing manoeuvres and must ensure the slipway is clear of persons and obstacles and that the vehicle, trailer and any couplings are capable and appropriate for the safe launch and recovery of their vessel prior to accessing the slipway. The launch of any vessel may be denied should the Marina staff conclude that the vehicle, trailer and/or couplings are not appropriate for safe launching.
5. The launch of any vessel may be denied should the Marina staff conclude that the vessel is of such a condition that may not be seaworthy or the owner or users of the vessel not being capable of using or controlling the vessel in a safe manner.
6. The licence permits users to launch a vessel from the slipway or slope beach. Take extra care when using the slipway and please appreciate that the slope beach is a public beach. Permits need to be shown to marina staff prior to launch.
7. It is the user's responsibility to ensure that the slipway is safe for launch and recovery and that the sea conditions on the slipway or any other areas and at sea are in a safe state. The launch of any vessel may be denied should the Marina staff conclude that the sea conditions on the slipway or at sea are unsafe for launching any vessel.
8. The Company will set and publish periods and charges for the use of the Harbour for the launching of vessels, any charges must be cleared in advance of launching.
9. Vessels shall not enter any restricted areas, the Marina gateway or use the pontoons unless permission has been received from the Marina staff otherwise for the immediate safety of the vessel and crew. The Company will provide a plan of navigational restricted areas.
10. User shall be aware that navigational priorities within the Harbour are given to SHDC operations of shipping, dredging, pilotage or any other SHDC vessel movements or operations. Vessels shall not obstruct the fairway or remain in the fairway and must keep clear of shipping and boating movements at all times.
11. Subject always to the availability of parking space, Harbour users may only park vehicles and trailers in accordance with the directions of the Company. Owner's guests, crew or others may not park on the premises unless prior consent has been sought by the owner of the vessel under the conditions of the Company. Please see marina staff of where to park your vehicle.
12. Vehicles towing trailers whilst on the premises shall use their hazard indicators at all times when vehicle is in motion and observe the marina road speed limits.
13. The Company may provide permits for personal identification and/or for display in user's vehicles. The owner or user must abide by the instructed use of any such permit as directed by the Company or Marina staff.

14. The Company has provided a fresh water connection point at the slipway to be used for routine washing down, filling and flushing. It is recommended that users provide their own hoses and when connected should not be immersed in sea water as this may result in backflow contamination.
Advisory note: users must be aware that the misuse or overuse of water is not only wasteful to the local supply and detrimental to the environment and conservation of energy but may also have an effect on future slipway charges.
15. Vehicles and trailers should not obstruct the slipway or access to the slipway, non-motorised vessels to give way to motorised vessels using the slipway. Washing down should be carried out on the slipway unless a vessel is waiting to be launched or recovered, in this case then the vessel can be washed down on the edge of the hard standing adjacent to the water connection point.
16. Any security/safety chains or ropes across the slipway must be re-secured immediately on launching or recovery.
17. The Company has the right to amend or append these Conditions at any time. Any amended or appended conditions shall become effective when instruction has been received by the owner or user or when displayed in the Marina office.
18. These Conditions will be reviewed annually as beneficial to both the Company and the owner or user.
The Company will accept no liability of injury or damage to any person or property when on any land within the Harbour or during use of the slipway (or any other parts of the Harbour) or any equipment that may be used by any person. It is at the discretion of the user to inspect the slipway, sea and weather conditions and any equipment prior to launch and recovery of vessels and to ensure that their vessel, trailer and vehicle is in such a condition that safe use of the slipway can be achieved at all times.

Company means: the Seaham Harbour Community Interest Company

Harbour means: any area on land or in the sea that is under control of the Company or Seaham Harbour Dock Company

User means: any person accessing the Harbour for the launching of any vessel.



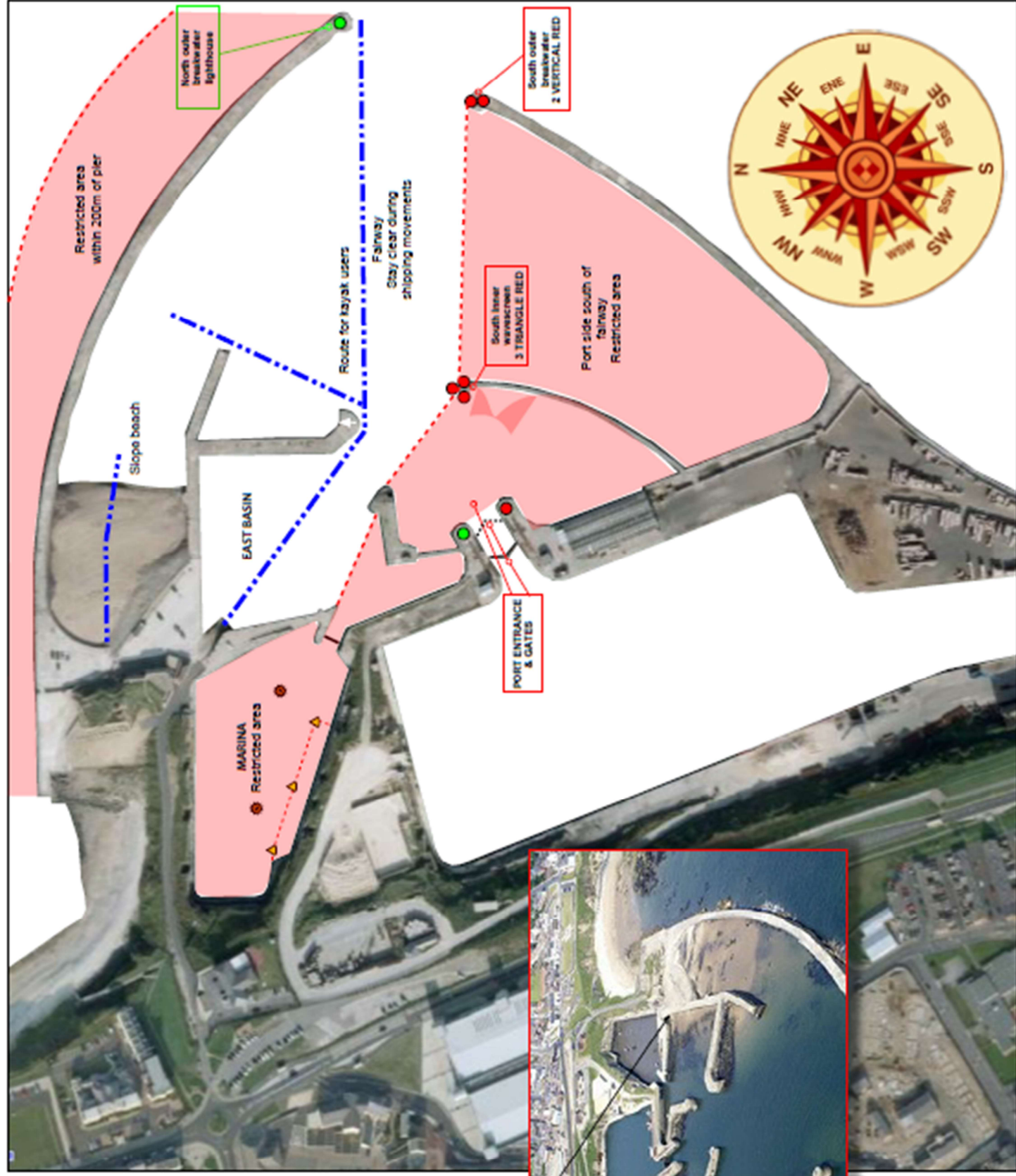
Seaham Harbour & Marina

RESTRICTED AREAS FOR KAYAK USERS

Restricted areas
(do not navigate beyond this line unless for urgent
safety reasons i.e. staying clear of ships)

**Normal navigation route in & out of slipway &
slope beach**

SLIPWAY



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FOR THE PURPOSE OF DOUBLE SIDED PRINTING

Permit Number:



Seaham Harbour Marina Activity Centre

Kayak Application / Declaration

(Please fill in all details)

Kayaking in the sea can be very dangerous and by completing this form you are declaring that you are aware of the hazards and competent to undertake the activity. Seaham Harbour Marina cannot be held responsible for any injury to person and damage or loss of equipment.

By signing this declaration you are agreeing to abide by the rules set out in this document and understand that you must be self-sufficient in undertaking the activity, you are responsible for your own safety. Please feel free to ask any questions if you are unsure.

Name	
Address	
Telephone Number	
Emergency Contact Name and Telephone Number	
Do you have any previous experience of kayaking?	
Are you aware of the combined affects that the wind and tide can have on a kayaker? YES / NO	
Are you fully equipped for your journey and know how to use your equipment? YES / NO	
Are you aware of Maritime Law and understand the anti-collision protocols? YES / NO	
Are you aware of the exclusion zones and shipping lane at the harbour? YES / NO	
Do you know how to summon emergency assistance if required? YES / NO	
Do you understand that you must be self-sufficient and cannot rely on land based support from Seaham Harbour Marina? YES / NO	
Do you agree to pay the annual launching and recovery fee of £60? YES / NO	
Do you know the opening and closing times of the Marina? YES / NO	
Can you self-rescue? If so please state how.	
It is recommended that you inform Marina staff when you are going on the water and check back in once you are safely off the water.	

I hereby agree to abide by the rules and policies set out above and declare I am competent to undertake the activity.

Print name:

Signature:

Date