**Boating Guide**

**Walpole to Denmark**

- **Boating Guide**
- **Boating Weather Forecast**
- **Boat ramp courtesy**
- **Volunteer Marine Rescue Services**
- **Skippers need to prepare for all voyages by checking the weather**
- **Vessels underway during the hours of sunset to sunrise must display navigation lights appropriate to the particular size and type of vessel.**
- **General speed limit restrictions**
- **GPS validation markers**
- **Kites and windsurfing**
- **Kites and windsurfers operating more than 400 metres from shore are required to carry safety equipment.**
- **Paddle Craft**
- **Kite and windsurfing**
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- **Paddle Craft**

**Contact details**

Department of Transport

Email: marine.safety@transport.wa.gov.au

Website: www.transport.wa.gov.au/marine

Marine Safety Hotline: 13 11 56

Boating Weather Forecast

Boating Weather: 1300 600 720

Website: www.wa.gov.au/boating

Volunteer Marine Rescue Services

Emergency: VMR 619

Contact: social@vmr.wa.gov.au

Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development

Website: www.dpird.wa.gov.au

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Website: www.dbca.wa.gov.au

For further information go to:

- [Facebook](facebook.com/MarineSafetyWA)
- [Instagram](instagram.com/MarineSafetyWA)

**Boating to Denmark**

The Boating to Denmark Boating Guide covers an area along our south coast noted for large waves and unpredictable seas. Skippers need to prepare for all voyages by checking the weather and ensuring they log on.

**Logging on and off**

Skippers are advised to log on and off with their nearest radio station when they are going, where you are going, when you will arrive back and log off on your return.

Local Volunteer Marine Rescue groups are listed at the end of this brochure.

**Boat ramp courtesy**

A good skipper plans for a day on the water and organises where you are going, when you will arrive back and log off on your return.

**Volunteer Marine Rescue Services**

Skippers are advised to log on and off with their nearest radio station when they are going, where you are going, when you will arrive back and log off on your return.

**Skippers need to prepare for all voyages by checking the weather**

To operate a PWC at a speed greater than eight knots you must be at least 16 years of age and hold an RST. You are also required to carry your RST card with you when boating.

**Limitations**

- It is illegal, in any navigable waters, to drive a motor boat at a speed exceeding 7.5 knots, water ski or para-sail
- A boat must be at least 750mm long and be in a channel or pathway unless the vessel is in distress
- A vehicle less than 3.75 metres in length is not allowed to travel greater than five nautical miles from the mainland shore
- Freestyle water ski jumping is prohibited in the Wilson Inlet; except in the designated area:
  - within any speed restricted area
- within 30 metres of another PWC
- within 50 metres of another vessel or person in the water
- may operate when towing a water skier. When towing a water skier all vessels are required to carry an onlooker at all times
- other than 18 years of age. Observers must also wear a helmet.

**GPS validation markers**

GPS validation markers are unique visible marks placed on a number of public boat ramps and jetties where mariners and owners of portable GPS units can validate their position and map datum settings. The markers are available at Poddihope, Denmark town ramps and are small, flat and yellow, similar to "lake eye" road markers.

**Kites and windsurfing**

With the onset of the swells, swimmers and kitesurfers congregate at many popular locations. In certain conditions these small, fast moving sailing vessels may be difficult to see and skippers need to maintain a proper lookout at all times and take appropriate action to avoid collisions.

**Navigation lights**

All vessels underway during the hours of sunset to sunrise must display navigation lights appropriate to the particular size and type of vessel.

**Diving flag**

Any boat with divers (not excluding) operating from it must always display signals by day or night to inform other boats users. The outline signal for divers is an International Code Flag "X". The flag must be at least 115mm long and 60mm wide.

**Kite and windsurfers operating more than 400 metres from shore are required to carry safety equipment.**

**Paddle Craft**

Recreational canoes, kayaks, surf skis, winds, inflatables or similar paddle craft must comply with WA marine laws including carriage of safety equipment. For more information visit www.transport.wa.gov.au/paddlecraft

**Reduce Wash**

Damage to vessels, retaining walls and infrastructure can be caused by a vessel’s wash. Look behind you occasionally to make sure that your boat is not creating much wash. If your wash is affecting other boats or property, slow down.

**Ocean Entrances**

Situations at the ocean entrances cause very dangerous conditions for boaters, with large wind forming. Do not risk crossing a bar unless you have local knowledge, experience and the right kind of boat. Wear a wetsuit and a lifejacket when crossing a bar at any boat at any time.

**Other Vessels**

- Do not cross an under way vessel while you are on the bar
- Keep up with the current
- Keep an eye on other vessels
- Staying outside of marked areas

**Positioning**

- There are GPS validation markers available at poddyhope, Denmark town ramps and are small, flat and yellow, similar to "lake eye" road markers.
- You can operate the vessel within one nautical mile of the mainland for the marked jetties.
- However, you can operate the vessel within one nautical mile of an isolated location more than five nautical miles from the mainland shore.

**Personal water craft (PWC)**

To operate a PWC at a speed greater than eight knots you must be at least 16 years of age and hold an RST. Every person on board a PWC must wear a lifejacket at all times and carry safety equipment.

**Reduction Wash**

Damage to vessels, retaining walls and infrastructure can be caused by a vessel’s wash. Look behind you occasionally to make sure that your boat is not creating much wash. If your wash is affecting other boats or property, slow down.

**Ocean Entrances**

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