Marine Safety

Boating Guide
Bunbury - Busselton

Required Safety Equipment

- Required
- Recommended
- Not Required

Bunbury - Busselton

Rules at a glance
For safety reasons, rules and regulations apply within Western Australian waters. Before you go boating, make sure you are familiar with the regulations for the area.

General speed limit restrictions
It is illegal to navigate any vessel to drive a motor boat at a speed exceeding eight knots, under any condition except:
- within a channel or through a mooring area
- within 15 metres of a vessel underway
- in any water having a depth of less than 3 metres
- in any water having a depth of less than 3 metres

Obstruction of navigation aids, channels and leads
Cow poles, drop nets, fishing nets, marker buoys or other buoyed objects cannot be placed or allowed to remain in any channel or fairway in any port or harbour, or in any channel, fairway or passage in any navigable waters without the permission of DoT.

Aids to navigation
It is illegal to interfere with, remove or damage any beacon, buoy or other artificial aid to navigation. Without permission in writing from DoT, it is illegal to secure any vessel to any beacon, buoy, weir or other aid to navigation.

Vessels less than 3.75 metres
Vessels less than 3.75 metres in length cannot be taken greater than five nautical miles from the mainland shore.

However, you can operate the vessel within one nautical mile of an island located more than five nautical miles from the mainland shore.

For further information scan the QR code below.

Join us at facebook.com/MarineSafetyWA

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Contacts
Department of Transport
Email: marine.safety@transport.wa.gov.au
Website: www.transport.wa.gov.au

Marine Safety Hotline: 13 11 56

Boating Weather Forecast
Boating Advisory: 1300 815 916
Website: www.bom.gov.au/marine

Police
Water Police: 9442 8600
Emergency: 000

Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development
Bunbury: 9721 2688
Busselton: 9754 2950
Fremantle: 1300 412 407
Website: www.dpird.wa.gov.au

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Bunbury: 9725 4300
Busselton: 9752 5505
Website: www.dbca.wa.gov.au

Marine Rescue Western Australia
Augusta (VMR 625)
Bunbury (VMR 624)
Busselton (VMR 628)
Capel (VMR 631)
Mandurah (VMR 633)
Marine Rescue Western Australia

Marine Rescue Western Australia

Marine Rescue WA groups:
- Augusta - VMR625
- Bunbury - VMR624
- Busselton - VMR640
- Capel - VMR628
- Margaret River - VMR629
- Naturaliste - VMR631

Please remember to log on before heading out to sea and supply them with:
- the vessel’s name, registration number or call sign
- the departure point and time
- the destination
- the trip intention
- the number of people on board
- the amount of fuel carried
- the estimated time of return

This basic information can make the difference in a response to an emergency situation.

It is also important to remember to log off to avoid a search being initiated.

Boat ramp courtesy
A good skipper plans for a day on the water and organizes equipment, motors and mooring lines before leaving the boat ramp. Remember to:
- use designated rigging and tie-down areas to avoid impeding other people launching and retrieving vessels
- follow the directions on signage and printed on the roadway
- use the correct lanes for launch and retrieval
- move quickly to the end of the jetty allowing for other people to launch and recover
- have patience with other less experienced boaters
- read all information signs at boat ramps to familiarise yourself with the local area.

Navigation markers

- Lateral Markers
- Port Markers
- Starboard Markers
- Cardinal Markers
- Safety Water Markers

Antenna: 03 5939 2500

For more detailed information, contact the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions.