

Go Paddling & British Canoeing

Getting qualifications and training can not only be a great personal goal, but will often open up a whole new world to explore as your skills improve.

British Canoeing are the only recognised Awarding Body for paddlesport and as such are the only organisation in the UK to have regulated qualifications for Stand Up Paddleboard, our regulators are OfQual, Qualification Wales and the CCEA. Visit the website www.britishcanoeing.org.uk for further information.

The Go Paddling website contains a huge amount of information. Exploring UK rivers, Paddle Points, Paddle Trails, blogs and information on everything from choosing the right gear, or paddling with a disability.

Visit www.gopaddling.info, to find out more.

Emergency Assistance



Despite the best planning, sometimes things can go wrong. In an emergency:

Dial 999 and ask for the Coastguard.

It is important to try and stay calm. Panicking on the water can often lead to further, potentially more serious, complications.

The Emergency Services will need to know exactly where you are.

Check out the what3words/// app. When it's hard to describe where you are in an emergency, you only need to read out three words for 999 to know exactly where to find the incident.

Find the app in the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store.

For general advice and information, please contact the Harbour Office, or chat with our Patrol Team.

Harbour Dues

All vessels using Chichester Harbour, including paddleboards, kayaks and canoes, have a statutory obligation to pay Harbour Dues. The revenue derived from these dues is used by Chichester Harbour Conservancy to help meet the cost of running the harbour, including maintaining launch sites, navigation marks & jetties, monitoring water quality and enforcing the byelaws.

In accordance with Section 73 of the Chichester Harbour Conservancy Act 1971, the receipt for payment of harbour dues for the current season, which starts on 01 April and runs until 31 March of the following year, is issued in the form of a plaque which **must be affixed** on the port side aft on the hull of the craft for which payment has been made, in accordance with the instructions on the reverse. **The charge will be deemed not to have been paid in respect of any vessel on the water unless the plaque has been so affixed.**

The owner of a vessel evading payment or not displaying a plaque is liable to a penalty three times the amount of the charge plus VAT.

For further information and to obtain your Harbour Dues plaque, please contact the Harbour Office or speak to our Patrol team

**Call: (Itchenor) 01243 512301
(Emsworth) 01243 376422**

Email: info@conservancy.co.uk



Enjoying Paddlesports Safely

in Chichester Harbour
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Advice for users of canoes, kayaks and paddle boards



01243 512301
www.conservancy.co.uk



CHICHESTER
HARBOUR
CONSERVANCY

Harbour Information

Launching Sites

Most launching sites around the Harbour, with the exception of Itchenor, are only usable at times of high tide. Consequently, these areas can become congested. Please refrain from parking on verges, or in areas that might cause access issues for residents.

Busy Channels

Large areas of the harbour contain moorings, and there are seven marinas. The main channels and the harbour entrance are often busy with passing vessels. Paddlers should stick to the edges of channels where possible to avoid the vessel traffic, the tide flows slower in shallow water as well, making it easier to paddle.

Recreational Disturbance

Kayaks, paddleboards, and canoes can be a low impact and fun way of exploring the harbour. However, when these craft get too close to birdlife and seals, they can cause disturbance. If birds take flight or seals enter the water in reaction to your presence, move away from the area immediately.

Take a Break

Pubs and cafes can be found around the Harbour at Dell Quay, Bosham, Itchenor and Emsworth. Toilet facilities and local area information can also be found in these locations.



General Safety



✓ Do you have your buoyancy aid or PFD?

Always wear a buoyancy aid or Personal Floatation Device.

✓ Do you know where you are going?

Local information can be found at various locations across the harbour, if in doubt, pop in or call one of the Harbour Offices before you venture out.

✓ Have you checked the weather, wind and tide?

Be prepared for any eventuality, know what conditions are not suitable, and do not exceed your own ability. Knowledge of the tide times is critical, large parts of the harbour dry out at low water and can potentially leave you stranded.

✓ Do you have a means of contacting someone if you get into difficulty?

Take a mobile phone or VHF with you on the water. In an emergency use VHF Ch16, or call 999 and ask for the Coastguard.

'Chichester Harbour Radio' can be contacted on VHF Ch14 during office hours.

✓ Have you told someone where you are going?

Let a friend or family member know where you are going and when you plan to return, if they don't hear of your return they can raise the alarm.

✓ Take only photos, leave only footprints

In order to conserve the wildlife of the harbour while enjoying it at the same time:

- Use recognized launching and landing points and avoid trampling saltmarsh by sticking to public footpaths.
- Take any litter home
- Keep a reasonable distance from flocks of birds and 50m from seals on the mud.