

LORD HOWE ISLAND

INFORMATION FOR YACHTS AND SMALL CRAFT VISITING LORD HOWE ISLAND WORLD HERITAGE AREA AND LORD HOWE ISLAND MARINE PARK

Prior to departure for Lord Howe Island (LHI), masters of yachts and small craft are advised to contact the designated Lord Howe Island Port Operations Manager, currently the NSW Lord Howe Island Police Officer, on telephone number: (02) 6563 2199 or fax (02) 6563 2131.

To book a mooring, please visit the Board's website <http://www.lhib.nsw.gov.au>.

Alternatively you can contact the LHI Board administration office by telephone (02) 6563 2066 or email administration@lhib.nsw.gov.au.

Please refer to section 5 under Port Arrangements (below) for information on how to book a mooring and for associated fees and charges.

For LHI Marine Park information and information on Elizabeth and Middleton Reef Nature Reserves, refer to section 6 under Port Arrangements (below) or contact the LHI Marine Park Manager on telephone (02) 6563 2359 or email lord.howe@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

RADIO COMMUNICATION

The LHI Port Operations Manager and the Assistant Port Operations Manager provide radio communications 24 hours a day seven days a week monitoring **VHF Channel 12 and 16**. The designated Port Operations Channel is **VHF Channel 12**.

Official call signs:

- 'Lord Howe Island Police' (Port Operations Manager) and
- 'Lord Howe Island Port Operations' (Assistant Port Operations Manager).

Other Radio Communications

Other radio communications are provided through a private volunteer operator, call sign '**Lord Howe Island Maritime**' who monitors the following frequencies:

- **VHF Channel 12 and 16**: 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and
- **HF**: Normal listening 0700 to 2100 (LHI Local Time) on **4125**

Communications are also available on Australian and New Zealand frequencies and international if required, they are:

- VIC ARCC Canberra
- Taupo Maritime NZ Maritime Safety

The following stations are aware of the system to alert the LHI Police at any time:

- **VHF:** Channel 12 & 16 (Port Operations Channel is VHF 12)
 - **CB:** 27,900 is active 24 hours daily
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PORT ARRANGEMENTS

1. Port Operations Managers

There are two Port Operations Managers on LHI. The NSW Police Officer is appointed by NSW Roads & Maritime Service – Maritime Division (RMS) as the Port Operations Manager (POM) and the Assistant Port Operations Manager (APOM) is the local RMS representative.

Please ensure that you contact the POM or the APOM on your approach to the Island on port channel VHF 12 (call signs listed above). The NSW Police telephone number is (02) 6563 2199 or fax (02) 6563 2131.

2. Australian Border Force

All visiting vessels wishing to enter Australia via LHI are required to contact the Australian Border Force and give at least 96 hours notification of impending arrival. Vessels will not be cleared at LHI due to a review of procedures by Australian Border Force and Quarantine. Vessels are still able to stop at the island for a period not exceeding 72 hours but all provisions must remain on board and vessels must sail from the island to another Australian Border Force Port for clearance.

As the vessel is under quarantine control whilst here, no crew can quit the vessel; all crew must sail with the vessel to the mainland on departure. No other person is permitted to board the vessel whilst it is on the island. Permission must be sought from Australian Border Force, by the owner/skipper of the vessel if they wish for those mentioned things to occur. The LHI Border Force representative's telephone number is (02) 6656 2481.

3. Navigation

Entry to / or departure from the Lagoon is not permitted without prior approval from the POM or the APOM. Sector lighting for entry into the Lagoon during the hours of darkness will only be permitted due to emergency/exigent circumstances and with the prior approval of the POM or APOM.

Starboard Lateral Navigation Markers have been installed at the entrance to the North Passage and Port Lateral Navigation Markers have been installed at the entrance to Erscotts Passage to assist a safe passage into the Lagoon. Urgent or emergency calls will be treated on their merit taking into account weather and sea conditions.

4. Oil or Pollutant Spill

Please notify the POM or APOM immediately by radio as listed or telephone (02) 6563 2199 or (02) 6563 2066.

5. Moorings

Bookings must be made **prior to your departure** for LHI.

There are 18 LHI Board public temporary moorings situated in the Lagoon (yellow or white coloured top float). Moorings will be allocated to suit the size, weight and draught of the vessel. Moorings will only be issued to a vessel for a maximum of two weeks. Vessels wishing to book for longer than two weeks must provide a genuine reason when making the booking.

Moorings fees and environmental levy charges are payable to the LHI Board. These charges are set by the LHI Board and may vary from time to time. They cover the use of a mooring, use of amenities provided at the jetty and assistance toward the maintenance of the Island's biodiversity. The following fees are current until 30 June 2018:

Moorings Fees per night:	\$46.00 per night (Price includes GST)
Administration Booking Fee:	\$36.00 (Non-refundable, price includes GST)
Environmental Levy:	\$42.24 per person, one off payment (GST exempt)

Fees can be paid via credit card at the time of your booking (details are included on the booking form) or at the LHI Board's administration office at Bowker Avenue between 8:30am and 4:30pm Monday to Friday.

6. Marine Park

The Marine Park (MP) includes all of the seabed and waters extending from the mean high water mark to 12 nautical miles seaward from LHI, Balls Pyramid and South-East Rock.

The state MP covers NSW waters from shore to three nautical miles seaward and Commonwealth MP from three to 12 nautical miles seaward. Sanctuary zones (no take areas) in both NSW and Commonwealth waters area designated to conserve and protect marine biodiversity and habitats.

Vessels with overall length greater than five metres are not permitted to anchor within the lagoon without written permission from the LHI Marine Park Manager. Anchoring is prohibited within all sanctuary zones, with three exclusion areas for vessels less than 10 metres long. Vessels must always aim to anchor in sand away from seagrass and coral.

There are 12 public day use moorings (pink coloured top float) in the lagoon that vessels less than 10 metres long can use for short periods of time to access snorkelling sites. Commercial tour operators have priority use of these moorings and vessels must vacate if and when a Commercial tour operator vessel approaches.

For further information about the Marine Park, contact the LHI Marine Park Manager on telephone: (02) 6563 2359 or email lord.howe@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Access to Elizabeth and Middleton Reef Marine Nature Reserves

A Commonwealth permit is required for vessels wishing to visit the Elizabeth and Middleton Reefs. The LHI Marine Park Manager, can issue **recreational access and recreational fishing authorisations** to the Reefs and can also provide information and advice on management arrangements to this area.

- Applications for an authorisation need to be lodged at least 28 days in advance, there are no

fees for these authorisations. Vessels must notify the LHI Marine Park Manager 24 hours prior to departure to the Reefs;

- If your application requirements are met, the LHI Marine Park Manager will issue your authorisation and supporting information (via email or in person on the island). There are also several reporting forms that need to be returned post trip.

7. Alternative Anchorage

Entry into the Lagoon will be dependent on:

- Weather and sea conditions;
- The draft of the vessel (may exceed the safety limit for entry);
- The weight of the vessel (may exceed the safe working load of the mooring systems); and
- The length of the vessel (vessels over 25 meters long may only anchor within one of the MPA's 6 designated anchoring sites).

Should any of the above prevent entry into the lagoon, vessels will be advised and/or piloted by radio by the POM or the APOM to an alternative anchorage site suitable to the conditions at the time.

8. Dinghies

There are no dinghies or outboards available for hire. Moorings are located approximately one kilometre from landing points and a substantial dinghy should be carried. Dinghies should not be left at the jetty but beached or pulled up at the boat ramp which is located just north of the jetty.

9. Tides

Tide times for LHI are 16 minutes ahead of the Fort Denison chart and 46 minutes ahead during Daylight Saving periods. Tide heights can vary greatly subject to atmospheric pressure, wind and sea conditions.

10. Facilities

Showers, toilets and a limited laundry facility are provided for small craft crews at the jetty. The key to the showers and laundry is available upon paying a \$20.00 refundable deposit to the LHI Board administration office. Indoor and outdoor clothes lines are provided near the facility. Please do not string washing out along the foreshore.

11. Fresh Water and Bore Water

Fresh water is available from the jetty shed. The Island's freshwater supply is reliant on rainfall and there can be limited supplies, especially during warmer months. The tap at the end of the jetty is bore water and is only to be used to wash vessels – do not drink this water. Please help protect LHI and always use water wisely.

12. Fuel

Fuel is available from the LHI Shell Fuel agent on telephone (02) 6563 2135 or VHF channel 12, call sign 'Gower Wilson'. Tanker transport (diesel only) to the jetty is available by arrangement.

13. LP Gas

LP gas is available from Wilson's Bike Hire located on Lagoon Road, just past the boat sheds on the foreshore, telephone (02) 6563 2045.

14. Banking

Travellers cheques or foreign currency cannot be exchanged anywhere on the Island. Deposits and withdrawals can be made at the Post Office for all major Australian banks. The Post Office is open Monday to Friday (closed on Wednesday during winter months). There is a Commonwealth Bank Agency which is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00am to 12:00pm located at Bowker Avenue near the LHI Board and the Liquor Store. There is only one ATM machine located at the LHI Bowling Club. EFTPOS facilities are limited on the island.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW - RESTRICTIONS

To help protect the Island's unique and diverse terrestrial and marine ecosystems, the following regulations apply:

- Camping is not permitted on the island;
- Domestic animals are not allowed onto the island;
- BBQ fires are only permitted in designated fireplaces or onboard your vessel;
- LHI recycles, please use the appropriate rubbish bins provided at the jetty facilities.

The LHI Marine Park is designed to conserve marine diversity and habitats, while allowing for public recreation and some commercial use.

- There are seven Sanctuary Zones where fishing or collecting is not permitted;
- Spearfishing is not permitted anywhere in the Marine Park;
- Dip and landing nets and bait traps are only permitted in Habitat Protection Zones;
- Fish cleaning from vessels is only permitted between Dawson's Point and the North passage;
- Jet skis are not permitted in the Marine Park;
- Marine Park Permits may be required for certain activities e.g. commercial activities;
- Vessels that are heavily fouled by marine organisms (i.e. on the hull of vessel) are not permitted to enter the marine park and may be directed out of LHI Marine Park waters;
- Recreational catch of fish species (outside of sanctuary zones) are subject to bag limits and size limits as per Fisheries Regulations;
- Landing or walking on any part of the coral reef on the western side of LHI is not permitted between the northern side of Erscotts Passage and the southern side of the North passage.

For information about access to Elizabeth and Middleton Reef Marine National Nature Reserves, contact the LHI Marine Park Office on (02) 6563 2359 or email lord.howe@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Middleton Reef is a Sanctuary Zone and access to Elizabeth Reef is by Commonwealth permit only.

YOU CAN HELP CONSERVE THE ISLAND'S WORLD HERITAGE ENVIRONMENT

The following actions will help us conserve and protect the unique and fragile marine and terrestrial ecosystems of LHI World Heritage Area and Marine Park.

- All types of discharges from vessels are prohibited within the LHI Lagoon;
- Pollutants (including garbage, non-biodegradable products such as plastics, oil and oily waste, sewerage and sullage) are not to be discharged into the Lagoon;
- Unless your vessel is equipped with a holding tank, do not use your toilet;
- Toilets and rubbish bins for waste and recyclables are provided at the jetty and various other locations on the island. Please remember to separate and recycle your waste;
- Garbage should not be discharged within 12 nautical miles from the nearest land. Plastics should not be thrown into the sea at any time;
- Please ensure your vessel is not heavily fouled by marine organisms (i.e. on the hull of vessel) to help keep the waters of the LHI Marine Park free from introduced marine pests;
- Vessels arriving from overseas must hold their rubbish in order to comply with health and quarantine regulations; and
- LHI is a World Heritage site managed by the LHI Board. The LHI Marine Park is managed by NSW Department of Primary Industries and Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy (Parks Australia).

Please help us to protect the unique environment of LHI above and below the water. Enjoy your visit to LHI World Heritage Area and LHI Marine Park.