

# LORD HOWE ISLAND

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

Lord Howe Island (LHI) is a World Heritage site which encompasses both terrestrial (land-based) and marine environments. Terrestrial areas are managed by the LHI Board. Waters from mean high tide to three nautical miles offshore are included within the Lord Howe Island Marine Park, managed by NSW Department of Primary Industries. A Commonwealth Marine Park extends seaward from this, managed by the Department of Environment and Energy (Parks Australia) (see map attached).

Prior to departure for 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 make an application, please visit the Board's website [www.lhib.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lhib.nsw.gov.au)

All vessels must conduct pre-departure biosecurity actions, and meet specific biosecurity requirements. All mooring approvals are subject to completing the required biosecurity actions. Failure to fulfil your general biosecurity duty and/or those actions prescribed in the regulations, and/or making a false declaration, may result in refusal of permission to enter the lagoon, and/or attach to a mooring, and/or penalties being issued under the Biosecurity Act 2015.

Alternatively you can contact the LHI Board administration office by telephone (02) 6563 2066 or email [administration@lhib.nsw.gov.au](mailto: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, refer to section 7 under Port Arrangements (below) or contact the LHI Marine Park Manager on telephone (02) 6563 2359 or email [lord.howe@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lord.howe@dpi.nsw.gov.au).

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### 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) 6563 2481.

Vessels arriving from overseas must hold their rubbish in order to comply with health and quarantine regulations.

### 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 if a spill occurs.

No discharge of ballast water or any other substance is permitted within waters of the Lord Howe Island Marine Park This includes any pollutants, rubbish or effluent, so unless your vessel is equipped with a holding tank do not use your toilet.

Further restrictions on discharge apply to waters outside the Lord Howe Island Marine Park according to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL). Please ensure you are familiar with these: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/marine-environment/marine-pollution/marpol-and-its-implementation-australia>

### 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.

All vessels require approval from the Lord Howe Island Board to attach to a mooring when accessing Lord Howe Island. Applications for moorings are to be made via submission of the LHIB form **Application for Entry to Lord Howe Island – Vessels**.

Please lodge your application as early as possible to ensure you are able to complete the required biosecurity actions prior to your departure. **Applications received less than 5 days prior to departure may not be accepted.**

### 6. Biosecurity

Effective biosecurity helps us to protect LHI from the introduction of unwanted pests and diseases which may threaten the natural environment and economy of LHI. Under the Biosecurity Act 2015, biosecurity is a shared responsibility and anyone who deals with biosecurity matter has a general biosecurity duty.

LHI regulations dictate that certain biosecurity actions must be completed 5 days prior to departure for LHI. It is the responsibility of the Master to be familiar with the regulations and to ensure all requirements are met.

Required actions are simple, and effective. The small amount of time it takes to perform these checks and actions can wholly prevent the introduction of harmful pests and diseases.

Failure to fulfil your general biosecurity duty and/or those actions prescribed in the regulations, and/or making a false declaration, may result in refusal of permission to enter the lagoon, and/or attach to a mooring, and/or penalties being issued under the Biosecurity Act 2015. For a list of biosecurity requirements please see 'Lord Howe Island Biosecurity Requirements: Visiting Vessels'

## **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 6 designated anchoring sites, as per below).

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. Anchoring**

Restrictions apply for anchoring within the Lord Howe Island Marine Park:

- Vessels longer than five metres are prohibited from anchoring anywhere in the lagoon
- All vessels are prohibited from anchoring in 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
- Vessels longer than 25 metres may anchor only in 6 designated roadstead sites – located outside the Lagoon (refer to Admiralty charts).

## **9. Marine Park Mooring Use**

There are 12 marine park public day use moorings (pink coloured top float) in the LHI 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.

## **10. 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. Vessels longer than five metres are prohibited from anchoring anywhere in the lagoon

## 11. 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.

## 12. Facilities

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

## 13. 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.

## 14. 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.

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.

## 15. 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 Tuesday during winter months). There is only one ATM machine located at the LHI Bowling Club. EFTPOS facilities are limited on the island.

## 16. Access to Elizabeth and Middleton Reef

A Commonwealth permit is required for vessels wishing to visit Elizabeth Reef and undertake recreational fishing. Middleton Reef is a National Park Zone and all forms of fishing and collecting are prohibited. The LHI Marine Park staff can provide information and advice on the latest access and management arrangements for this area.

Applications for an authorisation need to be lodged online at least 28 days in advance, there are no fees for these authorisations. For more information and to apply for a permit visit: <https://parksaustralia.gov.au/marine/parks/temperate-east/lord-howe/>. Once your application has been processed, your permit will be issued via email. There is a post-trip reporting form that can be emailed or handed in to the marine park office. A voluntary post trip report form is also encouraged for vessels visiting Elizabeth and Middleton Reefs for non-permit holders.

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## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW – KEY REGULATIONS

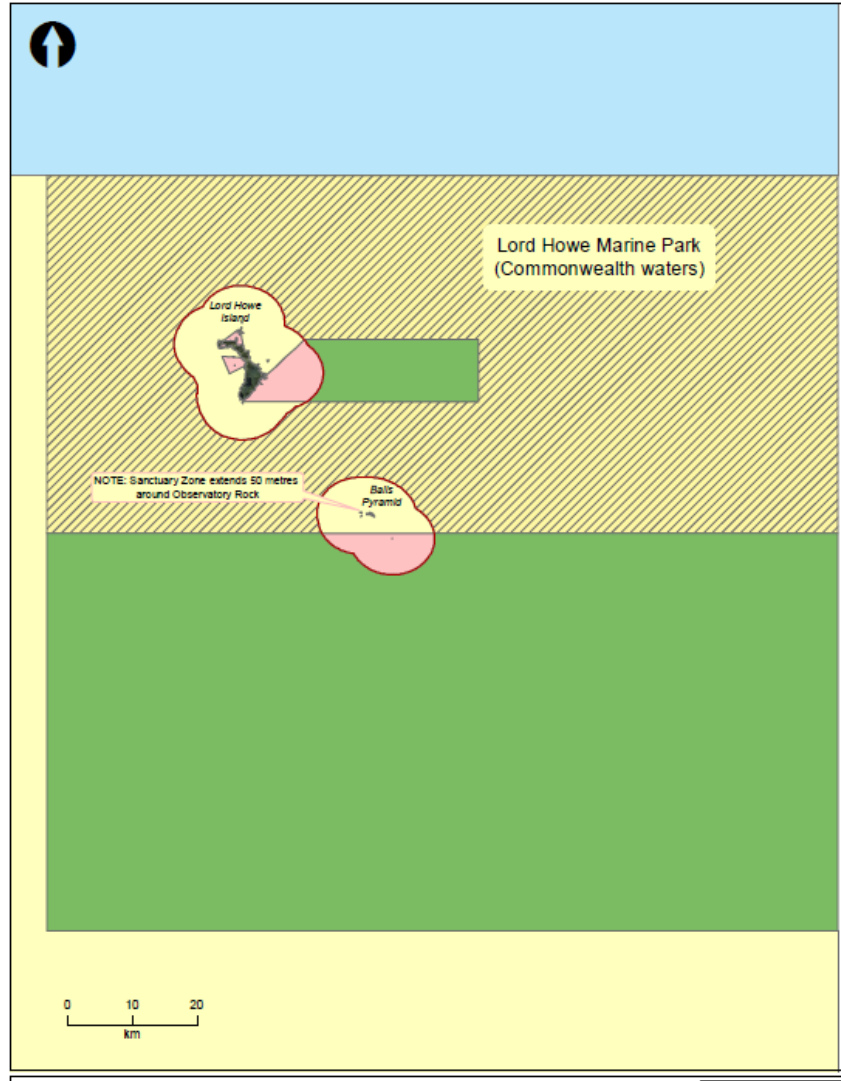
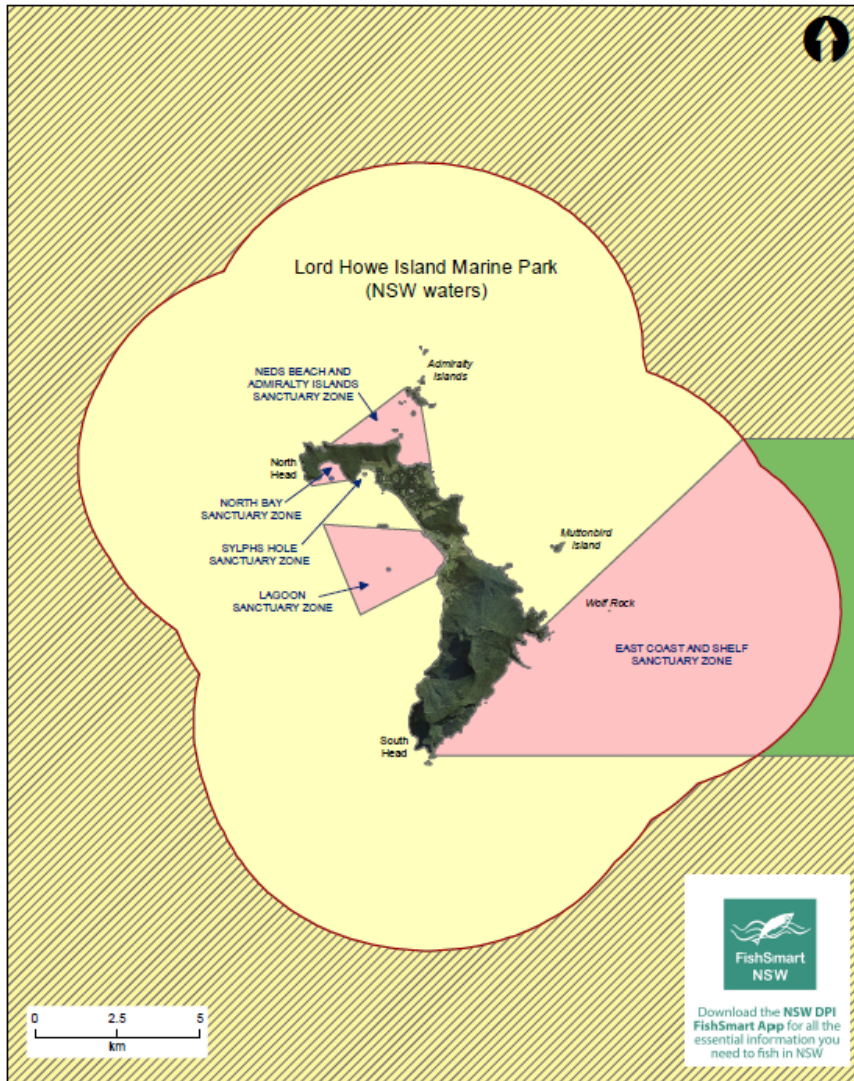
To help protect and conserve the unique and diverse terrestrial and marine ecosystems of the Lord Howe Island World Heritage Area, the following regulations apply:

- 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 Lord Howe Island Marine Park is designed to conserve marine diversity and habitats, while allowing for public recreation and some commercial use:

- There are seven Sanctuary Zones within the Lord Howe Island Marine Park where all forms of fishing or collecting are prohibited. Recreational fishing is allowed in Habitat Protection Zones only, a NSW recreational fishing licence is required;
- Spearfishing, snares, lobster traps, and crab traps are PROHIBITED;
- NSW recreational fishing rules (including bag and size limits) apply;
- Recreational fishing catches must be landed whole (with the head and tail);
- Discard fish waste thoughtfully at the LHIB waste management facility or outside the lagoon, west of a line between north and south head. Do not discard fish waste at the jetty and boat ramp facilities because it can attract sharks;
- Jet skis are not permitted in the Marine Park;
- Marine Park Permits may be required for certain activities e.g. commercial activities;

For more information about the LHI Marine Park and/or information on access to Elizabeth and Middleton Reefs, contact the LHI Marine Park office on (02) 6563 2359, email [lord.howe@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lord.howe@dpi.nsw.gov.au), or visit: <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/marine-protected-areas/marine-parks/lord-howe-island-marine-park>



<p><b>Lord Howe Island Marine Park (NSW waters)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Habitat Protection Zone</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: blue; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Special Purpose Zone</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: pink; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Sanctuary Zone</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lord Howe Marine Park (Commonwealth waters)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: green; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> National Park Zone</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Habitat Protection Zone</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; border-bottom: 1px solid red; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Limit of coastal waters</li> </ul>	
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