

## COVID-19 – Coronavirus

### Guidance for Recreational Boating and General Aviation Issue 2

Effective from 00:01 Saturday 30 May 2020

In accordance with the commencement of Phase 4 of the Covid-19 lockdown exit strategy and following further discussions with the States of Guernsey's Public Health Services' team, Guernsey Ports have updated the guidelines for the use of pleasure boats and general aviation which take effect from 00:01 Saturday 30 May 2020.

The guidance below sets out the following:

Changes to the current restrictions to enable recreational boating, subject to some remaining controls – **section A**

Changes to the current restrictions to allow general aviation flights and activities, subject to some remaining controls – **section B**

## SECTION A: Recreational Boating

Recreational boat owners (using any type of vessel, whether motorised or not) are now permitted to use their boats in local waters for recreational purposes subject to the following updated conditions:

- The latest weather forecast has been obtained and the vessel has been checked and inspected thoroughly before putting to sea. This should include ensuring that all boat systems and engines are operating correctly and all equipment is in date and operating as it should. This is particularly important in order to minimise the need for our emergency services to be mobilised potentially placing them and you at risk.
- Boat skippers may be accompanied by persons, subject to maintaining the appropriate social distance between individuals, as set out in the current public health guidelines.
- Boat owners are no longer limited to a defined period of water-based activities in every 24-hour period.
- Refuelling is permitted but only adhering to the appropriate social distancing guidelines currently in place and ensuring continued good hygiene practices. The use of gloves is recommended whilst handling refuelling equipment.
- Surfaces and objects that are touched regularly should be frequently cleaned and disinfected thoroughly using appropriate products and equipment on board the vessel.
- **Herm:** At the request of Herm, recreational boaters are not permitted to enter Herm Harbour or land on Rosaire Steps. Access and anchoring in bays across the Island is permitted but it should be noted that Herm continues to have limited amenities and facilities open.
- **Sark:** Sark is now open to recreational boaters. The swinging moorings across the Island are currently not in use and vessels should not use them until advised.
- **Alderney:** Alderney is now open to recreational boaters. The swinging moorings in Braye Harbour are currently not in use and vessels should not use them until advised.

All vessels planning to visit Alderney are required to contact the Alderney harbour office in advance on +44 (0)1481 820070 or at [harbour@alderney.gov.gg](mailto:harbour@alderney.gov.gg).

## SECTION A: Recreational Boating (continued)

- Attention is also drawn to the Skipper and crew of any vessel, which makes landfall outside of the Bailiwick's territorial waters that they must observe Customs regulations as well as following the requirement to self-isolate for 14 days immediately upon return as set out in separate guidance for travel.
- These requirements have also been published by the Guernsey Harbourmaster via Local Notices To Mariners (LNTM). Vessel owners are required to check the latest local notices regularly for updated instructions and changes, before putting to sea, using Guernsey Harbours' website <http://www.harbours.gg/Guernsey-Navigation-Warnings-Notices>. These are also published on the Guernsey Harbours' Facebook and Twitter accounts.

## SECTION B: General Aviation

General Aviation aircraft owners and pilots are now permitted to operate their aircraft as follows:

### **B1: Recreational Flying and GA Maintenance Flights**

- All flights should continue to be arranged with a minimum of 24 hours' notice through their appointed fixed based operator or the Guernsey Aero Club.
- All flights require prior permission with a minimum of 24 hours' notice using the published 'Prior Permission Required' (PPR) process.
- All flights will be operated within the current published operating hours of Guernsey and Alderney Airports. Airport extensions are not available.
- Aircraft must have a valid airworthiness certificate (CofA, Permit or Permit Flight Release Certificate) before flights can take place. (Reminder – Aircraft operated on a Permit to Fly also require an exemption from the DCA to be operated in Channel Islands Air space).
- Aircraft owners and pilots may be accompanied by persons, subject to maintaining the appropriate social distance between individuals, as set out in the current public health guidelines.
- Surfaces and objects that are touched regularly should be frequently cleaned and disinfected thoroughly using appropriate products and equipment on board the aircraft.
- Pilots are no longer limited to the frequency and duration of flight although the restrictions to leave local air space remain.
- All flights are required to take off and directly land back at their airport of origin unless an alternative flight plan has been specifically authorised.

## SECTION B: General Aviation (continued)

### **B2: Aircraft Maintenance Ferry Flights**

Ferry flights are permitted for the purpose of aircraft maintenance subject to the following conditions:

- All ferry flights are subject to Guernsey border control requirements and, as such, the Port Critical Worker Scheme application process must be followed. Further information is provided as follows:

<https://www.airport.gg/criticalworkertravel>

- All ferry flights require prior permission with a minimum of 24 hours' notice using the published 'Prior Permission Required' (PPR) process.

### **B3: Paragliding and Hand Gliding**

Paragliding and Hang-Gliding activities may resume in accordance with current, established arrangements and procedures.