



DUCHY *of* CORNWALL

HARBOUR OFFICE, ST. MARY'S, ISLES OF SCILLY, TR21 0HU

ST. MARY'S HARBOUR WATER SPORTS GUIDANCE

We are pleased to see an increase in popularity for various water sports here within the harbour, including sea swimming, kayaking, paddle boarding (SUP), and dinghy sailing. To ensure your activities are conducted safely and with consideration for other harbour operations, please adhere to the following guidelines. Our primary responsibility as a Harbour Authority is to ensure the safety and well-being of all harbour users while protecting the environment.

The information below will be reviewed and updated as required. Please contact the harbour office for further information on 01720 422768 or email info@stmarys-harbour.co.uk.

1. Designated Areas:

Water sports (including swimming, paddle boarding, kayaking, and dinghy sailing) must not be undertaken within or among harbour moorings, at the harbour entrance, or in the channel along the main quay. Refer to the diagram opposite: green areas indicate where water sports can be undertaken safely (after consideration for other water users), and red areas indicate where they are prohibited.

2. Weather and Tides:

Always check the weather and tides before heading out and understand their potential effects on you and your equipment.

3. Inform Others:

Inform someone of your planned route and expected return time. Contact a member of the harbour team who will be able to advise on expected activity within the harbour on that day.

4. Communication:

Carry a means of communication such as a whistle, VHF radio, or mobile phone. Ensure batteries are fully charged.

5. Safety Gear:

Always wear a buoyancy aid if the sport allows. For swimmers, use a brightly coloured buoyancy float and swim cap for visibility.

6. In Case of Trouble:

If you encounter difficulties, stay with your equipment; it floats and is easier to locate.

7. Mooring Awareness:

Keep clear of mooring buoys and moving or moored vessels, even in the designated green areas.

8. Running Lines:

Be aware of the running lines along Town Beach where small tenders operate.

9. Kitesurfing and Windsurfing:

These activities must not take place in any areas of the harbour without prior approval from the Harbour Authority.

10. Gig racing/practice:

Gigs heading to/from Porth Mellon Beach should travel around the yacht grid and not through moorings. Gigs should avoid busy arrival/departure times in the area along the outer berth and steps where passenger boats operate.

11. Courtesy:

Remain courteous to other harbour users and respectful of their enjoyment of the harbour.

By following these guidelines, you help us ensure that St. Mary's Harbour remains a safe and enjoyable place for all users. Thank you for your cooperation.

St. Mary' Harbour Authority

