

FROM INLAND ADVENTURES TO COASTAL CONFIDENCE

Insights from the UK Harbour Masters Association: What Cruisers Need to Know

This session shared harbour masters' insights for safer, smoother visits – from pre-departure checks and paperwork to local notices. It explored harbour approaches, traffic patterns, speed limits, and proper radio etiquette. Attendees learned about the importance of local knowledge, such as shifting hazards, seasonal changes and environmental protection zones, as well as berthing protocols and anchoring restrictions. It also highlighted sources of information, including harbour websites.



Speaker: Capt. Jon Kidd, Harbour Master, Cowes

Capt. Jon Kidd has over 30 years' experience in the marine industry, from stewarding on small passenger vessels to Command with Trinity House and Red Funnel. He has also been a Cowes Pilot since 2015. Jon has a wealth of knowledge on UK Ports and Harbours from his time as the Trinity House Inspector of Seamarks, where he was responsible for inspecting around 11,500 aids to navigation each year. Jon has been in post as Cowes Harbour Master since Jan 2024. He grew up on the Isle of Wight and lives near Cowes with his family.



Message to Mariners:

Visiting Mariners should access the website of the particular Port or Marina prior to arrival to seek the appropriate information required for that destination.



COWES HARBOUR
COMMISSION

Explore Cowes Harbour Commission and UKHMA resources below

- www.ukhma.org
- UKHMA video
- Propulsion Failure campaign
- Recommended Best Practice for Respectful and Safe Operation in Shared Spaces
- A guide to good practice on port and marine facilities
- Ports & Marine Facilities Safety Code Guidance

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