

Rottnest Island Marine & Boating Guide 2023–24

Effective from July 2023



**ROTTNEST ISLAND
AUTHORITY**

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We acknowledge the Whadjuk Noongar people as the Traditional Owners of Wadjemup, their continued connection to the island and its waters, and pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

We pay respect to all Aboriginal people affected by the historical use of Wadjemup as a place of unjust incarceration, especially the men and boys who still remain here, and to the families and descendants who lost them.

Rottnest Island Authority

Postal address: PO Box 693, Fremantle WA 6959
Phone: 9432 9300
Web: ria.wa.gov.au

Disclaimer

Rottnest Island Authority reserves the right to change the information in this publication at any time without prior notification. The information and maps supplied in this publication are a guide only and are not to be used for navigation purposes.

Plan Ahead and Prepare

- Ensure your vessel has a current sticker for admission or mooring use, if applicable.
- Observe the Rottnest Island Marine Reserve boundaries and regulations. Maps and information can be obtained from our website and charts can be acquired from the Department of Transport.
- Contact your local sea rescue group to log the details of your journey.
- Be aware of possible dangers including tides, currents, and submerged hazards.

Protect the Environment

1. Travel on durable surfaces

- Durable surfaces in the marine environment include beaches and areas of seabed that are free from reef and/or seagrass meadows.
- Coastal sand dunes are fragile surfaces. Help reduce dune erosion by walking on designated sand tracks in coastal areas.
- Anchor vessels on sand and avoid areas of reef and seagrass meadows.

2. Dispose of waste properly

- Be sure to take all rubbish with you including cigarette butts, fishing lines, and bait bags, and dispose of them in an appropriate receptacle.
- No waste water is to be disposed of within the Rottnest Island Marine Reserve. For more information refer to page 9.

3. Leave the environment untouched

- Respect sanctuary zones and adopt an 'observe and conserve' approach in these areas.
- Leave seagrasses, shells, and dune vegetation as they are.

4. Minimise the risk of fires

- Fires are not permitted on Wadjemup / Rottnest Island.
- Many fires are started by careless disposal of cigarette butts. Take care to dispose of cigarette butts appropriately.

5. Respect wildlife

- Observe marine mammals such as dolphins, whales, fur seals, and sea lions from a distance. Do not follow or approach these animals.
- Help to keep the ocean wildlife healthy by not feeding the animals.
- Be aware of current WA Fisheries regulations and bag limits. For more information please refer to the Department of Fisheries website.

Be Considerate

- Respect other visitors during your stay.
- Be courteous out on the water by minimising vessel wake.
- Follow the directions of the Rottnest Island Authority regulations, rangers, WA Water Police, and Fisheries Marine Safety Officers.

Admission Fees

Every visitor to Wadjemup / Rottnest Island needs to pay a compulsory admission fee. This contribution helps keep the island running, maintaining facilities and services, and preserving Rottnest Island.

Those who visit Wadjemup / Rottnest Island by ferry or commercial vessel pay the admission fee as part of their fare. Visitors who arrive by private vessel are required to pay admission fees as soon as possible after entering the marine reserve — there are two options for payment.

These prices include GST and are **valid from 1 July each year**. The annual admission fee is valid from 1 September to 31 August each year.

Individual Admission Fees

Individual admission fees must be paid per person, per visit.

Adult/student	Day visitor	\$20.00
Child (4-12yrs)	Day visitor	\$7.00
Family group*	Day visitor	\$50.00
Adult/student	Extended stay (Over night)**	\$27.00
Child (4-12yrs)	Extended stay (Over night)	\$9.00
Family group*	Extended stay (Over night)	\$61.00

* A family group is two adults and two children.

Please note that child rates apply for children aged four to 12 years. Admission is free for children under four years.

** An extended stay rate is for a person travelling to and from the island on different days, and is valid for the duration of that visit

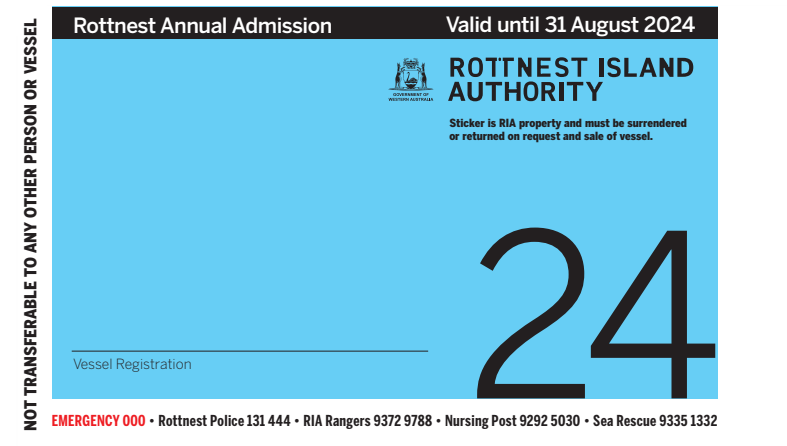
Individual admission fees should be paid prior to arrival online at: mooring-ria.dbca.wa.gov.au.

Annual Admission Fee

Purchasing an annual admission sticker for your vessel enables unlimited visits to Rottnest Island. This is valid for one year between 1 September and 31 August the following year.

Vessels up to and including 8 metres	\$350.00
Vessels 8 metres and greater but less than 10 metres	\$420.00
Vessels 10 metres and greater but less than 15 metres	\$490.00
Vessels 15 metres and greater but less than 20 metres	\$840.00
Vessels 20 metres or greater	\$980.00

Annual admission stickers must be purchased in advance and online at: mooring-ria.dbca.wa.gov.au.



Domestic Commercial Vessel Permit Application

All domestic commercial vessel (DCV) operators must register each visit. Further details are available at ria.wa.gov.au/boating/commercial-vessels.

DCV operators must also pay admission fees based on passenger numbers and the activity type of the vessel. Further information and application forms are available online.

Marine Environment

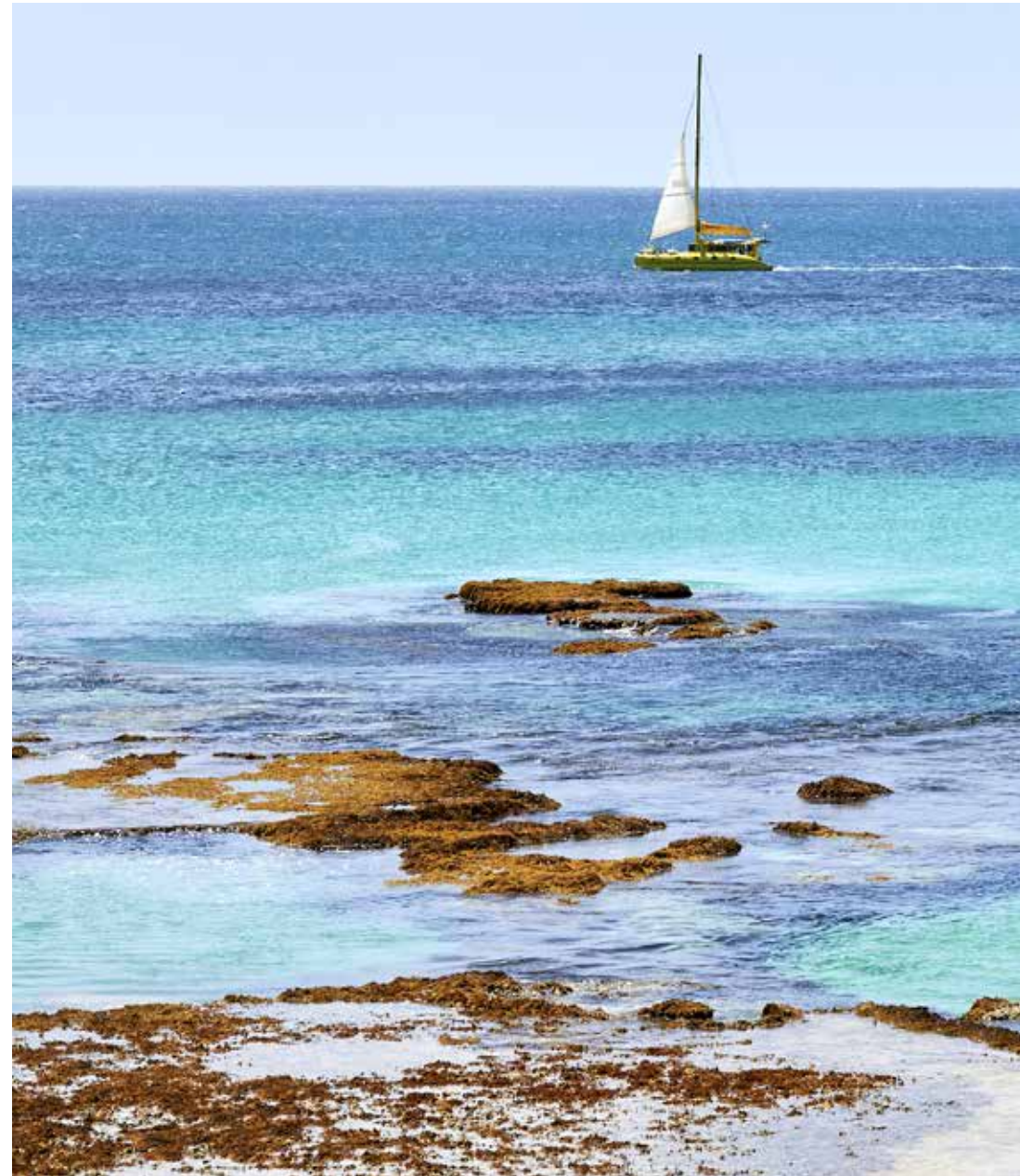
Wadjemup / Rottneest Island is a haven of flourishing, unique marine environments, with some of Western Australia's most diverse sealife. The abundance of tropical fish species, coral, dolphins, sea lions, and migratory whales call to travellers seeking water-based adventures like diving, surfing, and swimming.

Regulations and guidelines exist to help conserve this unique environment and ensure that the Rottneest Island Marine Reserve can continue to be enjoyed by future generations.

Please help preserve the island's fragile underwater worlds by observing these regulations and guidelines.

Sanctuary Zones

Five marine sanctuary zones have been established to help conserve the pristine marine environments of Wadjemup / Rottneest Island. Fishing and collecting marine flora and fauna is prohibited in these areas. For more information on the sanctuary zone boundaries, and permissible activities, please refer to the Rottneest Island Fishing Guide at ria.wa.gov.au/boating/plan-your-trip/marine-maps or contact the Department of Fisheries for further information: fish.wa.gov.au.



Anchoring

Find your place along Wadjemup / Rottnest Island's shore and feel part of the island's story for a moment in time.

For convenient access to land-based adventure, seek out anchorage in spots like Thomson Bay, Longreach Bay, and Parker Point.

Anchoring Guidelines

Once you have paid your admission fee, you are permitted to anchor your vessel within the Rottnest Island Marine Reserve, provided your vessel:

- Is at least 50 metres from any mooring, jetty or beach pen
- Does not obstruct or interfere with access to a mooring
- Is well clear of reef, seagrass meadows, jetty access and navigation markers
- Is outside any boating prohibited areas

For a clear outline of the anchorage areas, refer to the map on page 13.

Beach Anchoring Guidelines

Beach anchoring is permitted, but as with any interaction you have with the island's environment, it must be done respectfully. Make sure you follow regulations, including:

- Only anchor in areas where boating is allowed
- Don't secure your vessel to land-based structures that aren't designed for that purpose
- Don't use star pickets or other materials not designed for beach anchoring
- Bow and stern anchors are preferred
- Beach anchoring is not permitted for vessels over eight metres long
- Anchoring parallel to the beach is not allowed
- All anchoring equipment must be removed each time the vessel leaves the anchorage
- Bury your anchors deep into the sand to reduce the potential hazard for beach users.

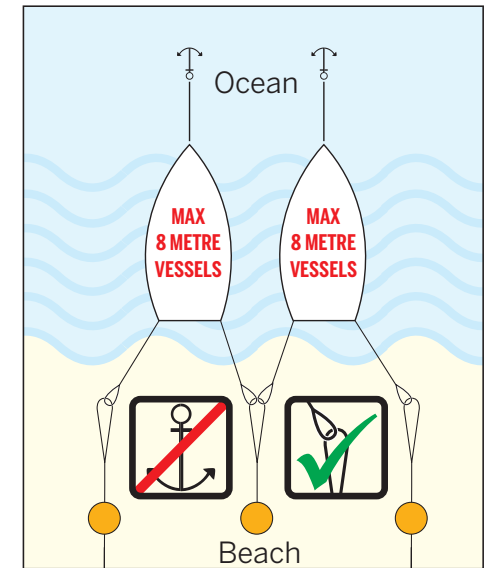
Loading Zones

All loading zones have a 20-minute limit and are located on the Fuel and Hotel Jetties in Thomson Bay, 'T' Jetty on the Main Jetty, and Geordie Bay Jetty. Please observe the maximum time limit when loading or unloading passengers and equipment.

Thomson and Geordie Bay – Beach Anchoring Points

Rottnest Island Authority provides 37 beach anchoring points, free of charge, in in Longreach Bay (5), Geordie Bay (5) and Thomson Bay (27). Refer to map on page 13.

These beach anchoring points are first come first served. And if you do find a spot, deploy your bow anchor to sea and deploy your own lines from the stern corners to each beach anchoring point.



Rental Moorings and Jetty Pens

Thomson, Geordie, and Longreach Bay

Spending an evening atop the waters of Wadjemup / Rottnest Island is a memory-making experience.

A variety of offshore swing moorings (from 8 metres to 40 metres) and jetty and beach pens are available for hire on an overnight basis (10 am to 10 am). These facilities can be reserved up to 100 days in advance and bookings are released at midnight each day.

Payment for rental mooring bookings and individual admission fees can be made through our online booking system, at mooring-ria.dbca.wa.gov.au or by calling Rottnest Island Reservations on 1800 111 111 between 8:30 am and 5 pm, Monday to Friday.

Please Note

- Rental fees are paid at the time of booking and cancellation fees apply.
- You need to supply your own mooring lines for all jetty pens.
- A limited supply of fresh water and power is available at the Fuel Jetty in Thomson Bay.
- Fresh water is also available at Geordie Bay Jetty.
- Any vessel using a jetty pen when winds exceed 25 knots do so at their own risk.



Green buoys indicate rental moorings.

Rental Moorings and Jetty Pen Fees

Rental mooring and pen fees below do not include admission fees.

Fees effective 1 July 2023.

	Size of Vessel	Seasons			
		Low	Shoulder	High	Holiday Peak
Beach Pen	7.5m	\$19.00	\$42.00	\$49.00	\$50.00
Stark Jetty & Fuel Jetty Pen	7.5m	\$19.00	\$42.00	\$49.00	\$50.00
Fuel Jetty Pen Large	16m	\$26.00	\$54.00	\$67.00	\$69.00
Hotel Jetty Pen	8m	\$26.00	\$54.00	\$67.00	\$69.00
Swing Mooring	<15m	\$26.00	\$54.00	\$73.00	\$78.00
Swing Mooring	15 to 20m	\$53.00	\$81.00	\$119.00	\$129.00
Swing Mooring	20 to 40m	\$78.00	\$109.00	\$161.00	\$161.00

- Green mooring buoys are rental moorings.
- Yellow mooring buoys are privately leased and part of the Shared Mooring System (page 7).
- White mooring buoys are for emergency use and require approval.
- The red mooring buoy on Kingston Reef is a courtesy mooring for daytime use only and has a two hour limit. Maximum vessel length is 24 metres.

All vessels using mooring buoys at Rottnest Island must be authorised by Rottnest Island Authority prior to their use. Penalties apply for unauthorised use.

Shared Mooring System (SMS)

ONLY vessels displaying a licensee or authorised user sticker are permitted to use moorings.

The Shared Mooring System (SMS) incorporates both licensee and authorised user access to the licenced moorings around the island. The SMS also uses a colour-coded system for casual access of moorings.

The colour-coded disc access can only be used by licensees and authorised users displaying a current sticker. Penalties apply for unauthorised use of licensed moorings within the reserve.

Authorised Users

Mooring licensees can permit owners of other suitably sized vessels to use their mooring by submitting an application available at ria.wa.gov.au/boating. No other form of authorisation is acceptable. Authorised user status is only recognised when you display a valid sticker.

Application forms must be processed and appropriate stickers displayed prior to accessing the moorings.

If you wish to become an authorised user of a mooring but have not been nominated by a mooring licensee, you can request allocation by Rottnest Island Authority after you complete the application forms and pay the fees. Depending on availability, Rottnest Island Authority will allocate the authorised use of suitable moorings.

Refer to the authorised user application form online for more details.







Casual Access

Licensees and authorised users are permitted to use other moorings within the SMS on a casual basis.

Coloured polyurethane discs attached to the mooring buoys indicate the appropriate vessel size for that mooring.

During casual access, moorings can only be used if they have the same colour disc as the authorised user or licensee sticker.

Coloured Disc

-  = not to be used for casual use.
-  = vessels up to and including 10m.
-  = vessels up to and including 12m.
-  = vessels up to and including 14m.
-  = vessels up to and including 16m.
-  = vessels over 16m.

Lengths vary on each mooring. Maximum size is indicated in the centre of sticker.

A competent operator must always be available to move the vessel immediately should the licensee or any nominated authorised user arrive to use the mooring site. If you don't follow these conditions of use, you may have your authorised user access rights cancelled and/or be issued with an infringement. Your phone number must be displayed on the vessel and you must be contactable at all times.

Vessels with only an annual admission permit are not permitted to use the SMS.

If a mooring does not display a coloured disc, it should not be used under casual use without permission. Please contact the rangers.

Rental Moorings

RIA has incorporated all rental swing moorings into the SMS to allow licensee and authorised users to use these moorings if they need to wait for their own mooring to become available.

A competent operator must remain onboard and be available to move the vessel immediately should the lessee of the rental mooring arrive.

Illegal use of SMS Moorings

Unauthorised use of a mooring is prohibited within the Rottnest Island Marine Reserve. A valid 'licensee' or 'authorised user' permit sticker must be displayed on every vessel using a mooring. Penalties apply to vessels in breach of this regulation. SMS users must also ensure they use appropriate colour-coded discs under casual access. Insurance policies could be void if any damage occurs while a vessel is illegally using a mooring within the Rottnest Island Marine Reserve.

Stickers remain the property of Rottnest Island Authority and must be returned on sale of vessel or upon request.

Special Events

Closed Waters

Wadjemup / Rottnest Island hosts a number of high-profile events each year year, attracting even more boats to the island. When you come to the island for a special event like this, be mindful of the impact large numbers of people can have on the environment. Visitors should listen to any requests or instructions from Rottnest Island rangers, police, or officers from the Department of Fisheries and Department of Transport. Water closure maps will be available on Rottnest Island Authority website.

New Year's Eve and the Rottnest Channel Swim

During these events, Rottnest Island Authority will provide a designated area for tenders to be beached, and will restrict beach anchoring, beaching, and anchoring in Thomson Bay in front of Samphire Rottnest.

This measure has been introduced to assist in crowd management and safety during this time. Appropriate signage will be placed onsite and an area will be provided for the proper use of tenders.



Waste Management

Visitors to Wadjemup / Rottnest Island value the clear water and unique marine environment. Waste from boats, whether it's from the on-board toilet or the bin, can easily contaminate the water — creating a public health risk as well as a danger to the environment. So, to keep the waters clean, we have strategies in place to manage waste.

Why Care About Waste?

The discharge of waste from vessels has the potential to damage the marine environment and Rottnest Island's amenity. It also poses a public health risk.

Liquid Waste

All the waters within the Rottnest Island Marine Reserve are protected. No liquid waste can be discharged anywhere in these waters, including waste from marine sanitation devices (MSDs). Ensure you store your liquid waste appropriately and discharge to a suitable mainland facility or outside the marine reserve.

Solid Waste

If possible, help to reduce carbon emissions and carry your own waste and recycling off the island. All waste placed in bins on the island is picked up by a truck, compacted, and shipped off the island by barge. It is then processed in the same manner as mainland waste.

Fishing Line Bins

Rottnest Island has a number of fishing line bins located on its jetties. Please use bins to dispose of any fishing line and tackle.

What Goes in Your Recycle Bin?



Glass bottles and jars (clean and empty)



Aluminium and steel (clean and empty)



Plastic containers and bottles (clean and empty)



Paper (not shredded)



Cardboard (please flatten)

What Goes in Your Waste Bin?



Food scraps or other green organic matter



Coffee cups and take away containers



Nappies



Clothing or textiles



Soft plastics



Medical waste

Emergencies

- In the event of a life-threatening boating emergency, please contact the police on 000 or channel 16 on VHF radio.
- If your vessel breaks down or requires mechanical assistance, please contact your local sea rescue group.
- In the case of an oil or fuel spill, please contact the Department of Transport on 9480 9924 or marine.pollution@transport.wa.gov.au.
- If you need the Rottnest Rangers' assistance, they can be contacted on 9372 9788 or Channel 16 call sign 'Rottnest Rangers'.



Marine Administration

Phone: 9432 9320
8:30 am to 4:30 pm (Monday to Friday)
moorings@rotnnestisland.com

Rottnest Island Authority Bookings

Bookings for marine rental facilities, accommodation and individual admission fees
Phone: 1800 111 111
8:30 am to 5 pm WST (Monday to Friday)
ria.wa.gov.au (Moorings and Jetty Pens)
stayrotnnest.com (Accommodation)

Individual Admission Fees

Individual admission fees can be paid anytime online at ria.wa.gov.au/boating/admission-fee

Rottnest Island Visitor Centre

Phone: 9372 9730
7:30 am to 5 pm (Saturday, Sunday, and public holidays)

Rottnest Island Authority Administration

Phone: 9432 9300
Opening hours – 8:30 am to 5 pm (Monday to Friday)

enquiries@rotnnestisland.com
ria.wa.gov.au

PO Box 693, Fremantle WA 6959

Contact Numbers

Emergencies	000
Diving Emergency Services	1800 088 200
Department of Transport (Oil pollution reporting) 24 hours	9480 9924
Fisheries (Fishwatch)	1800 815 507
Rottnest Nursing Post	9292 5030
Rottnest Rangers Call sign Channel 16	9372 9788 'Rottnest Rangers'
Police	131 444
Water police	9442 8600

Volunteer Sea Rescue Groups

Cockburn – VH6CL (27Mhz) Ch 90 & 88 (VHF) Ch 73 & 16	9410 1544 or 0409 103 029
Fremantle – VN6DI (27Mhz) Ch 90, 88 & 86 (VHF) Ch 73 & 16	9335 1332
Mandurah – VMR611 (27Mhz) Ch 91 & 88 (VHF) Ch 73 & 16	9535 4789
Rockingham – VN6KC (27Mhz) Ch 88 & 86 (VHF) Ch 67 & 16	0417 929 021
Whitfords – VJ6LQ (27Mhz) Ch 90 & 88 (VHF) Ch 73 & 16	9401 3757
(Repeater Ch 81 & 82)	

Guidelines and Regulations for Wadjemup / Rottnest Island

We all have a part to play in keeping Wadjemup / Rottnest Island an enjoyable, safe, and beautiful place to visit. The guidelines described below apply to everyone who visits the island and ensure that your trip has as little impact on the environment and other visitors as possible.

Acceptable Behaviour, Noise and Alcohol

For the enjoyment of all visitors, guests are asked to be considerate of others and keep noise to a minimum, especially after 11 pm. This includes music and generator noise. Guests wanting to quietly enjoy alcohol are welcome to do so, however just like the rest of Western Australia, street drinking is not permitted. Drinking alcohol is not permitted on jetties, beaches, and any other areas outside accommodation and licensed premises. If you break these guidelines, it may result in eviction from the island.

Anchoring

To avoid damaging Rottnest Island's marine environment, anchoring is only permitted in sandy areas and not in areas of seagrass or reef. Please refer to the map on page 13.

Barbecues

Lighting of fires is not permitted on Rottnest Island. For your convenience, gas barbecues are located in Thomson Bay and Geordie Bay. Please refer to map on page 14.

Camping

Camping is only permitted in designated campsites in the settlement. Sites can be booked through Rottnest Island Reservations on 1800 111 111 or online at stayrottnest.com.

Coastal Hazards

The coastal environment of Rottnest Island is extremely fragile. Beware of unstable rock slopes, cliffs, and overhangs. Stay clear of limestone cliff edges, caves, and overhanging rocks. These areas can be unstable and may collapse.

To avoid damage to dune vegetation, please remain on designated tracks when accessing coastal areas. This will help to reduce the risk of dune erosion. Island walking trails are detailed on our website.

Dive Flags

All divers using underwater breathing equipment (SCUBA) must fly or tow the international 'A' flag. Please keep at least 50 metres clear of vessels flying this flag, or divers towing the flag.

Domestic Pets

Domestic pets are not permitted within the boundaries of the Marine Reserve. If you don't follow this regulation, you will be penalised and asked to remove your pet immediately at your own expense.

Drinking Water

A limited supply of fresh water is available from the Fuel Jetty in Thomson Bay and Geordie Bay Jetty. To help conserve this resource, it is recommended that water tanks are filled prior to departure from the mainland. Water is desalinated on the island and restrictions apply.

Fuel and Gas Supplies

Unleaded, premium unleaded, and diesel fuel is available from the Fuel Jetty in Thomson Bay by electronic self service 24 hours per day, seven days a week.

Mastercard, Visa, and EFTPOS are acceptable. For operator assistance (during office hours) please call the number displayed on the fuel bowser. Small quantities of LPG is available from the Geordie Bay General Store. Fuel and gas supplies cannot be transported by bus.

Fishing

As part of Rottnest Island's Marine Conservation Action Plan, five marine sanctuary zones have been established to help conserve the pristine marine environments of Rottnest Island. Fishing and/or collecting is prohibited in these areas. For more information see

ria.wa.gov.au/boating/plan-your-trip/marine-maps.

Spear fishing is prohibited within the specified boundaries of the Rottnest Island Marine Reserve. Please refer to the map on page 13.

Loading Zones

Loading zones are located in Thomson Bay on the Fuel Jetty, Hotel Jetty and 'T' Jetty on the Main Jetty, and on the Geordie Bay Jetty. All loading zones have a 20-minute limit. Please observe the maximum time limit when loading or unloading passengers or equipment.

Personal Water Craft and Jet Skis

There are no designated water ski areas within the Rottnest Island Marine Reserve. A 5-knot speed limit applies in most bays around the island. Please refer to the map on page 13. For further information, contact the Department of Transport.

Guidelines and Regulations for Wadjemup / Rottnest Island (CONTINUED)

Rafting of Vessels

Rafting of approved vessels (up to 6.75 metres) is only permitted on swing moorings where a mooring has been certified with "+ 6.75m" rating. Rafting is also permitted when vessels are on anchor. Appropriate admission fees apply. Only two vessels can raft together at any time.

Rubbish

Wherever possible, take your rubbish home with you and use the appropriate recycling or waste bins provided. Please see page 9.

Reef Care / Protection

Please avoid walking on the reef as this can damage the fragile environment and put the marine species that inhabit these areas at risk.

Sandboarding

Sandboards, or similar devices that are used to slide down dunes or sandy areas, are prohibited and penalties apply. Dune blowout is an ever-present threat on Rottnest Island.

SCUBA Tank Refills

SCUBA tanks can be filled at Pedal & Flipper Hire between 9 am and 3 pm, 7 days a week.

Swimming

Swimming between the Main Jetty and the Fuel Jetty is prohibited at all times. Swimming is also not permitted from the 'T' Jetty or from the end of the Main Jetty

Boating is prohibited in certain areas of some bays around the island, to provide areas for swimming. These are identified by either signs or float lines. Please keep vessels clear of these areas.

For your safety, swimming near moorings and jetties or designated anchorage areas is not recommended.

Personal Property

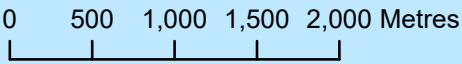
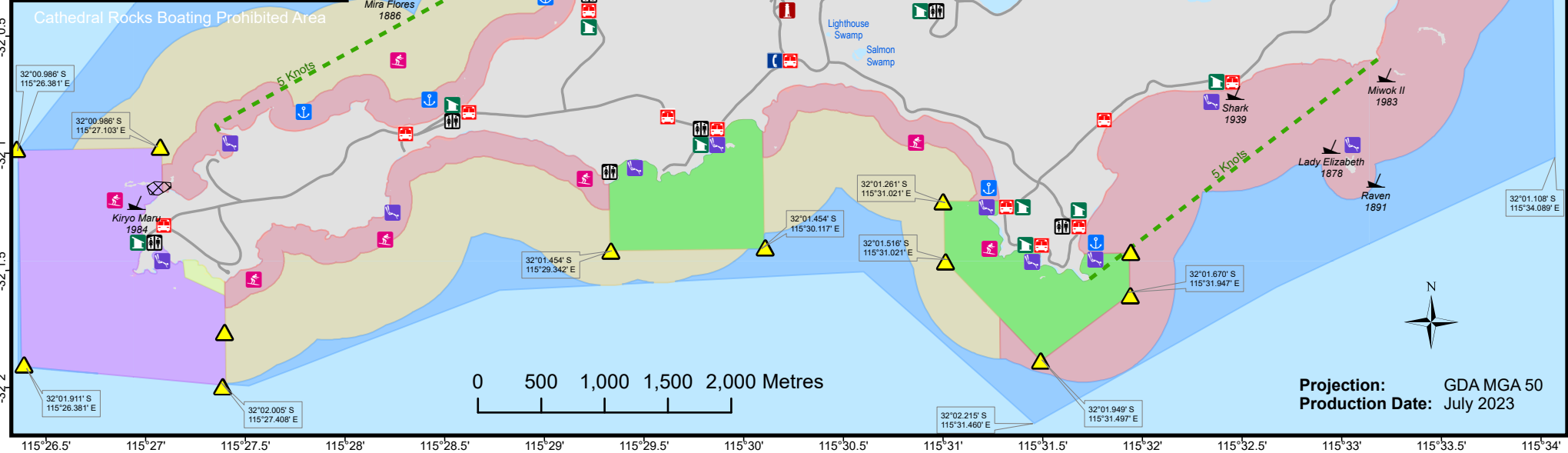
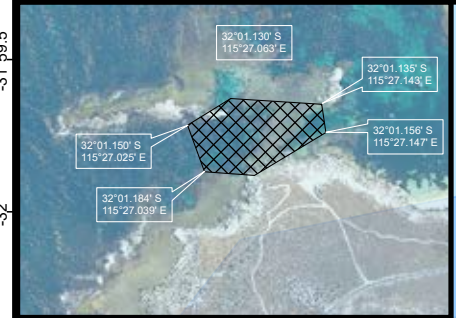
All personal property must be taken with you each time you leave the island. Any personal property left in the Class A Reserve will be treated as abandoned property and will be disposed of by the Rottnest Island Authority.



115°26.5' 115°27' 115°27.5' 115°28' 115°28.5' 115°29' 115°29.5' 115°30' 115°30.5' 115°31' 115°31.5' 115°32' 115°32.5' 115°33' 115°33.5' 115°34'

	Anchorage Area *		Sealed Road
	Fuel (Unleaded & Diesel)**		5 Knot Line
	Emergency Telephone (000)		Boating Prohibited Area
	Shipwreck		West End Demersal Zone
	Snorkelling		Shore Fishing Zone
	Surfing		No spearfishing, netting or capture of protected species
	Island Explorer Bus Stop		No netting or capture of protected species
	Lighthouse		Marine Reserve (No discharge of blackwater solid waste, fuel, oil or lubricants)
	Toilet		Sanctuary Zone (All fishing prohibited)
	Water		
	Recycling Station		
	Marine Sanctuary Zone Marker		

* Boat owners anchor at own risk
 ** Fuel payments via credit card or EFTPOS only
 Note: Beware of submerged hazards when entering bays



Projection: GDA MGA 50
 Production Date: July 2023

115°26.5' 115°27' 115°27.5' 115°28' 115°28.5' 115°29' 115°29.5' 115°30' 115°30.5' 115°31' 115°31.5' 115°32' 115°32.5' 115°33' 115°33.5' 115°34'

Disclaimer: Rottnest Island Authority accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of this image, or the results of any actions taken when using this image.



For interactive marine and boating maps visit ria.wa.gov.au/boating/plan-your-trip/marine-maps

For Wadjemup Bidi maps visit rotnestisland.com/wadjemupbidi

CONTACT US

📷 @rotnnestislandwa

f @rotnnest

For more information about marine and boating on Wadjemup / Rottnest Island, please contact enquiries@rotnnestisland.com

