

RYA Scotland Guidance Update

Links for advice for current guidance and support, as well as recreational boating in the UK and abroad are below:

[Current Guidance in Scotland](#)

[UK Guidance including Wales and Northern Ireland](#)

[Coronavirus \(Covid-19\) Support and Resources](#)

Let's be really clear – as limited as it is for now, it is still possible to go boating as a form of exercise and even though this may not be a first choice through the winter months, this is an important position for our chosen activity. Many have seen their recreational choices stopped completely.

That said we must remember we are in the grip of a pandemic that has become significantly worse in recent weeks. Travel is severely restricted **by law** and you may only travel to your boat if it is kept in the same local authority area you live in.

The overriding message for Scotland's boating community is to 'Stay at Home' wherever possible and we must all do our bit to stop the spread of the virus.

While it is possible for facility providers such as Clubs, Training Centres, Marinas and Boatyards to open to allow access for owners, they will each make their own decisions on whether or not they open their doors or gates to people in the locality.

We ask everyone to respect that facility providers have no obligation to open and you may find access to your boat restricted for the time being. We all hope this will be temporary and many facilities are offering to do key checks and even maintenance to help you out.

If you are fortunate enough to live in an area within which you are able to get to your boat, please consider if you can help out someone else who cannot travel, by checking their boat for them.

Importantly in this lockdown, you may travel **within your local authority area** to go boating as your form of exercise or for essential maintenance on your boat. For the time being essential maintenance is work which if not undertaken would cause failure or become an imminent safety issue and we suggest examples in the guidance.

However, travel for essential maintenance should not be used as a pretext to spend the day aboard 'pottering' or for a weekend away. You should not stay longer than the length of time required to undertake essential maintenance.

I do hope we continue to see some hardy souls getting a float and that your maintenance plans albeit delayed a bit, are not overly affected.

If you have any queries about this most recent guidance please do get in touch with the RYA Scotland Team.

James Allan

Chief Executive Officer

Royal Yachting Association Scotland