

Burrard Inlet safe boating guide

Here at Canada's busiest port, there are marine traffic rules to follow and hazards to watch out for. Know the rules of the road for Canada's waterways to keep yourself and others safe.

First Narrows

Narrow channel, strong currents

Use caution when transiting through the narrows. Stay to the right of the channel.

Fishing restrictions

No crabbing or fishing within the hatched area on the map. Do not impeded the traffic lane.

Speed restriction area

15 knot limit through water.

Coal Harbour

5 knot speed limit

Transit slowly and predictably. Make no wake when passing moored seaplanes.

Float plane landing area

Keep clear of aircraft operations zone. Watch the horizon for landing aircraft and keep clear of anticipated landing area.

Cruise terminal security zone

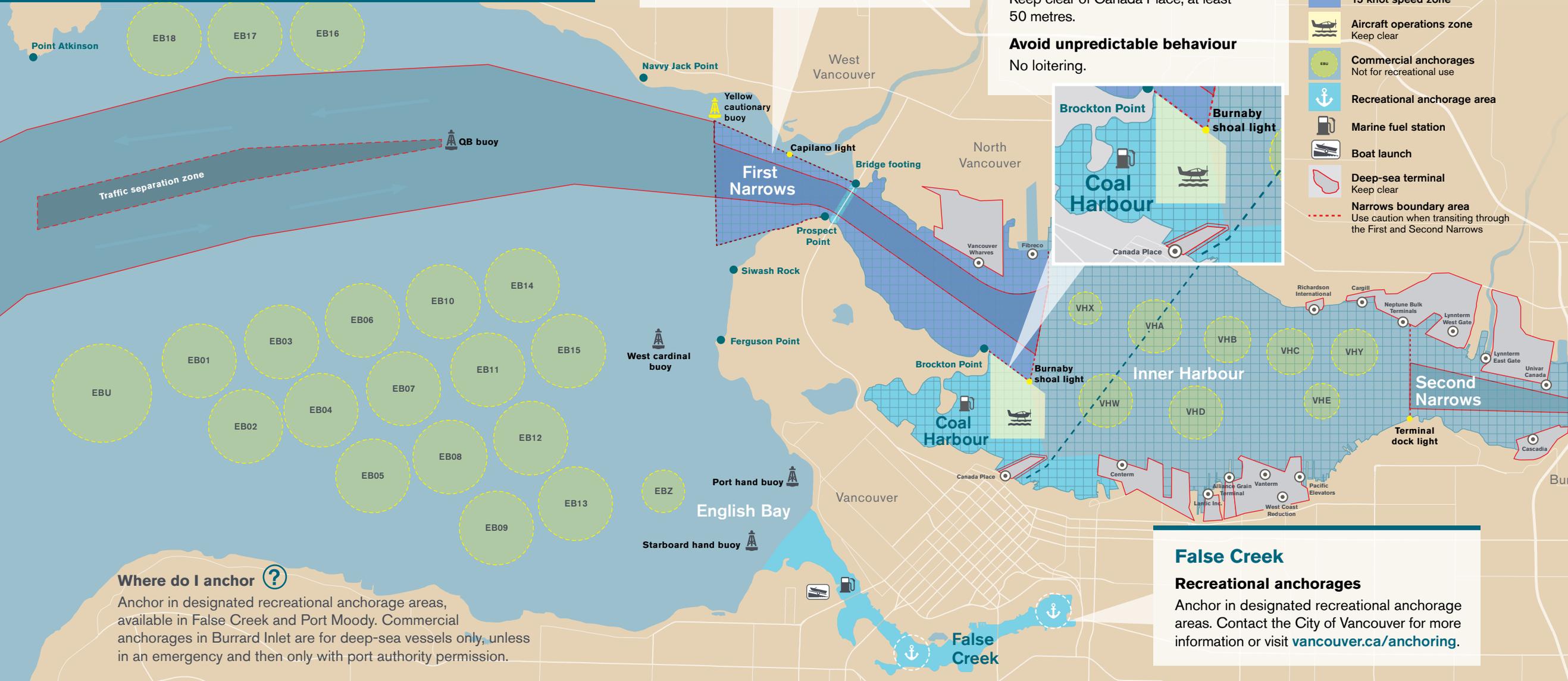
Keep clear of Canada Place, at least 50 metres.

Avoid unpredictable behaviour

No loitering.

Legend

-  **Busy port area**
No anchoring, crabbing, fishing, sailing, rowing, paddling, jet skiing, or waterskiing (with exception of existing uses of Coal Harbour by tenants)
-  **Seabus ferry route**
-  **Canada Place security zone**
Keep clear, at least 50 metres
-  **Deep-sea transit route**
Stay to the right of the channel, do not cross channel in front of deep sea vessels
-  **5 knot speed zone**
-  **10 knot speed zone**
-  **15 knot speed zone**
-  **Aircraft operations zone**
Keep clear
-  **Commercial anchorages**
Not for recreational use
-  **Recreational anchorage area**
-  **Marine fuel station**
-  **Boat launch**
-  **Deep-sea terminal**
Keep clear
-  **Narrows boundary area**
Use caution when transiting through the First and Second Narrows



Where do I anchor ?

Anchor in designated recreational anchorage areas, available in False Creek and Port Moody. Commercial anchorages in Burrard Inlet are for deep-sea vessels only, unless in an emergency and then only with port authority permission.

False Creek

Recreational anchorages

Anchor in designated recreational anchorage areas. Contact the City of Vancouver for more information or visit vancouver.ca/anchoring.

Safe boating within Burrard Inlet

Keep your vessel in safe working order—life jackets, radios, and navigation lights are required. It is prohibited to operate a boat while impaired. Harbour patrol officers, together with agency partners, conduct routine vessel inspections. Vessels not in compliance with local rules may be ticketed or removed at the owners' expense. Learn more about safe boating requirements at www.tc.gc.ca/boatingsafety.

Learn more about safe boating practices in the Port of Vancouver Port Information Guide at portvancouver.com/safeboating.

Key contacts

24/7 Port Operations Centre
Phone: 604.665.9086

Victoria traffic
Phone: 250.363.6611
Cell: *16 / VHF: 12

Marine emergencies
Phone: 911
Cell: *16 / VHF: 16



Second Narrows

Narrow channel, strong currents, and large commercial vessel traffic

Be extremely cautious when transiting through the narrows. Stay to the right of the channel.

Fishing restrictions

No crabbing or fishing within the narrows. Do not impede the deep-sea transit route.

Where do I Anchor ?

Anchorage in Burrard Inlet are for deep-sea vessels only unless in an emergency and then only with port authority permission. Recreational anchorages are available in False Creek and Port Moody.

Barnet Marine Park

Fishing restrictions

No crabbing or fishing within the traffic lane. Do not impede vessels.

Port Moody

Recreational anchorages

Anchor in designated recreational anchorage area. Contact the City of Port Moody for more information or visit portmoody.ca/harbour.

Where do I discharge ?

Use pump stations or disposal services for grey and black water. No discharging within three (3) nautical miles of shore.

Safe boating practices



Plan

Check current conditions

The water is always moving and changing. Check weather, tide, currents, and water levels before you head out.

Consult official publications

To prevent incidents, look at nautical charts for depth surroundings and our [Port Information Guide](#) for bridge transit procedures.



Look

Watch out for larger vessels

Large, deep-sea vessels have limited visibility—don't assume they can see you.

Never cross between a tugboat and its tow

Tow cables are often submerged and not visible.



Listen

Listen for aircraft

Float planes landing or taking off need space.

Monitor appropriate radio channels

Monitor VHF 12 and VHF 16.

Attend to signals from other vessels

Five or more short and rapid blasts of a ship's whistle means "danger—stay clear".



Act

Be prepared to move out of the way

Large, deep-sea vessels and working tugs can't move quickly, especially in narrow channels. Stay to the right of the channel and do not impede their passage.

Report incidents

Contact our Port Operations Centre at 604.665.9086. In an emergency, call 911.