

How to use your Beacon to Beacon Guides

Navigation information

Many aspects of the maps have been designed for local conditions. Although the maps are suitable for navigation under the IALA buoyage system (<http://www.msq.qld.gov.au/Safety/Navigation-buoys-marks-and-beacons>), some of the symbol standards have been modified for use in Queensland. For example, navigation aid symbols may be shown in similar colours as you would see out on the water.

Changes in channels and banks: Changes may result in navigation aids being moved from their charted position, altered, removed or new navigation aids being established. Changes to most navigation aids can be found on the Maritime Safety Queensland website (www.msq.qld.gov.au) under Notice to Mariners.

Clearances for overhead bridges, cables and pipeline crossings: Shown above Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT). The deepest channel may not always occur at the clearance height or centre of the crossing. Cable clearances are generally given for the lowest point of sag. Cable TV wire may decrease the available height on some crossings. Clearances may not be available for all crossings. **Maintain a proper lookout.** Due to the extent of coverage of the Beacon to Beacon Guides, waterways crossings clearances and positions may become dated. Should you have any doubts about crossings, contact your local council or utility company.

Compass bearings: True bearings may be converted to magnetic bearings by applying the compass variation. You can calculate the magnetic declination for any point when using the maps in the Beacon to Beacon Guides, by visiting the Geoscience Australia website at <http://www.ga.gov.au/oracle/geomag/agrfform.jsp> and following the onscreen instructions. The item called "D" is your magnetic variation and the field "dD" is the rate of annual change.

Dates of soundings: Due to the extent of coverage of the Beacon to Beacon Guides, soundings may become dated. As required, areas are surveyed for specific projects. Navigation aids are maintained to ensure that when following beacons and buoys, you should generally be in the best water available but conditions can change frequently so keep a proper lookout. When travelling outside of marked channels, particularly following significant floods, travel slowly and with a proper lookout (or depth sounder). Where surveys have been taken, sweeping the seabed for obstructions has not been undertaken.

Damaged or defective aids to navigation or marine infrastructure: Damaged or defective aids may be reported to Maritime Safety Queensland. To report this, visit the "Contact us" page on the Maritime Safety Queensland website at <http://www.msq.qld.gov.au/About-us/How-to-contact-us/Regions.aspx>.

Horizontal datum: GDA94. Compatible with WGS84 for general navigation. Ensure your GPS receiver is set to GDA94 or WGS84 datum. Selective availability of satellites may degrade your observed position.

Map projection: Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Zone 56 with latitude and longitude values shown in degrees and minutes with decimals (for example, latitude 26° 25.267' S).

Place names: May not always be official place names. Please check the official place names website at Department of Natural Resources and Mines at www.dnrm.qld.gov.au/mapping-data/place-names if using any name in a legal context.

Public boat ramps, pontoons and jetties: These destinations are shown. Other facilities may be private (no access) whilst commercial facilities may charge a fee.

Speed restrictions: Restrictions shown on the maps as an approximate dashed line indicate restrictions for all recreational vessels and/or recreational vessels over 8m. To determine the speed restriction that applies to your recreational vessel, review the list of gazetted speed restrictions on the Maritime Safety Queensland website at www.msq.qld.gov.au under waterways > speed limits.

Submarine and overhead cable crossing: Information is based on data provided by the responsible authority and is not guaranteed. At some scales, not all crossings may be shown over navigable waters. Do not anchor on or near submarine cables or pipelines and always keep a proper lookout.

Vertical Datum: Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT). Depth ranges in metres.

Legend

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The maps contained in each free booklet of the Beacon to Beacon Guides are based on information that is as accurate as possible at the time of publication. You should regularly check the Maritime Safety Queensland website (www.msg.qld.gov.au) and download the latest booklet for the areas that you intend to travel. The maps are updated regularly with a revision date shown for each map. Alternatively, you may update your own copy by checking the same website for Notices to Mariners. The maps are aimed at recreational users of Queensland waterways and should be used as a guide for navigation. Care should be taken when navigating outside waterways not marked by navigation aids. For comprehensive navigation charts for offshore areas, you should use official charts as published by the Australian Hydrographic Service (www.hydro.gov.au).

You may print for free as many copies of the booklet and/or maps as you need. The maps are designed for inserting into your own clear plastic A4 size “envelopes” available from most newsagents or department stores.

Acknowledgements

Moreton Bay Marine Park “green” and “go slow” zones courtesy of the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing. There may be more marine parks, “green” and “go slow” zones declared for areas other than those shown for Moreton Bay. In particular, data for the Great Sandy Strait marine park is not available. For more details on marine parks (including maps for Great Sandy Strait), visit www.npsr.qld.gov.au/parks/.

Waterways crossings compiled from information sourced from the appropriate local government and utility organisations.

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