

Maritime Safety Queensland

Marine Information Bulletin

Visiting foreign recreational ships; requirements for registration, licencing and safety equipment

Purpose

To help visiting foreign recreational ships owners, masters and crews to comply with the legislative requirements to operate in Queensland for licencing, registration and safety equipment.

Situation

All visiting foreign recreational ships are regulated by the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994*. The Act, is administered by Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ).

Owners/operators of foreign recreational ships may operate these recreational ships without the required Queensland registration or licence requirements.

Frequently asked questions?

Registration

Q. Does a foreign recreational ship visiting Queensland waters require registration?

A. No. A visiting foreign recreational ship may be operated in Queensland waters for a period of **less than 12 months**, without Queensland registration.

Licencing

Q. What licence is required to operate a foreign recreational ship, (not including Personal Watercraft (PWC)), when in Queensland waters?

A. A person must hold one of the following licences -

- a recreational marine driver licence;
- a licence issued under the law of another State, or
- a foreign licence, equivalent to a recreational marine driver licence;

- a recognised commercial certificate of competency issued under the national law or that is recognised under the national law.

Q. What licence is required to operate a visiting foreign recreational PWC in Queensland?

A. A person must hold one of the following licences -

- a Queensland personal watercraft licence;
- a PWC licence issued under the law of another State,
- a foreign licence, equivalent to a PWC licence.

Q. What is a foreign licence?

A. A foreign licence to operate a recreational ship or a PWC as its master is a licence -

- issued or recognised under the law of another country; and
- temporarily recognised by the chief executive or the general manager of MSQ.

Q. What foreign licences are recognised for a recreational marine driver licence and/or a PWC licence?

A. A list of temporary recognised overseas licences can be found at:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/transport/boating/licences/recreational>

Safety equipment

Q. What safety equipment is required to be carried on a foreign recreational ship when operating in Queensland waters?

A. Visiting foreign recreational ships must carry the same safety equipment as the Queensland regulated ship equivalent.

A list of safety equipment required to be carried on board can be found on the MSQ website at:

<https://www.msq.qld.gov.au/Safety/Safety-equipment-recreational-ships>

Q. What happens if I don't comply with the requirements of the Queensland Law?

A. Shipping Inspectors, generally officers from Maritime Safety Queensland, Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol or the Queensland Water Police, are authorised under the Queensland Law to take appropriate compliance action.

Further Information

Detailed information about the operation of a Queensland regulated ship is available at the following link:

<https://www.msq.qld.gov.au>

For further information, contact your local Maritime Safety Queensland office:

Airlie Beach	4841 4500
Bundaberg	4132 6600
Cairns	4052 7400
Gladstone	4971 5200
Hervey Bay	4194 9600
Mackay	4944 3700
Mooloolaba	5373 2310
Brisbane	3632 7500
Gold Coast	5585 1810
Townsville	4421 8100