

Hire Boat Licence Conditions

A Licence will be issued under Section 94 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907 (reference Section 40 of the Broads Authority Act 2009).

The Broads Authority will licence the vessels listed in a Schedule for the letting for hire or use for carrying of passengers for hire subject to the conditions set out in the Licence. Attention is drawn to the notes accompanying the Licence.

The following definitions apply to the Conditions:

“the Authority” means the Broads Authority

“Vessel” means any vessel listed in the Schedule

The Conditions

1. Each Vessel must comply with the Code for the Design, Construction and Operation of Hire Boats produced jointly by the Association of Inland Navigation Authorities, and British Marine with support from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency.
2. Each Vessel must comply with the construction and equipment standards imposed or having effect to the Authority under section 12 (2) (b) of the Broads Authority Act 2009.
3. The hire boat operator will ensure that the vessel:
 - is suitable for the waters on which it is to be used and the conditions likely to be encountered.
 - conforms to relevant construction, equipment, stability and condition standards
 - is properly maintained
4.
 - a. Each Vessel is licensed to carry the number of persons indicated against that Vessel in the Schedule.
 - b. The number of persons that the Vessel is licensed to carry must be conspicuously displayed on the Vessel using a notice or notices provided by the Authority.
 - c. A Vessel must not carry any number of persons in excess of that permitted by this Licence.
5. Any vessel offered for hire with gas-fuelled equipment must have a Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Certificate.

6.
 - a. Any mechanically powered Vessel and sailing Vessels (over 6m LH) which, following the issue of this Licence, is changed in a way (defined in paragraph 6(b)), must be subjected to a stability and loading test of a type approved by the Authority before the Vessel is offered for hire, and the results of the test must be submitted in writing to the Authority within 28 days of the test being carried out.
 - b. "Changed" means:
 - i. changed in engine type or internal or deckhouse arrangement or
 - ii. subject to a change in the amount or distribution of ballast or where permanent weights of more than 3kg per metre of hull length are added or removed.
7. A Personal Flotation Device of an appropriate size and type, complying with the relevant ISO standard and fit for purpose must be provided for each member of the party.
8. Any mechanically powered Vessel, must be fitted with a bilge pump which is appropriate in size to the Vessel or carry one bailer or bucket in either case with a capacity of at least 1.2 litres (2 pints) of water.
9. Any Vessel with a minimum freeboard height greater than or equal to 1 metre must have the facility to enable persons to re-board the vessel from the water in the event of falling overboard. This may be a fixed boarding system or a temporary system that could be deployed when required.
10. Any Vessel with an exposed propeller shaft or other exposed moving parts within the passenger or accommodation area must be fitted with a suitable guard.
11. This Licence must not be altered, damaged or defaced in any way.
12. This Licence or a true copy of it may be displayed for public view at the premises from which any Vessel is hired but must be removed from public display in the event that it is suspended, renewed or has expired.
13. The Authority may suspend or revoke this Licence in the event of any breach of any of these conditions if the Authority considers it necessary or desirable in the interests of the public.
14. This Licence must be returned to the Authority within 7 days if the Authority has revoked the Licence.
15. This Licence will remain in force, unless previously suspended or revoked, for a maximum period of one toll year 1 April – 31 March following year.
16. The Authority reserves the right to modify, alter, revoke or add to these conditions, should it be necessary or desirable in the interests of the public to do so. Such variations will have effect as and when specified by the Authority.