

River Thames boat registration charges

1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017

This charging scheme sets out the registration charges for boats, kept, used or let for hire on the River Thames and is made under the powers of the Environment Agency to fix charges in section 6 of the Thames Conservancy Act 1966 and section 43 Environment Act 1995.

All boats kept, used or let for hire on the River Thames must be registered in line with the Environment Agency (Inland Waterways) Order 2010.

If you have a boat and you keep it afloat and / or use it on the River Thames, you need to register it.

This requirement extends to every part of the non-tidal River Thames between Cricklade Bridge and Teddington Lock, and the short section of the tidal River Thames between Teddington Lock and the Port of London Authority's boundary, including backwaters and marinas.

'Full rate' registration charges apply to every boat, except certain visiting boats normally used on other waterways and launches registered on or after 1 September.

All 'full rate' registrations expire on 31 December regardless of when they start (except for visitors); there is no other 'pro-rata' rate for part of the registration year.

When registering the vessel, you are responsible to pay the full registration charge.

Launches - full rate registration, expiring 31 December 2017

Definition - 'Launches' includes any mechanically propelled vessel not being used solely as a tug or for the carriage of goods.

Non-hire (class N)

- £18.55 per complete square metre (minimum chargeable area of 5 square metres)
- £10 per complete square metre for every additional one over 80 square metres

Definition - Launches which will not be let or ply for hire or used as defined in Class C at any time on the Thames during the validity of the registration.

Calculate the charge

Example: your launch measures 5.7 m in length and a beam of 2 m

1. Calculate the chargeable area by multiplying the length by the beam

- $5.7 \text{ m} \times 2 \text{ m} = 11.4 \text{ m}$

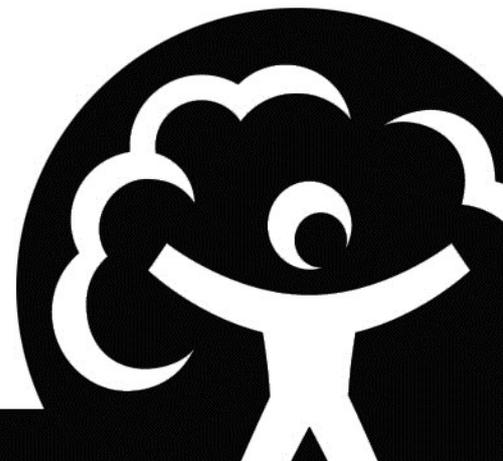
2. Round down the chargeable area

- $11.4 \text{ m} = 11 \text{ m}$

3. Multiply the chargeable area by the charge per square metre

- $11 \text{ m} \times £18.55 = £204.05$

Apply any discounts at this final stage - for example an electric engine



Hire

- Classes H, P, D & C = £28.64 per square metre (minimum charge 5 square metres – £143.20)
- Passenger steamers based on the tidal Thames
 - Teddington only = £1034.20
 - All locks = £3420.83

Definition of hire classes

Class H - Launches (other than P, D and C) which are let or ply for hire on the Thames at any time during the registration year.

Class P - Launches issued with a current certificate by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency to carry passengers (not exceeding 199).

Class D - Launches not fitted or furnished with cooking equipment and not decked-in over the greater part of the hull.

Class C - Launches (not H, P or D) which will be used on the Thames (during the registration year) for any voyage or excursion where the owner or user receives any form of payment from any person for, or in conjunction with that voyage or excursion, other than as a contribution to the direct expenses of operating the launch during that voyage or excursion.

Houseboats (classes I, II and III)

- £9.27 for each complete square metre of 'chargeable area'.

Definition - 'Houseboat' includes any pleasure boat which is not a launch and which is decked or otherwise structurally covered in and which is or is capable of being used as a place of habitation (whether by day and night or the one or the other) or as a place for accommodating or receiving persons for purposes of shelter, recreation, entertainment or refreshment or of witnessing regattas or other events or as club premises or as offices or as a kitchen pantry or store place

Houseboat class I - any houseboat other than a houseboat class II or a houseboat class III.

Houseboat class II - a houseboat kept stationary throughout the year and used only as a dressing place in connection with boating or a store room for boats' gear or used only for like purposes in connection with boating.

Houseboat class III - a houseboat not fitted or furnished with furniture or other articles or things usually necessary or proper for the user thereof as a houseboat and not being so used.

Unpowered boats

- Unpowered annual = £35.50 Unpowered annual clubs = £8.50
- Unpowered weekly = £8.50 Unpowered monthly = £16

Definition - 'Unpowered' means any vessel that is not a launch, tug or a houseboat.

Unpowered vessel registrations are valid for use on all Environment Agency waterways.

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
0345 988 1188
0845 988 1188

www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Visiting launches

1-day certificate

The term 'day' is the 24 hours commencing after midnight and finishing at midnight.

Up to 10 sq metres – £11	46 to 50 sq metres – £49.50
11 to 15 sq metres – £19	51 to 55 sq metres – £52.50
16 to 20 sq metres – £22	56 to 60 sq metres – £58.50
21 to 25 sq metres – £24	61 to 65 sq metres – £64.50
26 to 30 sq metres – £32	66 to 70 sq metres – £70
31 to 35 sq metres – £39	71 to 75 sq metres – £73.50
36 to 40 sq metres – £43	76 to 80 sq metres – £76
41 to 45 sq metres – £45	Over 80 sq metres – £77.50

7-day certificate

The term 'day' is the 24 hours commencing after midnight and finishing at midnight.

Up to 10 sq metres – £12	46 to 50 sq metres – £89.50
11 to 15 sq metres – £31.50	51 to 55 sq metres – £98
16 to 20 sq metres – £36.50	56 to 60 sq metres – £107
21 to 25 sq metres – £43	61 to 65 sq metres – £117
26 to 30 sq metres – £52	66 to 70 sq metres – £122.50
31 to 35 sq metres – £61	71 to 75 sq metres – £129.50
36 to 40 sq metres – £70.50	76 to 80 sq metres – £137.50
41 to 45 sq metres – £80.50	Over 80 sq metres – £147

1-month certificate (31 days)

The term 'day' is the 24 hours commencing after midnight and finishing at midnight.

Up to 10 sq metres – £42.50	46 to 50 sq metres – £235
11 to 15 sq metres – £78	51 to 55 sq metres – £262.50
16 to 20 sq metres – £100	56 to 60 sq metres – £284.50
21 to 25 sq metres – £121.50	61 to 65 sq metres – £306
26 to 30 sq metres – £146	66 to 70 sq metres – £330.50
31 to 35 sq metres – £172.50	71 to 75 sq metres – £355
36 to 40 sq metres – £191.50	76 to 80 sq metres – £371
41 to 45 sq metres – £209.50	Over 80 sq metres – £395

Visiting houseboats - 50% of the visiting launch charges

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Registration discounts

Electric

Electrically propelled launches receive a 25% discount on annual and visitor registrations provided the sole method of propulsion is an electric motor or motors and no other propulsion or charging engine is carried.

Tender

If your main boat is registered, a 50% discount applies to the powered or unpowered tender. We define a tender as a small boat or dinghy, towed or carried by another boat.

Late registration

'Late' registration for launches first valid on or after 1 September in any year is charged at one-half of the 'full rate': registration will expire on the 31 December following issue date. Please mark your application 'Late'.

Note: Late registration is not available to visiting launches registered for any period prior to 1 September.

Applying discounts

If more than one discount applies, the value of each one is calculated on the declining net balance.

For example, if the full charge is £100 and the boat is eligible for the electric and late registration discounts, the net payable would be $£100 - 25\% = £75 - 50\% = £37.50$.

Discounts can be applied to the minimum chargeable area charge.

Tolls and charges available from locks only

Tolls on towed and unused pleasure boats

- For each passage through each lock - £5.00

Tolls on tugs not carrying merchandise (whether towing or not)

- For each passage through each lock - £5.00

Tolls on merchandise

- Merchandise carried by any boat upon the Thames below Teddington Lock - 4.9p per tonne
- Merchandise carried by any boat upon any other part of the Thames - 4.9p per tonne per mile
- All dangerous or explosive goods (inc. petroleum spirit) carried by any boat upon the Thames below Teddington Lock - 51.2p per tonne
- All dangerous or explosive goods (inc. petroleum spirit) carried by any boat upon any other part of the Thames - 51.2p per tonne per mile

Distances and weights will be rounded up to the nearest quarter of a mile and quarter of a tonne

- All the above rates are subject to a minimum toll of - £25.50
- Minimum toll for merchandise conveyed on a tug which passes through one or more locks - £57.00

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Other tolls

- For every passenger boat currently certified by the Maritime Coastguard Agency to carry 12 or more passengers and currently registered for passage through Teddington lock only – for each passage through each lock other than Teddington Lock - £25.50
- For any unregistered vessel which is being used and worked for hire by a freeman of the Waterman's Company or by the widow of any such freeman and which at the time of such user may be required to be and is registered with and licensed by the port authority under the provisions of the Port of London (Consolidation) Act, 1920, relating to waterman and lightermen and is marked in accordance with such last mentioned provisions – for each passage through each lock - £25.50

Unregistered launches/Section 9

Unregistered launches being used solely under one of the following circumstances - winter storage, repair, delivery or trial trip - are charged at the one day visiting launch registration rates.

Other registration options

- **Gold licence** - You can buy a gold licence which lets you use all Environment Agency and Canal & River Trust waterways. Gold licences are only available to buy through the Canal & River Trust.
- **British Canoeing or Canoe Wales** - Members of British Canoeing or Canoe Wales can use our waterways as part of their yearly membership fee. They are required to carry their membership card with them as it acts as a registration too. Affiliated clubs through British Canoeing and Canoe Wales may purchase registrations for club owned boats through British Canoeing and Canoe Wales or can purchase registrations directly from us. Members of the Scottish Canoe Association and the Canoe Association of Northern Ireland must apply for registrations through us.
- **British Rowing** - Members of a British Rowing affiliated club should register their boats with British Rowing at a reduced rate. This should be done through their club.

Refunds

Refunds are only made in certain limited cases (see our website or call for our current policy).

Contacts

If you require any further information, please contact:

Environment Agency, Boat Registration, PO Box 544, Rotherham, S60 1BY

03708 506 506* (Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm)

boatreg@environment-agency.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/register-a-boat

* Calls to 03 numbers cost no more than a national rate call to an 01 or 02 number and must count towards any inclusive minutes in the same way as 01 and 02 calls. These rules apply to calls from any type of line including mobile, BT, other fixed line or payphone.

LIT 10050

SE/EAD/1116/e/V4

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