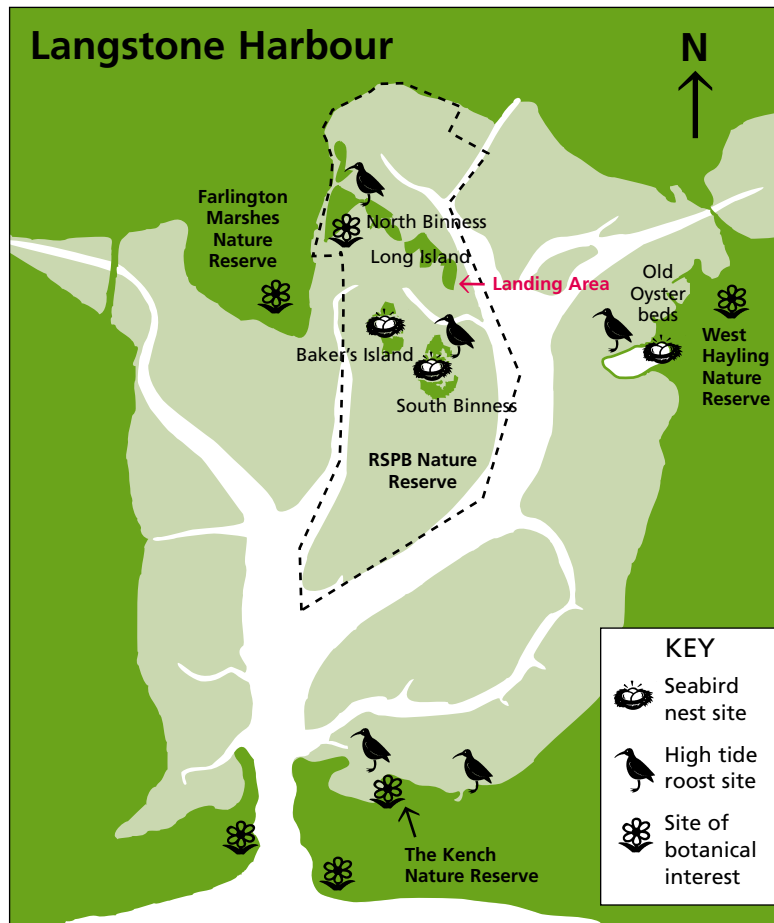


Welcome to Langstone Harbour. Langstone Harbour is an area of international importance for nature conservation and a fantastic place to watch wildlife, both from the shore and from the water. These tips will help you to get the most out of your visit while helping to protect our valuable plants and animals, preserve the important habitats of the Harbour and keep it a safe place for everyone to enjoy.



Please ...

Avoid disturbing roosting, feeding or nesting birds, ashore or afloat

Do not land in unauthorised places – the only landing site in the RSPB reserve is at the south end of Long Island

Minimise noise and wash – especially when close to the shore

Avoid landing and walking on shoreline vegetation

Safety

- Check local weather conditions & tides
- Wear a buoyancy aid
- Tell someone ashore when you will return
- Ensure your craft is well maintained
- Don't go afloat if you've been drinking
- Be aware of other harbour users
- Minimise your wash when near the shore

Regulations

It is an offence to:

- Evade payment of harbour charges (s.43, HD&PC Act)
- Use your craft in a dangerous or careless manner (Byelaw 5)
- Exceed the 10 knot speed limit in the Harbour (Byelaw 6)
- Be in charge of a vessel while under the influence of drink or drugs (Byelaw 18)
- Disturb nesting terns and Mediterranean gulls (W&C Act)

The extensive mudflats of the Harbour support huge flocks of wading birds during the autumn and winter and good views can be obtained from the shore or boat. At high tide the birds concentrate at safe roost sites, notably the RSPB reserve, the Old Oysterbeds and the Kench. In the summer, seabirds nest on islands in the RSPB reserve and the lagoon in the oysterbeds - including one of the most important little tern and Mediterranean gull colonies in Britain.

The nesting and wintering birds in Langstone Harbour are of international importance and are legally protected. Disturbing these birds can mean that eggs and chicks are abandoned, or the extra energy used in flying away may lead to starvation, especially in cold winter weather so please don't try to approach too close - use binoculars or a telescope.

Some scarce salt tolerant plants thrive on the shingle banks and saltmarsh around the Harbour and give a welcome splash of colour. These habitats are threatened nationally and easily damaged by trampling.

The Harbour Master operates a patrol launch within the harbour limits for the main purpose of byelaw enforcement. IS YOUR HARBOUR CHARGE PLAQUE CLEARLY DISPLAYED?

If you require any further harbour information please contact the Langstone Harbour Office on 023 9246 3419 www.langstoneharbour.org.uk