



Vessel / Water Activities / Fishing Guidelines

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GENERAL

1. **When having water activities in reservoirs, what are the social etiquette to watch out for?**

Rain water collected at our 17 reservoirs is one of our sources of water supply. Let's do our part to keep the catchment and reservoir clean.

- Do not litter in drains, canals and rivers as they channel rainwater collected to our reservoirs.
- Do not discharge any kind of used or waste water into the reservoir.
- Do not urinate or spit into the water.
- Do not disturb creatures big or small in the water or at the reservoir parks.
- Smoking is not allowed at reservoirs.
- Fishing is only allowed at designated fishing areas. Only artificial baits are allowed.

2. **What are the safety guidelines for water activities at the reservoirs?**

Be a responsible reservoir user and follow the safety guidelines below:

Please be familiar with the safety guidelines before carrying out any water activities in the reservoir. If there is a safety briefing before an activity, please attend it.

Know your limits

- Do not participate in any activities if you are unwell, under medication or under the influence of alcohol.
- Stop any activities if you are feeling fatigue.
- Do not carry out activities beyond daylight hours (**7pm - 7am**) or during bad weather conditions.
- Please carry out activities within the designated zones and launch only from designated launching areas.
- Put on Personal Floatation Device (PFD) at all times while carrying out activities in the water.
- Stop activities and seek shelter when lightning is spotted and when rain is approaching.

Be prepared

- Check the weather and water condition before all water activities. Stay alert and take note of weather changes. Please return to shore when weather changes or rain is approaching.
- Plan your route in advance and inform someone of your plan and duration.
- Note that launching of vessel is only allowed at the designated launching areas. Avoid launching at overcrowding pontoon.
- Bring along sufficient drinking water for water activity. Stay hydrated at all times.
- Bring along your mobile phone during your activities. Know who to call for assistance if in distress.
- Stay within the designated zones and boundaries assigned for your activities and be familiar with the possible evacuation points. For the water activities zones and boundaries, please refer to the maps in <https://www.pub.gov.sg/Public/Places-of-Interest/Our-Reservoirs-andWaterways/ABC-Waters/PUB-Water-Activities#>
- Please note the minimum proficiency required for paddling is 1-Star Kayaking Award, unless you are using rental Sit-On-Top kayaks from the Water Activities Operators.
- Be familiar with areas of “no wakes” and “shallow” water zones.
- Keep to a safe speed when carrying out your activities. Keep a watch out for others (fellow participants, motorised vessels).
- Go paddling in a group. Do not paddle alone.
- Be considerate and cooperate with the organiser of any water sports.
- Help other users if they are in distress. But do ensure your personal safety and the well-being of the person you are rescuing.

FISHING

3. Which are the reservoirs open to fishing?

Fishing is allowed at designated sites in reservoirs listed below:

- Bedok Reservoir
- Jurong Lake
- Kranji Reservoir

- Lower Peirce Reservoir
- Lower Seletar Reservoir
- MacRitchie Reservoir
- Marina Reservoir
- Pandan Reservoir
- Serangoon Reservoir
- Upper Seletar Reservoir

4. What rules should you observe when fishing in a reservoir?

Reservoirs and waterways are common spaces to be shared among various users. When fishing, please abide by PUB's rules and regulations below:

- Fish only at designated areas.
- Use only artificial bait at reservoirs.

Those caught violating fishing regulations may be fined up to \$3,000.

Exercising a little consideration goes a long way in making our reservoirs and waterways a safe and pleasant environment for all to enjoy.

- Cast lures with care to avoid injuring others.
- Fly fishing is not allowed.
- Give way to pedestrians using the same pathway.
- Practice catch and release where possible.
- Discard unwanted fishing lines, hooks and other rubbish into litter bins.
- Otters may be spotted. Do not harm them.
- Children should be accompanied by adults.

5. Is fishing allowed at canals?

Fishing is not allowed at canals, with the exception of designated decks / zones along:

- Geylang River
- Kallang River (Kolam Ayer ABC Waterfront)
- Pang Sua Canal
- Pelton Canal
- Rochor Canal

Members of the public are discouraged from climbing into the canals even when the water levels in them are low. As the canals in Singapore are inter-connected, heavy rain from upstream could fill the canals downstream in minutes.

If you see someone fishing at no-fishing areas at canals, please call PUB Call Centre at 1800-2255 782.

CANOEING / KAYAKING / DRAGON BOATING

6. What is the recommended attire while carrying out water activities?

For safety reasons, please refer to the following guidelines for attire.

- Wear an approved life jacket or personal floatation device (PFD) at all times during water activities, including while on the pontoon.
- Dress in bright clothing, whenever possible, so that you can be easily seen.
- Choose appropriate clothing that provide suitable weather protection during water activities. Heavy clothing are not encouraged.
- Proper and fitting covered footwear must be worn at all times during water activities. Open toes footwear and heavy boots are not appropriate.

7. What should I look out for before carrying out any water activity?

For safety reasons, please check your equipment before use.

- Always use safe and correct equipment for your activities.
- Always check that the life vest or personal floatation device, paddle and vessel are in good condition before bringing them into the water.
- Do not overload your vessel beyond its capacity.
- Do not leave your vessel unattended in the waters.

SWIMMING

8. Can I swim in reservoirs?

Swimming, frolicking and washing is not permitted in reservoirs as local catchment water is a source of our drinking water supply.

All personnel shall not, except in the case of falling or capsizing, immerse themselves in the reservoir.

OPERATING OF VESSEL

9. What is the speed limit of motorised vessels and yacht in the reservoirs and waterways?

To ensure safe navigation, all motorised vessels operating in the reservoirs and waterways must adhere to a speed limit of 5 Knots (5.8 miles per hour).

10. Can I use my personal vessel in reservoirs?

We do not issue permit to individual owner of inflatable dingy, canoe, kayak or any other non-motorised vessels. For safety reasons, we recommend the public to rent the services of dragonboat, canoe, and kayak from established operators at respective reservoirs. These operators are familiar with the conditions of reservoirs and can ensure all safety requirements are met and devices are used.

WATER-RELATED EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION

11. Can I organise water-related activities / events?

For ad hoc water festivals / events involving water activities, organiser needs to apply for an event permit. For more information, please refer to: <https://www.pub.gov.sg/Public/Places-of-Interest/Marina-Barrage/Venue-Hireand-Permits#>

VESSEL PERMIT APPLICATION / RENEWAL

12. What is a vessel permit?

A vessel permit is a valid license issued by PUB to allow the user to operate the approved vessel in the reservoir for any water activities subjected to certain conditions.

13. Why do you need a vessel permit?

With effect from 1 July 2006, all motorised and non-motorised vessels operating in reservoirs and waterways are required to have valid vessel permit issued by PUB. This allows PUB to monitor and manage all vessels' activities in the reservoirs to ensure that they comply with safety and water quality requirements. As the reservoirs are one of the sources of our drinking water, we have to ensure that all vessels operating in and activities conducted in them meet specified requirements and safety standards to ensure their pristine condition.

For the vessel permit guidelines and requirements, please refer to: <https://www.pub.gov.sg/Public/Places-of-Interest/Marina-Barrage/Venue-Hireand-Permits#>

14. How do I apply / renew for a motorised vessel permit?

For a new application / renewal of a motorised vessel permit, please refer to: https://www.pub.gov.sg/-/media/PUB/Public/Places-of-interest/Marina-Barriage/Forms/Motorised-Vessel-Permit-Guidelines-for-Application_Aug-2026.pdf

The application is to be submitted at least seven (7) working days in advance.

15. If I have a vessel permit from the Maritime and Port Authority Singapore (MPA), do I still need a permit from PUB to go into Marina Reservoir?

Marina Reservoir has been gazetted as a reservoir with effect from 1 July 2006. All motorised and non-motorised vessels operating in reservoirs and waterways are required to have a valid vessel permit issued by PUB. This allows PUB to monitor and manage all vessels' activities in the reservoirs to ensure that they comply with safety and water quality requirements.

16. How much does it cost to apply for a vessel permit?

The vessel permit issued by PUB is currently free of charge.

17. How long does it take to process a vessel permit?

Please allow five (5) working days for processing a vessel permit application. Application with incomplete information and relevant documents may delay the issue of permit.

18. How can I collect the vessel permit?

A copy of the vessel permit will be sent via e-mail to you once it is ready. Applicant shall be requested to verify the receipt of the permit.

BOAT HOIST OPERATION

19. How do I get my vessel in and out of Marina Reservoir?

Marina Barrage has a boat hoist facility to hoist a vessel in and out of the reservoir. For the boat hoist operation guidelines, please refer to <https://www.pub.gov.sg/-/media/PUB/Public/Places-of-interest/Marina-Barriage/Forms/Operations-of-Boat-Hoist-Aug-25.pdf>

20. Who do I contact to submit a request to hoist my vessel?

Please ensure that you have a valid vessel permit before submitting a boat hoist request to Goh Sha Shin (GOH_Sha_Shin@pub.gov.sg) or Muhammad Faisal (Muhd_Faisal_SABTU@pub.gov.sg).

A minimum of five (5) working days are required to process your request.

21. How much does it cost to hoist a vessel?

A fee for the usage of the boat hoist facility will be charged based on the length of the vessel at the rate of SGD\$13.08 per foot run, inclusive of GST, with effect from 1st April 2025. The fee is inclusive of both entering and leaving the reservoir (2 way).

22. How can I make the boat hoist payment?

The mode of boat hoist payment can be made via PayNow, Inter-bank transfer or Credit card (VISA or Master Card). Payment is to be made at least three (3) days before the actual day of boat hoist.

23. What is the maximum capacity of the boat hoist?

The boat hoist has a maximum lifting capacity of 70 tonnes (inclusive of all load on board) and could carry vessels up to 20 meters in length and 6 meters in width. Any vessels beyond this capacity will not be permitted to use the boat hoist.

24. Can I hoist the vessel without belt markings?

No. Hoisting is strictly not allowed for vessels without belt markings. The position of the belt markings should ensure even distribution between the fore and aft.

25. What are the operating hours of the boat hoist?

Boat hoist operates from

- Monday to Friday (0900 hrs to 1700 hrs). Last hoisting is 1645 hrs.
- Saturday (0900 hrs to 1300 hrs). Last hoisting is 1245 hrs.
- Closed on Sundays and public holidays.

In the event of heavy rain and when there is poor visibility, boat hoist operations will be temporarily suspended for safety reasons. Other stop-work situations include the activation of lightning alerts, events and special operations during the maintenance of Marina Barrage gates/pumps, etc.