

PENARTH

MARINA

Cruising Destinations

Portishead Marina – 18 nm

Since opening in May 2001, Portishead has proved a popular destination for cruising in the Bristol Channel. Providing an excellent tidal link between the inland waterways and Penarth, Portishead has opened opportunities for easier cruising in the area. With the town centre a short 10-minute walk from the Marina, shops, pubs and restaurants are not far away.

Access through the lock is available on average HW±4 hours. And the friendly Marina staff will welcome you in the lock and direct you to your berth. Annual Berth Holders at Penarth will of course benefit from 30 days free visitor berthing at Portishead.

Portishead Marina

VHF – Ch. 80

Tel: 01275 841941

Bristol – 25 nm

Bristol's Historic Harbour is situated 7 miles upstream of the mouth of the river Avon. It is a locked Harbour in the heart of the City which gives easy access to a wide selection of shops, bars and restaurants. Visitors berths are available in various parts of the harbour and it is essential to contact the harbour office to arrange a berth. Vessels are able to lock into the city docks from 2.5 hours before HW to 15 mins before HW.

Bristol is 25 nautical miles from Penarth and makes an interesting weekend destination. It has become extremely popular with Penarth yachtsmen especially during the weekend of the Bristol Harbour Summer Regatta.

Detailed Harbour information together with comprehensive pilotage notes may be obtained from the Harbour Master's Office.

Tel: 0117 9031484

Avonmouth Radio – VHF Ch. 12

Bristol City Docks – VHF Ch.14

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Watchet – 17 nm

Watchet Harbour Marina provides 100 Marina berths behind a newly constructed breakwater accessed via a tidal flap gate. All the usual facilities are in place and the marina is a popular destination with Penarth berth holders. The Marina can be accessed 2.5 hours either side of high water and being only 17 miles from Penarth its popularity as a weekend destination looks set to rise.

VHF – Ch. 80

Tel: 01984 631264

Porlock weir – 22 nm

One of the most picturesque little harbours in the Bristol Channel, Porlock Weir is a fascinating place to visit. The drying Harbour itself can be accessed for 1.5 hours either side of High Water and is suitable for bilge keelers and other vessels able to take the ground. Smaller vessels unable to take the ground are able to lie afloat in a small pool outside the dock entrance. Larger vessels can anchor off in Porlock Bay where there is good shelter in winds from the South and West.

Harbour Master – Tel: 01643 863277

Ilfracombe – 40 nm

Huddled behind Compass and Lantern Hills Ilfracombe's attractive harbour probably offers the best shelter on the Southern side of the Bristol Channel. The Inner harbour can be accessed for 2- 3 hours either side of HW, but the outer harbour is normally accessible except at LW Springs.

At LW the Harbour dries and is therefore suitable for bilge keelers and other vessels able to take the ground. Fin keelers may be able to lye against the Harbour wall or anchor outside the Harbour in the area known as the 'Range'.

Ilfracombe has a good selection of shops and is busy during the holiday season. Facilities in the town include a chandlers, marine engineers and a bar and showers are available at the yacht club.

VHF – Ch.14/16

Harbour Master – Tel: 01271 862108

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Swansea – 46 nm

Wales's second City provides the location for another major boating venue. Swansea has its own Marina which provides all the usual facilities. The city centre with its shops, restaurants and nightlife is just a short walk away. Swansea also provides the gateway to the beautiful Gower coast which boasts some magnificent scenery and sandy beaches. Access to Swansea is via the Tawe Barrage which operates from 0700 hours each morning.

Tawe Barrage – VHF Ch.18. Marina – VHF Ch. 80

Sharpness & Gloucester 33 nm

Sharpness is the gateway to Gloucester and the Upper River Severn. Gloucester lies at the head of Gloucester Sharpness Canal which is entered from the tidal Severn at Sharpness. Cruising in the Severn estuary beyond Avonmouth is challenging and both the vessel and skipper should be well prepared and aware of potential navigational hazards. However, cruising in this area can be very rewarding and once into the canal large vessels can navigate up to the historic port of Gloucester with ease.

VHF – Ch. 13. Tel: 01453 511968

Upton Marina - via Sharpness Canal

A day's run up the River Severn from open water lies Upton Marina. South of Worcester and north of Tewkesbury, Upton would make an ideal alternative cruise by heading up the Bristol Channel rather than down. Now part of the Trans Europe group.

Upton Marina –
Tel: 0845 293 8319

Padstow – 97 nm

Situated on the River Camel two miles from the open sea, the picturesque port of Padstow provides the only all-weather harbour on the North Cornish coast and is 97 miles from Penarth. Access to the Inner Harbour which provides total shelter is via a flap gate that opens HW +/- 2 hours.

Once a thriving seaport exporting tin and copper, commercial activities are now confined to fishing and supporting leisure activities. Padstow is the ideal choice for a long weekend and is home to the famous sea food chef Rick Stein. One of the best times to visit is for the Padstow May Day Celebrations.

VHF – Ch. 12/16
Tel: 01841 532239

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Lundy Island – 60 nm

Located off the North Devon Coast, Lundy is the largest island in the Bristol Channel and is a must for anyone cruising in the Channel. The main anchorage is located in the bay at the South East of the Island and provides good shelter in winds from the West and South West. Lundy itself is a fascinating place and well worth a trip ashore and the climb up the hill to explore the island and sample the delights of the Marisco Tavern.

Lundy Landmark Trust –
Tel: 0127 1870870

Milford Haven – 84 nm

The Milford Haven estuary is one of the world's best natural deep-water harbours. There are plenty of anchorages and places to explore, including Dale at the western end and Lawrenny further up-channel to the east.

Nestled up a well-protected creek, ten miles from the entrance to the Cleddau Estuary lies Neyland Yacht Haven. Its 420 berths are situated within the UK's only coastal national park and can accommodate all types of vessel up to 25 metres LOA, and 2.5 metre draught. Neyland is a member of the Trans Europe group of Marinas so Penarth berth holders will receive a 50% discount on visitor berthing.

The Milford Haven estuary is a perfect location for either exploring the rugged Pembrokeshire coast or for planning longer journeys to such places as Ireland and the Isles of Scilly.

Neyland Yacht Haven
VHF Ch. 80, 37.
Tel: 01646 601601

Minehead – 19 nm

Another of the Bristol Channel's small harbours, Minehead is approximately 19 nautical miles from Penarth and makes an ideal destination for a day sail. The harbour which dries can only be entered 2 hours either side of HW but yachts can anchor off and row ashore.

Harbour Master – Tel: 01643 702566

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Porthcawl – 20 nm

The town of Porthcawl is nestled amongst some beautiful beaches stretching along the charming South Wales coastline and is a popular holiday destination with plenty to do for all the family. The newly completed Marina has been built within the old working harbour, situated to the South of Porthcawl's waterfront, and offers berthing for up to 70 leisure & commercial craft. Just 20 NM from Penarth this new facility offers a warm welcome to visiting craft. The marina benefits from having a locked access. Please contact the marina to arrange a booking for the lock and a berth for your stay.

Porthcawl is an ideal cruising destination whether you are stopping over for one night or staying for several days to explore everything the town has to offer.

Porthcawl Marina Office – Tel: 01656 815715

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the above notes. Quay Marinas accepts no responsibility for any omissions or inaccuracies. We strongly recommend yachtsmen consult the appropriate Admiralty publication and local notices to mariners before sailing.

Useful charts and publications

Admiralty Chart No. 1176

Severn Estuary – Steep Holm to Avonmouth

Admiralty Chart No. 1182

Approaches to Cardiff

Admiralty Chart No.1859

Port of Bristol

Admiralty Chart No. 1179

Bristol Channel

Admiralty Chart No.1160

Plans of the Ports of Somerset and North Devon

Admiralty Chart No.1166

River Severn – Avonmouth to Sharpness

Stanfords Bristol Channel and Severn Pilot –

Peter Cumberlidge

Stanfords Chart Pack No: 14

Bristol Channel