

NAVIGATION REGISTRATION CHARGES 2026-2027

The Middle Level Act 2018

The Middle Level Commissioners advise that the navigation registration fees for the period commencing 1st April 2026 were set under section 5 of the above Act. These fees are fixed and cover the period up to and including 31st March 2027 and are in respect of the services provided for and the facilities made available to vessels using the recreational waterways as defined by the Act; such charges to be paid on demand or as may be otherwise required.

The charge shall be payable by the vessel owner in respect of his/her/their vessel kept on (or using) a waterway, whether on a private mooring or not, or in an adjacent marina at any time during the registration period. When registering a vessel the registered owner is responsible to pay the full charge.

If a vessel is not so registered then the charge shall be paid by the owner of the vessel or by any person who uses the same at any time in the year.

Only one charge shall be made in respect of any one vessel in the year, except that, if a vessel subsequently uses a recreational waterway or waterways in respect of which a higher charge is payable, an additional amount equal to the difference between the charge paid and the higher charge shall then become payable.

Terms & Conditions

Full Registration

- A vessel that is located on and/or used to travel within Middle Level Waterways.
- The registration is non-transferable and remains with the vessel.
- Proof maybe required of an Insurance certificate and a Boat Safety Certificate are required before a registration is issued.

Marina Only

- A vessel which is used as a dwelling and remains within the marina and does not leave the marina.
- The fee will be £140.00 for the year 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027.
- **Written confirmation is required from the Marina Owner/Manager.** This is required every new registration year.
- The registration is non-transferable and remains with the vessel.
- Any abuse of the registration conditions will mean further application forms from applicants may be rejected and a full registration will be required.
- In exceptional circumstances such as repair or maintenance, if a marina only registration holder needs to use their vessel beyond the marina but within the Middle Level waters then a visitors licence will be required in these circumstances.
- You would not be eligible for an Anglian Pass.
- There is a maximum of 1 Marina Only registration per registered keeper.

Project

- A vessel which is actively undergoing repair or refurbishment on the water within a marina or directly on MLC waters.
- You must pay for a full registration until the project is completed.
- Upon completion of the project proof will need to be provided to receive 50% discount for the following year of 1 April to 31 March. This discount only applies for one year and will return to a full payment following that year.
- Proof of the project would need to be shown, this can be photos of before and after refurbishment, receipts of purchases etc.
- The decision to offer the 50% discount will be at the discretion of the Navigation Officer upon receiving the relevant documents to show that the vessel was a project.
- There is a maximum of 1 Project Registration per registered keeper.

Words or expressions used herein shall have the same meaning as defined in the Middle Level Act 2018.

Registration charges for Middle Level Waterways are set annually and all the income contributes to the services, facilities and structures the Middle Level maintain to make boating possible on their waterways. This includes maintenance of our locks and other navigation structures which retain water levels, as well as activities such as lock keeping, compliance and the provision of safety advice.

Visitor charges are due when coming onto the waterway and they expire after the defined period of the registration. They are valid from the date and time set when registering for the period.

Weekly visitor charges allow a boat to be on the waterway for 7 consecutive days.

In special instances daily registrations are available. Daily visitor charges allow a boat to be on the waterway for 24 hours. They are valid for 24 hours from the time of issue or, where issued in advance, valid for 24 hours from the date and time requested at application. Where tidal conditions prevent moving off the waterway within the valid time, the valid time shall be extended by 12 hours to allow passage on the next tide. Any extension will be managed by staff at our tidal lock.

Please see the Navigation page on our website for further information on the Anglian Pass, our Navigation Notes and other relevant documents.

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Sailing Vessels with Engines	LENGTH FEET	CLASS	YEARLY £	Unpowered Open boats
Under 3M	Under 9'11"	1	43.00	"Unpowered open boat" means a boat that is not mechanically propelled; and is either open to the elements with no enclosed or decked accommodation space (including a rowing boat, dragon boat, punt, dingy with or without a sail, canoe, paddle board, light inflatable) or the occupants are only protected by a spray deck (including a kayak).
3m - 5m	9' 11" – 16' 5"	2	74.00	
5m -7.5m	16' 5" – 24' 8"	3	214.00	
Over 7.5m	Over 24' 8"	4	306.00	
Canoe/kayak Rowing dinghy	We recommend purchasing a waterways registration from Paddle UK rather than one from us		52.00	
Powered Vessels 4 & UNDER HP				Powered Vessels 4 & UNDER HP
Under 5m	Under 16' 5"	5	116.00	"Powered vessel" means a boat which is mechanically propelled. The engine can use fuel or steam to drive it or be an electric motor powered solely from a set of electrical batteries.
Over 5m	Over 16' 5"	6	214.00	
Powered Vessels OVER 4 HP				
Under 3m	Under 9' 11"	7	202.00	
3m – 5m	9' 11" – 16' 5"	8	411.00	
5m – 7.5m	16' 5" – 24' 8"	9	505.00	
7.5m – 10m	24' 8" – 32' 10"	10	653.00	
10m – 12.5m	32'10" – 41' 1"	11	894.00	
12.5m – 15m	41' 1" – 49' 3"	12	1150.00	
15m – 20m	49' 3" – 65' 8"	13	1290.00	
Over 20m	Over 65' 8"	14	1415.00	
Houseboats				
3m – 20m	9' 11" – 65' 8"		646.00	

Visitor Pass	Day Visitor	Week Visitor
Under 10m	15.00	45.00
Over 10m	25.00	75.00

Visitors Pass – Purchase 7 days for the price of 3 days

The MLC visitors pass can be purchased in addition to your full home mooring registration (MLC, EA or CRT). Visitor registrations can be purchased from MLC Office, Stanground Lock or Salters Lode Lock.

Electric Motors	ELE	25% discount of applicable registration fee	
Dwelling – Marina Only	RES	£140.00 per annum	Please see criteria
Project Boats	PRO	50% applicable registration fee	Please see criteria
Trade Plates	TRAD	£296.00 first year, thereafter £219.00	Please see criteria

[Anglian Pass – EA – 03708 506 506](#)

Band AP5 Up to 5M - £33.00

Band AP10 5m – 10m - £66.00

Band AP15 From 10m to 15m - £99.00

Band AP0 Over 15m - £132.00

The Anglian Pass can be purchased in addition to your full home mooring licence (MLC, EA or CRT Gold). This will allow you to visit other waterways without the need to purchase a visitor licence.

The Anglian Pass is valid for 12 months and can be purchased from the Environment Agency.