

South Australian Recreational Boating Safety Handbook

~ STAY SAFE ON THE WATER



 Marine Safety SA



Government of South Australia
Department for Infrastructure
and Transport

Is your life jacket

Ship-Shape

for boating?



Plan ahead. Gear up. Stay safe.

 Marine Safety SA



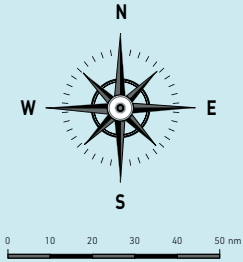
Government of South Australia
Department for Infrastructure
and Transport

Western Australia



Government of South Australia
Department for Infrastructure
and Transport

Marine Safety SA



Legend

- Protected waters
- Semi protected waters (2 nautical miles)
- Unprotected waters
- Coastline
- Mainland and Kangaroo Island
- 3 nautical miles beyond gulf waters
- 5 nautical miles within gulf waters
- 10 nautical miles
- Gulf limit

The safety equipment you must carry depends on where you operate

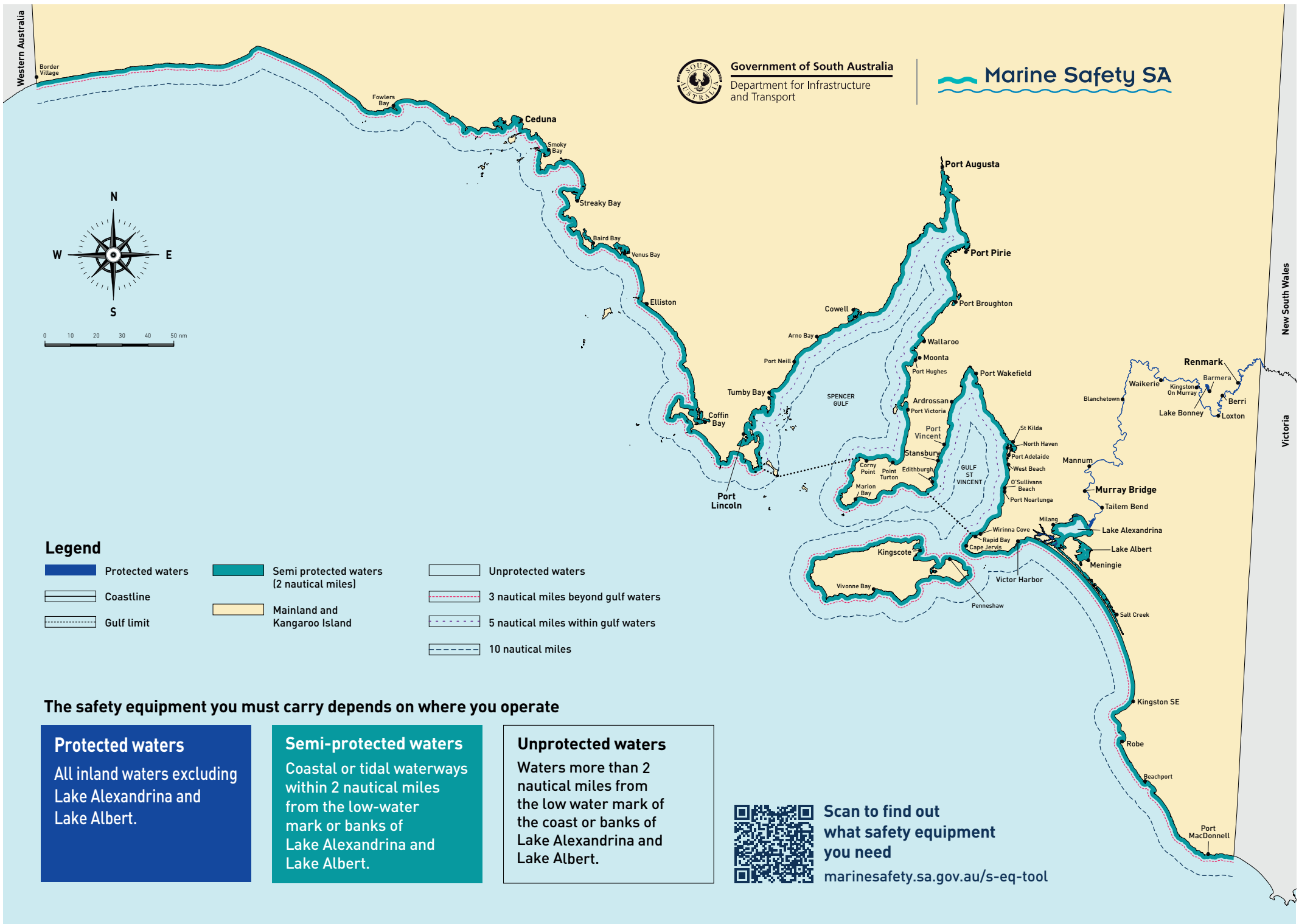
Protected waters
All inland waters excluding Lake Alexandrina and Lake Albert.

Semi-protected waters
Coastal or tidal waterways within 2 nautical miles from the low-water mark or banks of Lake Alexandrina and Lake Albert.

Unprotected waters
Waters more than 2 nautical miles from the low water mark of the coast or banks of Lake Alexandrina and Lake Albert.



Scan to find out what safety equipment you need
marinesafety.sa.gov.au/s-eq-tool



New South Wales
Victoria

Contents

Introduction	3
Definitions/Common marine terms	4

1. Licensing & registration 11

Boat operator licensing	12
Motor vessel registration	15

2. Planning & preparation 21

Choosing the right boat	22
Before you take your boat on the water	22
Towing and launching your boat	27

3. Safety on the water 29

Let someone know	30
Your duty of care	30
Boating with children	34
Speed limits	35
Loading for stability	36
Fuelling and fire prevention	39
Alcohol and drugs	40

4. Safety equipment 41

What you need and where	42
Required safety equipment checklists	43
Variations from standard requirements	44
Standards and features	45

5. Weather & other potential hazards 53

Before you go out	54
On the water	54

6. Navigation 57

The international rules	58
Anchoring restrictions	61
Interacting with big ships	62
Navigating in restricted visibility or at times of heightened risk	63

7. Buoys, marks, beacons, signals & signs	65
Buoyage and navigation marks	67
Signals on vessels	72
8. Anchoring, mooring & berthing	83
Anchoring & mooring	84
Berthing at a wharf or jetty	85
9. Emergency action	91
Your obligations	92
Common situations	92
Abandoning your vessel	95
Distress signals	96
First aid afloat	99
Search and Rescue (SAR)	102
Towing a vessel	104
10 . Navigating South Australian rivers	105
Local knowledge	106
Inland waters	106
11. Special activities	111
Personal watercraft	112
Waterskiing and other towing	114
Seaplanes	116
12. Protecting the environment	117
Marine wildlife	118
Aquatic reserves and marine parks	119
Avoiding pollution	119
Historic shipwrecks	120
Riverbank erosion	120
Watching our borders	121
13. Customer service & further information	123
Index	129