

Sydney Ports Corporation - Port Security Advice for Sydney Harbour and Botany Bay



Sydney Ports has in place security plans for the port areas of Sydney Harbour and Botany Bay, effective since 1 July 2004.

Recreational users of Sydney Harbour and Botany Bay need to be particularly aware of the water-side restricted zones in place near the port facilities. These zones are in place to ensure that a safe distance is maintained from commercial shipping facilities.

State legislation, which has been in place for many years, restricts any person from entering any area of navigable water within 100 metres of particular shipping facilities or wharves at all times, **even when there isn't a vessel in berth**. State legislation applies to the following facilities:

- 100 metres from the Shell Gore Cove Terminal in Sydney Harbour.
- 100 metres from the Botany Bulk Liquids Berth.
- 100 metres from the Caltex Kurnell wharf in Port Botany.

The penalty for unauthorized entry is \$1,500.

Port security zones established under new Federal security legislation apply to the following port facilities, whenever there is a vessel at berth:

- 30 metres clearance from any cruise vessel, berthed at the Overseas Passenger Terminal, Circular Quay.
- 30 metres clearance from any cruise vessel or the Spirit of Tasmania III passenger ferry berthed at Berth No's 5, 7 or 8 Darling Harbour.
- 100 metres clearance from any tanker berthed at the Shell Gore Cove Terminal.

The penalty for unauthorized entry into a water-side restricted zone is currently \$5,500.

Authorised vessels allowed into the zones are:

- A vessel operated by the State Transit Authority following a timetable or in the course of normal operations.
- A vessel that is compelled to do so for the purposes of navigation safety.

- A vessel operated by Sydney Ports Corporation or the NSW Maritime Authority in the course of normal operations.

These zones are in place at the current **maritime security level I** and may change if there is a threat identified.

Sydney Ports recommends, as a general boating safety practice endorsed by the NSW Maritime Authority, to always keep well clear of all commercial shipping facilities and cargo and passenger vessels.

Other port security measures being introduced include “intelligence sharing”, new and upgraded fencing and gates, improved access control and ID systems, signage, increased electronic surveillance, perimeter patrols and increased monitoring of the port precinct, particularly the water-side.

These measures will increase the safety and security of the ports and will be progressively rolled out from 1 July to supplement the measures currently in place.

Due to the need for increased port security measures, unauthorised access will not be permitted onto berths or operating facilities and this will be strictly enforced.

You will notice visible signs of increased security presence around port areas, including signage advising of restricted access.

We are asking our port community to report immediately any suspicious activity to Sydney Ports' Harbour Control on telephone: 9296 4000 who will pass this information to the relevant authority, in most cases the NSW Police.

Sydney Ports has a long-standing relationship with the communities surrounding the port facilities and we are happy to brief those groups with an interest in the operation of port facilities and outline the new security measures in place. Sydney Ports will continue to update local community groups of our security measures.