

Did you know...

... Poole Harbour is an amazing place to view nature

... The Harbour is protected as an internationally important site for the birds that breed and over-winter here

... Over 20,000 birds migrate to the Harbour in the winter, while a number of key species breed here



Breeding Bird Sensitive Areas

Black Headed gulls and rare Mediterranean gulls breed on the saltmarsh islands west of Rockley Point.

Disturbance can result in the gulls failing to rear their young.

You can help... Please keep away from the islands between 1st April and 30th June

Other birds, such as the Redshank and Water Rail, breed in the reedbeds and saltmarshes around the edge of the Harbour.

You can help...
Please respect these sensitive areas



Quiet Areas

You can help...
Please keep these areas of the Harbour as a peaceful haven for wildlife.

Personal watercraft are not permitted in these areas.

Boats should keep below the 6 knot limit, keeping their wash to a minimum.



Overwintering Bird Sensitive Areas

It is important that there are some areas of the Harbour where overwintering birds can feed without disturbance, prior to their spring migrations.

You can help... Please avoid these areas between 1st November and 31st March

Please steer clear of ducks and grebes swimming in the Harbour, and from waders and wildfowl feeding and roosting on the shore.



Key	
	Saltmarsh
	Reedbed
	Quiet Area
	Eelgrass - Anchorage Sensitive Zone
	Overwintering Bird Sensitive Areas
	Breeding Bird Sensitive Areas
	Personal Watercraft Area
	Windsurf Area
	Waterski Area
	P Public Car Park
	Yacht Club/ Marina
	Slipway Open to Public



Eelgrass Beds

Eelgrass beds provide a safe nursery for young fish and a home for many other animals such as pipefish and seahorses.

Did you know... we have both British species of seahorses here in Whitley Lake and at nearby Studland Bay?

The anchorage sensitive zones have been marked with large yellow buoys.

You can help...
Please don't anchor in these areas



Speed Limits

Poole Harbour Commissioners' boats patrol the Harbour to make sure that everyone keeps to the speed limits.

If we all understand just how important our Harbour is for birds, then we can help to ensure its future both for wildlife and people.

Nature is amazing - help us keep it that way by following these simple rules

Thank you