Guidance for operators of recreational craft
Kiel Canal
Dear recreational craft operators,

You want to navigate the Kiel Canal with as few problems as possible, safely and in close contact with professional shipping. You are therefore requested to observe the very important points listed here.

Traffic on the Kiel Canal is governed by the Traffic Regulations for Navigable Maritime Waterways with the associated notices issued by the Northern Region Office of the Federal Waterways and Shipping Administration.

Recreational craft (vessels operated non-commercially and used exclusively for sporting and recreation purposes) may use the Kiel Canal and its approaches for passage and without pilots only during daylight hours and not when visibility is reduced.

Recreational craft must organize their navigation of the canal such that they can reach a berth intended for use by recreational craft before the end of daylight hours. This does not apply to craft making for the approved berths in Kiel-Holtenau lock approach and Brunsbüttel inland port or to craft locking out to the Elbe after notifying the lock master.

You can contact the lockmaster by phonenumber...

| Kiel: 0431/3603-152 | Brunsbüttel: 04852/885-252 |

or on VHF Channel 13 and 12. The VTS is operating an VHF Channel 2 and 3. Listening watch and radio discipline is required.

| VHF channel 13 (call: Kiel Canal I) | Brunsbüttel lock area |
| VHF channel 2 (call: Kiel Canal II) | Brunsbüttel – Breiholz reach |
| VHF channel 3 (call: Kiel Canal III) | Breiholz – Kiel-Holtenau reach |
| VHF channel 12 (call: Kiel Canal IV) | Kiel-Holtenau lock area |
Behaviour in the lock approaches and locks
Watch out for backwash when passing moored vessels. Smoking and naked flames are prohibited in the lock area. Listen for public address announcements.

Keep to the right
On the Kiel Canal, you must keep as far to the right as possible. On certain sections, the minimum distance to be kept from the bank is indicated by signs. Because of the sloping embankments, the indicated minimum distance from the bank must be kept.

Maximum speed
The maximum speed of 15 km/h over the ground must not be exceeded.

Ferry crossings and professional shipping
Particular attention must be paid when passing ferry crossings (cross current) and oncoming ships because of the suction.

Sailing on the Kiel Canal
Sailing is prohibited on the Kiel Canal.
This does not apply:
• in the approach to the Old Locks in Kiel-Holtenau;
• outside the navigation channel on Lakes Borgstedt, Audorf and Flemhude.

Powered recreational craft may additionally set sails. They must then display a black cone – point down – forward. Water skiing, jetbiking and windsurfing are prohibited on the Kiel Canal. A powered recreational craft may only tow one recreational craft, and the length of the towed recreational craft must not exceed 15 metres. The minimum speed of the towed convoy must be 9 kilometres (4.9 nautical miles) per hour.

Behaviour in fog
If restricted visibility is suddenly encountered, recreational craft may moor at a suitable site on the stretch of canal if they would endanger the safety of traffic by continuing to the next siding (passing bay). In the sidings, vessels must moor behind the dolphins on the dolphins' mooring rings.
Recreational craft may only moor at the following berths:

1. Brunsbüttel recreational craft berth (north side, km 1.8, behind the fender piles)
2. Berth in the turning area of Dückerswisch siding – north side (km 20.7), max. draught 2.40 m
3. Berth before Gieselau lock – (entrance at km 40.5), max. draught 2.40 m
4. Berths in Lake Obereider with narrows (entrance at km 66)
5. Berth in Lake Borgstedt (entrance at km 67.5)
6. Berths in Lake Borgstedt (entrance at km 70, Bridge Middle section, Lake Borgstedt: Height = 22.50 m above water level)
7. Recreational craft roadstead in Lake Flemhude (entrance at km 85.4)
8. Kiel-Holtenau (km 98.5), east of the lock

Note on nos 2, 3 and 7: berths may be used for one night only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Gieselau Canal</th>
<th>Achterwehr Canal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length overall</td>
<td>65,00 m</td>
<td>35,00 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum width</td>
<td>9,00 m</td>
<td>7,50 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draught</td>
<td>2,40 m</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Light signals

#### Entering the approaches to the Kiel Canal, the lock approaches and locks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Where can it be seen?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One occulting white light</td>
<td>Entry permitted into the approach</td>
<td>On the signals masts on the lock islands (jetty 4 in Brunsbüttel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One occulting white light</td>
<td>Entry permitted into the lock approaches and locks</td>
<td>On the signal masts on the central wall of the lock</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Waiting area:
- Brunsbüttel – east of the approach boundary
- Kiel-Holtenau – north of the approach boundary

#### Passing through the siding areas on the Kiel Canal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Where can it be seen?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One quick flashing red light</td>
<td>No entry into the siding area</td>
<td>On the signal masts at the entrances to the sidings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three occulting red lights positioned above each other</td>
<td>No exit from the sidings for all vessels</td>
<td>On the signal masts in the sidings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two isophase white lights</td>
<td>No exit from the sidings for category 1 and 2 vessels with a speed of less than 15 km/h</td>
<td>On the last (in the direction of travel) signal mast in the siding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two fixed red lights positioned side by side</td>
<td>All vessels are prohibited from proceeding in Brunsbüttel inland port</td>
<td>On the signal masts of the oil terminal located on the north side</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Daylight navigation hours (CET)

Add one hour during CEST

- **01. Jan. to 15. Jan.** 07.30 to 17.00 hrs
- **16. Jan. to 31. Jan.** 07.30 to 17.30 hrs
- **01. Feb. to 15. Feb.** 07.00 to 18.00 hrs
- **16. Feb. to 28./29. Feb.** 06.30 to 18.30 hrs
- **01. Mar. to 15. Mar.** 05.30 to 19.00 hrs
- **16. Mar. to 31. Mar.** 05.00 to 19.30 hrs
- **01. Apr. to 5. Apr.** 04.30 to 20.00 hrs
- **16. Apr. to 30. Apr.** 04.00 to 20.30 hrs
- **01. May. to 15. May.** 03.30 to 21.00 hrs
- **16. May. to 31. May.** 03.00 to 21.30 hrs
- **01. Jun. to 30. Jun.** 02.30 to 22.00 hrs
- **01. Jul. to 15. Jul.** 02.30 to 22.00 hrs
- **16. Jul. to 31. Jul.** 02.30 to 22.00 hrs
- **01. Aug. to 15. Aug.** 03.30 to 21.00 hrs
- **16. Aug. to 31. Aug.** 04.00 to 20.30 hrs
- **01. Sep. to 15. Sep.** 04.30 to 20.00 hrs
- **16. Sep. to 30. Sep.** 05.00 to 19.30 hrs
- **01. Oct. to 15. Oct.** 05.30 to 19.00 hrs
- **16. Oct. to 31. Oct.** 06.00 to 18.30 hrs
- **01. Nov. to 5. Nov.** 06.30 to 17.30 hrs
- **16. Nov. to 30. Nov.** 07.00 to 17.00 hrs
- **01. Dec. to 31. Dec.** 07.30 to 17.00 hrs
Canal dues

Transiting the Kiel Canal on recreational craft requires payment of a transit fee in accordance with the Regulation on Transit Fees for the Kiel Canal. Climbing of the lock walls via the ladders installed in the lock chambers of Brunsbüttel and Kiel-Holtenau locks is prohibited. These ladders are for emergency and rescue purposes only. You cannot pay the transit fee in the lock chambers.

Following cash points available:
- Harbour master Kiel-Holtenau, Tiessenkai
- Two Pay machines (Kiel-Holtenau locks):
  1. at the recreational craft berth west of Tiessenkai
  2. near the inner waiting area at Kiel-Holtenau on the north side of the canal (at the floating landing stages)
- Payment to the lock keeper at Gieselau Lock
- Occasionally at Brunsbüttel at the recreational craft berth in the Kiel Canal (only if inspector present)

Further information

Recreational craft with a length of 20 m or more must operate a class A or B AIS transponder during their passage through the canal. AIS transponders can be rented for passage through the canal at the entrance locks if necessary.

Recreational craft with a draught exceeding 3.1 m are subject to mandatory pilotage. Multi-hulled vessels used for recreational purposes are exempt from the mandatory pilotage requirement up to a total width of 12.0 m and a total length of 20.0 m.

It is prohibited to berth and moor recreational craft:
- at barrages, river control structures, fender piles, gauges, and fixed and floating aids to navigation;
- in the approach to the Old Lock in Brunsbüttel and at the dolphins in Kiel-Holtenau;
- on the embankments in the Kiel Canal and the Gieselau Canal;
- at the installations used by vessels belonging to the Federal Waterways and Shipping Administration. Nor may vessels be launched or placed in the water using these installations.

Current information:

Because of the temporary closure of the Small Lock for construction work, all recreational craft will be locked through the Large Chambers together with professional shipping.

Recreational craft marina Kiel-Holtenau:
Notice: The outside jetty will be dismantled. Only the inner jetty is available as waiting area or overnight accommodation in accordance with an NOK-Transit.
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Schleuseninsula 2  
24159 Kiel  
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Fax 0431 3603-414  
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www.wsa-kiel.wsv.de  
March 2019  

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