



# Starting on the Right Tack

## Biosecurity checklist for non-commercial vessel arrival in Australian territory

February 2024

Reporting your intention to enter Australian territory is a legal requirement: [Biosecurity Act and Biosecurity Regulation](#). Be aware of what you need to do before arriving in Australian territory and cooperate with our biosecurity officers as they confirm the health of all travellers, conduct biosecurity inspections of your vessel and verify documentation.

### Prior to arrival in Australian territory

Read the [Non-commercial vessel webpage](#) to know and understand Australia's biosecurity regulations and inform all travellers on board the vessel of these requirements

Submit an electronic Pre-Arrival Report (PAR) accessible from the non-commercial vessel webpage for your impending arrival, 90 days and 12 hours before arrival in Australian territory. The PAR has questions on:

- vessel travel history and timber components of the vessel
- any plants, insects, rodents, birds, pests or animals on board, and any observed biosecurity concerns such as hitchhiker animals
- waste - remove as much waste on board as possible in the last international port [What is waste](#)
- any measures undertaken to manage biofouling [Australian biofouling requirements](#)
- We recommend that you limit your purchase of fresh food goods (perishables) at the last international port
- Securely double-bag any unused perishables as biosecurity waste on arrival in Australian territory.

Prepare your vessel documentation details of sailing history, anti-fouling, any refits or vessel treatments, for review by biosecurity officers.

### Entering Australian territory

Ensure all travellers understand the biosecurity requirements and have read the Biosecurity Status Documents (BSDs) directions, which are emailed to you after the PAR submission and where there are changes in biosecurity directions to manage the biosecurity risk

Arrive through a designated port for non-commercial vessels, a First Point of Entry (FPOE) [Where You Can Arrive](#) **OR** apply for non-first point of entry permission at least 10 days prior to arrival [Apply for non-first point permission](#)

Display the two flag Quarantine Signal (letters QQ in the International Code of Signals) or during non-daylight hours a red light above a white light, until pratique is granted

Ensure all areas of the vessel are accessible for biosecurity officer inspection: panels, lockers and cupboards and particularly timber surfaces.

## At mooring

**Travellers are NOT permitted to disembark or embark the vessel in Australian territory until pratique is assessed and granted by a biosecurity officer.** The granting of pratique confirms that the human health risk of the travellers on board the vessel can be identified and managed and once granted, allows the vessel to be disembarked or unloaded

Vessel inspections will only be undertaken in safe conditions, during daylight hours and generally within normal operational hours

Ensure safe and secure access to the vessel

Alert a biosecurity officer to the presence of and confine animals on board. If you do not have a valid import permit for any animal(s), they will be treated as [illegally imported](#)

Declare and present all food/provisions, plant material, animal products and animals or any [hitchhiker pests](#) for inspection

Ensure all fresh fruit, vegetables, meat, eggs as waste is secured and double-bagged, ready for removal and disposal

Some goods may require treatment to manage any identified biosecurity risk

Where the vessel has timber components, have documentation such as history of refits available

An arrival levy and fees for service will be charged by the biosecurity officer, payable at the time of inspection

More than one inspection may be required to resolve any identified biosecurity risks and fees apply

Biosecurity waste management fees are charged by FPOE marina operators with supervision fees charged by biosecurity officers.

For detailed information on non-commercial vessel arrival in Australian territory requirements and reducing the introduction and spread of pest and disease into our unique country, visit <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/aircraft-vessels-military/vessels/non-commercial-vessels>

Any changes to arrival or human health circumstances must be reported to the department as soon as possible.

*Do not offer biosecurity officers gifts, inducements or ask officers to overlook issues. Biosecurity officers will reject all offers and are required to report each incident.*

*It is a serious offence to obstruct, harm, threaten to harm or hinder a Commonwealth Public Official, such as a biosecurity officer, under the Criminal Code Act 1995 and you may be liable to an offence or civil penalty under the Biosecurity Act 2015.*