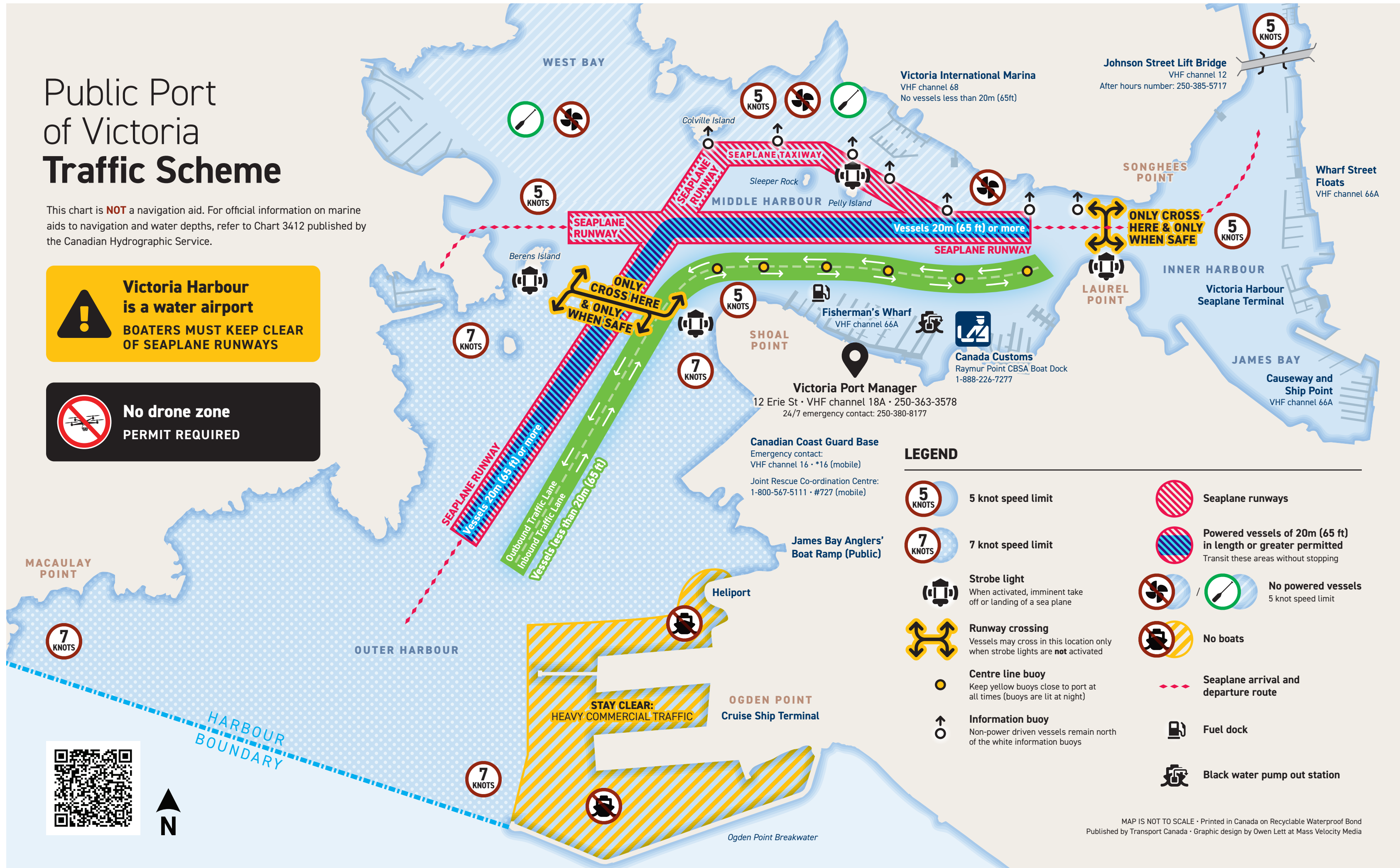


# Public Port of Victoria Traffic Scheme

This chart is **NOT** a navigation aid. For official information on marine aids to navigation and water depths, refer to Chart 3412 published by the Canadian Hydrographic Service.

**Victoria Harbour is a water airport**  
**BOATERS MUST KEEP CLEAR OF SEAPLANE RUNWAYS**

**No drone zone**  
**PERMIT REQUIRED**



## LEGEND

- 5 knot speed limit
- 7 knot speed limit
- Strobe light  
When activated, imminent take off or landing of a sea plane
- Runway crossing  
Vessels may cross in this location only when strobe lights are **not** activated
- Centre line buoy  
Keep yellow buoys close to port at all times (buoys are lit at night)
- Information buoy  
Non-power driven vessels remain north of the white information buoys
- Seaplane runways
- Powered vessels of 20m (65 ft) in length or greater permitted  
Transit these areas without stopping
- No powered vessels  
5 knot speed limit
- No boats
- Seaplane arrival and departure route
- Fuel dock
- Black water pump out station



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# Public Port of Victoria Traffic Scheme



## Introduction

All kinds of boats and vessels share the Port of Victoria: ferries, tugs and barges, water taxis, kayaks and canoes, seaplanes and more. Because the port is so busy, we rely on you to follow the rules for where boats may travel and how. These rules help avoid collisions so you stay safe on the water.

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## RULES TO FOLLOW

These rules were developed by both port users and regulators. If you operate a vessel or seaplane in the Port of Victoria, they apply to you.

- **Speed Limits** – In the Outer Harbour (between Ogden Point breakwater and Shoal Point) the speed limit is **7** knots. Inward from Shoal Point the speed limit is **5** knots.
- **Avoid impeding a taxiing seaplane** – maintain safe distance.
- **Sailing is prohibited** and all sails shall be lowered when under power.
- **Anchoring** is prohibited anywhere in the Port of Victoria.
- **Blackwater discharge** is prohibited.
- **Fishing, including the placement of traps**, in or near navigational channels is prohibited.

## VICTORIA HARBOUR IS A WATER AIRPORT

### BOATERS MUST KEEP CLEAR OF SEAPLANE RUNWAYS.

There are two seaplane runways in the Port of Victoria. One is in the Middle Harbour and one is in the Outer Harbour. They are very active. Upwards of 100 flights take off or land in the port per day.

**ALL** vessels may only cross runways in two places:

- at the Songhees/Laurel Point Narrows
- in a straight line joining Shoal Point and Berens Island

White strobe lights on top of beacons (at Shoal Point, Laurel Point and Berens Island, and on Pelly Island) flash when a seaplane is about to takeoff or land. **Do not cross if strobes are flashing.** When you see strobe lights flashing, use extreme caution.

## NON-POWER-DRIVEN VESSELS: WHERE TO TRAVEL

Non-power driven vessels are allowed to transit the harbour using the inbound/outbound boat lanes. In addition, a designated area for non-power driven vessels is on the north shore of Middle Harbour, north of the white buoys. Paddlers may transit along the shoreline through the corridor that goes under the buildings at the Victoria International Marina or can also transit on the offshore side of the marina, between the docks and white buoys.

## SMALL POWER-DRIVEN VESSELS: WHERE TO TRAVEL

Power-driven vessels less than 20 m (65 feet) in length, including sailboats, **must use small vessel outbound/inbound traffic lanes** to travel through the Outer and Middle Harbours. Power-driven vessels are not permitted on the north shore of the Middle Harbour.

## LARGE POWER-DRIVEN VESSELS: WHERE TO TRAVEL

Power-driven vessels of 20 m (65 feet) in length or more **may use runways** to travel through the Outer and Middle Harbours. Vessels must transit without stopping or delay while in these areas.

## HELPFUL CONTACTS

- **Port Manager:** For general port information or to report marine incidents, contact the Port Manager on VHF channel 18A or at 250-363-3578. 24/7 emergency number: 250-380-8177.
- **Harbour Patrol:** If you are unclear about these directions, Harbour Patrol is on the water in black and grey inflatable vessels and is happy to help. Contact them on VHF 18A during all daylight hours in the spring and summer, and during regular office hours in the fall and winter.
- **Canadian Coast Guard:** In a marine emergency: call on VHF channel 16 or \*16 on a mobile phone. Or call the Joint Rescue Co-ordination Centre at 1-800-567-5111, #SAR(727) on a mobile phone.
- **Moorage:** For public moorage, call the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority on VHF 66A.
- **Victoria International Marina:** For moorage, call on VHF 68A.
- **Canada Customs:** Clearance dock located on the south side of Middle Harbour at Raymur Point. Telephone: 1-888-226-7277.
- **Johnson Street Tilt Bridge:** At northeast of Inner Harbour. Operated by the City of Victoria. Reach the bridge operator on VHF channel 12.
- **Victoria Police Non-Emergency line:** 250-995-7654.

**Note:** If you do not comply with these rules and restrictions, you may be subject to summary conviction and/or fines. Authority comes from the *Canada Marine Act, Practices and Procedures for Public Ports*.

Version française disponible au bureau du directeur de port, 12 rue Erie.

