

2. Movement procedures

2.1 Pilotage

Pilotage is compulsory for:

- a ship that is 50 metres or more
- a ship whose owner or master asks for the services of a pilot
- a ship whose master is directed by the Regional Harbour Master to use the services of a pilot.
- a 'small ship' less than 35 metres (the relevant ship) if:
 - ❖ it is combined with another small ship for propelling one of the ships
 - ❖ the total combination length of the ships is 50 metres or more

In waters north of the Gold Coast Seaway, in particular the Coomera River, movement of ships 35 metres LOA or more but less than 50 metres LOA may also require pilotage. Maritime Safety Queensland will determine requirements on a case-by-case basis dependent upon the ship's characteristics.

2.2 Ship movement reporting requirements

All movements of ships 35 metres LOA or more are to be reported.

Section 171 to 176 of the [Transport Operations \(Marine Safety\) Regulation 2016](#) require that all ship movements for vessels 35 metres in length or more within the Southport pilotage area are reported to Maritime Safety Queensland.

The report must be made on the appropriate form.

2.2.1 Reporting movement of ship between 35 and 50 metres LOA

The report should be made using 'Reporting movement of ship between 35 and 50 metres LOA (Southport pilotage area)' form (see 8.3) and submitted at least 24 hours before the arrival movement and at least two hours prior to any subsequent movement.

2.2.2 Reporting movement of ship LOA 50 metres and over

The report should be made using [Reporting movement of ship between 35 and 50 metres LOA \(Southport pilotage area\)](#)

Request for Pilotage/ movement of ship 50 metres and over (Southport pilotage area) form (see 8.1) and submitted at least 48 hours before the arrival movement and at least 24 hours prior to any subsequent movement.

Reports that cannot be made using the official form shall be made via telephone to the Gold Coast office of Maritime Safety Queensland on +61 7 5585 1810 (business hours) or +61 7 3305 1700 (after hours).

2.3 Requests for pilot

2.3.1 Pilotage booking procedure

In order to ensure the services of a pilot, masters of ships should email the completed form (see section [Request for Pilotage/ movement of ship 50 metres and over \(Southport pilotage area\)](#) or [Reporting movement of ship between 35 and 50 metres LOA \(Southport pilotage area\)](#) as appropriate) or telephone the office of Maritime Safety Queensland at the Gold Coast at least 48 hours prior to arrival at the pilot boarding ground.

Telephone numbers for enquiries: +61 7 5585 1810 (business hours)
+61 7 3305 1700 (after hours)

Email msq.goldcoast.reception@msq.qld.gov.au

Radio contact should be made with the Gold Coast Seaway Tower on VHF channel 16 two hours prior to arrival at the pilot boarding ground confirming the arrival time.

2.4 Arrivals

Details required at the time of booking include:

- ship's name (and previous name if applicable);
- registration information (number and radio call sign);
- last port of call;
- ship's estimated time of arrival and estimated time of departure;
- ship's draught fore and aft (for arrival and departure) and any information regarding protrusions lower than the ship's keel, stabilisers, propellers and rudders;
- ship's LOA and beam;
- ship's gross registered tonnage;
- pilotage destination;
- number and type of propellers;
- type and power rating of main engines;
- number and type of rudders;
- number, arrangement and effective power of thrusters;
- preferred side alongside;
- whether pratique has been granted;
- whether ship is conducting own agency; if so, an Australian address for invoicing is required; and
- whether or not standard pilot ladder boarding arrangements exist; if not, clarification of boarding facility is required.

2.5 Pilot boarding arrangements

The [Pilotage Boarding Ground](#) is situated at a position two nautical miles east of the Gold Coast Seaway south wall, in position latitude 27° 56·2' S, longitude 153° 28·2' E.

The location of the pilot boarding ground is affected by ocean swells and it is sometimes difficult for ships to provide a safe lee. Ships should provide a pilot boarding ladder, safety lines and

adequate fenders to allow the pilot vessel alongside without contact. Pilot may give instruction prior to boarding for preferred boarding course.

2.6 Maximum vessel size

Due to the nature of the Southport Broadwater and the available depth of water in some channels, certain limitations regarding the movement of vessels must be considered. These are explained in detail in Section 3.