Wyndham Harbour

Entrance Guide

Wyndham Harbour is a new, all weather safe harbour on the North-western shore of Port Phillip. Protected by a fully enclosing and overlapping breakwater, the harbour is a great place to visit or moor your boat for an extended period. However, there are some tips available for navigating the entrance if you are new to the Harbour.

- Watch your speed. Instructions are clearly legible at 5 knots but practically invisible at 15.
- Distances at night are tricky to judge. Lights used as navigation aids have different levels of brightness. Brighter does not mean closer.

Refer to pictures 1 - 5 in the appendix to assist with the following instructions.

- When approaching the harbour, the most useful landmark is the central spine area (figure 2). The spine includes the car park and a prominent row of double overhead street lights running along it.
- The structures are less visible during the day. The spine starts roughly between the four-story apartment buildings.
- Once you have lined up the central spine, you can turn towards the shore, maintaining alignment with the spine. As you shorten the distance, the harbour entrance will become visible on the port (left) side.
- Once a gap in the break water is clearly visible (figure 3 & 5), you can alter course to port and make your entrance.

The lighting making the central spine more visible at night. This will aid your navigation as you approach the entrance. On entry, you will see a series of flashing lights in the following configuration:

Port marks are red and flash together, in synchrony, every 4 seconds. Starboard lights are green and the right-most (eastern) light (#1) will flash continuously, with the other two (#3 & #5) flashing every four seconds. The starboard lights work in sync with the port lights. As you get closer the marks will change their orientation. Number 4 and number 6 will cross each other and number 2 will come into line with number 5.

This is the time to turn towards the entrance and keep number 2 just offset to the left of number 5 as shown above.

- Pass through the entrance keeping the red lights on your port side and the green lights on your starboard side.
- Once you pass the last green flashing light (#5) turn 135 degrees to starboard and take a few seconds to identify the marina arms which are lit.

There is also a high intensity, multicolour directional light mounted on the breakwater wall. Despite being high intensity, it casts a very narrow beam with only a few degrees per colour (either green, white or red). The light will become very noticeable when approaching from the Northeast. It will swiftly disappear as you cross it. This light can be used to find the entrance and adjusting course depending on which colour the light turns. As per previous instructions, once entrance lights 2 and 5 are in line, proceed to the entrance with the red lights on your port side and the green lights on starboard.

Appendix
The above description is provided by Robert Bradley.
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