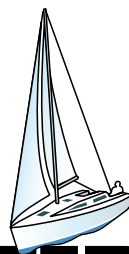


## SAFE BOATING

# SAFE BOATING TIPS



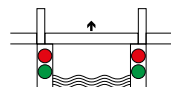
'Varen doe je samen!' – Promoting safety on the dutch waterways – offers you a short guide of the rules for safe navigation of the waterways in the netherlands. We hope you have a great experience and a safe voyage! You can find more information on safe navigation of the waterways on the website [www.varendoejesamen.nl](http://www.varendoejesamen.nl).

## GENERAL TIPS

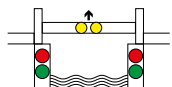
- Do not alter course and speed unexpectedly
- Preparation before your trip is key, use updated charts and check appropriate weather reports.
- Use correct navigational lights.
- Ensure uninterrupted line of sight and check behind the vessel regularly.
- Anchoring near bridges, locks, working vessels at anchor underneath powerlines or in the middle of a channel is to be avoided.
- Avoid causing unnecessary wake
- Avoid tacking in busy channels en leave the middle for larger vessels
- Ensure visibility for larger vessels
- Do not navigate whilst under the influence of alcohol. The legal limit for on water navigation is 0,5 promille
- A license is mandatory to steer faster motorboats. This is applicable for vessels with the capability to exceed a top speed of 20 km/hour.
- All operators of boats over 15 meter are required to be licensed by Dutch law.
- Navigate swiftly and safely through bridges and locks
- Avoid fishing nets. These will normally be marked by the use of small black or yellow flags.
- It is not allowed to swim in channels dedicated for throughtraffic, near bridges, locks and waiting areas.

## BRIDGE LIGHTS

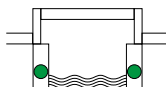
**BRIDGE IN OPERATION** Red lights indicate it is forbidden to proceed, unless extra yellow lights are showing to indicate that you can proceed



Red above green:  
No passage allowed currently, but lights will soon change

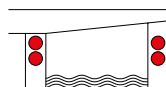


When yellow navigation lights show you are allowed to proceed as soon as you can clear the bridge.

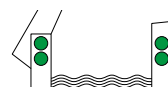


Green: Allowed to proceed

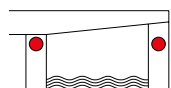
**BRIDGE NOT IN OPERATION** Double red lights indicate bridge is not in operation and passage is not allowed, unless extra yellow lights are showing to indicate that you can proceed.



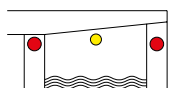
Bridge not in operation, not allowed to proceed



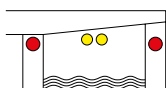
Allowed to proceed, you may encounter oncoming traffic



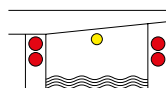
Not allowed to proceed



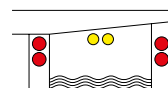
Allowed to proceed underneath closed bridge, you may encounter oncoming traffic



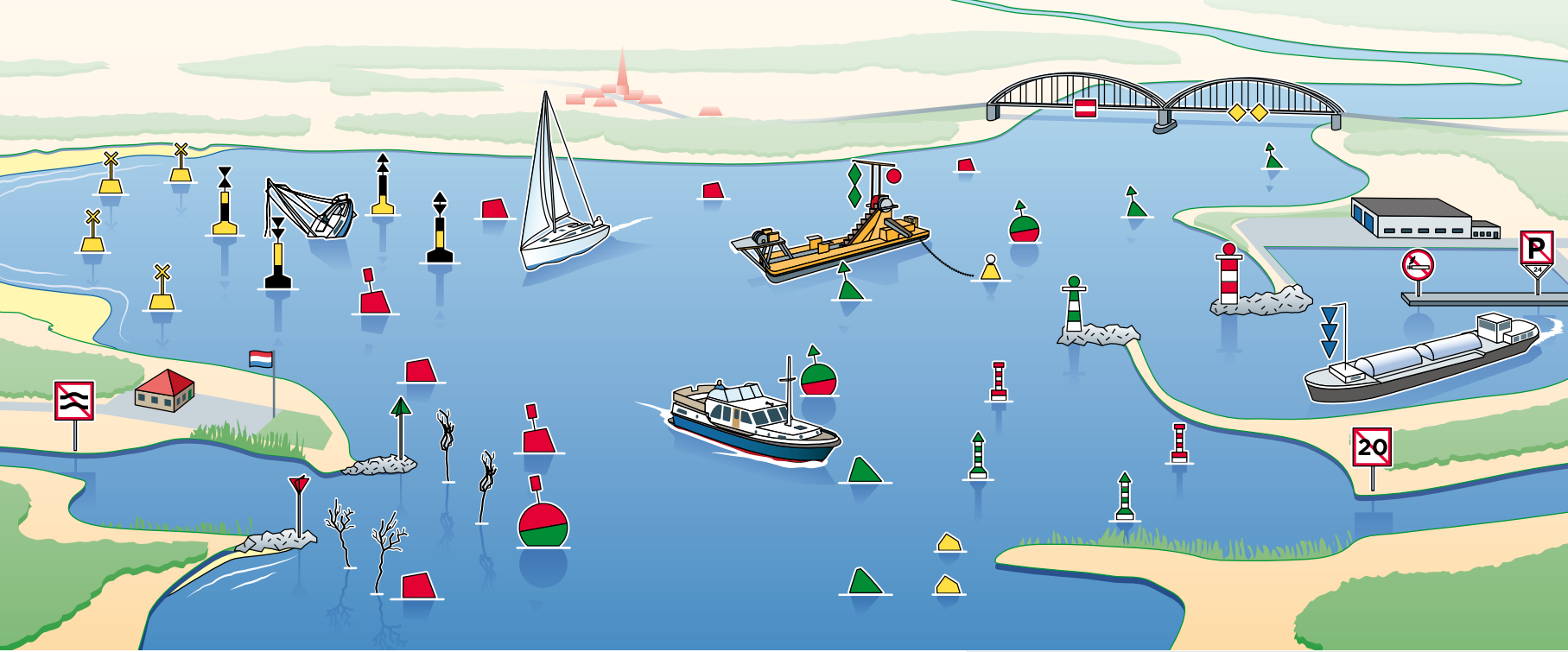
Allowed to proceed underneath closed bridge, oncoming traffic not allowed to proceed.
















Allowed to proceed underneath closed bridge, you may encounter oncoming traffic



Allowed to proceed underneath closed bridge, oncoming traffic not allowed to proceed.



## BUOYS AND CARDINALS

-  Port side harbor entrance with light
-  Blunt red buoy at starboard shore
-  Additional marks
-  Groyne and shore beacon
-  Blunt red buoy with radar reflector and light
-  Main channel to starboard
-  Pointed green buoy at port side shore
-  Groyne and shore beacon
-  Additional marks
-  Pointed green buoy with radar reflector and light
-  Special mark
-  Tied together  
See as green buoy
-  Open  
See as red buoy

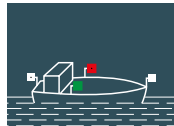
## NAVIGATION LIGHTS



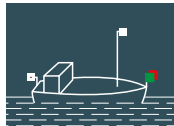
A sailing vessel (<20 m) shows; sidelights on the bow (red/green) and a sternlight ...



... a small sailing vessel may show: sidelights and sternlight combined in a tricolor light at the masthead.



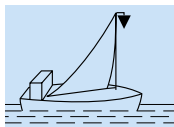
A small powerboat (<20 m) should display: sidelights (could be combined), a topmast light and a stern light (possibly combined)



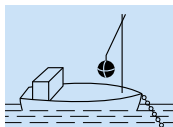
A small human-powered vessel, a small (<7 m en <13 km/hr) powerboat and a small (<7 m) sailing vessel can suffice with displaying a white allround light.



## DAGTEKENS



A sailing vessel under sail assisted by propulsion should display lights as a powerboat. The use of tricolor light is not allowed and a black cone should be displayed during daylight hours.



A vessel at anchor, both sail and powerboat are to display a black ball.

## SOUND SIGNALS

Pay attention	— — — —
Maneuverability restricted	— — — — — — — —
Distress signal	— — — — — — — — (repeat)
Request to open bridge	— — — — — — — —
Altering course to starboard	— — — — — — — —
Altering course to port	— — — — — — — —
Operating stern propulsion	— — — — — — — —

## IMPORTANT PRIORITY RULES

### Larger vessel (usually commercial shipping) takes priority over smaller vessel

Usually vessels over 20 meter, they are restricted in their ability to maneuver and cannot stop quickly. Please stay out of the way and do not navigate too close in front of the vessel. These vessels often have a blind spot in front of the bow, so the skipper cannot see you (properly). If you cannot see the wheelhouse, the skipper cannot see you!

### Starboard bank vessel has right of way

On a marked waterway, for example a channel (red and green buoys) or on a natural waterway (river/canal) the vessel keeping nearest to starboard bank has the right of way.

### Sail takes priority over muscle-powered, takes priority over motorised

(Small) sailing vessels take priority over (muscle-powered) rowing boats/canoes and these in turn take priority over (small) motorised vessels. So sail takes priority over muscle-powered, takes priority over motorised vessels.

### Powerboats

Vessel from starboard has right of way on open water – without buoyage. Vessels on opposite course shall both alter course to starboard.

### Sailing boats

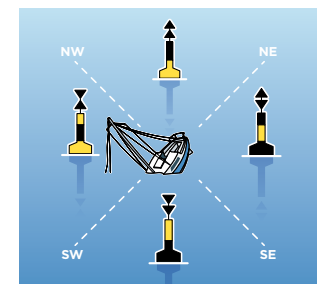
Port gives way to starboard. The vessel on port tack gives way to the vessel on starboard tack.

### Windward vessel gives way to Leeward vessel

When sailing vessels cross with the sails set on the same tack, the windward vessel gives way to the leeward vessel.

### But above all, display good seamanship!

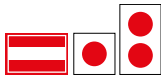













Try to avoid collision at all times, even when you have the right of way.












Cardinal buoys marking a wreck or other obstacle

# MARINE NAVIGATION MARKS


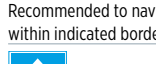
## PROHIBITORY SIGNS

-  Entry, exit or transit ban
-  No entry, except for small vessels without engine
-  No overtaking
-  No mooring
-  No mooring and anchoring within 20 meters
-  No anchoring
-  No mooring
-  Do not create wash
-  No passing outside the area marked
-  Motorised vessels prohibited
-  All sports or pleasure vessels prohibited
-  Water skiing prohibited
-  Sailing vessels prohibited
-  All vessels propelled by muscle power prohibited
-  Surfboards prohibited
-  End of waterway for fast powerboats without speed restricters
-  Jetski prohibited





## MANDATORY SIGNS

-  Mandatory heading
-  Keep to the starboard side of the channel
-  Required to stop in front of the sign
-  Do not exceed the speed indicated (in km/h)
-  Required to sound a signal
-  Keep a particularly sharp lookout
-  Required to not obstruct traffic on the main channel
-  Do not hinder outgoing vessels
-  Required to listen to specified VHF channel

## RECOMMENDATION SIGNS

-  Recommended to navigate within indicated borders
-  Recommended to navigate in the direction indicated by the arrow

## RESTRICTION SIGNS

-  Limited water depth, possibly showing depth in metres
-  Limited clearance, possibly showing height in metres
-  Limited width of channel, possibly showing width in metres
-  Channel is 12 metres from bank

## INFORMATIVE SIGNS, ADDITIONAL SIGNS AND SIGNS FOR WORKS OF ART

-  Navigating in, out or through is permitted
-  Overhead cable crossing
-  Ferry moving independently
-  Ferry not moving independently
-  Mooring and anchoring permitted at side displaying sign
-  Mooring and anchoring permitted up to max width in metres
-  Anchoring permitted at side displaying sign
-  Mooring permitted at side displaying sign
-  Turning area
-  Main channel and secondary channel
-  End of a prohibition or obligation applying to traffic in one direction only, or end of a restriction
-  Warning for outgoing vessels
-  Drinking water outlet
-  Motorised vessels permitted
-  Sport or pleasure craft permitted
-  Water skiing permitted
-  Sailing vessels permitted
-  Vessels propelled by muscle power permitted
-  Surfboards permitted
-  Fast cruising for small vessels allowed
-  Jetski's permitted
-  VHF channel for nautical information



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