



## WATER SAFETY 2020



The RNLI and the RYA are working hard to ensure we can make this summer as safe as it can be. We know no-one heads to the coast or out on their boats expecting to be rescued, yet each year many are and sadly some lose their lives.

### The RNLI is advising:

- Despite Coronavirus the RNLI will lifeguard approximately 70 beaches, down from the originally planned 240
- Volunteer lifeboat crews are fully operational should they be needed, but anyone going afloat must understand the risks and take the necessary steps to keep themselves safe
- We must all take reasonable precautions to reduce the demands on lifeboat crews, HM Coastguard and other emergency services

### Additionally, the RYA and RNLI urge you all to consider:

- Whether your activity complies with Government regulations for social distancing and travel
- Whether your vessel has been maintained properly and is seaworthy, reducing the risk of needing external assistance?
- All emergency equipment is in working order and the crew know how to use it
- Using the RYA SafeTrx app which can monitor your journey and can alert emergency services if needed
- Anything else that may increase the potential demand on emergency services including experience levels and prevailing conditions

### RYA and RNLI safety advice remains:

- Have a plan - think about your route, check the weather forecast and tide times
- Know your limits - take extra care ashore or afloat and think about the limitations of your crew
- Look after yourself - ensure your boat and your crew are properly equipped for the trip; has everyone got a lifejacket or buoyancy aid?
- Keep in touch - carry a means of calling for help and share your RYA SafeTrx plan
- If you fall into the water FLOAT TO LIVE. Fight your instinct to thrash around, lean back, extend your arms and legs, and float
- In any coastal emergency, even if you are unsure, notify the Coastguard by dialling 999 or VHF 16

Stay alert, control the virus, save lives

Additional safety advice can be found at [www.RNLI.org/safety](http://www.RNLI.org/safety) and at [www.rya.org.uk/go/safety](http://www.rya.org.uk/go/safety). A series of short water safety educational videos aimed at children age approximately 7 to 11 can also be found at [www.RNLI.org/youth-education/education-resources/water-safety-wednesdays](http://www.RNLI.org/youth-education/education-resources/water-safety-wednesdays)

Any questions on safety can be sent to [Water\\_Safety@rnli.org.uk](mailto:Water_Safety@rnli.org.uk) or [cruising@rya.org.uk](mailto:cruising@rya.org.uk)

[www.RNLI.org/support-us](http://www.RNLI.org/support-us) [www.rya.org.uk](http://www.rya.org.uk)



**BEACH LIFEGUARDS  
CAN'T BE EVERYWHERE  
THIS SUMMER**

**PROTECT  
YOUR FAMILY**  
▼  
**FOLLOW  
SAFETY ADVICE**  
▼  
**SAVE LIVES**

**In an emergency dial 999 for the Coastguard**

Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI), a charity registered in England and Wales (209603), Scotland (SC037736), the Republic of Ireland (20003326), the Bailiwick of Jersey (14), the Isle of Man, the Bailiwick of Guernsey and Alderney | RNLI (Sales) Ltd | RNLI Shop (registration number 2202240 and RNLI College Ltd (registration number 7705470) both companies registered in England and Wales at West Quay Road, Poole, BH15 1HZ.  
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# RETURN TO BOATING

## HERE'S HOW:

### ..... BE CONSIDERATE .....

Avoid placing extra strain on the RNLI and emergency services:



**Consider the  
impact of  
your boating**



**Be mindful of  
others on the  
water or beach**



**Watch and be  
ready to assist  
others if needed**

### ..... BE CONSERVATIVE .....

Minimise risk in our approach to boating:



**Know  
our limits**



**Prepare before  
getting out  
on the water**



**Keep  
in touch**



**wash your  
hands**



**respect social  
distancing**



**check local  
restrictions**

The RYA supports Government guidelines to prevent spreading of COVID-19 and minimise pressure on frontline services.

Further advice for clubs, classes, training centres and recreational boaters at:

[rya.org.uk](http://rya.org.uk)

**RYA**

