



# Frequently Asked Questions

## Maritime Facility Fees and Charges

### Maritime facility fees for 2022-23

#### 1. What are the key changes for vessel accommodation users in 2022-23?

DoT is implementing a State-wide vessel accommodation fee structure. This includes working towards having consistent fees across all DoT facilities and that the fees cover the costs associated with the facilities. Adjustments have been made in 2022-23 to recognise that some infrastructure at facilities is shared and has a wider community benefit; and that those costs cannot be recovered solely from penholders and boating users.

This change has resulted in a reduction in the costs being attributable to vessel accommodation fees and is good news for pen and mooring holders with some benefiting from reduced fees this year and others knowing they are now much closer to the cost recovery fee.

#### 2. Why do we need a State-wide fee structure?

DoT started the transition to a State-wide fee structure in 2018 aiming to have customers pay the same fee for the same vessel accommodation type no matter the location within ten years.

For example, the fee for a fixed pen with walkway at Kalbarri would eventually be the same as the fee for a fixed pen with walkway at Fremantle Challenger Boat Harbour; and the fee for a floating pen with walkway at Albany Waterfront Marina would be the same as the fee for a floating pen with walkway at Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour.

The new fee structure was also an opportunity to address the growing disparity between revenue generated from fees and charges and the cost of maintaining facilities, reflecting Government policy which requires that fees and charges are set based on user pays principles.

#### 3. What are the State-wide vessel accommodation fee targets?

Vessel accommodation category	State-wide target fees in 2022-23 (inc GST)
Floating pen with walkway	\$ 696.00
Floating pen with walkway (service vessel)	\$ 904.80
Floating alongside berth	\$ 696.00
Floating alongside berth (service vessel)	\$ 904.80
Floating CAT pen with walkway	\$ 1,044.00
25 metre Pen with walkway (tropical cyclone zone)	\$ 1,113.60
Fixed pen with walkway	\$ 556.80
Fixed pen with walkway (service vessel)	\$ 765.60
Fixed CAT pen with walkway	\$ 835.20
Fixed alongside berth	\$ 556.80
Fixed alongside berth (service vessel)	\$ 765.60
Fixed pen no walkway	\$ 487.20
Pile mooring	\$ 278.40
Pile mooring (service vessel)	\$ 487.20
Swing mooring (user installed)	\$ 139.20

#### **4. Will my vessel accommodation fees increase in 2022-23?**

The reduction in costs attributable to vessel accommodation users has resulted in a reduction in fees at nine facilities, comprising around 67 per cent of DoT's vessel accommodation.

Vessel accommodation fees at fifteen facilities will continue to transition towards cost recovery, with increases of up to 11.75 per cent in 2022-23.

Nearly 70 per cent of vessel accommodation users will achieve target in 2022-23, with 95 per cent at target by 2024-25, two years ahead of schedule.

For full details of fees please refer to Maritime facilities: *Schedule of fees and charges (2022/23)* on the DoT website at: [www.transport.wa.gov.au/marinefeechanges](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/marinefeechanges).

#### **5. What are the benefits of the State-wide vessel accommodation fee structure?**

The State-wide fee structure will provide greater equity for users across the State and deliver operational and safety benefits through the ability to pool funds for works and allocate them based on priority rather than location or popularity of a facility.

In the last four years DoT has spent nearly \$74 million on a variety of major and minor capital works projects throughout the State.

Over the next four years DoT is forecast to spend a further \$161 million on major and minor maritime capital works projects.

#### **6. Will any other maritime facility fees increase in 2022-23?**

Yes, fees for the provision of other services, such as fees for use of service jetties, live-on-board and cargo fees, will increase by approximately 1.75 per cent.

#### **7. When will the changes be implemented and when will the new fees apply?**

The fees for 2022-23 are effective from 1 July 2022. Any new fees will apply to invoices for periods commencing, or services used, on or after 1 July 2022.

#### **8. When do vessel accommodation fees have to be paid?**

All vessel accommodation fees are payable in advance of the due date on receipt of an Invitation to Renew (ITR) or invoice.

#### **9. Can I pay online?**

Yes. If you have been issued with an ITR or an invoice by DoT, then you can pay online via the secure transaction site [www.transport.wa.gov.au](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au). Click on the online payments link of DoTDirect and follow the prompts. Please note, to claim input tax credits (also known as GST credit), you must retain a record of payment (such as a credit card statement or a confirmation of online payment, attached to the ITR). This is considered acceptable for input tax credit purposes.

## **General vessel accommodation queries**

#### **10. Will my fees increase again next year?**

Fees at 15 maritime facilities will continue to transition to the State-wide vessel accommodation target fees in 2023-24, with around 88 per cent achieving target levels in that year.

#### **11. Why are there different fees for different vessel accommodation types?**

- Fees for pens are charged per length of the pen occupied; whilst fees for alongside berths, pile moorings and swing moorings are charged per overall length of the vessel, as the length of vessels using these structures may vary considerably.
- Floating pens and berths provide customers with enhanced services such as side access to vessels; standard ingress/egress in all tides; security access gates; more convenient access to water and electricity.
- Fixed pens and berths are generally older and provide customers with reduced services such as limited or no walkways, and reduced access to water and electricity.
- Piled or swing moorings do not have pedestrian access and no direct access to power or water.

## 12. How do I calculate my vessel accommodation fee?

Vessel accommodation length **X** fee per period **X** number of periods.

Length is determined by the vessel accommodation type:

- If your vessel is using a fixed or floating alongside berth or a mooring, then the length used to calculate the fee will be the overall vessel length, rounded down to the nearest whole metre.
- If your vessel is accommodated in a fixed or floating pen, then the length will be the described pen length.

For example:

- For a 15.3 metre vessel accommodated on a user installed swing mooring at Bunbury Casuarina Boat Harbour for two weeks, the charge is 15 (metre) **X** \$5.80 (the standard State-wide fee per week including GST) **X** two (weeks) = \$174.00
- For a 15.3 metre vessel in an 18 metre pen at Augusta Boat Harbour for two weeks; the charge is 18 (100 per cent of pen length) **X** \$29.95 (fee per week including GST) **X** two (weeks) = \$1,078.20

## 13. Why is the overall vessel length important to harbour management?

DoT requires a vessel's overall length to ensure manoeuvrability and safe accommodation of vessels at its facilities. The overall vessel length, which includes attachments such as a marlin board or bowsprit, can in some cases be several metres longer than the registered length and this can mean that the vessel dangerously protrudes over jetties or into the fairway. This must be considered when allocating vessel accommodation.

## 14. If I relinquish my pen or mooring can I get a refund of my fees?

Yes, you are likely to be eligible for a refund if you relinquish your pen or mooring prior to your original licence end date. However, refunds are not provided on a pro rata basis, but are based on the fee that should have been charged for the actual licence period used.

For example, if you paid an annual fee for a 15 metre floating pen at Augusta for the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 at \$595.40 per metre then you would have paid \$8,931. If you then left after nine months, the fee applicable would revert to the three month or more rate of \$54.35 per meter per month, being \$7,337.25; and you would be eligible for a refund of \$1,593.75.

If you need to relinquish your pen or mooring, please contact your harbour, who will provide a copy of the relinquishment form to be completed and will be happy to calculate to see whether you are eligible for a refund.

## 15. How are fees for utilities calculated?

Single phase power and water is included in vessel accommodation fees.

Three phase power and water that is metered is charged to users according to the quantity consumed. Bulk water supplied across a service wharf or jetty is a service charge (a charge for the service of supplying water to a vessel). As such, bulk water fees are charged at a rate commensurate with the cost that the utilities provider charges to DoT. The service fee also includes GST.

## 16. Can I use my commercial vessel for recreational purposes while I am on holiday?

Yes, during the period that the vessel is being used solely for recreational purposes you will be charged the appropriate recreational fee. Please contact your local harbour office to discuss.

# Service jetties and wharves

## 17. If I have paid for vessel accommodation do I benefit from use of DoT managed service jetties and wharves?

- If a customer\* has paid for annual vessel accommodation\*\* at any DoT maritime facility, they are entitled to free short-term use of any DoT managed service jetty or wharf within the State. This short-term use is for up to one hour in any 24-hour period\* and is subject to availability.
- If a customer\* has paid for a shorter period of vessel accommodation\*\* at a maritime facility, they can use the service jetty or wharf for up to one hour in any 24-hour period at that maritime facility only, for the period of their vessel accommodation\*.

- Please note, the one-hour limit for short-term use of a service wharf or jetty\* may be extended for licensed fishing vessels to complete active loading or unloading operations, subject to the vessel vacating the berth to facilitate other operations if required by an Officer of the Department or an Authorised Person and subject to the extended period only applying if active loading or unloading operations are continuously in progress.

### **18. How do I access the service jetties and wharves if I don't have vessel accommodation in a DoT managed maritime facility?**

Customers\* without vessel accommodation\*\* that require short-term access to DoT service jetties or wharves on a regular basis can purchase an annual permit allowing short-term use of these facilities, subject to availability. Pick up an application form from your nearest harbour management office and once payment has been received a permit can be granted.

### **19. What are the fees for using service jetties and wharves?**

- For customers\* without vessel accommodation\*\* that want short term access to DoT service jetties or wharves on a regular basis, the annual fee payable is \$91.40 per metre of vessel length, rounded down to the nearest whole metre.
- Customers\* that want to use a service jetty or wharf for longer than one hour in any 24-hour period will be charged a daily fee, as appropriate for that vessel.
- For daily use of a service jetty or wharf by a commercial vessel\* the fee is \$8.00 per metre of vessel length, rounded down to the nearest whole metre.
- For daily use of a service jetty or wharf by a recreational vessel the fee is \$57.00.
- If a vessel is refuelling then there is no vessel accommodation charge for the use of the associated service jetty or wharf, while refuelling and simultaneous loading/unloading operations (if applicable) are continuously in progress. If a vessel wishes to remain at the service jetty or wharf after refuelling and simultaneous loading/unloading operations are complete, then an appropriate accommodation fee will be applied.

For further information please see the information sheet for *Use of service jetties and wharves* at [www.transport.wa.gov.au/marinefeechanges](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/marinefeechanges).

## **More information**

### **20. Where can I find more information?**

For further information about DoT maritime facilities please go to <http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/imate/marine-search-page.asp>

For all general enquiries or to provide feedback please email us at [facilityfees@transport.wa.gov.au](mailto:facilityfees@transport.wa.gov.au)

\*These fees and conditions apply at all DoT managed maritime facilities, except for those in the Swan Canning Rivers where short-term use of a service jetty is restricted to 15 minutes at a time or less on event days at Burswood Jetty; and for service vessels using maritime facilities at Exmouth, Onslow and Point Samson, for which separate fees apply.

\*\*Vessel accommodation is a pen, alongside berth or mooring within a DoT managed harbour or maritime facility, for which a fee has been paid to DoT.