

Visiting Les Minquiers

Issued by Ports of Jersey

Les Minquiers is a unique marine environments protected under the Ramsar Convention and the laws of Jersey. Increasing numbers of visitors are threatening this environment and, in order to minimise their impact, all visitors are requested to adhere to these guidelines.

Owing to Jersey's rabies regulations no dogs from France may be landed on Les Minquiers.

Flora and Fauna

Respect should be shown at all times to the local flora and fauna.

- Throughout the year a diversity of birds nest on the reef and many migrating species land to rest. There must be no disturbance. Keep clear of nesting sites, especially during the main nesting season from 1 January to 31 July. Some nesting sites may be roped off.
- Plants provide a valuable food resource for wildlife and must not be destroyed or uprooted.
- Dolphins and seals may be seen within the reef and in surrounding waters. Vessels should approach slowly, not get too close and, to avoid disturbance, all passengers should be as quiet as possible.
- No birds or mammals can be fed or touched.
- Drones are not to be used

Toilet facilities

There is only one toilet facility on Les Minquiers. If used, please refill the bucket available. However if nature calls, it is preferable to choose a discreet location below the half tide mark. If you plan to stay for a while, you should bring appropriate equipment.

Litter, barbecues

No litter, including disposable barbecues, should be left behind. If a barbecue is removed whilst still hot, the area should be doused with cold water or covered with cold stones to safeguard people with bare feet.

Residents' privacy

Huts are all privately owned. Please respect the privacy of the residents and their property.

Safety

Tidal currents are very strong. Care should be taken at all times when swimming, landing and boarding – all should be avoided above half tide if possible.

Please beware of the dangers of the rising tide and ensure you do not get cut off on an isolated rock.

Speed

The limit of 5 knots applies within the designated area. At all times slower speeds are recommended.

Moorings

With the exception of one buoy marked 'States', all moorings are privately owned. They are laid and maintained with different size vessels in mind. If you use a private mooring you should move off it quickly and courteously as soon as the owner arrives.

Moorings should not be used by more than one boat at a time except with the owner's permission.

If at anchor at Maîtresse Île, you are advised to keep an anchor watch for two hours each side of high water.

Fishing

Jersey fishing regulations and control apply to the reef. Minimum sizes and the closed season for ormers (May-September) must be observed. In particular, the use of floating rope to set pots in the approaches is not allowed.

Thank you for reading and adhering to these guidelines. Enjoy your visit to this unique reef.



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