BookletChart™

Port Royal Sound and Inland Passages
NOAA Chart 11516

A reduced-scale NOAA nautical chart for small boaters
When possible, use the full-size NOAA chart for navigation.

- Complete, reduced-scale nautical chart
- Print at home for free
- Convenient size
- Up-to-date with Notices to Mariners
- Compiled by NOAA’s Office of Coast Survey, the nation’s chartmaker
Nautical charts are a fundamental tool of marine navigation. They show water depths, obstructions, buoys, other aids to navigation, and much more. The information is shown in a way that promotes safe and efficient navigation. Chart carriage is mandatory on the commercial ships that carry America's commerce. They are also used on every Navy and Coast Guard ship, fishing and passenger vessels, and are widely carried by recreational boaters.

**What is a BookletChart?**

This BookletChart is made to help recreational boaters locate themselves on the water. It has been reduced in scale for convenience, but otherwise contains all the information of the full-scale nautical chart. The bar scales have also been reduced, and are accurate when used to measure distances in this BookletChart. See the Note at the bottom of page 5 for the reduction in scale applied to this chart.


This BookletChart does NOT fulfill chart carriage requirements for regulated commercial vessels under Titles 33 and 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

**Notice to Mariners Correction Status**

This BookletChart has been updated for chart corrections published in the U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency Weekly Notice to Mariners, and, where applicable, the Canadian Coast Guard Notice to Mariners. Additional chart corrections have been made by NOAA in advance of their publication in a Notice to Mariners. The last Notices to Mariners applied to this chart are listed in the Note at the bottom of page 7. Coast Pilot excerpts are not being corrected.


(Selected Excerpts from Coast Pilot)

**Morgan River** flows into St. Helena Sound from westward. The river is about 8 miles long and at its head connects with Chowan Creek, a tributary of Beaufort River. At the divide, this passage is nearly dry at low water where U.S. Route 21 highway bridge has a 28-foot fixed span with a clearance of 4 feet. The mean range of tide near the head of Morgan River is about 7 feet. **Coffin Creek**, on the south side of Morgan River near the mouth, has a shrimp-packing plant 1.7 miles above the creek mouth. In 1985, the reported controlling depth was 2 feet across the bar at the mouth, thence 8 feet in midchannel to the plant. On **Village Creek**, about 0.8 mile above Coffin Creek, there are two shrimp-packing plants where diesel fuel and supplies may be obtained, in an emergency only. In 1985, using local knowledge, a reported depth of 5 feet was available from the entrance to the shrimp-packing plants 1.5 miles upstream. Edding Creek is about 1.5 miles west of Village Creek. In 1983, the reported controlling depth in the creek was 5 feet for a distance of 2.5 miles.

On **Jenkins Creek**, about 2.1 miles westward of Edding Creek, are two shrimp-packing plants on the east side of the creek about 1.5 to 2 miles above the mouth. In 1994-1999, the reported controlling depth was 11 feet to these plants where diesel fuel, water and ice can be obtained in an emergency.

On the south shore of the Morgan River, west of Jenkins Creek, a marina has berths, electricity, gasoline, diesel fuel, water, ice, marine supplies, pump-out station, launching ramp and wet and dry storage. Hull, engine and electronic repairs can be made; a 50-ton lift is available.

**Trenchards Inlet**, just northeast of Port Royal Sound, has a bar which extends about 2 miles from shore; the narrow unmarked channel over the bar had a reported controlling depth of 3 feet in 1983. Local knowledge is advised. This inlet is connected at its head by Station Creek, which joins Port Royal Sound to the westward.

**Port Royal Sound**, one of the largest deepwater harbors on the Atlantic Coast between Cape Henry and Key West, has an entrance about 2 miles wide between **Bay Point** on the northeast and **Hilton Head** on the southwest. It is about 50 miles southwest of Charleston and is the ocean entrance to Port Royal and Beaufort.

**Channels**—A Federal project provides for a dredged channel 27 feet deep across the bar and through the sound to Bay Point, thence 24 feet in Beaufort River to a 27-foot turning basin in Battery Creek at Port Royal. (See Notice to Mariners and latest editions of the charts for controlling depths.) **South Channel** to the westward of the dredged channel and **Southeast Channel**, between Martins Industry and St. Michaels Breaker just north of it, are the more important. The dredged channel is well marked by lights, lighted ranges, and buoys. The channel in Beaufort River, from the dredged channel northward to Beaufort, is part of the Intracoastal Waterway and had a reported controlling depth of 12 feet in 1983. (See chart 11518.)

**Anchorages**—Port Royal Sound has natural depths of from 26 to 50 feet and is sometimes used as a harbor of refuge in winter. The best anchorage is off the mouth of Beaufort River westward of Bay Point northwest of Lighted Buoy 25. The holding ground on the rocky bottom south of Bay Point is poor. There is also good anchorage in 22 to 26 feet to the eastward of the dredged channel off the mouth of Chowan Creek.

**Dangers**—The breaking shoals extending almost 10 miles off Bay Point, eastward of the entrance channel, and for about 8 miles off Hilton Head Island, are the principal dangers. In thick weather, vessels should not approach the entrance too closely before picking up the pilot, especially on the flood, when the current sets directly onto the shoals: **Martins Industry**, the outermost shoal, **St. Michaels Breakers**, just north of it, and the **Great North Breakers**, between it and Bay Point. **Gaskin Banks, Fishing Bank, and Joiner Bank** are to the westward of the entrance channel. In 1995, a submerged wreck was about 1.5 miles southwest of Port Royal Sound Lighted Whistle Buoy P, in about 32°04'05"N., 80°36'14"W.; and submerged obstructions were about 0.35 mile southward and 1 mile south-southwestward of Lighted Whistle Buoy P., in about 32°04'51"N., 80°34'57"W., and 32°04'18"N., 80°35'31"W., respectively.
NOAA's navigation managers serve as ambassadors to the maritime community. They help identify navigational challenges facing professional and recreational mariners, and provide NOAA resources and information for safe navigation. For additional information, please visit nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/service/navmanagers.

To make suggestions or ask questions online, go to nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/inquiry. To report a chart discrepancy, please use ocsdata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/discrepancy.aspx.

Lateral System As Seen Entering From Seaward on navigable waters except Western Rivers

PORT SIDE
ODD NUMBERED AIDS
- GREEN LIGHT ONLY
- FLASHING (2)
- OCCULTING
- QUICK FLASHING
- ISO

PREFERRED CHANNEL
NO NUMBERS – MAY BE LETTERED
PREFERRED CHANNEL TO STARBOARD
TOPMOST BAND GREEN
- GREEN LIGHT ONLY
COMPOSITE GROUP FLASHING (2+1)

PREFERRED CHANNEL
NO NUMBERS – MAY BE LETTERED
PREFERRED CHANNEL TO PORT
TOPMOST BAND RED
- RED LIGHT ONLY
COMPOSITE GROUP FLASHING (2+1)

STARBOARD SIDE
EVEN NUMBERED AIDS
- RED LIGHT ONLY
- FLASHING (2)
- OCCULTING
- QUICK FLASHING
- ISO

For more information on aids to navigation, including those on Western Rivers, please consult the latest USCG Light List for your area. These volumes are available online at http://www.navcen.uscg.gov
With the 12-nautical mile Territorial Sea, established by Presidential Proclamation, some Federal laws apply. The Three Nautical Mile Line, previously identified as the outer limit of the territorial sea, is retained as it continues to depict the jurisdictional limit of the other laws. The 200-nautical mile Exclusive Economic Zone was established by Presidential Proclamation. Unless filed by treaty or the U.S. Supreme Court, these maritime limits are subject to modification.

HURRICANES AND TROPICAL STORMS

Hurricanes, tropical storms and other major storms may cause considerable damage to marine structures, aids to navigation and moored vessels, resulting in submerged debris in unknown locations.

Charted soundings, channel depths and shoreline may not reflect actual conditions following these storms.

Fixed aids to navigation may have been damaged or destroyed. Buoys may have been moved from their charted positions, damaged, sunk, extinguished or otherwise made inoperative. Mariners should not rely upon the position or operation of an aid to navigation.

Wrecks and submerged obstructions may have been displaced from charted locations. Pipelines may have become uncovered or raised.

Mariners are urged to exercise extreme caution and are requested to report aids to navigation discrepancies and hazards to navigation to the nearest United States Coast Guard unit.

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.

See Note on page 5.
VHF Marine Radio channels for use on the waterways:
Channel 6 – Inter-ship safety communications.
Channel 9 – Communications between boats and ship-to-coast.
Channel 13 – Navigation purposes at bridges, locks, and harbors.
Channel 16 – Emergency, distress and safety calls to Coast Guard and others, and to initiate calls to other vessels. Contact the other vessel, agree to another channel, and then switch.
Channel 22A – Calls between the Coast Guard and the public. Severe weather warnings, hazards to navigation and safety warnings are broadcast here.
Channels 68, 69, 71, 72 and 78A – Recreational boat channels.

Getting and Giving Help — Signal other boaters using visual distress signals (flares, orange flag, lights, arm signals); whistles; horns; and on your VHF radio. You are required by law to help boaters in trouble. Respond to distress signals, but do not endanger yourself.

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/

Quick References
- Nautical chart related products and information — http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov
- Interactive chart catalog — http://www.charts.noaa.gov/InteractiveCatalog/nrnc.shtml
- Chart updates (LNMs and NM corrections) — http://ocsdata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/inquiry.aspx?frompage=ContactUs
- Coast Pilot online — http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/updates/LNM_NM.html
- Tides and Currents — http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov
- National Data Buoy Center — http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/
- NowCoast web portal for coastal conditions — http://www.nowcoast.noaa.gov/
- National Hurricane Center — http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/
- Pacific Tsunami Warning Center — http://ptwc.weather.gov/
- Contact Us — http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/contact.htm

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