

Business Boat Licences

Canal & River Trust Regulation Checklist

(Please see Business Boating website for further information)

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/business-and-trade/business-boating>

Type of Boat	Regulations
Self-drive Holiday Hire (SDHH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home mooring with access to services • BSS Certificate (Hire boat) • Commercial insurance policy & public liability insurance (min of at least £2 million for each claim). • British Marine Handover Audit Certificate or copy of full handover procedure • Gas safety Certificate (if applicable)
Self-drive Day Hire (SDDH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home mooring with access to services • BSS Certificate (Hire boat) • Commercial insurance policy & public liability insurance (min of at least £2 million for each claim). • British Marine Handover Audit Certificate or copy of handover procedure • Gas safety Certificate (if applicable)
Static Letting (SL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an insurance policy certificate that shows you are insured for your business activity and confirmation that the Boat meets the Boat Safety Hire Boat requirements • a copy of your British Marine Handover Audit Certificate or a copy of your full Handover Procedure document. • Written confirmation that your mooring provider is happy for you to operate your business from their site. Should this permission be withdrawn by the mooring operator we reserve the right to withdraw the Licence. • a copy of your gas safety check record. •
Skipped Passenger Boat (SKP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home mooring with access to services <p><i>If carrying up to 12 passengers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSS Certificate (Non-private) plus • Declaration of Compliance with Small Passenger Boat Code and • Boatmaster's Licence or equivalent <p><i>If carrying 13 or more passengers:</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCA Class V Passenger Certificate • <i>All:</i> commercial insurance
Skipped hotel boat (SKH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May not require a Home Mooring if cruising all year to a published fixed schedule, will often require Winter Mooring. <p><i>If carrying up to 12 passengers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSS Certificate (Non-private) plus • Declaration of Compliance with Small Passenger Boat Code and • Boatmaster's Licence or equivalent <p><i>If carrying 13 or more passengers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCA Class V Passenger Certificate <p><i>All:</i> commercial insurance</p>
Roving Trader (RT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Mooring not required. • Public liability insurance for trading activity, third party insurance for boat (combined policy acceptable) (min of at least £2 million for each claim). • BSS Certificate (must be non-private if customers are allowed on the vessel to inspect or purchase goods or services) • Risk Assessment (if requested) • Boatmaster's Licence (if carrying coal, oil, diesel, sewage or gas over and above that required for the domestic use or navigation of the licensed craft)
Fixed Location Trading Boat (FLT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Mooring with appropriate services and planning consent for trading use • BSS Certificate (Non-private if customers allowed on board) • Commercial insurance • Risk Assessment (if requested)
Maintenance Workboat (MWB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Mooring if kept on the water • BSS Certificate • Commercial insurance (min of at least £2 million for each claim). • Boatmaster's Licence (or equivalent)
Safety Boat (SAF) (operated for rescue purposes by Emergency Services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home mooring if kept on the water • BSS Certificate • Commercial insurance • Boatmaster's Licence (or equivalent)
Trade Plate (TP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mooring or base appropriate for intended activity • Third party and Public Liability Insurance cover of at least two million pounds for each claim. • You must provide us with evidence that you are insured for your proposed activities on application. • Boat Masters/ helmsman (boat mover) • Evidence that you are operating a boating business.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing – completion of Trade Plate log
Exhibit Boat (EX)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved mooring location at approved centre (details available on request). • This licence is for statically moored craft that never navigate.

Please read our [General Guidance](#) section and make your own independent enquiries to ensure that you understand and comply with all the regulations relevant to your proposed operation.

It is your responsibility to ensure you have in place all other additional licences, permits and consent that may be required in the course of your business.