

TOURIST VESSEL OPERATIONS - GUIDELINES

For Registration with Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

1. Definitions

1.1. Vessels in private use for sports or pleasure means;

1.1.1.a. any vessel -

(i) In the case of a vessel wholly owned by an individual or individuals, being used only for the sport or pleasure of the owner or the immediate family or friends of the owner; or

(ii) in the case of a vessel owned by a body corporate, being used by persons which are employees, officers or shareholders of the body corporate, or their immediate family or friends; and

1.1.1.b. on a voyage or excursion which is one for which the owner does not receive money for or in connection with operating the vessel or carrying any person, other than as a contribution to the direct expenses of the operation of the vessel incurred during the voyage or excursion; or

1.1.2. any vessel wholly owned by or on behalf of a club formed for the purpose of sport or pleasure which, at the time it is being used, is used only for the sport or pleasure of members of the club or their immediate family, and for the use of which any charges levied are paid into club funds and applied for the general use of the club; and

1.1.3. in the case of any vessel referred to in paragraphs (1.1.1.) or (1.1.2), no other payments are made by or on behalf of the users of the vessel, other than by the owner;

and in this definition, “immediate family” means, in relation to an individual, the husband or wife of the individual, and a relative of the individual or the relative’s husband or wife, “relative” means brother, sister, ancestor or lineal descendant, and “owner” includes charterer.

1.2. Passenger Vessel means a vessel which carries more than twelve passengers.

1.3. Vessels in commercial use for sport or pleasure means a sport or pleasure vessel used for profit or reward

2. Mandatory Requirements for Registration

2.1. Every vessel that is owned or operated for the purpose of Tourist activities shall have a valid registration certificate, certificate of survey, other applicable valid certificates and/or record of compliance issued by the Director General of Merchant Shipping in accordance with the Merchant Shipping Act No. 52 of 1971 and regulations issued thereunder.

2.2. Every vessel except vessel in commercial use for sport or pleasure that is owned or operated for the purpose of Tourist activities shall be manned and operated in accordance with the certificate of survey issued by the Director General of Merchant Shipping. The operating crew of such vessels shall hold appropriate valid licenses and certificates as prescribed in regulations made under the Merchant Shipping Act No. 52 of 1971.

2.3. Adequate stowage facilities for personal effects, provisions and other consumables shall be available as per internationally accept standards.

2.4. Where food is prepared on board a permanently fitted ‘galley’ with a permanently fitted sink and adequate appliances needed for the preparation of hot meals shall be provided.

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- 2.5. Cooking and heating appliances shall be mount/ed to be safe under sea motion conditions. They may be gimbal or semi-gimbal mounted.
- 2.6. Effective steps shall be taken to eliminate or minimize the use of single use plastics used as packaging on board.
- 2.7. The use of UV filters at outlets used for taking water for drinking or preparing of food and beverages consumed raw must be considered.
- 2.8. All staff handling food shall be trained in food hygiene and safe handling of food.
- 2.9. Use of a Dish Washing machine with correct final rinse temperature is recommended. In the absence of a dishwashing machine, final rinsing must be carried out with water not less than 90°C temperature.
- 2.10. A separate facility for washing pots with hot and cold water via a mixer tap must be available.
- 2.11. Cold storage for food, if used, must be maintained at correct temperatures at all times and the temperature must be checked and recorded at least ever six hours.
- 2.12. Cooked food must be kept covered and at correct temperatures until served.
- 2.13. In cold storage facilities uncooked food must be stored separately from cooked food at all times. The use of air tight containers may be considered as a viable option.
- 2.14. Guest registry with all necessary details including (Name, country, contact details travel agent details, Passport /ID) details should be maintained.
- 2.15. The operator shall maintain and practise own sustainable policy and special advertence should be given during the tour.
- 2.16. There should be necessary equipment and ensure the safety measures at all the time for combined activities like swimming, fishing & diving etc.
- 2.17. In addition to above requirements, vessels in private use for sports or pleasure shall comply with following requirements;
 - 2.17.2. A very clear policy shall be in place for handling the garbage generated within the vessel. The garbage means all food, domestic and operational waste produced on board.
 - 2.17.3. No garbage shall be disposed in to the sea.
 - 2.17.4. All garbage shall be retained on board and disposed oat ashore at the waste reception facilities while taking every possible step to recycle where possible.
 - 2.17.5. The staff except crew shall be trained in first aid Fire Fighting and a certificate confirming such training issued by an authorized officer must be available.
 - 2.17.6. Staff except the crew shall be trained in first aid and handling medical emergencies and a certificate confirming such training issued by an authorized officer must be available.
 - 2.17.7. The person in charge of the vessel shall brief all passengers on all safety procedures, first aid & emergency protocols as part of the welcome and familiarisation activity.
 - 2.17.8. Cabins and other living spaces shall have adequate ventilation.
