

Kayaking around Anglesey

Map key

- 2.0** Tidal flow in knots
- Possible kayak launch sites (see notes on tidal flow rates)
- T** Kayak training available
- Angling bait and tackle shops
- LIFEBOAT STATION** Lifeboat Stations: advice available (some stations are not full time)
- COAST GUARD** Coastguard (for advice and trip notification)
- PORT CONTROL** Holyhead Port Control (for sea conditions and ferry movements)
- HARBOUR MASTER** Harbour Master (not full time)
- COAST WATCH** National Coastwatch Station
- Maritime pursuits facilities
- P** Public car parks
- Public toilets
- Coastal Cafe
- Hazardous areas
- Breaking waves
- Turbulent seas



When exiting Porth Dafarch, beginner and intermediate kayakers are advised only to turn east and stay inshore. This will help you avoid the dangerous tidal race and overfalls that develop around and extend from the headland to the west.

Kayaking areas

Every paddler is responsible for planning his or her trip. This guide is no substitute for careful consideration based on the conditions and your training. However, some areas are more challenging than others – even in the most favourable conditions. Beginners, especially those paddling higher sided craft such as sit-on-top kayaks, are strongly advised to stay close to the shore and only paddle in onshore wind conditions. Use the guide below as a starting point when planning your next trip.

- Beginners 1–2** Only appropriate in light onshore winds
- Intermediate 3–4**
- Experienced 5**

Please note that this map is not drawn precisely to scale.



KAYAKING AROUND ANGLESEY

Anglesey is home to some of the best sea kayaking in the United Kingdom. This information will help you stay safe and enjoy your time on the water.

Always carry a means of calling for help

Kayaking is a very safe sport, but accidents do happen. Between 2010 and 2012, there were 21 fatalities in the UK*. None of these had a means of calling for help when they needed it the most.

Protect yourself by carrying a VHF radio or personal locator beacon (PLB). Try to take a mobile phone in a waterproof case as a back-up.

*Source MCA Canoe and Kayak Report.

To find out more about staying safe on the water, visit RNLI.org/RespectTheWater.

Kayak training on Anglesey

The following organisations can provide Anglesey-based kayak training and advice on local conditions.

- 1 Sea Kayaking UK:** 01407 765 550, info@seakayakinguk.com or www.seakayakinguk.com
- 2 Sea Kayaking Anglesey:** 07973 172 632 or www.seakayakinganglesey.co.uk
- 3 Adventure Elements:** 07986 992 254 or www.adventureelements.com
- 4 B-Active Rhoscolyn:** 07833 424 046, andy@b-active-rhoscolyn.co.uk or www.b-active-rhoscolyn.co.uk
- 5 Summit to Sea:** 01407 740 963, info@summittosea.co.uk or www.summittosea.co.uk
- 6 Coastalspirit:** 07873 132 999, info@coastalspirit.com or www.coastalspirit.com
- 7 Anglesey Adventures:** 01407 761 777 or www.angleseyadventures.com

For more information on kayaking and canoeing in the UK, visit www.bcu.org.uk



How to stay safe



Wear a buoyancy aid or other suitable personal flotation device (PFD).



Carry a means of calling for help and keep it within reach.

Paddle with others. It's always safer than paddling alone.



Check the weather and tide to plan your trip accordingly.

Tell someone where you are going and when you will be back.



Get relevant training. It will keep you safe and you'll have more fun too!



Weather sources

- **UK Met Office:** www.metoffice.gov.uk.
- **Inshore 24-hour forecast** (including forecast for a further 24 hours).
- **St David's Head to Great Orme's Head.**
- **BBC Radio 4 FM/MW/LW** at the following local times: 12.48am and 05.20am.

The Met Office also provides four-day surface pressure charts. HM Coastguard Holyhead, announced on VHF Channel 16 and then given on specified channel at the following local times: **1.30am**, 4.50am, **7.30am**, 10.50am, **1.30pm**, 4.50pm, **7.30pm** and 10.50pm. Times in bold include latest inshore forecast.

Other online sources

www.xcweather.co.uk
www.windguru.co.uk

Tidal flow rates around Anglesey

These can be very strong at certain locations and times of the tide. The flow rates are at their most severe during spring tides, which occur every two weeks and coincide with the two days after full and new moons. Use a tide timetable to make sure you know tide times for your trip.

The map overleaf shows the notable tidal gate areas and their spring tidal flow rates in knots in each direction.



As water moves over rocks or is pushed through narrow channels, it can move very fast and become very turbulent. If the wind and tide are in opposing directions, this will also create waves. You should be experienced and suitably equipped for paddling in these conditions.

You should also check tidal times, flow rates, wind strength and direction, and anticipate how sea conditions may develop.



Breaking waves



Turbulent seas



Hazardous area

Useful contacts

Make a note of these and take them with you on your trip.

Holyhead Coastguard

For advice or to notify them of your trip, **01407 762 051**. In an emergency dial 999 or call on **VHF Channel 16**.

RNLI stations

For advice on sea conditions and trip planning local to each station, call Holyhead, Moelfre, Beaumaris or Trearddur Bay. This is not always a full-time service.

Holyhead Port Control

For advice in the vicinity of Holyhead Port, including ferry movements, call **01407 763 071** or call on **VHF Channel 14**.

Anglesey Maritime Services

Call them on **01248 752 300** or pem@anglesey.gov.uk.

Isle of Anglesey County Council, Council Offices, Llangefni, Anglesey, L77 7TW.



Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI), a charity registered in England and Wales (209603) and Scotland (SC037736). Registered charity number 20003326 in the Republic of Ireland.