Marina and Turning Basin / Mooring

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the mooring fee at the Marina or Turning Basin?
A: As of July 1st, 2017 the Marina or Turning Basin mooring fee is $30 per day.

Q: How / where do I pay for mooring at the Turning Basin?
A: Mooring permits are in "DOCK FEE BOX" locations clearly marked near the Marina boat slip, or at the Turning Basin near the Drop Fee Box sign. Fill out permit, put payment in box, & display receipt on boat visible from dock.

Q: Are the gates at the Turning Basin locked?
A: The gates are locked at 8:00 PM and unlocked at 8:00 AM

Q: How do I get the Turning Basin gate code?
A: The gate code is included in with mooring permit.

Q: How many boats can dock at one time?
A: There have been as many as 80 boats in the Turning Basin, but that is very rare.

Q: How many electric/water hook ups are there at the Turning Basin?
A: On the west (yacht club side) there are 36/30 amp outlets, 18 water hose bibs. On the east side, 20/30 amp outlets, 12 water hose bibs.

Q: Are there shower and/or bathroom privileges?
A: There are no public restrooms at the Turning Basin. However, Yacht Club members with reciprocity may use facilities at the Petaluma Yacht Club. Please contact the Yacht Club. Their web site lists that they are open at 6:00 pm on Fridays and at 5:00 pm on Saturdays. There are showers and restrooms available to boaters staying at the marina.

Q: How deep is it in the Turning Basin?
A: At a zero low tide, much of the Turning Basin is about 2 feet deep. There are deeper spots along docks (depths marked on rub rail are at zero tide). Recommend for deep draft boats to come up river with a min. 2-foot tide (preferably on the incoming tide). Keep out of marked area, shallow area between hazard markers to far shore. Be aware of the tide when planning arrival or departure from the Marina or Turning Basin.

Q: How long does it take to get from the Marina to the Turning Basin?
A: About 15 minutes at no wake speed.

Q: How long does it take to get from the entrance of the river to the Turning Basin?
A: From marker 1 entrance to Petaluma river channel to turning basin, distance is 15 miles. Time will depend on speed. (e.g., at 30 mph, it would take ½ hr., at 15 mph, it would take 1 hr., and at 7 mph, it would take 2 hrs.)

Q: Whom do I call for emergencies?
A: Call 911 from a landline phone if you have a life or death emergency, or to report an in-progress incident. When using a cellular phone, please contact the Petaluma Police Department at 707-762-2727, or the Petaluma Fire Department at 707-762-4545 to report a fire.

Q: What do I do if my boat becomes stuck in the mud?
A: If you can’t get free, please wait for the incoming tide. You may call Towboat Vessel Assist at 877-422-9869 for assistance but there is a charge for their assistance.

Q: Can I dock on the commercial side if the visitor side is full?
A: Any space not already occupied is ok. Same permit applies.

Q: Can I dock parallel to the dock versus stern in if there are not many boats in the Turning Basin?
A: Side tie is ok if room available. However, be ready to stern tie if more boats arrive.

Q: Who is the Harbormaster?
A: Currently the Director of Public Works & Utilities and the Operations Manager act as the City Harbor Master. They can be reached at 707-778-4303 option 3.