

UKHO Plans Hundreds of Port Approach Guides



The United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO) continues to expand its Port Approach Guide portfolio, with coverage in Asia set to expand significantly through the inclusion of ports in China.

The UKHO's Port Approach Guides are port-scale charts that contain a wide range of planning and support information for ports. Taken from official ADMIRALTY charts and publications, this planning information usually includes Vessel Traffic Service Information (VTS), Principal lights and landmarks, tidal information, pilotage, port regulations and other port specific warnings. By providing bridge crews this information in one place, each guide can simplify a number of passage planning tasks, thus making port entry and exit quicker and easier.

Each [Port Approach Guide](#) can also be used to understand any changes to a port area, with Quick Response (QR) codes providing quick links to relevant updates on ADMIRALTY EasyTide and Notice to Mariners WebSearch. Preliminary Notice to Mariners are also included in Section II of paper NMs. International Code of Signals (ICS) flags are also used as a way of drawing attention to features, helping mariners to quickly link chart features to the associated text panels. When used in conjunction with official navigational charts, this information can enhance situational awareness when making the port approach.