



**Belfast
Harbour**



Schedule of Charges

1st January 2026

Schedule of Charges 2026

Contents

Marine general terms and conditions	3
Settlement terms for port charges	3
Statutory/Bank Holidays for 2026	3
Port charges on ships	4
Port charges for berth occupancy	5
Port charges for fresh water	6
Port charges for gangway hire	6
Port charges on ship generated waste	7
Port security charges	8
Pilotage charges	9
Pilotage charges and boat rates	10
Pilotage exemption certification	12
Towage certification charges	13
Port charges on goods	14
Regulations and charges for quay rent and storage	16
Regulations and charges for cranes	17

Marine General Terms and Conditions

Terms and Conditions of business within Belfast Harbour apply to any service, or the entry of any vessel, goods or equipment into or onto the port area. The Marine General Terms and Conditions are published and updated from time to time.

Please visit: <https://www.belfast-harbour.co.uk/port/port-terms-charges/>

Settlement Terms for Port Charges

INVOICE TYPE	SETTLEMENT TERMS
Port charges on ships	30 Days from date of arrival
Port charges for berth occupancy	30 Days from date of invoice
Port charges for fresh water	30 Days from date of arrival
Port charges for gangway hire	30 Days from date of invoice
Port charges on ship generated waste	30 Days from date of arrival
Port security charges	30 Days from date of arrival
Pilotage charges	30 Days from date of arrival
Towage certification charges	30 Days from date of invoice
Port charges on goods	60 Days from date of arrival
Quay rent and storage charges	30 Days from date of invoice
Cranage charges	60 Days from date of arrival

Belfast Harbour Commissioners reserves the right, at its discretion, to request full payment of any and all Port Charges in advance of ship arrival. All charges must be paid without offset, deduction or counterclaim.

Statutory/Bank Holidays for 2026

Thursday 1st January 2026
Monday 6th April 2026
Tuesday 7th April 2026
Monday 4th May 2026
Monday 13th July 2026
Tuesday 14th July 2026
Monday 31st August 2026
Friday 25th December 2026
Monday 28th December 2026
Tuesday 29th December 2026

Port charges on ships

Charges are based on Gross Tonnage, ascertained in accordance with the requirements of the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships 1969.

Charges are payable at a rate appropriate to either the inward or outward voyage, whichever is the greater.

A ship on which the appropriate charge has been paid and which is obliged from stress or weather or other sufficient cause after leaving the Port to return with the same cargo and which does not break bulk or load additional cargo is exempt from payment for the second entry.

Interpretation

In this schedule:

- (i) "ship" includes every description of vessel used in navigation
- (ii) the charges are "ship dues" for the purposes of the Harbours Act (Northern Ireland) 1970
- (iii) "EEA" means member states of the European Economic Area.

Class of Ship	Gross Tonnage Charge per Ton (pence)
1. On every ship from a port of origin, or to a port with a final destination within the EEA or Great Britain, save for the exceptions listed below:	62.063
2. On every ship from a port of origin, or to a port with a final destination outside the EEA or Great Britain, save for the exceptions listed below:	105.475

Exceptions	Gross Tonnage Charge per Ton (pence)
a) On every ship carrying crude or refined oils only in bulk Conventional Tankers	
(i) Ships under 5,000 tonnes gross	62.675
(ii) Ships 5,000 tonnes gross or over	109.226
b) On every ship, excluding crude and refined oil tankers, from a port of origin outside the EEA which shall not part discharge cargo to an extent exceeding 40% of the Gross Tonnage of the ship and shall not load any cargo or vice versa (70% of 2. above)	73.832 <small>*Subject to application in writing by the ship owner or its appointed agent. (rates@belfast-harbour.co.uk)</small>
c) On every ship entering the Port for repairs only:	
(i) For the first 25,000 tonnes gross	37.708
(ii) For every ton thereafter	17.924
d) On every ship carrying containers operating EEA services only	37.739
e) On every ship entering the Port in distress, or to bunker only, or for stores to enable her to proceed to her original destination, and neither discharging nor loading cargo for trading purposes	36.068
f) Roll-on/Roll-off ships	Priced on application**
g) Cruise Liners (Including Superyachts)	Priced on application**
h) Pleasure Craft	Priced on application**

** Applications should be made in writing by the ship owner or its appointed agent to rates@belfast-harbour.co.uk

Note:

- All charges on ships (trading and non-trading vessels, with the exception of Pleasure Craft) are subject to minimum charge of £280.53

Port charges for berth occupancy

Trading vessels

Trading ships which remain in the Port 12 hours after the completion of cargo discharge and/or after the expiration of 7 days from the date of arrival are charged (in addition to the appropriate Ships Charge) in respect of any additional time as follows:

Gross Tonnage per ton per week or part thereof (pence)	
All Trading Vessels	10.670

Non-trading vessels

All non-trading ships which enter the Port are charged from the day of arrival (in addition to the appropriate ships charge) as follows:

Gross Tonnage per ton per week or part thereof (pence)	
Non-Trading Vessels	24.520
Ships fitting out or undergoing repairs at Harland and Wolff Facilities (Excluding Dry Docks)	5.270

Note:

- All charges for berth occupancy (trading and non-trading vessels) are subject to minimum charge of £336.63 per week
- All charges for berth occupancy apply to all berths within Belfast Harbour

Port charges for fresh water

1. Water Charge

For each cubic metre of water recorded on the standpipe - £2.69

2. Standard Operating Hours

The standard operating hours for each connection and each disconnection are as follows:

Connection Time	
Monday to Thursday	08.00 - 16.30
Friday	08.00 - 15.30

All other times outside these hours are classed as outside standard operating hours.

3. Service Charge

The following charges are payable for each connection and each disconnection as follows:

Period	Minimum notice period	Charge
Within standard operating hours	30 minutes	£68.18
Outside standard operating hours	3 hours	£158.68

4. Cancellation Charge

If a connection booking is cancelled on the booking system, then the following charges apply:

Period	Minimum notice period	Charge
Within standard operating hours	30 minutes	£0
Outside standard operating hours	3 hours	£47.02

5. Late Notice Fee

If a water connection or cancellation is requested which does not comply with the minimum notice periods above, a charge of £275.04 will be applied in addition to the service/cancellation charge.

Port charges for gangway hire

A gangway is available for hire at the following daily rates and are subject to BHC's terms and conditions of hire for the gangway.

Gangway Size	Price per day or part thereof
12m	£461.00
17m	£764.00
25m	£1,291.00
Gangway Platform (inclusive of 12m runoff gangway)	£1,246.00

Port charges on ship generated waste

Belfast Harbour Commissioners are required by law as a Port Authority to levy a compulsory ship generated waste charge under the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Port Waste Reception Facilities) Regulations 2003.

Notes:

These Regulations do not apply to:

- (a) Any warship, naval auxiliary or other ship owned or operated by a State and used, for the time being, only on government non-commercial service
- (b) Fishing vessels
- (c) Recreational craft authorised to carry, or designed to carry, no more than 12 passengers.

Vessels which provide evidence of a valid waste exemption certificate are exempt from paying this charge.

24 hours notice of waste on board and for discharge must be notified to Port Operations on the Waste Declaration or the vessels will be in breach of the regulations.

The charge covers (i) Galley Waste and (ii) Garbage. Other categories of waste i.e hazardous waste, as noted on the Waste Declaration should be handled by Contractors appointed by the Ship Agent, who will deal with the Contractor's costs.

Details of waste reception facilities can be obtained from Port Operations: operations@belfast-harbour.co.uk

Charges are based on Gross Tonnage, ascertained in accordance with the requirements of the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships 1969.

GT From		GT To	Charge per arrival
0	-	500	£56.68
501	-	1,000	£68.01
1,001	-	2,000	£79.34
2,001	-	3,000	£102.00
3,001	-	4,000	£124.62
4,001	-	5,000	£147.34
5,001	-	10,000	£215.30
10,001	-	20,000	£271.99
Exceeding		20,000	£317.32
Non Trading and Cruise Vessels			Price on Application

Port security charges

International Ship and Port Facility (ISPS) charges

An ISPS charge shall apply to all ships using the Port's "General User" berths.

BHC General User Berths are as follows:-

Albert Quay	Oil Berths 2 & 3
Ballast Quay	Pollock Dock & Basin
Barnett Dock	Richardson Wharf
D1 South, Central and North	Sinclair Wharf
Gotto Wharf	Stormont Wharf
Herdman Channel Wharf South	West Twin Wharf
Musgrave Scrap Wharf	York Dock

In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 725/2004 ISPS code Part A section 3.3: This code does not apply to warships, naval auxiliaries or other ships owned or operated by a Contracting Government and used only on Government non-commercial service.

Charges are based on Gross Tonnage, ascertained in accordance with the requirements of the International Convention of Tonnage Measurement of Ships 1969.

GT From		GT To	Charge per arrival
0	-	500	£36.71
501	-	1,000	£44.07
1,001	-	2,000	£58.78
2,001	-	3,000	£73.49
3,001	-	4,000	£88.21
4,001	-	5,000	£102.84
5,001	-	6,000	£117.57
6,001	-	8,000	£168.99
8,001	-	10,000	£271.90
10,001	-	12,000	£345.38
12,001	-	15,000	£411.50
15,001	-	20,000	£514.34
20,001	-	25,000	£690.66
25,001	-	30,000	£859.64
30,001			£1028.68



Pilotage Charges

Pilotage directions

These Pilotage Directions are laid down by the Belfast Harbour Commissioners in pursuance of their obligations under Section 7 of the Pilotage Act 1987 to provide pilotage in the Port of Belfast and its approaches.

A full description of Belfast Harbour's Pilotage Directions can be found on the Belfast Harbour Website:
<https://www.belfast-harbour.co.uk/port/navigation-pilotage/>

Pilotage charges and boat rates

For the purposes of this Schedule:

- (i) "Ship" includes every description of vessel used in navigation
- (ii) Charges are based on "Net Tonnage" ascertained in accordance with
 - (a) The Merchant Shipping (Tonnage) Regulations 1982 or
 - (b) The Regulations previously in force

Applicable to ships entering or leaving the Port of Belfast

1. (a) For the services of a Pilot from the seaward limit of the Port to any berth in the Port or vice versa: [Pilot joining or leaving at position 'Belfast B']

Net Tonnage			Inward or Outward Pilotage Charges	Boat Rate
0	-	300	£191.11	£111.74
301	-	500	£213.93	£117.74
501	-	700	£240.06	£121.55
701	-	1,000	£259.77	£128.14
1,001	-	2,000	£360.65	£145.32
2,001	-	3,000	£450.83	£174.31
3,001	-	4,000	£547.07	£204.12
4,001	-	5,000	£635.61	£243.76
5,001	-	10,000	£739.22	£290.28
10,001	-	15,000	£861.80	£345.03
15,001	-	20,000	£1093.86	£439.82

Exceeding 20,000 tonnes		Inward or Outward Pilotage Charges	Boat Rate
For the first 20,000 tonnes		£1093.86	£439.82
For each additional 10,000 tonnes or part thereof up to 100,000 tonnes		£740.20	£220.11
For each additional 10,000 tonnes or part thereof above 100,000 tonnes		£1093.86	£439.82

(b) For the services of a Pilot Inward or Outward in the Inner Harbour only (Pilot joining or leaving at Boarding Point C)

OR Which ever modified charge may apply following a change in the applicable pilotage direction

Pilotage Charge	80% of the appropriate Inward or Outward charge specified in (a) above
Boat Rate	the appropriate Boat Rate specified in (a) above

(c) For the services of a Pilot for Outsea pilotage [Pilot joining or leaving at Boarding Point A]

Pilotage Charge	140% of the appropriate Inward or Outward charge specified in (a) above
Boat Rate	140% of the appropriate Boat Rate specified in (a) above

(d) Project operations requiring the attendance of Pilots in the Outsea area

Pilotage Charge	POA
Boat Rate	200% of the appropriate Boat Rate specified in (a) above

Note: Inward and Outward Pilotage Charges include berthing and unberthing respectively.

2. Charge for Shifting a ship from one berth in the Port to another berth in the Port

A charge equivalent to 75% of the appropriate Inward or Outward pilotage charge specified in 1. (a) above will be applied on each occasion on which a Pilot is required to shift a ship.

3. Charges for "Other Services" (in addition to the appropriate Inward or Outward Pilotage and Shifting Charges specified above) where applicable:

(a) For Piloting a ship to an Anchorage in the approaches to the Port where that ship originates from, or is destined for, the Port.	£201.20
(b) For Piloting a ship into or out of any Dry Dock or Building Dock in the Port:	
Ships not exceeding 10,000 tonnes net register	£304.14
Ships exceeding 10,000 tonnes but not exceeding 70,000 tonnes net register	£398.90
For each additional 20,000 tonnes or part thereof	£201.20
(c) For the Detention of a Pilot in excess of 30 minutes while in attendance on a ship either before or after a pilotage service is rendered, except when due to stress of weather or fog, for every hour or part thereof after the first 30 minutes	£86.57
(d) For the attendance of a Pilot at the request of the Owners of any ship or their Representative for Consultation for any period not exceeding 5 hours (24hr notice required)	£664.42
(e) For the Cancellation of an order for the service of a Pilot less than 1 hour before the booked time or after a Pilot has been in attendance in addition to any Detention Charge incurred	£264.36
(f) For the attendance of a Pilot for all Non-standard marine operations (in addition to all other applicable charges)	£424.64

When the services of two Pilots are engaged on board any one ship, the charge for the 2nd or **Assistant Pilot** shall be 50% of the appropriate charge specified above except for the charges for Detention, Consultation, and Cancellation for which the full charge will apply.

The charges for the provision of the services of a Pilot in the approaches to the Port seaward of an imaginary line joining Orlock Point to Blackhead are by arrangement.

Pilotage exemption certification

Pilot Exemption certificates are available.

For more information please visit www.belfast-harbour.co.uk/port/navigation-pilotage

Contributions from Masters and Mates

The owner of every vessel shall, on every act that a Master or Mate who holds a Pilotage Exemption Certificate shall navigate his vessel within the limits of the Port, pay to the Belfast Harbour Commissioners 20 percent of Pilotage Charges which would have been payable in respect of such vessel from the seaward limit of the port to any berth within the Port, or vice versa, if the Master or Mate had not held a Pilotage Exemption Certificate.

No such contribution shall be payable in respect of such vessels moving within the Inner Harbour for the purposes of changing from one berth to another or being taken into or out of any dry dock.

Charges for Pilotage Exemption Certificates

(a) For examination or re-examination for a Certificate	£1038.42
(b) For the grant of a Certificate	£100.48
(c) For the annual renewal of a Certificate	£100.48
(d) For the grant of a duplicate Certificate*	£53.59
(e) For the addition of names of vessels to a Certificate - per vessel	£97.60

*Any Certificated Officer who has lost his Certificate shall forthwith give notice thereof to the Harbour Master stating the circumstances under which the Certificate was lost and the Harbour Master may, if he thinks fit, issue to such Certificated Officer a duplicate Certificate.

Charges for Local Knowledge Certificate

A Local Knowledge Examination will be required for the person in charge of commercially operated MCA coded Leisure Craft operating to/from a berth or through the harbour area.

For examination and for the grant of a Certificate	£154.69
----------------------------------------------------	---------

Contact: pec@belfast-harbour.co.uk

Towage certification charges

Charges for Towage Certificates

(a) For the assessment of Towage Certificate Application (to be paid in advance)	£1483.00
(b) For the annual renewal of a Towage Certificate	£147.00
(c) For the addition of 'identical' sister ships to an existing Towage Certificate	£147.00

A Towage Certificate shall not be renewed unless application for renewal is made, in writing, from the Owner or Operator within one month of the expiry of such Certificate confirming that all original characteristics of the vessel remain unchanged.

If no such request is made the certificate will be considered to have no validity and the towage applied to the vessel will revert to that as required by the Towage Guidelines in force at that time.

Contact: operations@belfast-harbour.co.uk

Port charges on goods

Notes:

1. Application

Port charges on Goods:-

- (i) are "goods dues" for the purposes of the Harbours Act (Northern Ireland) 1970
- (ii) apply to all goods whether imported or exported except where otherwise provided
- (iii) are payable on gross weight including packaging unless otherwise stated
- (iv) are not payable on the tare weights of carriers, wheeled and unwheeled, used solely and regularly to convey goods in unit loads, when loaded
- (v) are not payable outwards:
 - (a) for propulsion of the vessel carrying such bunker fuel
 - (b) on goods transhipped direct into another ship during the discharge of the importing ship
 - (c) on goods arriving and landed for immediate export and on which inward charges have been paid and which have not been subject to change or processing in any way, provided written notification is supplied to the Commissioners within 14 days of the commencement of discharge of the importing ship

2. Unit Load Traffic

The charge on all cargo in containers and similar unit loads will be as per that amount shown on page 15 and not according to the commodity.

3. Statutory Returns

Under the provisions of the Belfast Harbour Acts and the Acts incorporated therewith, full details of all goods are required to be given to the Commissioners immediately after importation or before exportation.

4. Goods Tariffs

Commodity		Per Tonne (pence)
Liquid Bulk:		
Bitumen and Asphalt		85.898
Kerosene and Fuel Oil		113.738
LPG		203.753
Motor Spirit, Diesel and Gas Oil		191.836
Vegetable Oils		98.207
Molasses		113.738
Dry Bulk:		
Fertilisers		105.978
Quarry Stone Export		50.663
Scour Protection Stone		84.068
Other Dry Bulk Cargo discharged or loaded by Grab		84.068
Break Bulk:		
Iron and Steel		104.600
Scrap Metal		192.301
Machinery, Electrical Equipment, Fabricated metals, Wind Turbines, Parts Thereof		258.160
Timber - Non shedded	per cubic metre	112.829
Timber - Shedded	per cubic metre	154.857
Paper		105.661
Other Non-Shedded Cargo		157.155
Shedded Cargo		216.070
Aerospace equipment	per cubic metre	333.333
Unit Load:		
Unit Load Carriers -	- Empty	105.081
	- Loaded (Tare Weight)	Exempt
Cargo Carried (See Page 14, Note 2)	- Regular Services	105.081
	- Non Regular Services	128.362
All Goods not elsewhere specified		Price on Application

Regulations and charges for quay rent and storage

1. Provided the reasonable use and enjoyment of any quay, wharf or shed is not interfered with or business obstructed, goods may be placed thereon or therein as directed by a Port Operations Officer and will remain free of quay rent for the following periods:-

Permitted Free Period	
Goods imported from a ship	4 days after completion of final discharge of ship
Goods laid down for export by permission of the Harbour Master	4 days after the date of permission

Note: Saturdays, Sundays and Statutory holidays, when falling within the permitted free period, are included.

2. Where a ship discharges cargo at more than one berth the expression "final discharge of ship" shall as regards each berth be taken to mean the date on which the discharge at such berth shall have been completed.
3. After the expiration of the permitted free period, the following quay rent charges are payable for the area occupied, subject to a minimum charge of £231.73

Covered storage - £136.47 per 100 sq metres per week or part thereof

Open storage - £44.26 per 100 sq metres per week or part thereof

When any goods placed upon any quay or wharf, or in any shed, are or become, in the opinion of a Port Operations Officer, an obstruction to the working of such quay, wharf or shed, the goods must be removed upon notice being received from the Port Operations Officer. If not so removed, the Commissioners have power, under Section 42 of the Belfast Harbour Act, 1898, to remove the goods to some convenient place and there keep and detain them until payment is made of the expenses of such removal and detention, and of any quay rent due thereon, and to sell the goods if such expenses and quay rent are not paid.

4. Goods, whether import or export, shall be placed in sheds or on the quays in such a manner as to occupy the least possible space and, in this connection, a Port Operations Officer may direct such piling of cargo as, in his opinion, is necessary.

Notice - Goods at owner's risk

All goods laid down on or passing over the quays of the Belfast Harbour Commissioners or placed in any shed of the Commissioners or any other such location as directed by the Commissioners, are laid down at the Owner's sole risk in every respect.

The Commissioners have no custody of such goods and will not be responsible for loss or damage thereto from whatever cause arising.

Persons in charge of goods should protect them from loss, damage or injury. Special care is necessary in the case of goods susceptible to taint or stain or damage from other goods.

Regulations and charges for cranes

Use of BHC cranes is restricted to stevedores licensed by the Belfast Harbour Commissioners, in accordance with the Conditions of Crane Hire.

- The booking will cover the entire use of a crane by the hirer for the same ship.
- Discharge and loading will be treated as separate bookings unless the work is continuous.
- Minimum hire period for all crane orders is 2 hours.
- Should no crane work be undertaken within the first two hours after commencement of the hire period BHC reserves the right, subject to the reasonable requirements of the Hirer, to allocate the crane to another booking.
- Crane Rental hours = Total Hire hours less breakdown (of BHC equipment), high winds and rain, subject to a minimum 2hr rental period.
- Third party equipment used for the discharging or loading of vessels must only be used with the express consent of Belfast Harbour Commissioners. The assessment for suitability and/or use of third party equipment may be subject to a charge.

1. Use of Cranes (i.e. use of BHC Crane for discharge or loading cargo at any General User Berth)

(a) For Cargo Handling without Grab

Weight of heaviest lift per booking		Charge per hour / part
Exceeding (Tonnes)	Not Exceeding (Tonnes)	£
0	15	£140.43
15	35	£220.62
35	50	£333.73
50		£1112.46

The weight of the heaviest lift in the booking will determine the charge for that booking

(b) For Cargo Handling with Grab

Discharge Rate (Tonnes per Hour)		Charge per hour / part (£)
0	240	£261.00
241	260	£288.00
261	280	£315.00
281	300	£341.00
301	320	£368.00
321	340	£395.00
341	360	£422.00
361	380	£449.00
381	400	£475.00
401	420	£501.00
421	440	£528.00
441	460	£555.00
461	480	£582.00
481	500	£608.00
501	520	£626.00
521	540	£644.00

Discharge rate = Total Tonnes Discharged / Total Crane Rental Hours

(c) Hire for Ex-Quay work or Secondary Handlings (Min Hire Period 8 Hrs); Price on Application

Maintenance Technician Callout Charges

For the attendance of a maintenance technician for operational reasons e.g. change of grabs, hooks, bob cat transfers etc.

	Hours	Charge per callout
Monday - Friday	06:00 - 22:00	-
Outside Monday - Friday	06:00 - 22:00	£343.03

Cancellation Charge

This charge is levied when a booking is subsequently cancelled at short notice and without use having been made of the crane

Cranes cancelled with less than 4 hours notice during office hours,
08:00 - 17:00 hours, Monday - Friday £196.63

Cranes required Tuesday - Saturday: Cancelled after 17:00 the
previous day £266.09

Cranes required Sunday, Monday or statutory holidays:
Cancelled after 12:00 noon the previous office working day £353.72



Harbour Office

Corporation Square

Belfast BT1 3AL

+44 28 9055 4422

belfast-harbour.co.uk

