

# PILOT BOATS



Pilot Boat New York AIS; "Pilot 1"



Pilot Boat New Jersey AIS; "Pilot 2"



Pilot Boarding Launches America, Phantom,  
Wanderer, Yankee

UNITED  
NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

SANDY HOOK PILOTS'  
BENEVOLENT  
ASSOCIATION

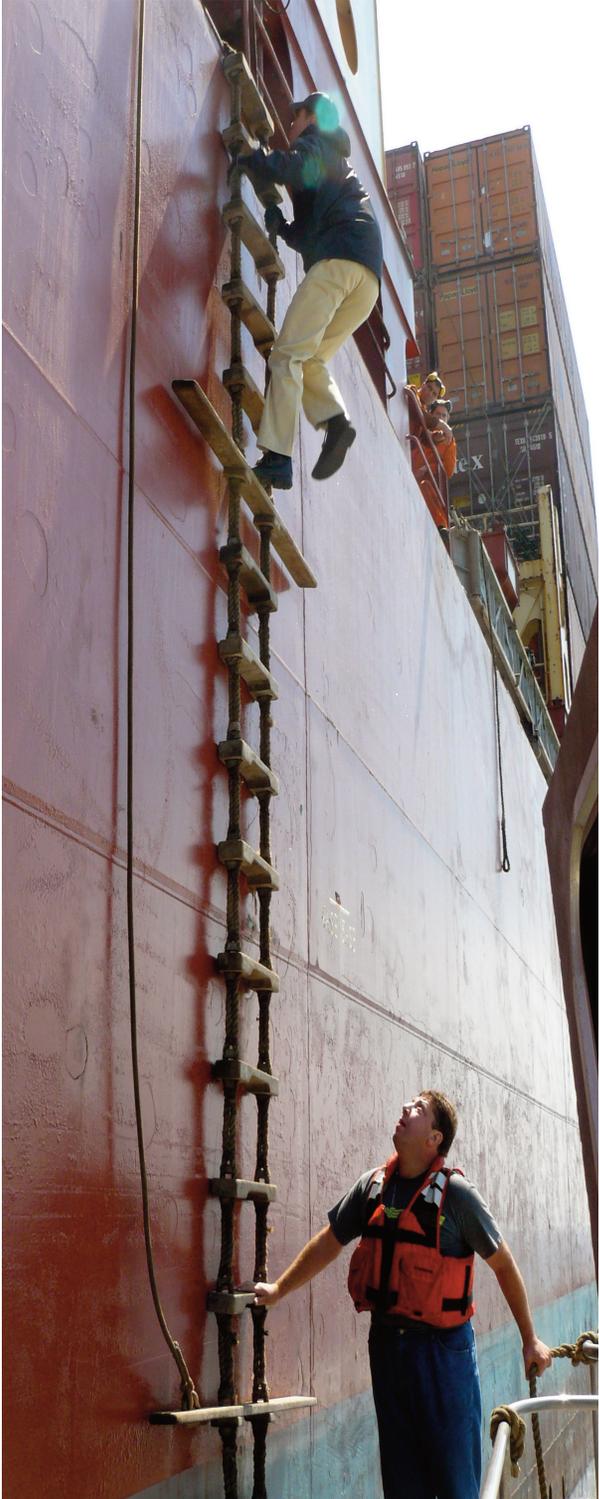


**Master-Pilot Information  
Exchange Program**

Master's Information  
Card

*Welcome to the  
Port of New York and New Jersey*

**OF NY & NJ**



## Hudson River

Ships can transit as far North as Albany.

The following restrictions apply:

- ❑ Draft (salt water): 31 FT to Albany  
33FT South of Kingston
- ❑ Maximum air draft: 134 FT./40.7 MT.
- ❑ Distances from Ambrose Sea Buoy
  - Passenger Ship Terminal 24.4 NM
  - George Washington Bridge 30.0 NM
  - Yonkers (pilot station) 35.7 NM
  - Kingston 99.8 NM
  - Albany 145 NM

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### Useful Telephone Numbers & Websites:

*Pilots for New York Harbor, Hudson River and Hell Gate* (718) 448-3900  
Email: [pilotoffice@sandyhookpilots.com](mailto:pilotoffice@sandyhookpilots.com)

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**Police Emergency**  
Anywhere in USA 911  
New Jersey Marine Police (973) 578-8173  
New York City Harbor Police (718) 993-0950  
USCG New York (718) 354-4353

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### Websites:

**NY Marine Weather:**  
[www.erh.noaa.gov/okx.marine.shtml](http://www.erh.noaa.gov/okx.marine.shtml)

#### **Tides and Currents**

**NY Ports, All Current Meters:**  
<http://www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/ports.html>

**Stevens Maritime Center:**  
<http://hudson.dl.stevens-tech.edu/maritimeforecast/>

**All NY Water Levels:**  
[http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/ofs/nyofs/now\\_cg\\_wl.shtml](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/ofs/nyofs/now_cg_wl.shtml)

**Salinity NY Harbor:**  
<http://www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/ports.html>

#### **Bridge Air Gaps**

**VZ and Bayonne Air Gap**  
<http://www.tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/ports.html>

## Reminders

- Provide the pilot with a completed Pilot Card. Also, be sure to advise your pilot of any deficiencies.
- As Master, you are reminded of your responsibilities under United States law found in 33 CFR 164 and 46 CFR 4.05. You should confirm to the pilot that your vessel is in compliance with all requirements for entering a U.S. port. You are responsible for reporting required information to the Coast Guard. Your pilot will be glad to assist with communications.
- Ensure an anchor is ready for letting go immediately upon the pilot's arrival. The anchor detail must be able to communicate directly with the pilot through the Master.
- Ensure you have a fully qualified quartermaster on the helm.
- Inform the pilot if you are on low sulphur fuel.
- Ensure that you post a proper lookout. The lookout must be able to communicate directly with the pilot through the master.

**\*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\***

The information provided in this pamphlet has been extracted from applicable charts, the Coast Pilot and other informational sources. The Sandy Hook Pilots make no representation as to the accuracy of the information provided in this pamphlet. It has been compiled for the convenience of the ship's master but is not a substitute for thorough review of all applicable nautical charts and literature by ship's crew prior to arrival.



**Keep Communications Open...  
ASK QUESTIONS!**

To that end, *if at any time* during your transit you or any member of your bridge team has a question about the navigation or safety of your vessel, please ask immediately so that the pilot may discuss the situation and remedy the concern.

**The Sandy Hook Pilots' MPX Program**

The Sandy Hook Pilots' Association strives to remain in the forefront of industry-wide standards for service and safety. Toward that end we have developed the Sandy Hook Pilots' Master-Pilot Information Exchange Program. This brochure is but one portion of this program. It is designed to provide you with general information about your vessel's transit within the Port of New York and New Jersey. We recognize, however, that no brochure, pilot card or single briefing can or should attempt to provide every piece of information either that the pilot or the master, respectively, should possess. It is rather our goal that this program will provide a framework from which a genuine Master-Pilot relationship will develop. Your pilot holds up-to-the-minute information required to safely navigate within the port such as tidal currents, weather conditions, dredging activities and much more. It is our goal to work closely with you, the ship's master, to share this information and to navigate your vessel to a safe calling in the great port we serve.

**Carry Aboard DGPS-Based Navigation System**

All Sandy Hook Pilots are now equipped with a carry aboard navigation system providing an additional tool to promote safe navigation. Pilots have received extensive training on its proper usage. Please ensure your crew does not touch the system during your transit although any assistance your crew can provide in setting up the system under the direction of your pilot is appreciated. If you have questions about the system or the information displayed, please ask.

**Transiting The East River**  
From Execution Rocks to The Battery

Vessels calling on New York from New England will sometimes arrive via the East River. Your Sandy Hook Pilot will embark at Execution Rocks.

**Sandy Hook Pilots' Draft Guidelines for the East River:**

- ❖ East Bound: 31 FT. at LW, 35 FT. HW
- ❖ West Bound 31 FT. at LW, 34 FT. HW
- ❑ **Channel Dimensions:** Various Channel widths and depths, see draft guidelines above.
- ❑ **Bridges:**

Bridge Vertical clearances are measured center channel.	MHW Vertical Clearance	
	Feet	Meters
<b>Throgs Neck</b>	138	42.06
<b>Bronx- Whitestone</b>	135	41.15
<b>Hell Gate Railroad</b>	134	40.84
<b>Triborough (RFK)</b>	138	42.06
<b>Queens to Manhattan Cable Car</b>	135	40.15
<b>Queensboro (59th St.)</b>	131	39.93
<b>Williamsburg Bridge</b>	133	40.54
<b>Manhattan Bridge</b>	134	40.84
<b>Brooklyn</b>	127	38.7

- ❑ **Distances to Battery from:**
- Execution Rocks                    19.8 NM
- Throgs Neck                        14.4 NM
- Hell Gate                            6.9 NM
- Williamsburg Bridge               2.2 NM

## Transiting The “South Way”

(Sandy Hook Channel -  
Raritan Bay-Raritan River-Arthur Kill)

### Sandy Hook Pilots’ Draft Guidelines for the South Way:

- ❖ Low Water: 33 FT
- ❖ High Water: 37 FT 6 IN

### Sandy Hook Channel and Raritan Bay Reaches

- ❑ Sandy Hook Channel Dimensions: 800 ft. wide X 35 foot project depth.
- ❑ Raritan Channel Dimensions: 600 ft. wide X 35 foot project depth.

### Arthur Kill:

- ❑ Dimensions: 500 to 600 FT. wide X 35 foot project depth.
- ❑ Bridges:

Bridge	Vertical Clearance	
	Feet	Meters
Outerbridge Crossing	143	43.59
Goethals	137	41.76
Arthur Kill RR (full open)	135	41.15

- ❑ Narrow waterway - when moored, care must be taken to tend lines while vessels pass.
- ❑ The Sandy Hook Pilots may assign two pilots to provide an additional margin of safety on certain extremely large vessels.

**Raritan River** transits require advanced preparation and bridge notifications, contact the Sandy Hook Pilots in advance.

- ❑ Distances from Scotland Sea Buoy to:  
SW Spit Buoy 7.0 NM  
Raritan Bay LT. 20 12.4 NM  
Perth Amboy Anchorage 17.3 NM  
Tufts Point 22.4 NM  
Tremley Point 25.1 NM  
AK Railroad Bridge 27.5 NM

## Vessel Traffic Service New York

The United States Coast Guard operates a mandatory Vessel Traffic Service which covers virtually the entire Port area with the exception of the Hudson River above the Holland Tunnel. Your pilot will provide all required communications and ensure all VTS requirements are satisfied.

### Anchorage

If needed, the pilot will anchor your vessel in one of several designated federal anchorages within the port. Vessels may not anchor at any other location within the port without the permission of the Captain of the Port. While at anchor:

- Maintain a bridge watch at all times and an accurate position plot.
- Maintain a listening radio watch on VHF-FM channel 16.
- Notify VTS on VHF-FM CH 12 when commencing and completing transfer of petroleum products.

### General Navigational Information

- The range of tide within the port is approximately 4.7 FT.. The range of tide in the Eastern portion of the East River increases to approximately 7.0 FT..
- The Port’s Harbor Safety Committee has recommended an underkeel clearance standard of 3 FT. in Ambrose Channel and 2 FT. for the other channels within the port. Ask your pilot for details.
- If your ship has squat tables please have them readily available for the pilot.
- Salinity for Upper New York Harbor is brackish or 1.0093. It fluctuates +/- .0010 per tidal cycle.

### Transiting Ambrose Channel

Destinations in the Upper Bay, Lower East River, Kill Van Kull, Newark Bay and Hudson River

Ambrose Channel is the main entrance channel servicing the Port of NY and NJ. This route is also used by tugs and tows.

#### Ambrose Channel

- ❑ Dimensions: 2000 FT. X 45 FT. project depth. (Being dredged to 50 FT.)

- ❑ Bridges: **Verrazano Narrows Bridge-** Vertical Clearance of 217 FT./66.14 MT. mid-span.

- ❑ Pilot may check the air gap in real time

- ❑ Distances to Ambrose Sea Buoy from:  
Verrazano Narrows Bridge 14.1 NM

Once clearing the Narrows you will either anchor in one of the federal anchorages within the Upper Bay or proceed to your ultimate destination using one of the following routes:

#### Upper New York Bay

Destinations adjacent to the Upper Bay including Global Terminal, Brooklyn Piers and the Hudson and East Rivers. Access to all locations and terminals is gained through channels of varying widths and depths, consult with your pilot about your destination.

- ❑ Distance from Ambrose Sea Buoy to:  
Battery 20.2 NM  
Buoy 32 18.3 NM  
KV Junction Buoy 16.9 NM

#### **NOTE:**

All vertical bridge clearance information has been taken directly from the nautical chart. It is the minimum clearance, at MHW. Additional clearance may be available under certain conditions. Project Depths are the depths authorized to be maintained by dredging. Shoaling can occur in some areas. Consult nautical chart survey information.

### Transit to Port Elizabeth, Port Newark, NYCT and other facilities

#### **\*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\***

The vertical clearance of the Bayonne Bridge is 151 ft. or 46.02 m. Please ensure that your air draft is correct. Your pilot may check the bridge air gap in real time.

#### **Kill Van Kull (KVK)** (Being dredged to 50ft)

- ❑ Dimensions: Constable Hook Range is 1200 FT. wide 45 ft. project depth. Remainder of KVK is 800 FT. wide X 45 foot project depth.

Note: Project depth from Bergen Point to NYCT is 41 FT.(Being dredged to 50 FT).

- ❑ Distances from Ambrose Sea Buoy to:  
Bergen Point 20.7 NM  
AK Railroad Bridge 23.2 NM

#### **Newark Bay Channel** (Being dredged to 50 ft)

- ❑ Various widths and project depths, consult your pilot.

Note: Vessels with destinations within the Passaic or Hackensack River should contact the Sandy Hook Pilots in advance through their agent. These transits require advance preparation and bridge notifications.

- ❑ Distances from Ambrose Sea Buoy to:  
Port Elizabeth CH. Entrance 23.1 NM  
Port Newark CH. Entrance 24.1 NM  
Lehigh Valley Lift Bridge 24.7 NM