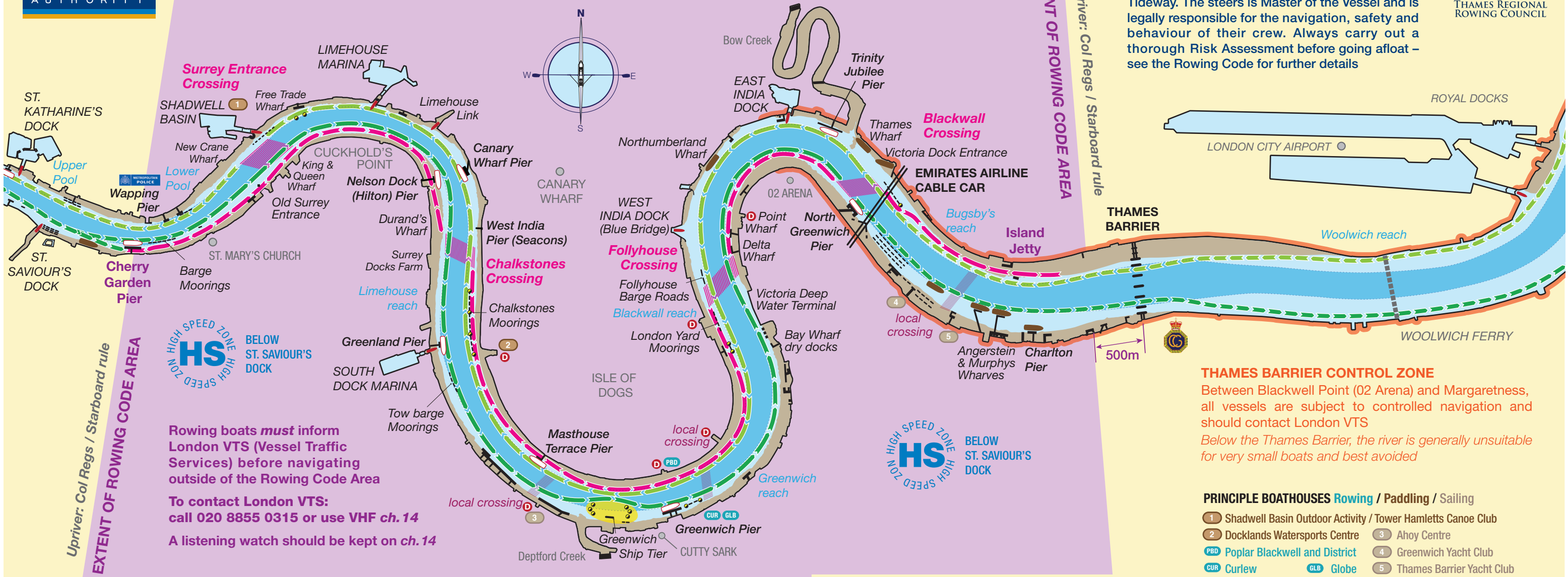


BASIC PRINCIPLES OF TIDEWAY NAVIGATION LOWER

To accompany "Rowing on the Tideway – A Code of Practice for Rowing on the Tidal Thames" (Edition 3/r1 2017)

All steers, coxes and coaches must be fully conversant with the Rowing Code and be authorised by their clubs before navigating on the Tideway. The steers is Master of the Vessel and is legally responsible for the navigation, safety and behaviour of their crew. Always carry out a thorough Risk Assessment before going afloat – see the Rowing Code for further details



HS
HIGH SPEED ZONE

HS
HIGH SPEED ZONE

Rowing boats **must** inform London VTS (Vessel Traffic Services) before navigating outside of the Rowing Code Area
To contact London VTS: call 020 8855 0315 or use VHF ch. 14
A listening watch should be kept on ch. 14

THAMES BARRIER CONTROL ZONE
Between Blackwell Point (O2 Arena) and Margaretness, all vessels are subject to controlled navigation and should contact London VTS
Below the Thames Barrier, the river is generally unsuitable for very small boats and best avoided

- PRINCIPLE BOATHOUSES** Rowing / Paddling / Sailing
- 1 Shadwell Basin Outdoor Activity / Tower Hamlets Canoe Club
 - 2 Docklands Watersports Centre
 - 3 Ahoy Centre
 - 4 Greenwich Yacht Club
 - 5 Thames Barrier Yacht Club
 - PBD Poplar Blackwell and District
 - CUR Curlew
 - GLB Globe

In the Lower ROWING CODE AREA between Cherry Garden Pier and Island Jetty

When rowing **against the stream** (working the slacks) rowers must stay in the **Inshore Zone**, as close to the bank as is safe. Go inside any moorings if there is sufficient water and it is safe to do so, also under Hilton & Masthouse Terrace piers if possible. Avoid Greenwich Ship Tier as this is a **Restricted Zone**

When rowing **with the stream**, rowers must stay in the **Fairway** on the **Starboard** (bow) side. Boats should pass **port-to-port**. However...

...be aware that large motor vessels may need to be in the 'wrong' position (i.e. deep water) and you may have to pass them to **Starboard**. In this situation show your intentions early

Only cross the river at the designated **Crossing Zones** – or at a **Local Crossing** if you are returning to a boat house on the opposite bank from the **Inshore Zone**

In the **Fairway**, do not stop in a **Crossing Zone**. Only boats in the **Inshore Zone** waiting for the **Fairway** to clear should stop near a crossing

All boats in the **Fairway** and all motor vessels have Right of Way. Overtaking boats do not have Right of Way and must wait if necessary

Don't navigate according to the predicted tide, use the visible stream direction and check this against buoys, piers or moorings. If in doubt, especially when the tide is turning, keep to **Starboard**

NOTE: The rowing rules regarding navigation at either end of the Lower Rowing Code Area are different depending on whether boats are planning to turn and return back to their clubs or continue further up or down river. They cannot therefore be shown on a single diagram. Please refer to the Rowing Code, Lower Area Directions for a full explanation (from page 91)

Outside of the LOWER ROWING CODE AREA Col Regs / starboard side rule applies

Rowers **must** inform London VTS before navigating outside of the Lower Rowing Code Area

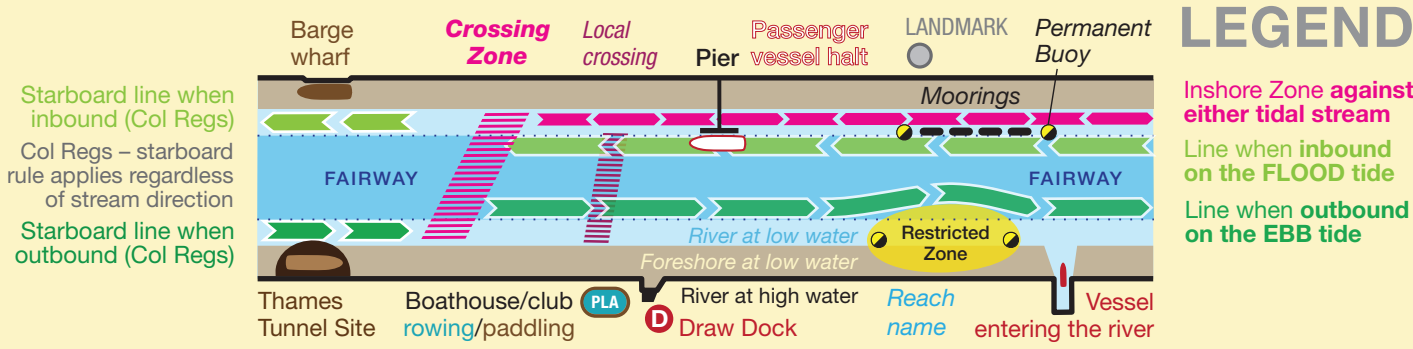
When rowing **in either direction**, and regardless of the stream direction, you should stay as close to the **Starboard** / right-hand bank as is safe

Large motor vessels have right of way and always allow them space to use the **Fairway** / deep water

All boats in the **Fairway** have Right of Way and overtaking boats must give way. Never cross in front of a boat in the **Fairway**

KEEP A GOOD LOOKOUT

Look every 3–5 strokes and always assume that others cannot see you – if in doubt, stop and shout



Do not scale. This diagram is for general guidance only and not intended to be definitive. Some 'Local Names' have been used. Please refer to The Rowing Code (Third Edition 2015) and Admiralty Chart 3319 for detailed information. Original illustration drawn by neilpickford@mac.com for the Port of London Authority – www.pla.co.uk – PLA and Neil Pickford © 2017