



Border Force

Border Force is committed to understanding and responding to the needs of the recreational boating community.

Our role is to prevent smuggling and illegal immigration. To do this it is important for us to have a relationship with boaters based on trust and confidence.

Our aim is to disrupt border crime, not your cruise or race. However, should we need to board your boat, our officers will:

- Be clearly identifiable as Border Force through hull, ensign, RHIB sponson, uniform and produce warrant cards on every occasion.
- Recognise and respect the right of privacy for boaters and only board vessels when it is safe and necessary to do so.
- Ensure that requests for information are limited to those which are necessary to disrupt smuggling and not disclose such information to any third party or use it for any other purpose.
- Address concerns raised by the skipper and investigate any reported incidents, complaints or damage.
- Assist the boating community in any reasonable way possible at sea.

You can assist our officers by:

- Recognising and respecting that Border Force officers perform an important and legal duty.
- Allowing Border Force officers to carry out their duties as quickly as possible.
- Maintaining course and speed, unless otherwise requested, in order to allow safe boarding.
- Being ready to provide details of ports of departure destination and the number of people on board

If you see or hear of any smuggling activity, please call the Customs hotline on 0800 595000 or your local Border Force Maritime Team on 01275 472843 or email BristolAirportCrewList@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk



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