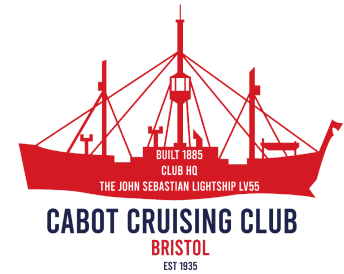


BRISTOL ILLUMINATED BOAT PARADE 2026

Participant info



Date: 5th December 2026

Deadline for registering vessels: Friday 20th November 2026

[VESSEL REGISTRATION FORM](#) - groups to RSVP separately, more information below

Single pass from Cumberland Basin to Bathurst Basin

BEFORE PARADE:

- **17.30** Prince Street Bridge swing to allow vessels up river
- Vessels small enough for Junction Lock Bridge to congregate in Cumberland Basin
- Larger vessels to congregate at Underfall Yard (2.5m+)

DURING PARADE:

- **18.00** departure, announced by Harbour Master
- Order of procession:
 - Harbour Master will be lead vessel
 - Powered craft to follow in size order
 - Manual craft to follow
- Vessels to loop Cumberland Basin once to achieve formation, before joining the harbour and beginning the parade, large vessels at Underfall to fall in behind, manual craft to follow last
- **18.30** Prince Street Bridge swing

Pontoons to port of Prince Street Bridge available as landing stage for any vessels early for the bridge swing, or not wishing to come through to Bathurst Basin. Wait here until all manual craft have passed through safely.

END OF PARADE:

- Parade to end at Bathurst Basin
- All vessels joining the after party on the John Sebastian are invited to moor in Bathurst Basin (more information to follow)
- All other craft to return safely to their berths or the slipway

PARADE ETTIQUETTE:

VHF channel 72 for event management, leaving 73 clear for emergencies.

- Maintain formation throughout the duration of the parade
- Leave at least 25m between vessels
- Vessels to maintain **DEAD SLOW** speed
- Be aware of bottleneck points:
 - At the beginning of the parade
 - At Prince Street Bridge
 - At entrance to Bathurst Basin
- Avoid overtaking

Follow the Harbour Master's instructions at all times

VESSEL REQUIREMENTS:

- Valid navigation license for Bristol Harbour
- Hold valid insurance
- Have functioning navigation lights in addition to decorative lighting
- Carry suitable lifesaving equipment; all minors must have buoyancy aids
- Brief all crew and passengers prior to departure

**ALL SKIPPERS MUST BE AVAILABLE FOR BRIEFING ON THE DAY OF THE PARADE -
DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

VESSEL REGISTRATION

All vessels wishing to take part in the parade must complete the attached registration form before Friday 20th November: [VESSEL REGISTRATION FORM](#)

All groups participating in the parade must have a dedicated Group Lead to have a VHF radio. Please RSVP with the email address and contact number for the group lead.

**ALL GROUPS MUST COMPLETE A RISK ASSESSMENT FORM - PLEASE GET IN TOUCH
IF YOU NEED HELP WITH THIS.**