



BINTULU PORT AUTHORITY

PORT NOTICE

BINTULU PORT NOTICE**No. 02/2026****Date: 8 January 2026**To: Shipping Community

Applicable to: This notice is brought to the attention of and not limited to the ship manager/owner, agent, master and officer, crew of ships, terminal operator, and port operator.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF DESIGNATED INNOCENT PASSAGE ROUTES AND WAYPOINTS
WITHIN BINTULU PORT WATER LIMIT**

1. INTRODUCTION

This Port Notice is issued to promulgate the establishment of **designated innocent passage routes and waypoints** within the **Bintulu Port Water Limits**, with the objective of ensuring navigational safety, protection of port infrastructure, and the orderly movement of vessels not calling at Bintulu Port.

2. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This notice applies to all **vessels** exercising the right of innocent passage through Bintulu Port waters in accordance with international law and applicable Malaysian maritime regulations.

Vessels intending to enter Bintulu Port for pilotage, berthing, anchorage, or port services are **not covered** under this innocent passage arrangement and shall comply with existing port entry requirements.

3. DESIGNATED INNOCENT PASSAGE ROUTES AND WAYPOINTS

Vessels conducting innocent passage shall strictly navigate along the **designated innocent passage routes** using the **approved waypoints** as specified in **Appendix A** to this Port Notice.

Deviation from the designated waypoints is **not permitted**, except when necessary to avoid immediate danger or for reasons of navigational safety.

4. GUIDELINES FOR INNOCENT PASSAGE

While transiting through the Bintulu Port Water Limits, all vessels shall:

- a. Maintain a proper lookout in accordance and compliance with the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs), Rule 5;
- b. Proceed without unnecessary delay and maintain a steady course and safe speed in accordance and compliance with COLREGs, Rule 6;
- c. Master of the vessel is to avoid close-quarter situations and ensure safe Closest Point of Approach (CPA) of 0.25 nautical miles with other vessel and safe distance from anchored vessel of 500 metres;
- d. Ensure all navigation, propulsion, and communication systems are fully operational;
- e. Maintain sufficient under-keel clearance at all times;

5. ENTRY AND REPORTING PROCEDURE

All vessels shall:

- a. Always ensure Automatic Identification System (AIS) in operation before entering Bintulu Port Water Limit;
- b. Established communication with Bintulu Port Control Tower (Mike Kilo) of her intention via very high frequency (VHF) channel 12 or channel 16 upon entry the Bintulu Port Water Limit;
- c. Do ensure the intention is for innocent passage or else Master is required to follow (International Ship and Port Facility Security Code) ISPS requirement and Bintulu Port requirement;
- d. Master required to follow and navigate strictly in accordance with **Appendix A – Designated Innocent Passage Routes and Waypoints**;
- e. Master is required to maintain continuous listening watch on the designated VHF channel as advised by Bintulu Port Control Tower (Mike Kilo);
- f. Master is required to established communication with Bintulu Port Control Tower via VHF channel 12 or channel 16 before leaving the Bintulu Port Water Limit;

- g. Comply immediately with any navigational safety broadcast or instruction issued by the Bintulu Port Control Tower;
- h. Any incident, deviation, machinery failure, or emergency shall be reported without delay to Bintulu Port Control Tower via VHF channel 12 or channel 16.

6. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

The following activities are **strictly prohibited** while exercising innocent passage:

- a. Entry is prohibited towards Gas Tanker Anchorage, Petroleum Anchorage, Explosive Anchorage or Waiting Anchorage within Bintulu Port Water Limit unless she intends to anchor;
- b. Any vessel shall not impede or cross the bow of large vessel navigating or manoeuvring in the approach channel or fairway;
- c. Any vessel should avoid crossing the channel;
- d. Anchoring, stopping, or drifting except in distress or force majeure;
- e. Fishing, trawling, dredging, underwater operations, bunkering, lightering, ship-to-ship transfer or any marine activities;
- f. Conducting drills, tests, or maintenance affecting manoeuvrability;
- g. Any discharge or act that may cause marine pollution;
- h. Any activity that interferes with port operations or navigational safety;

7. ENFORCEMENT

Non-compliance with this Port Notice may result in enforcement action under the **Bintulu Port Authority Act and By-Laws** or other relevant statutory laws and provisions.

The above notice is enforced with immediate effect until further notice.

REGULATORY DIVISION
BINTULU PORT AUTHORITY

APPENDIX A

DESIGNATED INNOCENT PASSAGE ROUTES AND WAYPOINTS WITHIN BINTULU PORT WATER LIMITS

