



Corney Reach - Barnes Rail Bridge Headroom Reductions & Arch Closures

NOTICE TO MARINERS

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Mariners are advised that on **Monday 21st July 2025**, contractors working on behalf of Network Rail will commence maintenance and bridge strengthening works at Barnes Rail Bridge. These works will involve the erection of scaffolding under the bridge, persons working within this scaffolding once erected and vessels working within arches closed to navigation. These works are expected to last 9 weeks and involve both a standing arch height reduction and arch closures.

Throughout this period there will be a standing arch headroom reduction of no more than 1.6 metres in Arch 2 and 2.0 metres in Arch 1 & 3 as per the below figures:

ARCH 1	ARCH 2	ARCH 3
8.9m above Chart Datum or 3.4m above Mean High Water Springs	9.3m above Chart Datum or 3.8m above Mean High Water Springs	8.8m above Chart Datum or 3.3m above Mean High Water Springs

Where the headroom is reduced, this will be displayed in accordance with the Port of London Authority Thames Byelaw 36.2, namely:

- By Day – A bundle of straw large enough to be easily visible and displayed at the height of restricted headroom;
- By Night – A white light in place of the bundle of straw.

Mariners transiting Barnes Rail Bridge shall do so with caution and full awareness of their air draught.

To further accommodate these works, the arches of Barnes Rail Bridge will be closed to navigation as follows:

Telephone calls, VHF radio traffic, CCTV and radar traffic images may be recorded in the VTS Centre



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Arch	Works Start	Works End	Time	Navigational Information
	Date	Date		
3	Monday 21st July	Friday 25th July	0500 to 2200	Closed to Navigation
2	Monday 21st July	Tuesday 22nd July	2200 to 0500	Closed to Navigation
1 or 2	Tuesday 22nd July	Wednesday 23rd July	2200 to 0500	Closed to Navigation
1	Wednesday 23rd July	Saturday 26th July	2200 to 0500	Closed to Navigation
3	Monday 28th July	Friday 1st August	0500 to 2200	Closed to Navigation
2	Monday 28th July	Saturday 02nd August	2200 to 0500	Closed to Navigation
1 or 3	Saturday 02nd August	Friday 8th August	0500 to 2200	Closed to Navigation
1, 2, or 3	Saturday 02nd August	Saturday 9th August	2200 to 0500	Closed to Navigation
1 or 3	Monday 11th August	Friday 15th August	0500 to 2200	Closed to Navigation
1, 2, or 3	Monday 11th August	Saturday 16th August	2200 to 0500	Closed to Navigation
1 or 3	Monday 18th August	Friday 05th September	0500 to 2200	Closed to Navigation
1, 2, or 3	Monday 18th August	Saturday 06th September	2200 to 0500	Closed to Navigation

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Arch	Works Start	Works End	Time	Navigational Information
	Date	Date		
1 or 3	Monday 08th September	Monday 15th September	0500 to 2200	Closed to Navigation
1, 2, or 3	Monday 08th September	Tuesday 16th September	2200 to 0500	Closed to Navigation

*Only one arch will be closed to navigation at a time.

During closures of Arch 1; users of human-powered vessels in the Inshore Zone, should revert to the COLREGS in order to transit Arch 2. They should revert back to the Tideway Code once completely clear of the bridge and when safe to do so.

At times through the works, a Multicat vessel and barge will be moored within the arch closed to navigation.

Guard boats will be in attendance during arch closures, as a visual reinforcement of the closed arch.

All vessels involved in the works will maintain a listening watch on VHF Channel 14.

Arches closed to navigation will be marked in accordance with the Port of London Authority Thames Byelaws 2012 namely:

- By day, three red discs 0.6 metres in diameter at the points of an equilateral triangle with the apex downwards and the base horizontal
- By night, three red lights in similar positions to the discs displayed by day.

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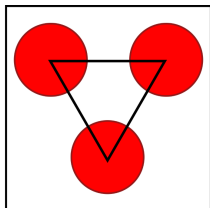
Expires: 19/09/2025

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**Closed to
navigation**

Requirements to proceed with caution or at slow speed will be made in accordance with the procedure set out in the Port of London Authority's [Port Information Guide](#), under 'Speed Reductions' with the International Code Flags 'Romeo Yankee' displayed, which are illustrated below.



**Romeo
Yankee**

Further details will be broadcast by **London VTS** on VHF Channel 14.

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Port of London Authority
London River House, Royal Pier Road,
Gravesend, Kent DA12 2BG

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