



**Gladstone Ports  
Corporation**

Growth, prosperity, community.

# Port of Rockhampton

## PORT INFORMATION HANDBOOK



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# About us

## Gladstone Ports Corporation Limited

Formed in 1914, we have been a vital part of the Gladstone community for a century, and the epicentre for economic growth for Queensland.

We are a Company Government Owned Corporation (GOC), responsible for the import of raw material and the export of finished product associated with major industries in the Central Queensland region. On 1 November 2009, pursuant to the Government Owned Corporations (Bundaberg Port) Regulation 2009, the Port of Bundaberg was transferred to and became a business unit of GPC.

We manage and operate three Port precincts - the Port of Gladstone, Port of Rockhampton and Port of Bundaberg.

We play an integral role in planning the future of the Port of Gladstone, Port of Rockhampton and Port of Bundaberg. In consultation with the community, industry and government, we undertake a strategic approach to planning, setting the vision and direction for all three ports for the short and long term.

## Port Authority Role at Port of Rockhampton (Port Alma)

As the port authority for Port of Rockhampton, Gladstone Port Corporation's roles include

- facilitating appropriate levels of port security and safety with terminal operators;
- coordinating emergency response;
- protecting the environment by minimising impact of development; and
- being committed to, and having regard for the interests of the community.

Maintaining navigable port depths and pilotage is the responsibility of GPC while port navigation is controlled by Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ).

## Health and Safety

GPC recognises that the health, safety and wellbeing of its personnel are of primary importance. GPC is committed to undertaking its business in a manner that prevents injury or illness to personnel who may be impacted by GPC work activities. We strive for best practice in health & safety management and process safety. GPC is committed to instilling a culture focussed on continuous improvement and sustainability.

# Port Information

## Port of Rockhampton

Port of Rockhampton, Port Alma Terminal is located 62km east of Rockhampton on the southern tip of the Fitzroy River delta, with storage land totalling 140ha for the facility.

Port of Rockhampton is a natural deep water harbour offering security and shelter. It can accommodate vessels of up to 180 metres in length.

### Access

#### Airport

Rockhampton has a regional airport which offers domestic services and connecting international services from Brisbane.

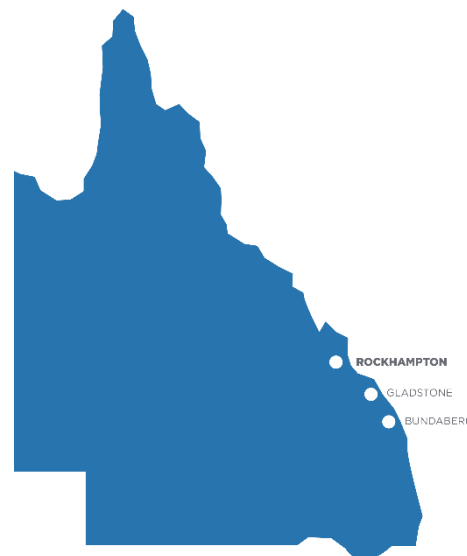
Hire cars are available at the airport and must be pre-booked from the hire car companies directly.

#### Port Roads

Port users must comply with applicable Queensland road rules on all Queensland roads. The port is served by road access via a Main Road which meets the Bruce Highway at Bajool approximately 26 kilometres from Port of Rockhampton.

#### Road To Rail Link

While a rail link does not extend to the port itself, both ammonium nitrate and explosives have been successfully transferred from road to rail at Bajool, approximately 26 kilometres from the port. Up to 4,500 tonnes of ammonium nitrate from one shipment have been transferred to rail and complete train loads of explosives destined for other States have become regular practice. Please note that Queensland Rail approval is required in advance.



## Terminal Operators at the Port of Rockhampton (Port Alma)

### Overview

Wharf	Owner	Operator	Cargo
PA1	GPC	GPC	General cargo, SSAN, explosives
PA2	GPC	GPC	General cargo, SSAN, explosives Containers
PA3	GPC	GPC	Tallow, Petroleum products

### Trade

The Port of Rockhampton can handle large quantities of ammonium nitrate (Class 5.1 under the IMDG Code) and explosives (Class 1) compared with other ports. This capacity to handle large quantities of ammonium nitrate and explosives is amongst the highest in Australia and therefore provides an appropriate corridor for the import or export of these cargoes. The Queensland Government Magazine is located at Bajool, only 26 kilometres from the port. Destinations for Ammonium nitrate cargoes are typically throughout Queensland for mining purposes, while explosives have been transported overland as far as Victoria and Western Australia.

Detailed information regarding the operations of the Port Alma Shipping Terminal can be found

<https://www.gpcl.com.au/port-notice-and-rules>

## Facilities

Berth	Berth Pocket Design Depth (m LAT)	Berth Pocket Design Length (m)	Berth Pocket Design Width (m)	Wharf Face (m)	Wharf Width (m)	Wharf Height Above Lat (m)	Wharf Length incl Dolphins (m)	Max Vessel DWT (t)	Max Vessel Displ (t)	Max Vessel LOA (m)	Shiploader Type	Design rate maximum capacity of loader (tph) or (m <sup>3</sup> /h)	Power (Shore)	Water RW = Raw Water P = Potable	Fuel BV= Bunkering Vessel T = Truck	Comments
PA1	9.2	200	40	169	18.5	6.9	192	17,000	23,000	180	N/A	N/A	Y	P	T	
PA2	9.2	168	40	122	18.5	6.9	168	35,000	50,000	180	N/A	N/A	Y	P	T	
PA3	9.2	237	40	23.5	12.8*	6.8	237	35,000	50,000	180	N/A	N/A	Y	P	T	*Berthing Dolphin Width

### PA 1

Has a concrete deck 18.5 metres wide and 169 metres long (554 feet) constructed to take a super-imposed weight of 2.73 tonnes per square metre (5 hundredweight per square foot). This berth is suitable for all general cargo, including frozen meats and other meatworks products. There is a mooring Dolphin situated north of the berth to accommodate mooring lines from vessels required to moor over the north end of the berth.

### PA 2

Has a concrete deck 18.5 metres wide and is 122 metres long (400 feet), constructed to take a super-imposed weight of 3.83 tonnes per square metre (7 hundredweight per square foot).

There is a Mooring Dolphin situated 49 metres (160 feet) south of this berth, which can safely accommodate mooring lines from vessels required to moor over the south end of the berth. This berth is in a continuous line with Number 1 Berth, to provide 291 metres (954 feet) of mooring space plus the above mentioned Dolphins at either end.

### PA 3

Consists of four (4) Berthing Dolphins in line with Numbers 1 and 2 Berths with Mooring Dolphins at both ends to give an overall length of 238 metres (780 feet).

It is normal practice to place head lines on the south end of Number 2 Berth from larger vessels using the Dolphin Berth. There is a distance of 49 metres (160 feet) between the south end of Number 2 Berth and the Mooring Dolphin. All Dolphins are of concrete construction.

## **BULK DRY NO.1 – DRY SHED STORAGE**

The Bulk Store No.1 shed is adjacent to Number 1 Berth and is available to shippers by prior arrangement. It is a steel portal frame warehouse which is constructed on the floor of the wharf structure. The walls are non-flammable metal. It has metal clad walls on steel frame with double roller doors to the northern and southern ends of the building. The western wall has continuous sliding doors. A sliding metal door is situated at the centre of the east wall giving an opening of 6 metres. The shed provides a gross floor area of approximately 540 square metres (i.e. 47 x 11.5 m).



The Bulk Store No.1 viewed from the amenities building (south east).

## **CONTAINER TERMINALS**

GPC has container yards available for use subject to prior arrangements. The Yards are suitable for both dry cargo and refrigerated cargo containers. Concrete pads have been designed to take containers stacked two high and electrical connection points are adjacent to each pad.

The terminal is serviced by road (not rail) and has full security fencing, flood lights for night operation, office space and telephone facilities. Power outlets are available in Container Yard No.2. Twelve (12) power outlets are available in Container Yard No.1, although more outlets can be arranged with appropriate temporary electrical reticulation.

## **FORKLIFT**

A Hyster 3 tonne forklift is available for hire.

## **FIRE PROTECTION AND PREVENTION EQUIPMENT**

Fire protection and prevention equipment is available to meet requirements for dangerous cargo handling.

## **OIL SPILLAGE EQUIPMENT**

A floating boom and oil absorbent pads are available to deal with minor oil spills.

# Ammonium Nitrate and Explosives

Port of Rockhampton can handle large quantities of ammonium nitrate (Class 5.1 under the IMDG Code) and explosives (Class 1) compared with other ports.

## Allowable Limits

Explosive limits are based on the use of Australian Standard 3846 – The handling and transport of dangerous cargoes in ports areas – 2005 in conjunction with the Explosives Regulations 2003.

Port of Rockhampton Berth 1 and 2 are the approved berths for all explosives and SSAN handling.

Port Notice 07/17: Security Restricted Zone – Port of Rockhampton details the area in which a person or a vessel must not enter without authorisation by an authorised Gladstone Ports Corporation officer. Port Notice 04/20 Operations of Port Alma Shipping Terminal: Dangerous Goods and Explosives details operational requirements.

In the event of an emergency, examples of evacuation distances from berths 1 and 2 are detailed in the tables below for both SSAN and Class 1 Explosives.

### Port Limits for Security Sensitive Ammonium Nitrate (SSAN):

Berth Limits (tonnes) – Personnel Evacuation at 35kPa Distances (metres radius)		
Berth No. 1 and 2		
AN	**8000	15000
	725 (m)	1306 (m)
Emulsions	1500	
	563 (m)	

Up to \*\*8000 tonnes of SSAN as a working limit may be handled at the port over berths 1 and 2.

SSAN includes DG Class 5.1 UN No's 1942, 2067 and DG Class 9 UN No.2071 and DG Class 5.1 Ammonium Nitrate Emulsions UN No.3375 and CAN (Calcium AN) only whether containerised products or not. Some of the products in the containers may be bagged or bulk items.

### Port Limits for Class 1 Explosives:

Berth Limits (tonnes NEQ) – Personnel Evacuation at 35kPa Distances (metres radius)	
Berth No. 1 and 2	
Class 1 Explosives	1500 (t)
	606 (m)

Up to \*\*1500 tonnes of Class 1 explosives working limit may be handled over berths 1 and 2 at the port, however prior approval of the GPC is required.

Port of Rockhampton offers a very cost effective port facility for these cargoes. Not surprisingly, special procedures apply including, for example, restricted access to the wharf area and 24 hour fire prevention and detection services.

It is very important that Port Users, Shippers and Agents consult with GPC prior to such shipments, particularly if such persons have not used Port of Rockhampton previously. GPC welcomes the opportunity to accommodate special requirements or review procedures and limits, but it is stressed that considerable lead time can be required.

# Services - Navigation and Operations

## Regional Harbour Master Role at Port of Rockhampton (Port Alma)

Shipping legislation in Queensland is controlled by the State Government agency, Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ). It is MSQ's charter to protect Queensland's waterways and the people who use them. MSQ has six regions within Queensland, each of which is controlled by a Regional Harbour Master.

Regional Harbour Masters are responsible for:

- improving maritime safety for shipping and small craft through regulation and education;
- minimising vessel-sourced waste and providing response to marine pollution;
- providing essential maritime services such as Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) and aids to navigation; and
- encouraging and supporting innovation in the maritime industry.

For the most current information on these areas, it is recommended that contact be made with the closest office.

## Regional Harbour Master Contact Details

Physical address:	Level 7 22 Yarroon Street Gladstone Queensland 4680
Postal address:	PO Box 123, Gladstone Queensland 4680
Phone:	+61 7-4971 5200
Fax:	+61 7-4971 5243
Email:	RHMGladstone@msq.qld.gov.au

## Location

The Port of Rockhampton (Port Alma) is located in the area Latitude of 24°46'2" S, Longitude. 152°23'29" E.

## Vessel Traffic Service – Port Control Role at Port of Rockhampton

Operating within the Port Control Centre, the role of the Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) at Gladstone is to coordinate the scheduling of shipping, facilitate the safe and efficient movement of shipping within the pilotage area and coordinate initial emergency response to marine incidents.

Operated by MSQ, VTS provides a 24 hours, seven days a week marine operations service to the port community. For ship traffic scheduling, approval of shipping movements, response to pollution incidents and reporting of defective navigation aids, please direct initial enquiries to the port control centre call sign 'Gladstone VTS' using the contact details below.

In the event of an emergency, VTS is the key notification and communications facility that will activate the appropriate response agencies.

VHF radio:	VHF 13 and 16
Phone:	+61 7 4971 5208
Fax:	+61 7 4971 5212
Email:	VTS-Gladstone@msq.qld.gov.au



## Emergency Services

GPC has developed an Emergency Response Plan that covers situations such as cyclones, marine incidents, bomb threats, fire, explosion or fatalities. Copies of the Response Plan are held at GPC's office in the Port, by the Regional Harbour Master and by a number of port users and other key agency contacts.

Where a non-marine incident is caused through the activities of a port user on port land, the initial response is the responsibility of the port user. GPC and VTS can be contacted on VHF 16 and they will coordinate the required response based on procedures detailed in the GPC Emergency Response Plan for the Port of Rockhampton (Port Alma). For local emergency services telephone 000 and specify if fire, ambulance or police are required.

## Tugs

Tugs are an aid to the safe and efficient manoeuvring of ships in confined waterways. While it is possible to berth and sail ships in certain tide and weather conditions without the aid of tugs, the experience of the port has dictated the following guidelines to reflect safe practice. Special circumstances may vary the tug requirement from the guidelines indicated in section 9 of the Port Alma Port Procedures Manual.

[Port Alma Port Procedures Manual: Section 9 – Tug procedures](#)

## Pilotage

The Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994 specifies that, unless a current pilotage exemption certificate (PEC) is held by the master of a ship, pilotage is compulsory for:

- a ship that is 50 metres or more
- a vessel towing another vessel where the combined length of the vessels is 50 metres or more
- a ship whose owner or master asks for the services of a pilot
- a ship whose master is directed by the harbour master to use the services of a pilot.

GPC provides pilotage services at the Port of Rockhampton (Port Alma). Should a pilot be required, the following periods of notice apply:

Arrivals	48 hours
Removals	24 hours
Departures	24 hours

Further information can be found:

[Port Alma Port Procedures Manual: Section 8 – Pilotage](#)

## Line Boats

There are line boats available at Pot Alma for berthing operations.

## Depths of Water

Please check the latest Notice to Mariners for the Port of Rockhampton (Port Alma) at: <https://www.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/rockhampton-notice-to-mariners> for the most current depth information.

## Tides

The mean spring tide range is 3.8 metres and the mean neap tide range is 1.7 metres. Further Information can be found at

[Port Alma Port Procedures Manual: Section 6 – Weather information](#)

## Anchorage

Vessels arriving off the Port of Rockhampton (Port Alma) will be assigned a designated anchorage position by VTS, whilst awaiting berthing instructions. These anchorages are shown on the appropriate charts and are identified by either northern or eastern and a numeral.

Further Information can be found at

[Port Alma Port Procedures Manual: Section 5 – Port Infrastructure](#)

## Bunkering

Bunker fuel oil and diesel are available by road tanker in limited quantities by prior arrangements with the ship's agents.

## Quarantine Waste

Department of Agriculture and Water Resources – Gladstone, Telephone: +61 7 4976 6600

## Futher information

The latest drawings and chart can be found at

[Port Alma Port Procedures Manual: Section 16 – Appendices](#)

# Contacts

Port of Rockhampton Manager	+61 7 4976 1134
	+61 418 799 386
Volunteer Marine Rescue	+61 7 4972 3333
Gladstone Water Police	+61 7 4971 2650
Gladstone Regional Council	+61 7 4970 0700
Department of Environment and Science	+61 7 4971 6500
Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment	+61 7 4976 6600
Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol (Yeppoon – services Gladstone)	+61 7 4991 5105
Australian Border Force	+61 7 4976 3600



## **Gladstone Ports Corporation**

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