



Huskyan Charters & Number 15 – Covid-19 Operating Guidance

Huskyan Charters and Number 15 is following all best practice advice and government guidelines regarding Covid-19. We have been working hard to minimise the risk to customers, crew and cleaning staff while maintaining the Huskyan Scapa Flow experience. We have added to our already meticulous cleaning regimes and will follow all physical distancing advice. We are fortunate to operate a large, modern and open plan vessel which lends itself to the enhanced cleaning protocols and additional physical distancing required to combat Covid-19. Underwater is probably the best place we could be, so we look forward to welcoming you aboard.

Background to COVID-19

COVID-19 is a disease which is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which can be passed via respiratory secretions (i.e. saliva) and faeces, and which can successfully live for up to 2 to 3 days on certain surfaces. COVID-19 is an “enveloped” virus, meaning that it is surrounded by a protective layer of fats and proteins. COVID-19 can be transferred via hands from one surface to another. By touching a surface which has traces of COVID-19 on it, and then touching your face or eyes, you may become infected with COVID-19. Soap and hand sanitiser are effective at denaturing the fats and proteins surrounding the virus, and therefore good ways to kill the virus.

What we are doing

- Covid-19 protocols have been implemented both aboard and in the accommodation.
- Additional signage is in place to help guide guests during their visit.
- The accommodation is deep cleaned between lets using ENJO, detergent and stabilised aqueous ozone to remove all bacteria and virus.
- All bedding and towels are removed and cleaned at 60 degrees between lets.
- A regime of continuous cleaning aboard is in place. The boat is cleaned every evening and deep cleaned between charters using ENJO, detergent and stabilised aqueous ozone.
- Door keys and high touch areas in both the accommodation and boat are also protected with a 30-day microbial shield.
- Complimentary hand sanitiser is provided for each guest.
- Some areas of the boat will be out of bounds to guests to provide a safe space for crew.

Managing the dive deck

Diving will take place in waves with a maximum of 4 divers kitting up on deck at one time. Prior to arrival, please divide your divers into groups of 4. Divers will kit up in that group for the whole week but are welcome to dive in any combination within that group of four. Each diver will be allocated a numbered seat on the dive deck and a corresponding numbered drysuit pole and locker for dry equipment. In order to implement physical distancing aboard your kit will be loaded on arrival in your pre-organised groups. **For efficiency you should arrive with your equipment already assembled and ancillary equipment well organised ready for efficient stowage aboard. Alternatively, your kit can be assembled on the pier prior to loading.** You will be loaded in staggered groups allowing each group time to stow equipment before disembarking. Please provide details of your individual groups via the final arrangements form sent to your group organiser. We will then design a seating plan for the dive deck to suit your needs.



What we need from you

- Do not travel to Orkney if you or anyone you have had contact with has experienced any symptoms of Covid-19 in the 14 days before your charter.
- Please take two lateral flow tests in the week before you travel. One taken three days before travel and one taken on the day of travel. These tests can be ordered for free:
 - <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested/pages/no-covid-symptoms/>
 - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/get-tested-for-coronavirus/>
- Please wash your hands regularly with soap and water.
- Please avoid touching your face and wash your hands before and after eating.
- Please maintain physical distancing aboard and in the accommodation.
- If you have to cough/sneeze while you are with us, please do so into a tissue and dispose of this into a bin immediately, washing your hands afterwards. Alternatively, please cough or sneeze into a bent elbow if no tissues are available.
- If you develop any symptoms of Covid-19 within 14 days of your charter, please contact us immediately.
- You must wear a face covering while inside Huskyan and in close proximity of others irrespective of whether you have had a vaccine or not.
- Face masks should be worn properly, well fitted and kept dry and clean. Buffs are not considered an effective face covering.
- You will not be permitted to enter the wheelhouse without wearing a face covering.
- While consuming food or drink aboard please ensure you are adhering to current physical distancing guidelines.
- Please follow all Covid-19 related guidance and protocols displayed aboard and in Number 15 and any further instructions given by the crew or staff.
- Mask buckets will not be available – please bring a different method of defogging your mask that does not require spitting into your mask aboard.
- You will be required to keep your dive equipment in a designated box on deck and your dry belongings in your own designated locker aboard. Please do not bring unnecessary equipment on your charter and bring your equipment pre-assembled wherever possible.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we all learn to live in this 'new normal' environment. We will continue to work hard to maintain our exceptional standards and customer service while keeping everyone as safe as possible. The risk of transmission of infectious diseases between guests, however, is impossible to remove with 100% certainty as is true in daily life. We do not accept any responsibility for a guest being infected with Covid-19, or any other illness, during their charter. Participation is at the risk of the guest.

