

Pilotage – entering Stoke Gabriel Creek

Low water landing pontoon at Mill Point

This orange plastic pontoon provides pedestrian access to and from the village of Stoke Gabriel at half tide or less (2.7m). There is a 400m walk along a stony and often muddy foreshore to reach the quay. Do not use the pontoon when its landward end is afloat and the tide is rising – otherwise you may be prevented from returning to your boat by the flooded foreshore and the cliffs.



Stoke Gabriel Creek pontoon

Slowly approach the green, starboard-hand mark – the Stoney Ground Beacon. The tide gauge is graduated at 0.2m intervals with the 5m, 4m, 3m and 2m levels shown by numbers. If the water level is below 2m and your craft draws 1.2m or more, do not enter the creek on a falling tide but instead use the Low Water Landing Pontoon in the photo on the previous page. Otherwise, depending on the draft of your vessel, steer to pass about 5m off the two red, port-hand marks on a bearing of 325°. At the second of these, turn 25° to starboard and proceed parallel to the shoreline for 100m. At this point you will notice a thin white post on your left at the bottom of the cliff. It is the outer post of a transit mark. Turn 60° to starboard and follow the course indicated by the back transit shown by the two white vertical lines. You should now be heading towards the extreme right-hand end of the houses visible beyond the Mill Pool. In about 50m, when you are looking along the centre line of the pontoon on your port side, start turning to port towards the end of the pontoon and berth on the outer end marked “Short Stay Only”. Do not berth on the eastern side of the pontoon as this is reserved for the ferry service to Dittisham and for collecting or dropping off crew.

