

DW – Tideway Reminders for Participants

The Tideway is a busy and potentially hazardous stretch of water - you will be moving at speed on an ebbing tide towards river infrastructure. It will become more challenging as you get closer to the finish.

Make decisions in plenty of time about your course through bridges, when passing moorings and on bends in the river. Stay **at least 10m away** from structures, barges, mooring buoys and jetties. **NEVER** cross directly in front of/pass too close to moored barges, rubbish catchers and buoys.

Use the bridge passage guide (overleaf) to help you navigate through bridge arches - don't go through any displaying inverted **RED** triangles. **These arches are closed** to navigation.

Nine Elms & Lambeth Bridge to the finish – there is specific guidance on navigating these sections - please take note of it (end of this document) – it is for **YOUR SAFETY**.

You **must obey the navigation rules** - always keep to the right-hand side of the centre line of the river (a failure to do so can be dangerous and may result in you being penalised).

The river will be open to navigation, and you **SHOULD EXPECT** to pass in close proximity to large passenger vessels (Clippers) & barges that generate significant wash. **Be prepared for this.**

Watch out for **rowers between Richmond and Putney** crossing the river and 'working the slacks' (rowing towards you close to the starboard bank) - give them space.

DW safety boats will be patrolling the tidal section of the course to support you - and you in turn must obey the instructions of safety crews, and any blue light services. Safety boats will display a strobe light

The Tideway Code is a user guide for small vessels navigating the tidal Thames - it contains useful guidance for paddlers! More information can be found at <https://www.pla.co.uk/assets/tidewaycodedigital.pdf>

If you see another participant in difficulty – alert a safety boat

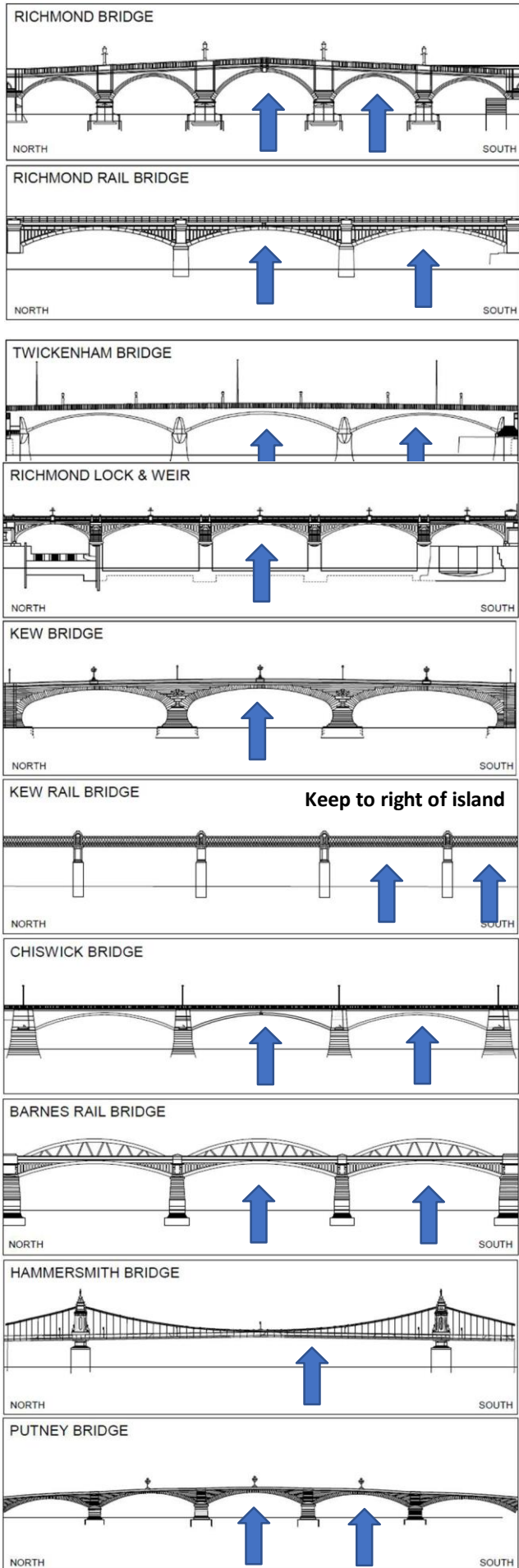
If you enter the water, use your whistle to attract attention

Use your boat for support if it is safe to do so.

In the event of an emergency on the Tideway, dial 999 and ask for the Coastguard

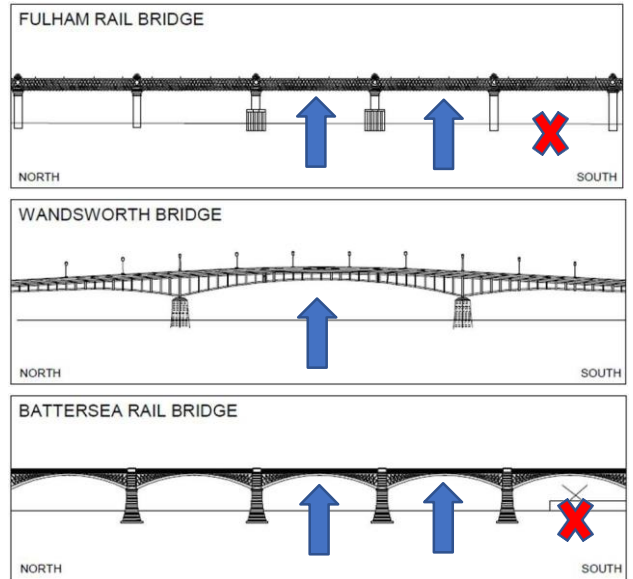
For other assistance or if retiring from the race call Race Control on 01189 661333

Bridge (Richmond to Putney)

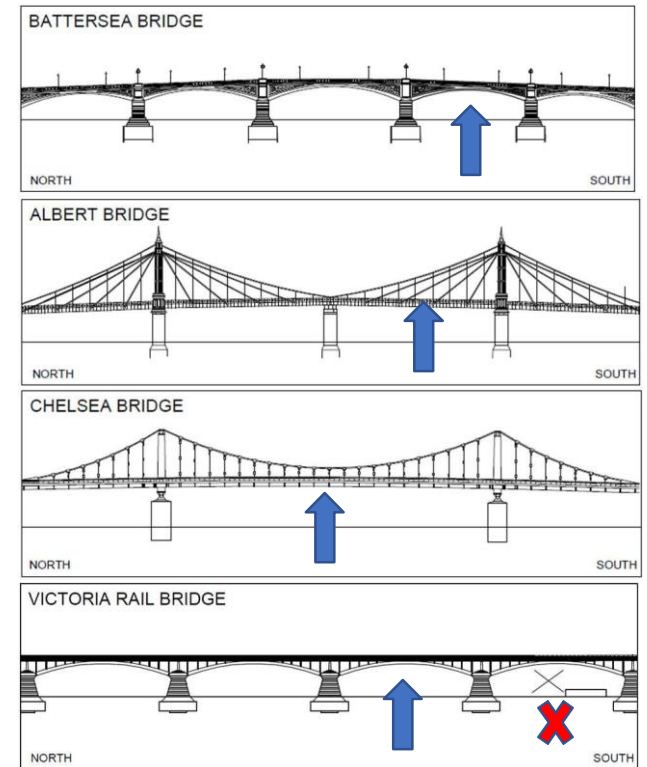


Bridge (Fulham Rail to Westminster)

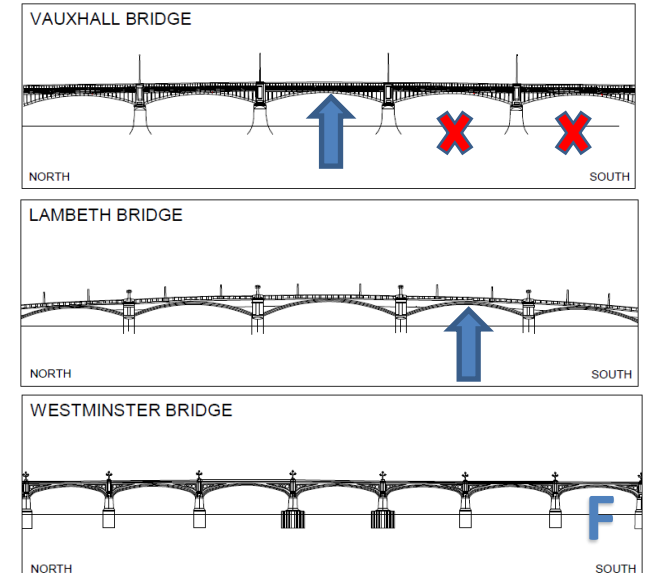
BE PREPARED FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS (CLIPPERS) PAST THIS POINT



CAUTION AFTER BRIDGE - MOORINGS CENTRE RIVER. KEEP RIGHT



CAUTION: BARGE MOORINGS. KEEP LEFT OF BARGES UNLESS DIRECTED OTHERWISE BY A SAFETY BOAT



VICTORIA RAIL TO VAUXHALL BRIDGE

This is a particularly tricky reach to navigate. The river bends to the left. After the bend, you'll find Westminster Boating Base (River Left) and Barge Moorings (River Right) creating a 'narrowing' of the navigation channel.

Clippers have piers at either end of the reach (Battersea Power Station (River Right) and St George Wharf (River Right)). They pass through this reach, in both directions, at regular intervals.

Below outlines the key area and the suggested navigational route for crews. **ENSURE YOU KEEP AT LEAST 10M** away from the barge moorings. Be aware of on-coming vessels, make your decisions early – follow the directions of the safety boat in the area.

IF IN DOUBT – SLOW DOWN, LET VESSELS PASS (or any wash subside) – YOUR SAFETY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUR TIME



DO NOT PASS BEHIND THE BARGES (TO THE RIGHT) UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY A SAFETY BOAT

POST LAMBETH BRIDGE – MOVING RIVER RIGHT FOR THE FINISH

There are a number of moored vessels post Lambeth Bridge on Lambeth Pier (Right). We suggest you move to the right after the white vessels you'll meet straight after Lambeth Bridge. There is a gap between them and the Thames Fuel Barge for you to move RIGHT to line up for the finish (shown below).



Moving RIGHT early will line you up for the finish at Westminster Bridge and give you a more sheltered approach from any commercial vessel wash. Gaps further down towards Westminster bridge are trickier – they often have multiple vessels moored alongside, making them a wider obstacle to pass.

REMINDER – MAKE YOUR DECISION EARLY and KEEP AT LEAST 10M AWAY from all moored vessels.