



مدينة راس لافان الصناعية  
RAS LAFFAN INDUSTRIAL CITY

(Managed and Administered by Qatar Petroleum)

## RAS LAFFAN PORT INFORMATION BOOKLET

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## **GENERAL INFORMATION & FORMALITIES**

### **1. Introduction**

Situated on the North East coast of Qatar, in Latitude 25° 56'N Longitude 51° 37'E, the purpose built Port of Ras Laffan has been designed as the export facility for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), Condensates and Sulphur, derived from the processing of gas landed from the North Field Gas Reservoir situated 67 km. NNE of the Port.

### **2. Port Management**

Ras Laffan Port is managed and operated by QGPC, in the capacity of beneficiary of the concession granted to it pursuant to the terms of the Emiri Decree No. 35 of 1994 and the Council of Ministers Decision No. 9 of 1994. The Port Management includes the person or persons, his deputies and assistants, authorised by QGPC, to exercise the powers, or perform the duties in respect of operations, administration and control of the Port, and the making and enforcing of regulations.

### **3. Port Details**

- a) For information on Ras Laffan, contact our web site: <http://www.raslaffan.com>
- b) Port Limits extend to 5 cables outside of, the Main and Lee breakwaters, and, the Approach channel, including the area within a radius of 1.0 nautical mile centred on the Fairway Buoy and includes the designated anchorage areas as described within paragraph (6) below.
- c) Ras Laffan Port is bounded by a 6 km. long breakwater to the North (Main breakwater) and a 5 km. long breakwater to the South (Lee breakwater) ending at a 400 metre entrance to the Port, open in an 098/278 degrees direction. The 5.5 km. long and 280 metres wide buoyed approach channel is dredged to minus 15m CD, which reduces to minus 3.5m CD between the breakwaters, marking the beginning of the Port Deep water dredged area (see Appendix A).
- d) The enclosed Port area accommodates LNG carriers of up to 135,000 m<sup>3</sup> capacity, partly laden/ballasted tankers up to 300,000 S.DWT., dry cargo vessels, and supply vessels serving the North Field Gas Reservoir operations.

### **4. Charts**

Vessels visiting the Port must have on board a sufficient range of current Hydrographic Charts relevant to the area. These charts must be kept up to date with regard to Notice to Masters and other notices promulgated for the area.

British Admiralty Charts, Nos. ‘BA 3789 - Ras Laffan’ (scale 1:6000) and ‘BA 3791 - Approaches to Ras Laffan’ (scale 1:35,000) are available through the usual sources or on request through the Agent.

**5. Prohibited Areas**

Masters should be aware of the live gas lines which exist (and are charted) to the West of the Port. Extreme caution should be exercised when navigating in this area and adequate underkeel clearance allowed with due regard to swell, squat, and the profile of the gas lines which are often routed above the sea bed.

**6. Anchorage**

Two anchorages areas have been designated off the Port within the following co-ordinates:

	North	East
<b>Western Anchorage</b>	25° 58’	51° 41’
	25° 56’	51° 41’
	25° 57’	51° 40’
	25° 57’	51° 42’
<b>Eastern Anchorage</b>	25° 54’	51° 45’
	25° 54’	51° 47’
	25° 55.5	51° 45’
	25° 55.5	51° 47’

**7. Shipping Movements, Navigation and Weather Broadcasts**

**a) Shipping movements**

- i) All marine movements within Port Limits are controlled by ‘Ras Laffan Port Control’- VHF channel 16 or 12. All vessels are required to contact Port Control before entering, leaving or manoeuvring within Port Limits.
- ii) The dredged channel is subject to ‘**one way navigation**’, with all movements within this channel and the ‘deep water basin’ being prohibited during the entry or departure of vessels bound to, or from, any of the berths in the deep water basin. The movement of such vessels will be advised by ‘Port Control’ on VHF Channel 12 - approx. 30 min. before their intended time of entering the dredged channel or departing the Berth.

**b) Navigation and Weather Broadcasts**

- i) Routine Navigation Warnings and Weather Forecasts may be obtained, on request, from the Port Control on VHF.
- ii) Non routine/ Urgent Navigation Warnings will be broadcast as soon as received and repeated every hour on the hour for the following 3 hours.

**8. Buoyage and Navigation Aids**

**a) Fairway Buoy** - is a conventional shaped buoy, painted in vertical red and white stripes, with ‘Ras Laffan’ written in white on the sides. It has a focal plane of six (6) metres and is equipped with;

- ◆ Racon (signature Morse code letter ‘G’).
- ◆ Fog signal (2 sec. blast every 10 sec.) range 0.5 miles, synchronised with the light.
- ◆ Conventional bell, worked by buoy movement.

**b) Channel Buoys** - are all of a similar and conventional shape, with:

- i) Starboard Hand buoys painted green, with a green ‘triangle’ top mark (apex upward), and identified by white ‘odd’ numbers from the Fairway Buoy as RL1, RL3, RL5, RL7, RL9, and RL11.
- ii) Port Hand buoys painted red, with a red ‘can’ top mark, and identified by white ‘even’ numbers from the Fairway buoy as RL2, RL4, RL6, RL8, RL10, and RL12.

All channel buoys are equipped with lights (see below) which are ‘gate’ synchronised i.e. RL 1 and RL 2 flash together, RL 3 and RL 4 flash together, etc.

**c) Buoys / Beacons - Position and Light Characteristics**

Buoy/ Beacon - Name or Number	Position in degrees: minutes: and seconds		Light - Colour / characteristic		Range
	North	East			miles
Leading Lights	-	-	W	Fl. Every 1 sec.	8
Main Breakwater	-	-	G	Fl. Every 5 sec.	8
Lee Breakwater	-	-	R	Fl. Every 5 sec.	8
Main B' water Inner Spur	-	-	G	2 Fl. Every 5 sec.	5
Fairway Buoy	25:55:00	51:42:00	W	Fl. Every 10 sec.	10
RL 1 - Channel Buoy	25:55:16.7	51:40:28.7	G	Fl. Every 5 sec	6
RL 2 - “ “	25:55:07.7	51:40:27.2	R	Fl. Every 5 sec.	6
RL 3 - “ “	25:55:21.0	51:39:55.6	G	2 Fl. Every 5 sec.	6
RL 4 - “ “	25:55:12.0	51:39:54.2	R	2 Fl. Every 5 sec.	6
RL 5 - “ “	25:55:25.4	51:39:22.6	G	3 Fl. Every 5 sec.	6
RL 6 - “ “	25:55:16.4	51:39:21.1	R	3 Fl. Every 5 sec.	6

Buoy/ Beacon - Name or Number	Position in degrees: minutes: and seconds		Light - Colour / characteristic		Range
	North	East			miles
RL 7 - “ “	25:55:29.7	51:38:49.4	G	Fl. Every 5 sec.	6
RL 8 - “ “	25:55:20.7	51:38:48.0	R	Fl. Every 5 sec.	6
RL 9 - “ “	25:55:34.0	51:38:16.4	G	2 Fl. Every 5 sec.	6
RL 10 - “ “	25:55:25.0	51:38:14.9	R	2 Fl. Every 5 sec.	6
RL 11 - “ “	25:55:38.3	51:37:43.3	G	3 Fl. Every 5 sec.	6
RL 12 - “ “	25:55:29.3	51:37:41.8	R	3 Fl. Every 5 sec.	6

Attention is drawn to the service provided by MENAS who promulgate warnings for the whole Gulf area.

Masters are required to report any navigational hazards to MENAS,

via Cable to     MEGULITE BAHRAIN  
Telex. to       8246 MENAS BN.  
Fax. to         828546  
Tel to         828545 **MARITIME SAFETY EMERGENCY**  
E - Mail       menas@batelco.com.bh

**9. Meteorological Conditions**

**(a) Wind**

The prevailing winds are from the N to NW particularly during the winter and spring months.

**b) Air Temperature**

Winter - ranges from a minimum of 6 °C at night, to 23°C during the day.  
Summer - ranges from 27°C at night to 45+ °C during the day with extremely high relative humidity.

**c) Sea Temperature**

Ranges from 18°C in the Winter to 34+°C in the Summer with the maximum recorded being normally in early September.

**10. Tidal Conditions**

In general the tidal current sets in a direction parallel to the coastline at speeds of up to 2 knots Southgoing and 1.6 knots North going. Considerable increases in currents occur during extended periods of strong and constant direction winds.

The normal tidal range is between +0.3m and + 1.8m CD, however tidal heights may be affected by abnormal meteorological conditions.

Ras Laffan Tidal Tables are available through the Agent and specific information may be requested from ‘Port Control’ on VHF channel 12 & 16.

**11. Agency Services**

Agency Services are provided by the QGPC Agency Department at Ras Laffan. Contact modes and numbers for the Agent are as follows:

Telephone: (974) 4733 211/2/3  
Fax: (974) 4733 229/4733219  
Telex: 4445 QGPRLA DH  
Cable: QATLAF, Doha

**12. Arrival Information for Masters**

Vessels are required to inform Ras Laffan Port Management of their ETA 7 days, 72 hrs, and 24 hours prior to arrival. –(see the relevant sections of the Port Regulations). Request for services should be addressed to the Agent at least seventy two hours prior to arrival.

**13. Quarantine**

- a) Radio pratique can be obtained via the vessel's Agent providing the Master can declare that there has not been a serious illness on board for the preceding thirty days and the following information is supplied to the Quarantine Officer via the Agent:
- i) Ship's name and flag;
  - ii) Masters name and nationality;
  - iii) Number and nationality of, officers, and crew;
  - iv) Ports visited during the last 21 days;
  - v) Has the vessel any suspected case of Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Typhus, or any other infectious disease.
- b) All crew members shall be in possession of valid cholera certificates.
- c) The standard International Declaration of Health is required upon arrival. Copies can be provided by the Agent if not available on board.

**14. Immigration and Transit**

Immigration and transit facilities for arriving and departing ships' personnel are available and can be handled efficiently through Ras Laffan Port or Doha International Airport. A minimum of 72 hours prior notice to the Agent is normally required with full details of names, passport and seaman book for crew transits. A Seaman's Book is mandatory in order to join a vessel.

**15. Documentation Requirements**

The following documents are required by shore authorities upon arrival:

Document	Customs	Immig-ration	Police	Health	Port Mngmt	Agency
Crew List	1	1	1		1	1
Crew Declaration	1					1
Stores List	1					1
Bonded Stores List	1					1
Arms & Ammunitions List	1		1		1	1
Last Port Clearance	1					1
Vaccination List				1		1
Int. Health Declaration				1		1
Animals onboard				1		1

**16. Medical Attention**

Medical Attention is available and should be requested via the Agent for routine matters and via 'Port Control' (VHF Channel 16 & 12) for emergencies. Charges for medical services will be borne by the vessel via the Agent.

**17. Stores and Provisions**

Stores and Provisions, with the exception of alcohol and pork products, are normally obtainable through the Agency.

**18. Laundry Service**

A reliable and efficient laundry service is available at Ras Laffan. Ship's laundry is normally collected and returned within 24 hours. The service is obtainable through the Agent.

**19. Currency**

The unit of currency is the Qatar Riyal, which is divided into 100 dirhams. Denominations are issued as follows:

**Qatar Riyals : 1, 5, 10, 50, 100, and 500.**  
**Dirhams : 25, and 50.**

The Qatari Riyal is fixed against the US Dollar at approximately QR 3.65/US\$. There are no exchange control regulations in Qatar.

**20. Bunkers and Water**

Except for Supply vessels, bunkering and fresh water facilities are not available at present. On an emergency basis gas oil and water can be supplied by road tankers at the Dry Cargo and non - hydrocarbon berths only.

**21. Derat Certificate**

Facilities for deratting are available through the Agent.

**22. Classification Societies, P&I Club and Cargo Surveyors**

Several surveyors appointed by classification societies are established in Doha (American Bureau of Shipping, Bureau Veritas, Det Norsk Veritas, Lloyd's Register). The attendance of such surveyors should be by liaison with the Agent who will arrange for the required security passes.

A number of P&I and cargo surveyors affiliated to international clubs and cargo survey companies are also stationed in Doha and cover Ras Laffan. For details and attendance to check and liaise with the Agent.

**23. Port Tariff and Charges**

Port Charges are levied for the use of the Port facilities and the provision of services to the visiting vessels. Port Charges are payable in advance and according to the applicable Tariff as published and amended from time to time by the Port Management. The Port Tariff can be obtained, upon request, through the Agent.

Vessels visiting the port under specific "Port Users Agreements" shall be charged according to the provisions of such Agreements.

