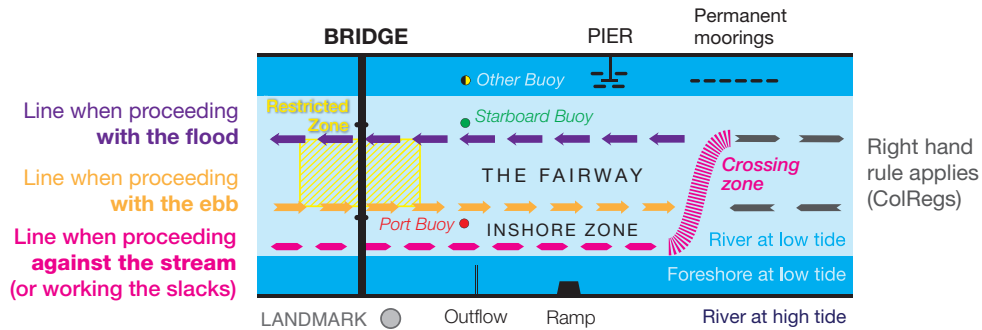


# Basic Principles of Tideway Navigation



A pocket guide - for a more detailed explanation see the wall charts in all Tideway clubs or visit [www.thames-rrc.org](http://www.thames-rrc.org). If you wish to report an infringement of the Code please use the on-line system via the TRRC safety page or go to <http://onlinerep.vorboss.net>



This guide refers to the international conventions of port and starboard.

**Starboard** = bowside, a coxswain's right, a steersperson's left.

**Port** = strokeside, a coxswain's left, a steersperson's right.

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- **When going against the stream (working the slacks)** - you must stay in the inshore zone, close to the bank and always inside the buoys. You may only cross the river at the designated crossing points, unless you are returning to a boathouse.
- **When going with the stream, either on the ebb or on the flood** - you must stay in the fairway. Keep to **starboard** of the channel at all times.
- **When meeting oncoming craft**, keep to **starboard** so as to pass **port to port**. However, at low water a big craft may need to be in the 'wrong' position. If it is safe you may pass **starboard to starboard**, but show your intentions early.
- You should always paddle according to the direction of the *stream*, not the tide. If you are not sure which way the stream is going, look at the buoys, bridges or moored boats.
- If in doubt when the tide turns, keep to **starboard**.
- Do not stop, turn or overtake within 75 metres of a bridge.
- Do not stop in a **crossing zone**
- If in doubt about any of the above always seek advice
- **Always keep a good lookout. Assume that others cannot see you.**

