

Mooring Strop 2023 FAQs



Introduction

For the 2023 season onwards, we are changing the way we provide mooring strops to our seasonal mooring licence holders, by phasing out private strops and managing the provision of strops for all of our mooring customers.

Falmouth Harbour will provide either premium chain strops as our standard offering and working with our existing local rope strop supplier, Mylor Rigging, for premium rope strops, to prepare all moorings ahead of the 2023 season.

What will we be doing?

In 2023 Falmouth Harbour will manage the provision of Falmouth Harbour strops for all of our moorings. This is to primarily manage vessel swinging circles, introduce efficiency and reduce costs, reduce the likelihood of collisions, make sure water users are safe and to ensure vessels stay secure. Falmouth Harbour will also be able to operate a much smoother, more efficient, and more standardised maintenance schedule across our 600 moorings.

Why are Falmouth Harbour providing mooring strops?

Falmouth Harbour are striving for zero mooring failures. We also wish to improve customer service, on water safety for all, increase financial efficiency, and importantly protect the environment, as part of our statutory obligations. Falmouth Harbour believe this step is critical to protect our customers assets. We are also committed to providing as seamless and straightforward customer experience as possible by standardising our mooring offering. Falmouth Harbour will cover the full strop cycle, including production, installation, maintenance, removal, cleaning and storage. We hope this will significantly improve the customer experience and continue to offer good value to customers.

What has driven this change?

The three drivers of this change are efficiency, safety and customer service. In terms of safety, Falmouth Harbour has had a number of private mooring strop failures over the years and many near misses. We want to eliminate these and ensure we meet all the needs of our insurers.

When a vessel breaks free from a mooring it can cause damage to the yacht directly involved, yachts in the vicinity and a challenging recovery of the yacht from where it ends up. This can result in total loss of a yacht and considerable financial loss to owner and the Harbour. Not to mention a considerable environmental clean-up operation and deployment of Falmouth Harbour personnel and vessels into situations that are not risk free. Our insurers are also requiring standards of asset management to be improved. In addition, and most importantly, as Statutory Harbour Authority we have significant safety duties under the Port Marine Safety Code to all Harbour users.

Won't this make Falmouth Harbour moorings really expensive?

Falmouth Harbour moorings are still some of the cheapest moorings in the Harbour even when you add the additional cost of the rope strops. Our mooring fees also include Harbour Dues often a further cost to many vessel owners across the south coast. As a customer of Falmouth Harbour you further benefit from customer discounts in Falmouth Haven. Our moorings also have some of the best access to the Harbour.

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What is the Port Marine Safety Code?

As the Competent Harbour Authority for Falmouth Harbour, the Port Marine Safety Code (November 2016) published by the Department for Transport (“the Code”) applies to the Commissioners as well as to all statutory harbour authorities and other marine facilities, berths and terminals in the UK. “The Code is designed to reduce the risk of incidents occurring within the harbour marine environment and to clarify the responsibilities of organisations within its scope.”
Port Marine Safety Code

Who is making the mooring strops?

Premium chain strops will continue to be made in-house by Falmouth Harbour. This is unchanged.

For the 2023 season, we are using our existing, local and trusted contractor, Mylor Rigging, to supply and produce any requested rope strops. This is also unchanged.

In future we may look at alternate suppliers of strops and we may in 2023 seek new proposals for a supplier from local and potential national suppliers. We saw no reason to change our current established local contract in 2022.

What if I have specific requirements for my vessel?

Falmouth Harbour know that certain customers will need a particular mooring strop solution for their vessel and we therefore have service options for these scenarios. These are a chargeable service dependent upon needs. Other mooring providers locally offer a very similar charged arrangement. Some just offer chain.

All prices cover the full strop cycle; production, installation, maintenance, removal, cleaning and storage.

[Click here](#) for more information on mooring strop options and hiring prices.

How much will Falmouth Harbour charge me for a mooring strop?

Falmouth Harbour chain strops will be included in the mooring hire fee. Should you wish to hire a rope strop, a multi-plait strop or a bridle strop, further fees will apply given the bespoke nature of your requirements.

[Click here](#) for more information on mooring strop options and hiring prices.

Will I own the mooring strop?

No, Falmouth Harbour strops will be hired by the licence holder alongside the mooring each season. Falmouth Harbour will cover the full strop cycle; production, installation, maintenance, removal, cleaning and storage. This arrangement is again very similar to other local providers.

I have recently bought my own mooring strop, can I still use it?

Falmouth Harbour recognise that some customers may have recently bought their own strop. In order to ensure vessels stay secure, and to operate a smooth, efficient and more standardised maintenance schedule across our 600+ moorings we are phasing out private strops on Falmouth Harbour estate.

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Should you wish to use your recently purchased strop for the 2023 season, your strop will need to meet our minimum safety standards by virtue of a safety inspection. We expect most private strops to be phased out within 3 years.

[Click here](#) for more information on mooring strop options and hiring prices.

Why will you charge £100 to inspect my own mooring strop?

For customers who wish to supply their own strop, the £100 fee covers inspection, fitting at start of the season, weekly and monthly safety checks throughout the season, removal at the end of the season as well as cleaning and storage for the winter. So it is a total charge for 1 year cycle, again this charge is frequently charged by other providers in the area.

Will I need to remove the strop at the end of the season?

No, you will not need to maintain, install or remove your mooring strop. Falmouth Harbour will cover the full strop cycle, from production, installation, maintenance, removal, cleaning and storage.

How often will the new mooring strops be checked and maintained?

Falmouth Harbour operates a strict and rigorous process of mooring maintenance. Our working boats are out daily and we check moorings regularly. All strops will continue to be removed and maintained at the end of every season, which includes cleaning and storage through the winter months in order to ensure that we operate the safest harbour environment possible.

How many private mooring strops fail each year?

'Private strops' aren't necessarily those strops which have been made by a professional supplier, they are often created by boat owners themselves in order to keep their boats tied up, with varying degrees of quality and suitability.

We are trending down in incidents, from over 20 events in 2016 to less than 10 events in 2021 and 2022 to date. This reduced number of incidents is down to the extensive and intensive work our Maintenance Team undertake to monitor our moorings. With over 600+ moorings plus berth holders and outhauls, it takes lots of time to do alongside our other legal and conservancy schedules for both our customers, visitors and local water-users. This cost must be recovered, if our checks are on standardised strops, our operation will become more efficient.

As Falmouth Harbour will be providing strops, does that mean you will also take responsibility for the insurance?

All Falmouth Harbour supplied strops will be a Falmouth Harbour asset and we will be responsible, subject to vessel owners abiding by our terms and conditions.

Private strops will remain the responsibility of the customer, as their own asset. In this instance, Falmouth Harbour will only be responsible for the fitting and maintenance. A failure of a private stop itself will, therefore, be the customers responsibility to insure against.

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Why do I need to provide my boat measurements as part of my mooring application for 2023?

In 2023 we will provide Falmouth Harbour strops for all our moorings which can be hired out annually for your vessel.

When applying for your 2023 mooring, you'll need to complete our questionnaire and provide us with information about your vessel, which includes key measurements regarding cleat positions, fairleads and distance from waterline. [Click here](#) for details on measuring your mooring strop.

This information is needed in order to ensure that a strop suitable for your vessel can be produced ready for the start of the 2023 season (1st April 2023) and that we can allocate a suitable mooring for your vessel, with key factors such as draught, swinging circle and overall length of your vessel taken into consideration. See terms and conditions for detail. It is critical to maintain the safety of your vessel for accurate measurements to be provided. It is the vessel owner's responsibility to provide accurate data, inaccurate information could be a breach of our terms and conditions and incur an administrative fee.

When will mooring numbers be allocated?

Mooring numbers will only be allocated upon full application form being received and licence fee being paid.

How will the Falmouth Harbour mooring strops be maintained?

The annual hire fee covers strop production, fitting at start of the season, weekly and monthly safety checks throughout the season, removal at the end of the season, pick up buoy, cleaning and storage for the winter, renewal of strop at the start of the next season including new tested and moused shackles.

I can't get to my boat to measure-up, before the deadline, what do I do?

We understand that some of our customers are unable to attend their vessels to take measurements before the middle of November.

If this is the case, please contact our team and confirm the earliest date at which you will be able to complete your mooring questionnaire, in order that we may look to confirm a mooring spot for you for 2023.

I don't have a boat at the moment but would like a mooring. Is this possible?

It is possible to apply for a mooring without currently having a boat. However, if at the start of the 2023 season there is no vessel for the mooring, the mooring may be relet to a customer on our waiting list.

Before purchasing a vessel please check with us that it is compatible with your allocated mooring