



Marine Notice No. 41 of 2024

Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishers,
Yachtsmen and Seafarers

Protected 1915 Wreck – RMS *Lusitania*

1. Notice of Activity

The Department of Transport has been asked to draw attention to the presence on the seabed of the 1915 wreck of the RMS *Lusitania*, which is afforded protection under section 3 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1987. Notice is given also of the added protection on the wreck of an Underwater Heritage Order (UHO) made under the Act.

2. Location of Activity

The wreck is situated approximately 12 miles south of the Old Head of Kinsale, is marked on Admiralty Chart No. 1765 and is recorded within the statutory Wreck Inventory of Ireland Database as W08561.

The wreck site is designated, including the debris field, as a restricted area. The restricted area (i.e. the area covered by the UHO) is defined as lying within the following co-ordinates:

| | |
|------------|------------|
| North line | 51° 26.4'N |
| South line | 51° 22.4'N |
| West line | 8° 33.8'W |
| East line | 8° 29.8'W |

The wreck of the RMS *Lusitania* is located within the restricted area at this location:
51 ° 24.7452'N, 8 ° 32.8698'W.

Activity, including fishing activity, in the immediate vicinity of the wreck that might place the wreck at risk from entanglement of fishing gear or any other equipment constitutes a direct threat to the integrity of the site. Such entanglement can also damage fishing nets. Fishers and other users of the seas are therefore requested to give the designated wreck site a wide berth and to refrain from engaging in any activity within the area that might damage or disturb the wreck or its associated debris field. Such activity includes trawl or drift net fishing.

Under the provisions of section 3(3) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1987, it is prohibited within the restricted area (i.e. the area to which the UHO applies), other than with a licence issued by the Minister for Housing, Heritage and Local Government, to damage or remove any part of the wreck or any archaeological object. Undertaking diving, survey or salvage operations directed to the detection, location or exploration of the wreck or archaeological object, or to use equipment constructed or adapted for any purpose of diving, survey or salvage operations is also prohibited without the required licence being in place.

3. Contact Details

Enquiries regarding the contents of this marine notice, and any other relevant matters, should be directed to:

- Underwater Archaeology Unit, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Tel.: 01 8882000
Email: UCH@housing.gov.ie

All mariners are reminded of their responsibilities under the International Collision Regulations and of [Marine Notice No. 17 of 2007](#), which gives general advice in relation to the activities of vessels engaged in survey work for hydrographic, seismic, fishing research and underwater operations.

The International Regulations for Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) are implemented in Irish law by the *Merchant Shipping (Collision Regulations) (Ships and Water Craft on the Water) Order 2012* [S.I. No. 507 of 2012] and the *Signals of Distress (Ships) Rules 2012* [S.I. No.170 of 2012]. [See Marine Notice No. 06 of 2013](#). These Statutory Instruments may be purchased by mail order from Government Publications, Office of Public Works, Mountshannon Road, Dublin, D08 XA06 Tel: (046) 9423100. They are also available online at: www.irishstatutebook.ie.

Note: Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

Irish Maritime Administration,
Department of Transport,
Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

19/07/2024

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice, please contact:

The Marine Survey Office, email: MSO@transport.gov.ie.

For general enquiries, please contact the Maritime Safety Policy Division, email:

MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie.

Written enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to:

Dept. of Transport, Maritime Safety Policy Division, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

email: MarineNotices@transport.gov.ie or visit us at: www.gov.ie/transport.