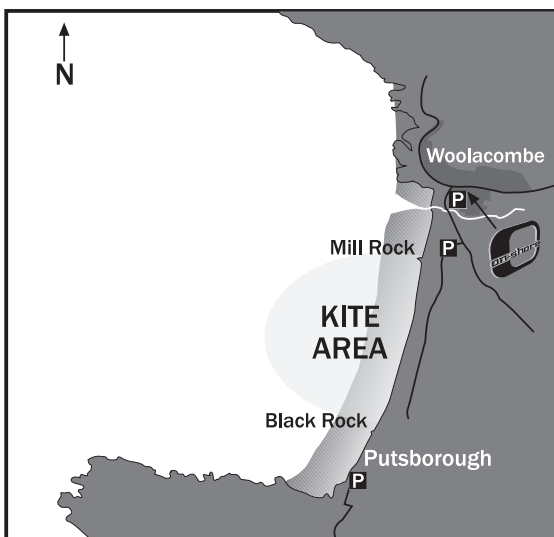


on-shore

BEACH GUIDE

Woolacombe

During busier periods on the beach we ask that all flying be done in the area outlined on the map, taking into account wind direction and the state of the tide; i.e. allow yourself enough room downwind of your start position that you don't immediately stray out of the kiting area, and enough space that other beach users can pass preferably upwind of you or at a safe distance downwind.



General Safety Guidelines:

- It is strongly recommended that a helmet or quality head protector is worn at all times while kiting.
- Check the local weather conditions before riding and ensure you fully understand the tides and how they might affect the riding area.
- If you lose any equipment out to sea, always report you are safe to the rescue services so they do not waste time and money looking for you.
- Always keep your lines away from people, animals and craft on land or water. Do not leave your equipment unattended on the beach and be polite to other beach users.
- Always act in a responsible manner. If new or careless kites show up, talk to them with your friends about what's at risk. Take the time to explain how to safely get into the sport, and where to obtain adequate and professional instruction.
- Always observe the restrictions set out by the beach management (see signs at the beach entrance).

Insurance:

It is strongly recommended that anyone taking part in powerkiting activities takes out third party insurance; this can be obtained from a number of sources, please ask at on-shore for details.

Kitesurfing Guidelines

The following safety advice has kindly been donated by the British Kitesurfing Association. Kitesurfers are solely responsible for their own safety and that of affected bystanders. Just because we've taken the care to publish this voluntary Code of Conduct we cannot be held liable for your actions.

Kitesurfing Road Rules:

- Be sure that you can handle the prevailing weather conditions and never sail in offshore winds. If in doubt don't go out.
- The upwind rider gives way to the downwind rider.
- The rider on the port tack gives way to the rider on starboard tack.
- Kitesurfers using the seafront should give way to other water users.
- The seafront can get exceptionally busy both on the beach and in the water. No matter how competent you are, or good the conditions look, never risk the safety of others. If in doubt don't go out.
- Always maintain a 50-metre downwind safety zone between yourself and other craft. In the event of coming into conflict with other water users stabilise your kite at 12 o'clock (top of the wind window).
- Never kitesurf in or near to the bathing areas and swimmers.
- Never practice jumping on land or close to the beach.
- When returning to the beach, give way to riders who are launching.

Equipment:

- All manufacturers' instructions and safety guidelines must be read and followed, in particular the limitations of the product.
- Equipment must be regularly checked for wear and tear and repaired before going out on the water. If in doubt seek advice from an authorised dealer, approved BKSA/IKO instructor or more experienced local rider.
- Always check your equipment thoroughly and ensure your kite is properly inflated. An under inflated kite is difficult to control and harder to re launch from water.
- Always use an effective kite leash and safety system so you can kill your kite instantly in the event of an emergency.
- Never tether yourself to the kite with a closed system. Only use quick release harness systems and practice activating under tension.
- Carry a knife that is capable of cutting the flying line you are using.

Setting Up, Launching & Landing:

- Do not lay lines across the path of other beach users and never launch in crowded areas.
- Select a safe launch site and allow enough space for any difficulties you may get into. If it's possible, have a friend help you.
- Never ask an inexperienced member of the public to assist.
- Extra care should be taken when the beach is busy. On occasions, it might be too busy to launch safely unless a specific launch area is in operation.
- Prevent kites from re-launching with sand (or other ballast) to weigh them down and ensure that sand will not be dropped on other beach users when self-launching.
- Fully disable unattended kites and return your lines to the kite so you don't cause inconvenience to other beach users.
- Look out for riders returning to shore and be ready to help land their kites.
- Never kitesurf in congested areas with swimmers, surfers or obstacles.
- If you ride alone let someone know you are out and what time you expect to return.
- Always maintain a downwind safety zone especially when jumping. Look before you jump.
- Never ride so far away from the shore that you cannot swim back in an emergency.
- All riders should be familiar with rescue signals and practice self-rescue pack down manoeuvres when undergoing kitesurfing instruction with qualified BKSA/IKO instructors.
- If you need to swim kill the power in your kite, wind the lines onto the bar and deflate the leading edge.

Useful contacts:

- On-shore, Woolacombe: 01271 870807
- Parkin Estates, Woolacombe: 01271 870234
- Coastguard: 999