

St Anns Harbour — Overview

CHS Chart No: 4277 – Great Bras d'Or, St Andrews Channel & St Anns Bay

Amenities:

Few other than the beauty and solitude of the surroundings.

Description:

St Anns Harbour is a beautiful body of water girded by high hills, and is completely protected from the ocean by a shingle bar extending from the western shore. However, due to the significant fetches an uncomfortable chop can build in fresh winds. Unfortunately, much of the harbour has, in recent years, been given over to mussel farming, and navigation within the harbour is severely restricted. It is an ideal spot for a short trip of a few days out of Sydney, without having to tackle the Great Bras d'Or Entrance to reach the Lakes, or for an en-route stopover. There are several anchorages for small craft, and if complete protection is required in shifting winds, such as in the passage of a frontal system, the North Gut is a snug anchorage as one might wish for. Few cruisers venture to St Anns Harbour, and one is most likely to have an anchorage to oneself.

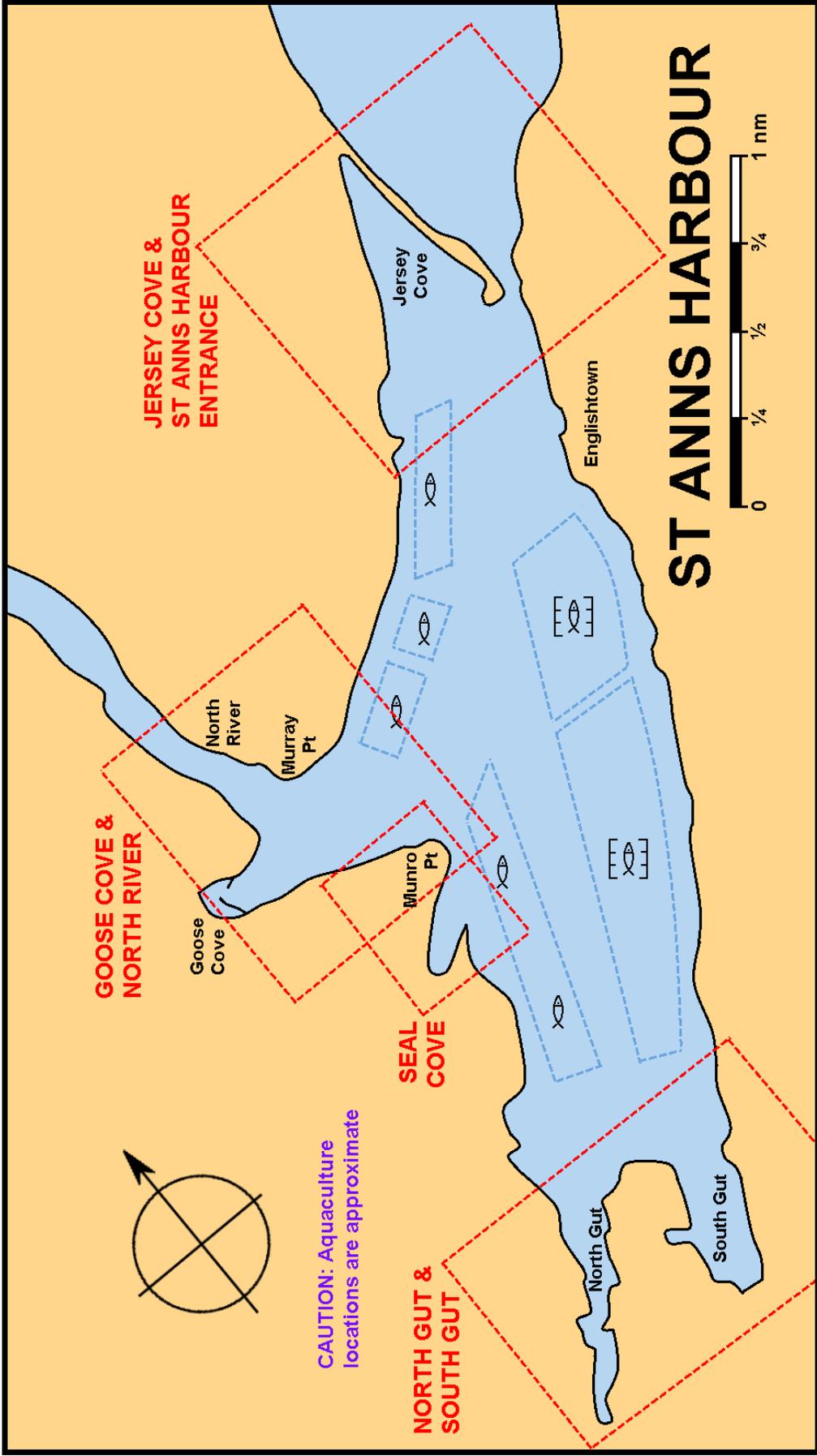
Navigation:

The entrance to St Anns Harbour is well buoyed (See Jersey Cove & St Anns Harbour Entrance) and has ample depth for pleasure craft. At the Englishtown ferry crossing the entrance is only one-tenth of a mile wide, and the water is deep. The flood and ebb currents can run as high as four knots. The tidal range in the harbour is little different than on the ocean side and is about 4.4 feet on a large tide. As a result, slack water in the entrance occurs shortly after high or low water.

The ferry shows red/green lights from both shores but they can be difficult to distinguish against the light of the sky. The lights show red when the ferry is in transit, and green when docked and it is safe to pass. The ferry crew are normally very attentive, and are very patient with boats struggling against a foul current.

Once past the Port Shoal light buoy the turn may be made into Jersey Cove. If proceeding toward Seal Cove or Goose Cove, maintain a course toward Munro Point to keep clear of the mussel farms. A slight alteration of course toward the north as one approaches Munro Point may be necessary to avoid the north end of the westernmost mussel farm area.

CAUTION: Soundings on the anchorage charts have been taken from current and discontinued CHS charts. Soundings may be less in shallow areas of Goose Cove and North River, and South Gut. Recent observations for Seal Cove and North Gut indicate no significant differences.



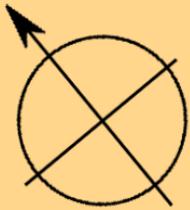
GOOSE COVE & NORTH RIVER

JERSEY COVE & ST ANNS HARBOUR ENTRANCE

SEAL COVE

NORTH GUT & SOUTH GUT

ST ANNS HARBOUR



CAUTION: Aquaculture locations are approximate

Goose Cove

North River

Murray Pt

Munro Pt

Jersey Cove

North Gut

South Gut

Englishtown