

# THE WATERWAY PERMIT

To sail on a number of navigable waterways in Flanders, most vessels are required to hold a waterway permit. The waterway permit is a digital permit. De Vlaamse Waterweg continues to strive towards 'paperless sailing'. This is not just good for the environment, it is also more efficient. To quickly and easily apply for or renew your digital waterway permit online, visit [www.visuris.be/waterwegenvergunning](http://www.visuris.be/waterwegenvergunning).



## HOW MUCH DOES A WATERWAY PERMIT COST?

A waterway permit can be purchased for a variety of durations, e.g. a day, several days or months, or a year. You choose when your waterway permit should start and how long it

should last. The amount you have to pay is calculated based on five daily rates. These daily rates depend on the purchase method, i.e. by phone or online.

### DAILY RATES 2025 (updated on an annual basis)

	Daily rate: Day 1	Daily rate: Days 2 to 7	Daily rate: Days 8 to 30	Daily rate: Day 31 to 90	Daily rate: Day 91 to 365
Rate (€/m/day) Online purchase	1,8280	0,6093	0,2031	0,0678	0,0135
Rate (€/m/day) By phone	2,2850	0,7617	0,2540	0,0847	0,0169

The amount due is calculated based on the vessel's hull length, the number of days (maximum 365 days) and the speed of the vessel. For a vessel capable of sailing faster than 20 km/h, a theoretical 6 metres is added to the hull length at the time of application.

Example calculation: 10-metre vessel, 80-day permit, not a high-speed vessel:  
10 x (1x daily rate 1 day + 6x daily rate 2-7 days + 23x daily rate 8-30 days + 50x daily rate 31-90 days)

All vessels, both sailing and moored, are required to hold a valid waterway permit. De Vlaamse Waterweg nv will verify these details on the waterways, in the marinas and during passage through movable bridges and locks.

If a vessel does not hold a valid waterway permit (no permit, expired permit, incorrect vessel length, high-speed classification missing, etc.), an administrative fine will be charged for each violation detected.



Payment of this fee is not a substitute for the purchase of a valid waterway permit. For more information regarding this administrative fine, please visit [www.visuris.be/bootecatalogus](http://www.visuris.be/bootecatalogus).

## HOW CAN I APPLY FOR A PERMIT?

Easily apply for your waterway permit at [www.visuris.be/waterwegenvergunning](http://www.visuris.be/waterwegenvergunning). You'll also find our helpful instruction videos on this link, plus answers to frequently asked questions and information about purchasing over the phone.

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## WHICH VESSELS REQUIRE A PERMIT?

A waterway permit is required for all motorised vessels sailing or moored (whether licensed or unlicensed) on the navigable waterways of the Flemish Region.

A waterway permit is required for the Ghent-Terneuzen Canal from the Meulestede Bridge to the Dutch border, the

Common Meuse, the Lower Zeeschelde, the Scheldt-Rhine Canal, the Zuid-Willemsvaart Canal and various waterways subject to the tide, the Port of Antwerp and coastal yacht harbours. For a comprehensive list of exempted waterways, please visit [www.visuris.be/waterwegenvergunning](http://www.visuris.be/waterwegenvergunning).



- All moored vessels are required to hold a waterway permit at all times.
- Information about waterway permits for houseboats can be found at [www.vlaamsewaterweg.be/woonboten](http://www.vlaamsewaterweg.be/woonboten).





