CHARTLET FOR THE DEBEN ENTRANCE 2025 PLEASE READ AND TAKE NOTE -

Imray's first 2025 chartlet for the Deben entrance follows on the next page of this PDF.

It was drawn from a Trinity House survey carried out in February 2025. As usual, Imray specifically produced this chartlet solely for 'East Coast Pilot' with the approval of Trinity House. Indeed Trinity House do us all a favour by specially surveying the Deben and Ore entrances each year.

As ever, this entrance remains subject to change during periods of strong onshore winds, and both the advice given here and the chartlet itself may have to be updated again during the course of the summer.

The lines shown between buoys on the chartlet are simply bearing lines to assist buoy spotting, they are not recommended courses between buoys.

The buoyed route is similar to last year's. Remember there will be a cross-tide affecting use of the entrance, (from right to left on entry on the flood tide) so special care is needed, looking ahead and behind and choosing some suitable objects in transit on the shore to help stay on track.

In particular, note that a new shingle knoll has built up WSW of the Mid Knoll SHB, and you are advised to pass close to that buoy to keep in safe water.

For now, without first-hand experience yet, we suggest the best advice is to time your passage no more than 2½ hours either side of HW, and to avoid the entrance altogether in periods of strong onshore winds.

As ever, sound advice for this river entrance is 'do not take liberties with it'!

Skippers needing any further advice on the spot can call ECP's local Honorary Port Pilot, and Deben Harbourmaster, John White, either on VHF Ch 08 callsign 'Odd Times', or by phone on 07803 476621.

Many thanks to John Ranson for the photo below, taken early this morning, tidal height 0.34m.

East Coast Pilot 28th April 2025



