



# BLUE FLAG

## NEW ZEALAND

### MARINA PROGRAMME INFORMATION SHEET

**THIS DOCUMENT PROVIDES AN OVERVIEW OF THE BLUE FLAG PROGRAMME FOR MARINAS AND SHOULD BE READ ALONGSIDE THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:**

- ▶ **Blue Flag Marina Handbook**
- ▶ **Blue Flag Annual Calendar**
- ▶ **Blue Flag Marina Application Form**
- ▶ **Blue Flag Code Of Conduct for Individual Boat Owners**

#### ▶ **WHAT IS BLUE FLAG?**

Blue Flag is a world renowned eco-label that is trusted by millions of people around the globe. It is awarded annually to beaches, marinas and sustainable tourism boating operators which have met strict criteria in relation to Environmental Education, Environmental Management, Safety & Services and Water Quality.

A Blue Flag marina makes a special effort to implement sound management with respect to the local environment and nature, and provides users with information on environmental issues.

The Blue Flag programme was founded in 1987 and is run internationally by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), a non-profit organisation based in Denmark. New Zealand's National Operator of the Blue Flag Programme is Keep New Zealand Beautiful (KNZB).

There are currently over 4,000 Blue Flags flying in 48 countries.

The Blue Flag programme is embraced by the World Health Organisation, the World Tourism Organisation, and the United Nations Environmental Programme.

#### ▶ **CRITERIA FOR MARINAS**

The Blue Flag criteria for marinas are organised into four main categories:

- ▶ **Environmental Education**
- ▶ **Water Quality**
- ▶ **Environmental Management**
- ▶ **Safety & Services**

The criteria are further categorised as either imperative or guideline. Imperative criteria must be complied with in order for a marina to be awarded a Blue Flag. Guideline criteria are strongly encouraged, but are not mandatory.

Blue Flag performs random and announced control visits to Blue Flag marinas during the boating season in order to ensure that all criteria are being met. This is critical to ensure that all awarded marinas uphold the integrity of the programme.

Please refer to the Blue Flag Marina Handbook and Blue Flag Application form for full criteria.



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## ► BLUE FLAG FOR INDIVIDUAL BOAT OWNERS

The Individual Blue Flag is a small flag offered to boat owners within the marina who commit to an environmental code of conduct.

KNZB will provide certified marinas with a Blue Flag for Boat Owners pledge form that contains all of the recommended commitments, and includes space for boaters to provide their signature, name, and address. Marinas can add extra commitments specific to the marina and local environment if desired.

Please see Blue Flag Code Of Conduct for Individual Boat Owners.

## ► STEPS TO THE BLUE FLAG AWARD

**FEASIBILITY STUDY:** (optional) The marina completes a preliminary application form, highlighting and noting criteria where the operation currently does not meet compliance, or where there is uncertainty of compliance. KNZB will then visit the site to conduct a preliminary audit of the marina, assess the facilities and will provide the marina with a report outlining the steps required to meet all Blue Flag criteria.

**CANDIDATE PHASE:** If the marina agrees to adopt the recommendations of the Feasibility Study and proceed with Blue Flag certification the marina will enter the pilot phase and become a Blue Flag candidate. During this phase, the marina works through the recommendations in the Feasibility Study until all criteria are met.

**BLUE FLAG APPLICATION:** The marina submits an application form to KNZB in May.

**NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL JURY REVIEW APPLICATIONS:** The Jury is made up of environmental education, management and safety experts. The national Jury reviews all applications in June and forwards successful applications to the International Jury for final approval.

**BLUE FLAG SEASON BEGINS:** During November and December marinas are presented with the new season flags. *Please see Blue Flag Annual Calendar for full details.*

## ► FEE SCHEDULE (EXCL GST)

### ALL NEW APPLICANTS (OPTIONAL)

**Feasibility Study.** This is an optional one time payment for new operators entering the Blue Flag programme

**\$1000**

### BLUE FLAG MARINA ANNUAL FEES 2018

1<sup>st</sup> marina

**\$2,750**

2<sup>nd</sup> marina

**\$1,600**

3<sup>rd</sup> marina plus

**\$1,100**