



# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

## The Boating Safety

# CODE

Before you go boating on our seas, lakes and rivers, get familiar with New Zealand's Boating Safety Code, no matter what kind of boat you use.

**5** simple rules to help you stay safe:

**1** Life jackets

*Take them - Wear them.*

Boats, especially ones under 6m in length, can sink very quickly. Wearing a life jacket increases your survival time in the water.

**2** Skipper responsibility

The skipper is responsible for the safety of everyone on board and for the safe operation of the boat. Stay within the limits of your vessel and your experience.

**3** Communications

Take two separate waterproof ways of communicating so we can help you if you get into difficulties.

**4** Marine weather

New Zealand's weather can be highly unpredictable. Check the local marine weather forecast before you go and expect both weather and sea state changes.

**5** Avoid alcohol

Safe boating and alcohol do not mix. Things can change quickly on the water. You need to stay alert and aware.

Also available:

The Water Safety  
**CODE**

The Outdoor Safety  
**CODE**

For more information about safe boating education and how to prepare for your boating activity, visit [www.adventuresmart.org.nz](http://www.adventuresmart.org.nz)