

#### CHANNEL DATA

Alignment and buoyage: The channel's outer section is divided into two approaches, N and S of Norrskär, which are combined again SE of Vaasa Lighthouse. Nine or eight (9/8) leading lines, mainly marked by boards. Length approx. 60 km/32 nautical miles, pilotage distance 45 km/24 nautical miles. Lateral marks. Lit.

Dimensions: Design vessel: bulk carrier 25 000 DWT, L = 175 m, B = 25 m, T = 9.0 m. Maximum authorised draught 9.0 m, safe clearance depth: outer section -11.0 m, inner section -10.5 m, in the harbour area -9.9 m. Minimum width 100 m, bend radius 1000 m. Design speed 10 knots from position where safe clearance depth alters to harbour.

Areas with meeting and overtaking prohibitions: The channel has one permanent area of meeting and overtaking prohibitions, look closer to West Coast VTS Master's Guide <https://tmfg.fi/en/vts/masters-guide>

#### NAVIGABILITY

Navigational conditions: The approaches consist of open sea up to Norra Gloppten, unsheltered against SW-N winds. For shelter, between Norra Gloppten and Storhästen there are scarce isles, and from Storhästen up to Port of Vaasa is larger islands and archipelago. The Nygrund line requires accuracy and care from large vessels (there is a steep starboard bend of 65° at the beginning and a 26° bend to port at the end). Within the inner section strong side wind may affect navigation adversely.

Ice conditions: Further out ice conditions vary according to winds and temperature. The outmost buoys are normally removed for winter. Very often ice moves or is stacked between Ensten and Norra Gloppten. Ice movement may cause buoys and spar buoys to be pressed under ice (surface). Normally during wintertime there is from 20 to 40 cm thick fast ice between Vaskiluoto and Ensten.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Speed limits and recommendations: There is a 15 knot speed limit between Nygrund and Port of Vaasa. A speed limit of 8 knots is recommended for the whole fairway. In the inner section the maximum speed of large vessels is normally approx. 5 knots.

Wind recommendations: Critical wind speed of design vessel 15 m/s between Nygrund and Port of Vaasa irrespective of wind direction during the open sea period.

Anchoring: Anchoring within the harbour area should be avoided. In the approaches there is a possibility for anchoring N and S of Norrskär. In the inner section anchoring is possible approx. 0.6 nautical miles S of Ensten and 0.5 nautical miles NE of Fågelskär.

Wind gauges: Marine weather observations, Maalahti Strömmingsbådan, Mustasaari Valassaaret.

Sea level: Vaasa mareograph (mareograph is located in Port of Vaasa area at Vaasa fairway depot).

#### TRAFFIC SERVICE

Pilotage: E-mail [pilotorder.west@finnpilot.fi](mailto:pilotorder.west@finnpilot.fi). Order form [www.pilotorder.fi](http://www.pilotorder.fi). Tel. +358 (0) 400 907 979, fax +358 (0) 29 52 53012. Pilot boarding positions: Vaasa N: 63°15,77' N, 20°51,19' E, Vaasa S: 63°12,10' N, 20°45,38' E. Pilotage distance 24 nautical miles.

NB: In winter and adverse weather conditions the pilot boarding position is agreed separately.

VTS: West Coast VTS, VHF Channel 9. Tel. +358 204 48 6645.

E-mail: [westcoast.vts@vtsfinland.fi](mailto:westcoast.vts@vtsfinland.fi)

Tugs: Harbour tug Hercules 750 kW; booking 2 h in advance. Phone +358 40 267 927, +358 50 557 4739 or +358 6 312 2233.

#### PORT

Quays: *Coal quay*, length 145 m, authorised draught -8,4 m; *Rein's quay*, length 240 m, authorised draught -7,0 m, maximum length of vessel 165 m; *Passenger quay*: Southern side, length 140 m, authorised draught -5.7 m; Northern side, length 155 m, authorised draught -6.8 m; *Northern pier*: Northern side, length 160 m, authorised draught -7,3; *Lasse's quay*, length 214 m, authorised draught -9.0 m; Oil quay: length 105 m, authorised draught -9.0 m, maximum length of vessel 200 m.

Cargo handling: Mobile cranes for all quays.

Harbour basin: Diameter of swinging area 200 m, safe clearance depth -9,9 m. Use of anchor allowed.

Contact: Kvarken Ports Ltd. [vaasaport@kvarkenports.com](mailto:vaasaport@kvarkenports.com) [www.kvarkenports.com](http://www.kvarkenports.com)

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Utgrynnan

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Pilot  
Vaasa N

Vaasa lighthouse

Norrkallan  
Ostra Norrskär

Norrskär

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Lotsgrund

Pilot  
Vaasa S

Norra Gloppsten

Korsö

VALLGRUND

BJÖRKÖ

RAIPPALUOTO

GLOPPET

Ensten

Gasgrund

Storköbben

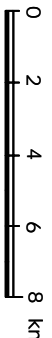
Nygränd

Storhåsten

Nagelprick

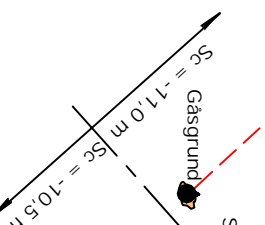
Fågelskär

# VAASA CHANNEL (9,0 M)



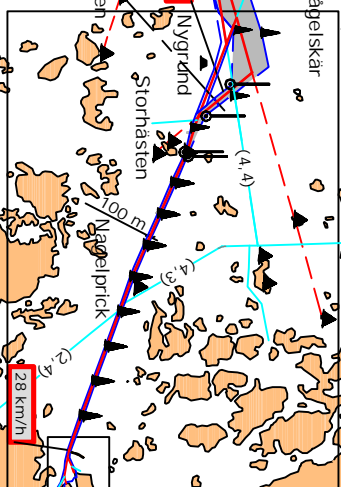
Not for navigational use

Sc = Safe clearance depth



28 km/h

28 km/h



Finnish Transport  
Infrastructure Agency

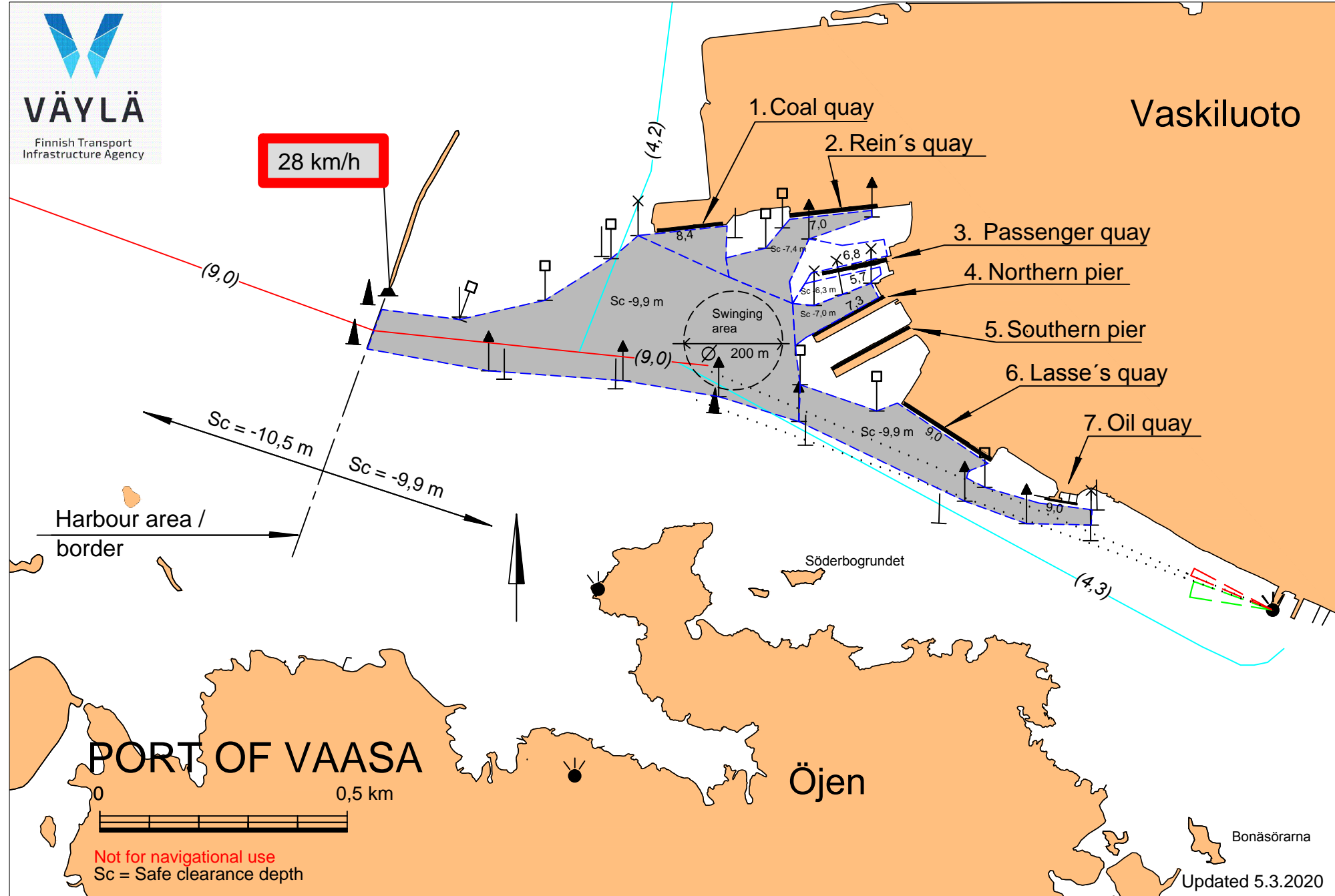
Updated 5.3.2020



# Vaskiluoto

- 1. Coal quay
- 2. Rein's quay
- 3. Passenger quay
- 4. Northern pier
- 5. Southern pier
- 6. Lasse's quay
- 7. Oil quay

**28 km/h**



## PORT OF VAASA

0 0,5 km



Not for navigational use  
Sc = Safe clearance depth