

PILOTAGE FEES AND PAYMENT OF PILOT SERVICES AT THE BLACK SEA PORTS AND WITHIN TERRITORIAL WATERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

IN FORCE FROM January 01ST, 2025

I. ON THE GROUNDS OF

Merchant Shipping Code, Chapter 9, Section IV, Article 238 (2) and “Ordinance 1 of the Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications regarding conditions and rules for pilotage services in the Republic of Bulgaria”

II. APPLICATION

1. The pilotage services provided by the pilot stations in favor of the ship owners and other companies ordering pilotage as per the Ordinance 1 of the Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications regarding conditions and rules for pilotage services in the Republic of Bulgaria.
2. The pilotage services are paid as per Table 1 for Varna Pilotage Area and as per Table 2 for Burgas Pilotage Area

III. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Pilotage services are rendered at the written/electronic request by the shipmaster, ship owner or his agent.
2. The pilot issues a PILOT NOTE /PILOT BILL / for each service (pilotage) containing ship’s particulars and basic dimensions for calculating and invoicing the pilotage service.
3. The Pilot Bill is prima facie evidence confirmed by the ship master’s signature and stamped with the ship’s stamp. When it is impossible for the Pilot Bill to be issued on board such a bill could be signed and stamped by the ship’s agent.
4. Prices of the pilotage services are in euro (EUR) based on the gross tonnage (GT) of the maneuvered ship and the area where the service is carried out.
5. All expenses incurred for the embarkation / disembarkation of the pilot or using a pilot boat and other means of transport are included in the pilotage fee.
6. Outer pilotage for Burgas Pilotage Area and pilotage compulsory for ships with draft of more than 13,5 meters – the price is as per column 2 of Table 2 and there is an increase of the fee for ships with more than 10 000 GT, which is 20 EUR for each 1000 GT.
7. Shifting of ships in Burgas Pilotage Area in one area and between port areas is calculated as a separate maneuver except Section IV (2)
8. Shifting between terminals in Varna Pilotage Area are as follows:

A /Shifting between column № 2 and columns № 3 or № 4 and vice-versa, are considered leaving and entering the port and are therefore charged as separate manoeuvres, including shifting from SRY Odessos to SRY Odessos pier № 6 and shifting from PChMV to Varna East.

B / Shifting between berths in same terminal for ships working cargo are charged 1,5 as per column № 2.

C / Shifting between column № 3 and column № 4 or shifting between terminals in the same column are charged 1.5 times column № 3.

D / All other specific cases – as per agreed practice.

9. Outer pilotage for Varna Pilotage Area - the price is as per column 4 of Table 1.

10. Pilotage fees for specific pilotage services – floating docks, drill rigs and others are contracted on an individual basis.

IV. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. Pilotage fees reduced by 50 percent when:

/1/ The cancellation of the maneuver is due to the ship, with the pilot waiting on board the vessel upwards of 30 min.

/2/ Warping alongside more than one ship's length without casting off all the mooring lines.

2. Pilotage fees reduced by 10 percent when:

/1/ Pilotage is rendered to passenger ships berthing or to be anchored in Balchik Port, Port of Burgas Port of Nessebar , Port of Pomorie Port of Sozopol, Port of Tzarevo roads with length over all (LOA) up to 220 m, for Port of Varna for ships with LOA up to 240 m.

3. Pilotage fees reduced by 20 percent when:

/1/ Pilotage is rendered to passenger ships to be berthed alongside Port of Burgas with LOA above 220 m, ships to be anchored in Nessebar roads and ships with LOA more than 240 m to be berthed /unberthed at the Port of Varna.

4. Pilotage fees are increased by 20 percent when:

/1/ Pilotage is rendered to ships with dangerous cargo on board. Tankers not possessing a "Gas Free" certificate are to be considered as ships with dangerous cargo on board

5. Pilotage fees are increased by 50 percent when:

/1/The piloted ship is operationally restricted in her ability to use her main engine.

/2/The ship enters or leaves a floating or dry dock and/or other lifting facility.

/3/Pilotage is rendered to ships for which the rules, regulations and special orders of the Maritime Administration require compulsory usage of two pilots or a pilot with more than five years' experience.

/4/Pilotage services are rendered to ships with lightering operations or cargo operations in officially announced anchorage area as per Table 1, column 4 for the Port of Varna and as per Table 2, column 2 for the Port of Burgas.

/5/ Pilotage service from Varna roads to Varna anchorage areas № 2 And № 4 according to table 1, column 4.

/6/The ship enters or leaves the port area without berthing alongside as per the fee for the designated port area.

/7/ The piloted ship is with open hatch covers, restricting visibility, requiring usage of a second pilot

6. Pilotage fees are increased by 100 percent when:

/1/ Pilotage is rendered to ships with dangerous cargo on board subject to special requirements of the Maritime Administration.

/2/ Pilotage services are rendered to ships with cargo operations at sea or lightering operations performed outside an officially announced anchorage area as per Table 1, column 4 for the Port of Varna and as per Table 2, column 2 for the Port of Burgas.

/3/In all cases of vessel shifting between pier/dock or dock/pier respectively.

/4/ Pilotage service is rendered to ship beyond the rules and regulations of the Maritime Administration for the designated port area.

/5/ During national and or official holidays

V. PILOTAGE SERVICE PAYMENTS

1. The Pilot Station issues an invoice to the Ship owner or the company ordering the pilotage service three days after the pilotage service has been done. It invoices all the pilotage services of the ship in EUR, except the invoices for Bulgarian ships which are issued in BGN.

2. Ship's agents are obliged to make the payment in 14 working days after the invoice has been issued.

VI. ANNEXES

1. ANNEX 1 – Table 1 Pilotage fees in Varna Pilotage Area
2. ANNEX 2 – Table 2 Pilotage fees in Burgas Pilotage Area

VII. CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

1. The present “PILOTAGE FEES AND PAYMENT OF PILOT SERVICES AT THE BLACK SEA PORTS AND WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL WATERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA” abolishes the ones issued April 01st, 2023 and enters into force from January 01st, 2025
2. Any changes to the pilotage fees will be announced at least two months prior to entering into force.

President of Bulgarian Maritime Pilots' Association:

Capt. N. Apostolov

Manager Varna Pilot Station Ltd

Capt. A. Borisov

Manager Burgas Pilot Station Ltd

Capt N.Apostolov

ANNEX 1

Table 1

Pilotage Fees in Varna Pilotage Area in force 01.01.2025

BASIS	VARNA EAST, PETROL, BULYARD,BULPORT LOGISTIK, SRY, PCHVM, SHIFTING BETWEEN BERTHS IN SAME TERMINALS	TEC(POWER STATION), BALCHIK PORT LESPORT, TEREM FA, SRY DOLPHIN, TRANSSTROI, ODESSOS PBM, BUOY 11 ANCHORAGE	VARNA WEST, FERRY COMPLEX
GT	EUR	EUR	EUR
1	2	3	4
Up to 499	200	275	425
From 500 to 999	275	370	585
From 1000/to 1999	325	450	670
From 2000/to 2999	365	530	760
From 3000 to 3999	420	610	845
From 4000 to 4999	470	690	930
From 5000 to 5999	520	770	1020
From 6000 to 6999	575	850	1100
From 7000 to 7999	625	930	1190
From 8000 to 8999	680	1010	1275
From 9000 to 9999	730	1090	1360
Above 10000 For each 1000 GT+	85	95	115

Boat Services fees

p/b „ Pilot 1 “– 120 EUR for each hour commenced

p/b „ Pilot 2 “ - 120 EUR for each hour commenced

p/b „ Pilot 3 “ - 120 EUR for each hour commenced

ANNEX 2

Table 2

Pilotage Fees in Burgas Pilotage Area

	GT	Current Fees EURO	Fees in force 01.01.2025r. EURO
1.	From 500 - 900	350	400
2.	From 1000 - 2999	575	660
3.	From 3000 - 5999	780	895
4.	From 6000 – 10 000	900	1035
5.	Above 10 000	100 for each 1000 GT	115 for each 1000 GT

Boat service fees

м/к „ Nord 3“ - 120 EURO for each hour commenced.

м/к „ Orka 1“ - 120 EURO for each hour commenced.