

Directions to Wilmington

Wilmington is located approximately 13 nautical miles from ICW Marker 177 in the Cape Fear River. The scenery varies from beautiful undeveloped coastal wetlands to a busy port to Wilmington's historic downtown waterfront.

Electronic charts can be downloaded from the Wilmington Harbor Enhancement Trust website www.wilmington-docks.com.

Fuel is available on the way to Wilmington at Wilmington Marine Center. Turn east at River Channel Marker 59 and follow the marked channel.

Proceeding from the South:

At Cape Fear River Channel Marker 33, continue north rather than turning to northwest to stay in the ICW. The shipping channel is wide, well-marked and depths are 44' all the way to the state port. From the state port to downtown, the depths vary from 35' to 25'.

Proceeding from the North:

Upon exiting Snow's Cut at ICW Marker 162, follow the ICW markers generally southwest approximately 1 ½ nautical miles to the point where the ICW joins the Cape Fear River channel at Marker 33. Make a sharp right turn to the north and follow the shipping channel markers to Wilmington.

When exiting Snow's Cut, you will see a marked channel to the north. This is the Wilmington Shortcut, and it used to have 9' depths and saved about 4 nautical miles. Current charts show that it has shoaled to depths of 2' as determined by a May, 2010 survey.

The shipping channel is wide, well-marked and depths are 44' all the way to the state port. From the state port to downtown, the depths vary from 35' to 25'.

Approaching Wilmington, you will see the signature Memorial Bridge (overhead clearance 65'/135'). This is the gateway to the historic downtown riverfront. See the "Docking Information" document on the website for available facilities. See the "Things to Do" page to start planning your itinerary.