Paddleboard rental waiver

Rental and permitted use

I voluntarily choose to rent one or more stand-up paddleboards and related equipment from **[Paddleboard Rental Company Name]**.

The rental may include:

- Inflatable or rigid paddleboards
- Adjustable paddles, leashes, fins and pumps
- Buoyancy aids, lifejackets or belt-worn flotation devices
- Launch and recovery from the rental company's beach, slipway or dock
- A pre-launch safety briefing and advice on the permitted paddling area

I will use the board only for recreational paddling and only within the permitted area and rental period.

I will not lend the board to anyone not declared to the rental company, use it for commercial purposes, ride waves on it, tow it behind a powered vessel or modify it, unless the rental company has agreed in writing.

The rental company may refuse, restrict or end a rental if it reasonably believes that the board cannot be used safely, that conditions are unsuitable or that I have failed to follow instructions.

Bookings, deposits and fees remain subject to the rental company's cancellation and refund policies, including any policy for rentals stopped because of wind or water conditions.

Renter eligibility

I confirm that I meet the rental company's minimum age and identification requirements and that I am legally able to enter into this rental.

I confirm that I can swim and that I am comfortable falling into open water, including water that is out of my depth.

I confirm that I can climb back onto a paddleboard from the water without help, or that I have told the rental company if I cannot.

I confirm that I have accurately described my paddling experience and that I will choose a board, route and conditions within my ability.

Where I sign for a minor or another person who cannot legally provide their own consent, I confirm that I am their parent, legal guardian or otherwise legally authorised to provide consent on their behalf.

Paddleboarding risks

I understand that paddleboarding involves standing or kneeling on an unstable platform on open water, and that falling in is a normal part of the activity.

A board stands high out of the water and catches the wind, so it can be pushed away from shore or away from me quickly, even when conditions seem calm.

Possible risks include:

- Falling onto the board, fin or paddle, causing head, face, teeth, rib, knee or tailbone injuries
- Falling into shallow water, or onto rocks, sand or submerged objects
- Being struck by my own board or paddle, or by another paddler's
- Being separated from the board if a leash fails, is not worn or is released
- Being held in the water by a leash caught on a branch, mooring, buoy or other obstruction
- Being blown offshore or being unable to paddle back against the wind
- Being carried away by currents or an outgoing tide
- Cold-water shock, hypothermia and exhaustion
- Drowning or near drowning
- Collision with boats, other paddlers, swimmers, moored craft or piers
- Back, shoulder, wrist, knee and ankle strains
- Sunburn, heat illness and dehydration
- Injury from marine life or from a slippery launch area
- Serious injury, permanent disability or, in rare cases, death

I understand that the rental company cannot eliminate every risk associated with paddleboarding and may not be able to see, reach or assist me on the water.

I voluntarily accept the ordinary and inherent risks of paddleboarding.

Leash, flotation and equipment

I agree to wear a leash at all times on the water unless staff tell me otherwise for the conditions I am paddling in. The board is my largest source of flotation and I must be able to get back to it.

I understand that the right leash depends on the water:

- A coiled leash is generally suited to flat water, as it stays clear of the water and is less likely to drag or snag
- A straight leash is generally used in surf and is not suited to this rental unless staff have approved it

- On rivers, in tidal flows or wherever there is moving water, an ankle leash can hold a paddler against an obstruction, so a quick-release waist leash may be needed, or the water may not be suitable
- I will not use my own leash on moving water without checking that it can be released quickly

I agree to wear a correctly sized and fastened buoyancy aid or lifejacket where the rental company or local rules require it. If I use a belt-worn inflatable device, I confirm that I know how to inflate and put it on while in the water.

I agree to dress for the temperature of the water, not the temperature of the air, and to use any wetsuit or other clothing the rental company requires.

I will use the paddle, fins, valves and pump only as shown in the briefing, and will not overinflate or deflate an inflatable board without instructions.

I will carry any whistle, phone in a waterproof case or other safety item the rental company supplies or requires.

Paddling rules

I agree to attend the rental company’s safety briefing and follow all instructions from staff.

I agree to:

- Stay within the permitted area and away from shipping channels, harbour entrances and restricted zones
- Keep clear of motor vessels, ferries, jet skis, swimmers and fishing lines, and assume that other craft may not see me
- Kneel or sit when wind, waves or boat wash make standing unsafe, and in shallow water
- Fall away from the board where I can, and avoid diving head first from it
- Keep a safe distance from other paddlers, so that a fall does not bring a board or paddle down on someone
- Lie flat and paddle with my arms if I cannot make headway while standing
- Stay with the board after a fall and signal for help early
- Respect the board’s stated weight and passenger limits

I agree not to paddle after dark, carry an extra passenger who has not been declared, or bring a dog or other animal on the board unless the rental company has approved it.

The rental company may end a rental or recall a board if it reasonably believes that safety rules are being ignored or that I am putting myself or others at risk.

Wind, water and weather conditions

I understand that wind is often the greatest hazard on a paddleboard, and that standing up makes my body act like a sail.

I understand that offshore wind can feel light or absent on the shore while pushing a board steadily out to open water, and that returning against it may be difficult or impossible.

I agree to set off into the wind wherever it is possible and safe, so that the return trip is downwind and I keep something in reserve.

I understand that tides and currents can be strong around headlands, river mouths, bridges, narrows and harbour entrances. I will not paddle near weirs, fast-flowing water, surf or breaking waves unless the rental company has expressly approved it.

I agree to check the forecast and any tide times or river levels provided by the rental company before launching.

I will return to shore if I see lightning or fog or if conditions worsen, and I understand that the rental company may suspend rentals at any time because of conditions.

Passengers and additional users

I will tell the rental company who will use each board, and only declared people may do so.

I am responsible for making sure that each additional user has received the safety briefing and follows the rental company’s rules, including those on leashes and flotation.

Each additional adult user should sign their own waiver before going on the water unless the rental company has agreed otherwise.

Where a child or other passenger shares a board with me, I confirm that the board is suitable, that the rental company has allowed it, and that the passenger wears any flotation required. A responsible adult will supervise any minor for the whole rental.

I understand that I may be held responsible for damage, loss or additional charges caused by my passengers and additional users, to the extent permitted by law.

Inspection before use

I agree to inspect the board and equipment before launching, with staff where they offer this.

My inspection will include checking for:

- Dents, cracks, seam damage or delamination on the board
- An inflatable board that is firm, with the valve closed and its cap fitted

- Fins that are secure and undamaged
- A leash with sound cord, cuff, swivel and attachment point
- A paddle that is complete, sound and locked at the right length
- A buoyancy aid or flotation device that fits and works

I will report any damage or defect before launching. If I do not, the rental company may treat the board as having been in good condition when the rental started, unless the evidence shows otherwise.

I will not launch or continue using a board that I know or suspect is unsafe, and I will tell the rental company as soon as I can.

Damage, loss and additional charges

I agree to look after the board and equipment during the rental and to keep them secured and out of direct heat when they are out of the water.

To the extent permitted by law, I may be charged for:

- Repair of damage beyond ordinary wear, including fins broken in shallow water and damage from dragging a board over rocks or concrete
- The replacement value of a board, paddle, leash, fin, pump or other item that is lost, stolen or not returned
- Reasonable costs of recovering a board left away from the agreed return point
- Late return fees, cleaning fees and time out of service set out in the rental company's price list or rental terms
- Fines or charges caused by entering a restricted area or breaking local rules during the rental

I authorise the rental company to apply any deposit or the payment method I have provided to charges properly due under its rental terms, after telling me what the charge is for.

I will report any damage, loss, collision or injury to the rental company as soon as I can, and before I leave the rental site.

Rental period and return

I agree to return the board and all equipment to the agreed return point by the end of the rental period.

I understand that I should plan to leave enough time for the return paddle, allowing for wind, tide and tiredness.

If I am delayed or cannot return safely, I will contact the rental company as soon as I can and stay in a safe place. I will not take unnecessary risks to avoid a late fee.

If I am significantly overdue and cannot be reached, I authorise the rental company to contact the coastguard, rescue services or other authorities and to share my details and last known route with them.

If I land away from the return point, I will contact the rental company for instructions and will not leave the board unattended unless told that I may do so.

The rental ends only when the rental company has received the board and equipment back. I understand that staff may check them on return.

Physical condition and health

I agree to inform the rental company about any condition that may affect safe use of the rental, including:

- A current injury or physical limitation
- Back, shoulder, knee, ankle or wrist problems
- Balance difficulties, vertigo or an inner-ear condition
- Heart, circulation or blood-pressure conditions
- Asthma or another breathing condition
- Epilepsy, seizures, fainting or loss of consciousness
- Limited swimming ability or a fear of being in deep water
- Diabetes or another condition that may need urgent treatment on the water
- Recent surgery, concussion or medical treatment
- Pregnancy or possible pregnancy
- Medication that affects balance, coordination, judgment or alertness
- A restriction recommended by a healthcare professional

I understand that staff are not medical professionals unless expressly stated otherwise.

I will stop and inform a staff member if I experience pain, dizziness, breathing difficulty, unusual weakness or another concerning symptom.

Alcohol, drugs and impairment

I will not operate or use the rented equipment while impaired by:

- Alcohol
- Recreational or illegal drugs
- Medication that affects judgment, coordination or alertness

- Fatigue, illness or another condition that makes participation unsafe

I understand that the rental company may refuse or end use of the rental if it reasonably believes that a renter is impaired.

The rental company may refuse to hand over a paddleboard, even after a rental has been paid for, if it reasonably believes that a renter or additional user has been drinking or using drugs to an unsafe degree. Alcohol affects balance and can increase the dangers of a fall into cold water, and I will not take it with me to drink on the water.

Personal belongings

I understand that clothing and personal belongings may become dirty, wet, damaged, lost or stolen.

I am responsible for protecting phones, jewellery, glasses, clothing and other personal property.

To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, the rental company is not responsible for ordinary loss or damage to personal belongings unless caused by liability that cannot legally be excluded.

Emergency assistance

If the renter becomes ill or injured, I authorise the rental company and its staff to:

- Provide reasonable first aid
- Stop the renter from continuing
- Contact an emergency contact
- Contact emergency medical services
- Arrange transportation to an appropriate healthcare facility
- Share relevant information with emergency responders
- Take reasonable action to protect the renter’s immediate safety

I understand that the rental company cannot guarantee that an emergency contact will be reached before assistance is provided.

I accept responsibility for medical, ambulance and treatment expenses unless applicable law or legally established liability requires otherwise.

Assumption of risk

I knowingly and voluntarily accept the ordinary and inherent risks associated with paddleboarding.

I accept responsibility for injuries, losses or complications caused or materially contributed to by:

- Relevant information I concealed or provided inaccurately
- A health condition or limitation I failed to disclose
- Overstating my swimming ability or paddling experience
- My failure to wear a leash or required flotation, or to follow staff instructions
- Paddling outside the permitted area or rental period
- Launching or continuing to paddle in wind or water I knew or should have known were unsuitable
- The conduct of my passengers or additional users
- My reckless, unlawful or prohibited conduct
- My use of the board while impaired or medically unfit

Liability release

To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, I release **[Paddleboard Rental Company Name]** and its owners, directors, rental staff, launch attendants, paddle instructors, safety boat crew, employees, contractors and representatives from claims arising solely from:

- Ordinary and inherent paddleboarding risks knowingly accepted in this form, including falls, wind, cold water, currents and tides
- Relevant information I concealed or provided inaccurately
- My failure to follow reasonable safety rules or instructions
- Incorrect or unauthorised use of the board, leash or equipment
- Paddling outside the permitted area or rental period
- My reckless, unlawful or prohibited conduct
- The conduct of another water user where it was outside the rental company's reasonable control

This release does not exclude or limit liability that cannot legally be excluded or limited.

It does not apply to fraud, intentional misconduct, gross negligence, reckless conduct, breaches of mandatory safeguarding duties, violations of mandatory consumer rights or any other liability that applicable law prohibits the rental company from waiving.

Privacy and recordkeeping

I understand that the rental company may collect and retain information where reasonably necessary to:

- Register and identify renters

- Confirm consent and eligibility
- Manage bookings and activities
- Understand relevant health or support needs
- Maintain safety and incident records
- Respond to injuries, complaints or legal claims
- Meet insurance, safeguarding and legal obligations

Information will be handled according to the rental company's privacy notice and applicable data-protection laws.

Final declaration

By completing and signing this form, I confirm that:

- I have read and understood the entire waiver.
- The information provided is complete and accurate.
- I understand that paddleboarding may cause serious injury or drowning.
- I understand and accept the ordinary and inherent risks.
- I can swim and have honestly described my paddling experience.
- I will wear the leash and any flotation required for the water I am paddling on.
- I have inspected the board and equipment, or will do so before launching, and will report any defect.
- I will stay within the permitted area and return on time.
- I understand that I may be charged for damage, loss and late return under the rental terms.
- I will not paddle while impaired or medically unfit.
- I authorise reasonable emergency assistance where necessary.
- I had an opportunity to ask questions before signing.
- This rental and my participation are voluntary.
- I understand that this form does not remove rights or protections that cannot legally be waived.

Renter completion

Contact details

First name *

Last name *

Phone

Email *

Paddleboarding experience (select all that apply) *

- [ ] First time on a paddleboard
- [ ] Have paddled on flat, sheltered water
- [ ] Have paddled on the sea or on moving water
- [ ] Can climb back onto a board from the water
- [ ] Have used a quick-release leash

- [ ] I have read, understood and agree to the Paddleboard Rental Liability Waiver and Assumption of Risk above. I confirm that the information provided is accurate, that I am authorised to sign for any minor in my group where applicable and that I voluntarily accept the risks of paddleboarding. *

Signature *