
Section Eleven: General Information

800. MIAMI HARBOR

The Miami Harbor embraces the artificial basins, slips, and channels that have been dredged along the bay front of Miami and in the bay and through the waters of Biscayne Bay to the ocean, and is located generally at Latitude 25-46' No. Longitude 80-10'W.

802. MAIN CHANNEL (C)

The entrance to the main channel is directly east of the City of Miami, approximately 4.5 miles. The sea buoy marking the channel entrance through the reef is about 2 miles offshore. The entrance is an artificial cut 800 feet wide flair, known as Government Cut, dredged across the southern end of Miami Beach. It is protected by jetties and is well-marked. A channel has been developed to a control depth of 52 feet deep, and 500 feet wide on the sea end to the jetties. The main channel along the north side of Lummus and Dodge Islands is 500 feet wide with a 36-foot control depth which continues westward across Biscayne Bay to the main turning basin.

806. FISHERMAN'S CHANNEL

From Government Cut, the Fisherman's Channel has been dredged with a control depth of 50 feet for the easternmost 6,120 feet and 540 feet wide and a control depth of 34 feet for 5,283 feet and 500 feet wide to the west. Fisherman's Channel provides a direct connection to the wharves on the south side of Dodge and Lummus Islands and the mouth of the Miami River.

807. LUMMUS TURNING BASIN (C)

Located at the wide point of the Fisherman's Channel, east of the channel slip, the Lummus Turning Basin is a 1,500-foot-wide turning basin at a controlled depth of 50 feet.

808. MAIN TURNING BASIN

The Main Turning Basin, located in the western end of the Main Channel, is 1,700 feet north and south and 1,650 feet east and west, with a control depth of 36 feet.

809. WESTERN TURNING BASIN (C)

Located at the western end of Fisherman's Channel, the Western Turning Basin has a width of 900 ft. with a control depth of 30 ft.

810. FISHER ISLAND TURNING BASIN

The Fisher Island Turning Basin is a truncated turning basin between the main channel and the north side of Fisher Island and is dredged 50 feet to provide a turning basin at the junction of the Main and Fisherman's Channels.

816. ANCHORAGE

The prescribed anchorage area for vessels anchoring outside the harbor is located eastward of a line about

1.5 nautical miles offshore and northward of a line about 0.2 nautical miles north of the sea buoy at the entrance to the ship channel. The entire anchorage area lies north of the entrance channel to Miami. The northern and southern extremities of this area are marked by nun buoys. Vessels desiring to anchor off the entrance to the Harbor of Miami are required to do so within this area, to avoid possible damage to cables laid on the ocean bottom in the vicinity. Refer to anchorage area 110.188 on National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Survey Chart # 11466 & # 11468.

818. TIDES AND TIDAL CURRENTS

The normal mean tidal range at the entrance to Miami Harbor is 2.5 feet, and in the bay, it is about 2.0 feet. The extreme tidal range is about 4.0 feet at the entrance. Easterly winds sometimes raise the water level 1.5 feet at the entrance and from 1.0 to 0.5 feet in the bay.

The tidal currents at the entrance to Biscayne Bay may reach a velocity of 1-1/2 to 3 knots through the main channel.

850. PORT FACILITIES AND SPECIFICATIONS (C)

Marginal Berthing

PortMiami offers 19,263 linear feet of berthing on Dodge and Lummus Islands.

The cruise zones total 8,860 linear feet: 7,125 feet (36 feet deep) along the north and northeast sections; 735 feet (32 feet deep) in the northwest section; and 1,000 feet (30 feet deep) at the western extremity of the South Ship Channel.

The cargo berthing areas total 10,403 linear feet: 6,120 (50 feet deep) along the southeast section of Lummus Island and the South Ship Channel at the gantry facility; and 4,283 feet (32 feet deep) of roll-on/roll-off berth space along the south section of the Port.

Width of Apron

70 to 100 feet, north side

50 to 100 feet, east side

50 to 100 feet, south side

50 to 100 feet, west side

Apron Above MLW

7.5 feet on all sides

Roll-on/Roll-off Ramps

Eight fixed ramps designated

Bay 154, 670 linear feet above MLW

Bay 155, 550 linear feet above MLW

Bays 161 – 171, 1,259 linear feet above MLW

Bays 165 – 181, 1,450 linear feet above MLW

Fixed ramp at passenger terminal H, 750 linear feet above MLW

Railroad Facilities

Intermodal Container Transfer Facility (ICTF) has three (3) 3,000 ft. of working rail track for a total of 9,000 ft. on 13 acres of land.

Train Scheduling Requirements- All train trips to and from PortMiami must be scheduled with and approved by the PortMiami Berthing Office at least 24 hours in advance. The ICTF operates 7 days per week.

Passenger Terminal Complex

PortMiami currently has 7 passenger terminals in use on the North side of the port. Terminal B (189,730 sq. ft.), Terminal C (190,995 sq. ft.), Terminal D (139,001 sq. ft.), Terminal E (125,387 sq. ft.), Terminal F (216,384 sq. ft.), Terminal G (143,744 sq. ft.) and Terminal A (208,953 sq. ft.), a privately operated cruise terminal. Terminal J (56,706 sq. ft.) is located on the south side of the port, and Terminal V (129,613 sq. ft.) is located on the west side of the port. The square footage amounts listed above include areas for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, as well as offices.

Transit Cargo Sheds

- Transit Shed B.....200,000 Square Feet
- Transit Shed E.....36,000 Square Feet
- Transit Shed G.....152,000 Square Feet

At present, there is a total of 388,000 square feet of transit cargo shed space.

Services

There is a total of 18,500 linear feet of marginal berthing. Telephone and water connections are alternately provided every 120 feet.