

Our Green Story

Bangor Marina

Ards and
North Down
Borough Council

Recycling
Community
Investment
Fund
YOUR RECYCLING PAYS

Green
Tourism



Bangor Marina is one of 11 marinas in a national group, motivating and providing support to yachts to travel to alternative, including international, destinations. With 530 berths at Bangor, 50 are for visitors with, in 2019, 1,583 visiting boats staying almost 4,500 nights in total. The group also manages Bangor Harbour allowing larger vessels with deeper drafts to be accommodated here. Bangor has achieved the highest rating of five gold anchors, a star rating equivalent under the Yacht Harbour Association's "Gold Anchor scheme".

While toilet sensors, low flow taps and showerheads and waste separation and recycling are "standard practice", the marina has a number of other initiatives that have positive environmental impacts. Two national programmes are endorsed and promoted by Bangor and its sister marinas:

- The Green Blue is a joint environmental initiative of the Royal Yachting Association and British Marine aiming to make sustainable boating simple and helping the marine community reduce their impact on coastal and inland waters (thegreenblue.org.uk).
- The Blue Flag is a global environmental award for marinas, boat owners and boating tour operators that implement sound management with respect to the local environment and nature, and providing users with information on environmental issues (blueflag.global).

The benefits of these eco-labels are efficiency savings from reducing energy, waste and water; evidence of the environment being valued by boat owners as well as the marina, and attracting responsible customers, employees and suppliers.

The marina does its own "environmental campaigning", to encourage boat owners to adhere to good environmental practices. The marina offers free pump-out facilities to remove effluent from boats (usually charged for elsewhere). Two floating sea bin traps, funded by the Council, have been set up to catch floating debris including micro plastics and Bangor Marina briefs and inducts all contractors annually on safety and environmental good practice.

Bangor Marina promotes and supports the work of Citizen Sea (citizensea.org), NI's first boat based environmental charity, in raising awareness in our marine environment through citizen science, education and research. Bangor Marina also encourages the breeding of Black Guillemots and supports the work of the BTO (www.bto.org). More young Black Guillemots have been ringed in Bangor than any other site in Britain and Ireland.

Why not fuel your own travel to discover and explore beautiful Bangor and nearby villages? Our recycled green ex postal bikes (www.cycleofgood.com/elephant-bike/) are available for hire from Bangor Marina.

quaymarinas.com/our-marinas/bangor-marina



The Green Tourism programme was funded by the Council's Recycling Community Investment Fund - a scheme which is powered by the recycling efforts of local residents and businesses. Thanks to an increased amount of recycling by the local community, almost £15M has been saved in landfill costs since the programme's inception. These savings have allowed the Council to create the RCIF which supports new and existing environmentally friendly initiatives.