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**SECTOR 11** — CHART INFORMATION

# SECTOR 11

## ISLE OF MAN

**Plan.**—This sector describes the S side of the Isle of Man from W to E, the SE side from S to N, the NE side from S to N, the NW side from N to S, and the W side from N to S in that order.

### General Remarks

**11.1** The **Isle of Man** (54°15'N., 4°30'W.) lies in the N part of the Irish Sea about 26 miles W of the English mainland. The island is a Dependency of the British Crown and is administered by a Governor, a Legislative Council, and the House of Keys, which is an elected representative assembly. The principal port and the Seat of Government is Douglas which is located on the SE side of the island.

Seen from a distance, the general look of the island presents a mild aspect, for though the mountains, which extend nearly through its entire length, are of considerable elevation, they do not tower up with sufficient abruptness to assume picturesque forms. The highest point of the mountain range is **Snaefell** (54°16'N., 4°28'W.) which is 620m high; many of the other summits range in height from 457 to 548m. The mountains and hills, which occupy a considerable portion of the surface of the island, are chiefly composed of clay slate varied by masses of granite. At the S end of the island, between Bay ny Carrickey and Derby Haven, mountain limestone rests on the slate, but is separated from it by a bed of conglomerate. The middle of the island is crossed by a valley which extends from Douglas to Peel. A similar flat is to be found at the S end between Derby Haven and Bradda Head. The N end of the island is flat and consists chiefly of alluvial soil. The island is well watered with numerous rivers and rivulets issuing from the sides and bases of the hills. There are but few trees, the greater quantity growing in the N part of the island.

### South Side

**11.2** **Calf of Man** (54°03'N., 4°49'W.), an island, is 110m high and lies close off the SW extremity of the Isle of Man. A bold cliff, 37m high, lies at the S end of this island and is connected to the main island by a drying isthmus. Small craft obtain shelter from N winds within a small cove lying W of the isthmus at the SE end of the island. The cove have depths of 5 to 18m, but local knowledge is necessary.

A main light is shown from a conspicuous tower standing on a granite building at the W extremity of the island. Two disused light structures stand close NE of this light.

Calf Sound leads between Calf of Man and the SW extremity of the Isle of Man. Thousla Rock, which dries, lies on the W side of the sound and is marked by a lighted beacon. The tidal currents run through the sound with considerable strength and it should not be used without local knowledge.

**Chicken Rock** (54°02'N., 4°50'W.), 1.5m high, lies about 0.5 mile SW of Calf of Man. A light is shown from a



*Photograph Courtesy of Liz Courtie*  
**Calf of Man Sound**



*Photograph Courtesy of John Luxton*

### Chicken Rock

prominent tower standing on this rock. Wart Bank, with a least depth of 8.3m, lies about 2 miles E of the rock.

**Spanish Head** (54°03'N., 4°46'W.) lies at the S end of a peninsula which forms the SW extremity of the Isle of Man. This peninsula rises to a height of 167m about 1 mile inland.

Bay ny Carrickey lies 2.5 miles NE of Spanish Head and is entered between Kallow Point and Scarlett Point, 2.5 miles E. A drying rock lies in the center of this bay and is marked by a lighted beacon. A rock, with a depth of 1.3m, lies close NE of the drying rock.



*Photograph Courtesy of Liz Courtie*

### Port St. Mary



*Photograph Courtesy of John Luxton*

### Langness Lighthouse

**Port St. Mary** (54°04'N., 4°44'W.) is a small tidal harbor lying in the W corner of Bay ny Carrickey. It dries and is mostly used by yachts, fishing vessels, and small craft. Vessels of up to 48m in length can enter with drafts up to 3.7m at springs and 2.6m at neaps. The harbor can be contacted by VHF and local pilots are available. During offshore winds, small vessels may anchor, in depths of 5 to 7m, close E of the harbor entrance.

Castletown Bay is entered between Scarlett Point and Langness Point, 1.3 miles ESE. Langness Point is the SW extremity of Langness Peninsula and several rocks, which dry, extend up to 0.1 mile SW of it. A main light is shown from a tower standing on the SE end of this peninsula, about 0.3 mile ESE of Langness Point.

A conspicuous tower, 13m high, stands at a height of 32m, about 0.3 mile NNE of the light. A dangerous wreck lies close S of the light. Lheeah-rio Rocks are the outermost of the

detached masses of rocks which lie on the NW side of the bay. These rocks dry up to 1.8m and are marked by a lighted buoy.

Castletown Harbor lies on the NW side of the bay and is protected by a breakwater. It consists of inner and outer basins which dry at LW. The inner basin can accommodate small vessels of up to 48m in length and 8.2m beam with drafts up to 3.5m at MHWS and 2.6m at MHWN. The outer basin can accommodate small vessels of up to 48m in length with drafts of up to 3.8m at MHWS and 2.7m at MHWN. The harbor can be contacted by VHF and local fishermen are available to serve as pilots. Strong SW winds sometimes cause large swells in the harbor. A castle, flanked by towers, stands near the harbor and is conspicuous. At the head of the bay, a prominent battlemented tower stands near the buildings of a college.

The SE portion of the bay affords anchorage, in depths of 12 to 18m. However, this area is not recommended as the bottom is foul, the depths are uneven, and the tidal currents, although weak, are confused.

### Southeast Side

**11.3 St. Michael's Island** (54°04'N., 4°36'W.) lies close off the NE end of the Langness Peninsula to which it is joined by a causeway. It is sometimes called Fort Island because of the ruined fort standing near the NE end. An ancient church, in ruins, stands on the SW part of the island. Several ledges, which dry, fringe the shores of the island.

The tidal currents off the E side of the Langness Peninsula attain rates of up to 2.3 knots, but farther seaward rates of up to 5 knots have been reported.

Derby Haven is entered between St. Michael's Island and the mainland coast, 0.5 mile NW. A small harbor, protected by a detached breakwater, lies at the head of this haven and is used by yachts. An airport is situated on the N side of the haven and an aeronautical radiobeacon is situated near the coast, 0.7 mile N of St. Michael's Island.

Small vessels can anchor, in depths of 6 to 8.5m, about 300m NW of the ruined fort on St. Michael's Island.

Santan Head is located 2.5 miles NE of St. Michael's Island. Cliffs rise from a height of 6m, at about 1 mile N of Derby Haven, to a height of 60m, at the head. A submarine cable extends seaward from a point on the coast, 1 mile WSW of the head.

Douglas Head, which has a bold appearance, is located 3.7 miles NE of Santan Head. The coast between consists of cliffs which attain a height of about 120m. A main light is shown from a prominent tower, 20m high, standing near the extremity of the head. A conspicuous building, with a tower, stands on the high ground, close SW of the light. Conspicuous radio masts stand on hills which rise 1 mile and 3 miles W of the head.

### Douglas (54°09'N., 4°28'W.)

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**11.4** The port of Douglas lies in the SW corner of Douglas Bay, at the mouth of the Douglas River. It consists of a town and a small harbor, formed by breakwaters. Douglas is the principal port for the Isle of Man and has facilities for

passenger, ferry, ro-ro, general cargo, and tanker vessels. The harbor is divided into an outer part and an inner part, which dries at LW.

**Winds—Weather.**—Strong E winds send heavy seas into the outer harbor and render some of the berths untenable.

**Tides—Currents.**—Tides rise about 6.9m at MHWS and 5.4m at MHWN.

**Depths—Limitations.**—The outer harbor is entered between the head of Victoria Pier, on the NW side, and a rubble mound breakwater, which extends 160m NE from the head of Battery Pier, on the SE side. A dolphin stands about 50m off the head of the rubble mound breakwater. There is a depth of about 7m in the entrance. Depths in the outer harbor are maintained by dredging. The following depths alongside are maintained at the berths:

Berth	Depth
1	4.4m
2	5.4m
5	5.4m
14	5.4m
15	5.4m
16	5.4m

Slight variations may be encountered due to the bottom being disturbed by bowthrusters.

The harbor can accommodate ro-ro and ferry vessels up to 106.7m in length and 4m draft; general cargo vessels up to 57.9m in length and 3.7m draft; and tankers up to 70m in length and 4m draft.



*Photograph Courtesy of John Luxton*

### Douglas Harbor

**Aspect.**—Conister Rock, a detached ledge which dries, lies in the S part of Douglas Bay and is marked at its W end by a beacon. Rocky heads, with depths of less than 5m, extend up to 0.3 mile E from Conister Rock and are marked by lighted buoys. The town extends 2.5 miles along the shore to the N of the harbor and is prominent.

The slopes, everywhere, are studded with villas, and the Douglas Bay Hotel, a large red brick building, crowns the

heights of Onchan Head, 1.5 miles NNE of Douglas Head. A conspicuous church spire stands in the S part of the town, W of the harbor entrance. A conspicuous church tower stands 0.5 mile NW of the spire. A prominent refuge tower stands on the highest part of Conister Rock and a prominent spire stands on a building situated at the root of Victoria Pier. A prominent and remarkable spherical gas storage tank stands near the root of Battery Pier.

**Pilotage.**—Pilotage is not compulsory, but is available. An ETA and request for pilot should be sent at least 6 hours prior to arrival.

**Regulations.**—Douglas Harbor Control Area comprises those waters within 3 miles of the port. The Harbor Control procedures apply to all vessels including small craft. Other than those vessels on scheduled services, vessels should send an ETA 24 hours in advance, followed by amendments if required. Vessels must report to the Harbor Control at least 1 hour prior to arrival and when 1 mile from the harbor entrance. In addition, vessels entering the Harbor Control Area should first obtain clearance by VHF and then maintain a listening watch. Vessels entering the Harbor Control Area, but not entering the port must also report to the Harbor Control Station. Radar surveillance of the area is maintained from Douglas Head.

**Signals.**—Traffic signals are shown from a panel situated on the roof of a building near the head of Victoria Pier. This panel exhibits a flashing orange light at each top corner. The signals, which can be seen from seaward and inside the harbor, are as follows: A red St. Andrew's Cross indicates that vessels, unless specified, may not proceed. A white arrow indicates that vessels may proceed in the direction indicated.

**Anchorage.**—Several designated anchorage berths lie in depths of 12 to 18m within 1 mile NNE of Douglas Head, but the bay is open to the E.

### Northeast Side

**11.5 Laxey Bay** (54°13'N., 4°23'W.) is entered 4 miles NE of Douglas Bay. A small harbor lies at the mouth of the Laxey River which flows into the N end of this bay. A small pier within the harbor can accommodate vessels of up to 44m in length and 3.4m draft at HWS. A conspicuous television tower, 50m high, stands close W of the harbor. The bay affords anchorage during offshore winds in depths of 9 to 13m, fine sand and clay.

**Maughold Head** (54°18'N., 4°19'W.), the E extremity of the Isle of Man, lies 6 miles NE of Laxey Bay. The cliffs at the head rise to heights of 114m. A main light is shown from a prominent tower, 23m high, standing on the head.

Snaefell, 617m high, stands 5.7 miles SW of the head and is the summit of the isle.

Ramsey Bay is entered between Maughold Head and Shellag Point, 4.7 miles NW. Several detached rocks lie close to the shore in the S part of this bay. The bay affords anchorage sheltered from winds between SSW and NW, in depths of 7 to 11m, sand, good holding ground, but it is exposed to E winds. In addition, winds from between NE and SE send in a heavy sea.

**Ramsey Harbor** (54°19'N., 4°23'W.) lies within the bay at the mouth of the Sulby River, 3 miles NW of Maughold Head.



*Photograph Courtesy of the Department of Tourist and Leisure/Lily Publications (IOM) Ltd.*

### Douglass Harbor

It is formed by two piers and has an entrance, 45m wide. The harbor is tidal and the foreshore dries out up to about 50m seaward of the pierheads. There are depths of 6m in the entrance channel and 5 to 5.6m alongside the piers at MHWS. There are depths of 4 to 5m at MHWS alongside the quays at the S side of the harbor. Vessels of up to 61m in length can enter with drafts of up to 4m at MHWS and 3m at MHWN. The harbor can be contacted by VHF and local pilots are available, but pilotage is not compulsory.

**Point of Ayre** (54°25'N., 4°22'W.), located 5.7 miles N of Ramsey, is the N extremity of the Isle of Man. Two lights are shown from towers standing on this point. A main light is shown from a conspicuous tower, 30m high, standing 0.2 mile SW of the point. A racon is situated at this tower. In addition, a low light is shown from a tower, 10m high, standing 0.2 mile NE of the main light.

A dangerous wreck lies about 1 mile N of the point.

Whitestone Bank lies within 2 miles SE of Point of Ayre and the sea breaks heavily over it in strong winds. The shoalest part of the bank, with a least depth of 0.4m, lies about 1.2 miles ESE of the point and is marked on the SW side by a lighted buoy. Detached patches lie close NW and S of this bank.

Bahama Bank extends for about 5 miles SE from Whitestone Bank. It consists of sand and shells and has a least depth of 1.3m. This bank is nearly steep-to on both sides and is marked by a lighted buoy which is moored about 9 miles SE of Point of Ayre.

Ballacash Bank extends for about 3 miles ESE from a position 3.7 miles NE of Point of Ayre. It is steep-to on both sides and has a least depth of 2.3m.

King William Banks lie centered about 2 miles E of Ballacash Bank. They extend for about 6 miles ESE and have a least depth of 2.8m. A lighted buoy, moored 13 miles E of Point of Ayre, marks the E extremity of these banks.



*Photograph Courtesy of the Department of Tourist and Leisure/Lily Publications (IOM) Ltd.*  
**Douglass Harbor**



*Photograph Courtesy of John Luxton*

### Maughold Head



*Photograph Courtesy of Liz Courtie*

### Ramsey Harbor

#### Northwest Side

**11.6** Strunakill Bank lies 1 mile NW of Point of Ayre. It has a least depth of 5.3m and the sea breaks on it.

Jurby Head is located 7.5 miles SW of Point of Ayre. The conspicuous ruins of a chapel stand on the high ground close within this head. Jurby Rock, with a depth of 2.7m, lies about 0.5 mile W of the head.

**Caution.**—Lighted buoys, marking an exercise area, are moored within 3.5 miles of Jurby Head. Target barges are occasionally moored between these lighted buoys and the shore. Vessels transiting this part of the coast are advised to stay to seaward of the lighted buoys.

Craig Rock, with a depth of 4m, lies about 1.5 miles offshore, 6.8 miles SW of Jurby Head. St. Patricks Isle lies 9



*Photograph Courtesy of Liz Courtie*

### Point of Ayre Lighthouse

miles SW of Jurby Head and is connected by a causeway to the W side of Peel Harbor. A castle stands on this isle and its walls are flanked by prominent towers.

**Peel Harbor** (54°14'N., 4°42'W.) lies at the entrance to the River Neb, on the S and E sides of St. Patricks Isle. It is tidal and protected by a breakwater which extends ENE from St. Patricks Isle. The inner part of the harbor can accommodate vessels of up to 49m in length with drafts of up to 4m at MHWS and 3m at MHWN; all vessels lie aground at LW. Vessels of up to 76m in length and 4.3m draft can be accommodated alongside the outer breakwater at MHWS, but twin-screw vessels of up to 107m in length can also be handled. The harbor is mostly used by small cross-channel ferry vessels and fishing vessels. Pilotage is not compulsory, but pilots are available and can be contacted by VHF. An ETA should be sent 24 hours in advance.



*Photograph Courtesy of John Luxton*

### Peel Castle

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## West Side

**11.7 Contrary Head** (54°13'N., 4°43'W.) lies 1.3 miles SW of St. Patricks Isle. The coast between consists of hills, from 60 to 150m high, which slope down to rocky bases. A conspicuous square tower stands on the summit of a hill which rises close NE of the head.

Bradda Head lies 7.2 miles SSW of Contrary Head. The coast between consists of cliffs, 60 to 160m high, except at Elby Point, which is low and rocky, located 3 miles SSW of Contrary Head. Within 2.5 miles of the coast, the land rises to South Barrule which is 478m high. A prominent television mast stands 2.5 miles ENE of Elby Point. A conspicuous tower, with a round turret, stands on Bradda Head.

Fleshwick Bay, a small cove, lies 1.5 miles NNE of Bradda Head and affords shelter to fishing vessels during S and E winds. Bradda Hill, standing on the S side of this cove, is 233m high and prominent.

**Port Erin** (54°05'N., 4°46'W.), a small harbor, lies at the head of a small bay, 1 mile SE of Bradda Head. A rock, which covers at HW, and a shoal patch, with a depth of 1.5m, lie close to the coast, on the N side of this bay. The ruins of a breakwater extend from the S entrance point and are marked by a buoy. The harbor lies in the SE corner of the bay and has a pier which dries at its outer end. There are depths alongside the pier of

4.2m at springs and 3.3m at neaps. The harbor is used by fishing boats and pleasure craft. The bay affords good anchorage in sheltered depths of 5 to 8m, sand and clay.



*Photograph Courtesy of John Luxton*

## Port Erin