

BKSA Autumn/Winter Kiting Guidelines

Kitesports work all year round from sunny light wind foiling and land cruising in summer to challenging seas and storms in winter. Make sure you change your kiting habits, as well as your clothing, as the winter sets in.

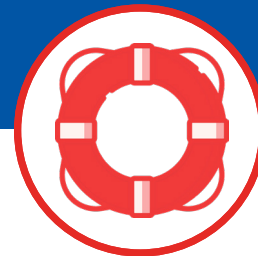
KITE SAFE, KITE SMART, HAVE FUN



Don't kite alone.
Kitesurfing is an individual sport, but it's way more fun with a pal. Have a plan with your buddy for how to help each other & communicate afloat.



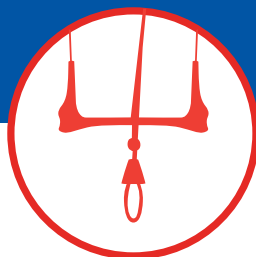
Check the weather.
Wind strength is only one factor; sea state, temperature, squalls & gustiness can make even a moderate wind day unsuitable.



Thoroughly site assess the spot - SHOE: SURFACE . HAZARDS . OTHERS ENVIRONMENT
and assess the water conditions. Don't go out further than you can swim back, and know where the current will take you.



Be realistic about your own level & competence.
Conditions are a combination of wind strength & quality, tide state & current, sea state & wave size. Sometimes it's too much for anyone.



Check & recheck your gear.
Test your release systems and connection points. Adjust your kit to fit with your winter gear; boots, thicker wetsuits, over jackets....and make sure your hat's tied on!



Launch and land right.
Take special care with launching and landing. Use a trusted buddy and avoid self launching wherever possible. Ensure you signal positively and do your pre flight checks correctly.



Secure your kit.
It's not just your kite that can blow away. Your board....(and your car doors) are able to cause injury too.

Be safe, have fun and lead by example. Kitesports are fun, safe sports when practiced by responsible people. Enjoy the Autumn and Winter kiting season.