

Recommended Equipment List for Sea Kayaking Guides

Sea kayak guides and instructors engage in a variety of activities, in diverse coastal waters and conditions. The equipment guides carry is dependent on the nature of the activity, group, and environmental variables, as is the choice of appropriate kayaks for that day and venue. Kayak designs and construction vary widely.

MASKGI guides and instructors make informed and experienced decisions on what equipment to carry for a given day's activities and conditions.

Maine Association of Sea Kayak Guides & Instructors will consider carrying and using of all or some of the following:

Primary Equipment

- Appropriate kayaks for conditions to be encountered with secure bulkheads or other adequate flotation
- USCG approved PFD
- A primary and spare paddle
- Boat mounted tow, waist tow, and/or contact tow
- Portable bilge pump or bailer
- Appropriate spray skirts for the experience level of the paddler

Clothing and Accessories

- Proper attire for the conditions and foreseeable weather
- Extra (spare) items of clothing in a waterproof container
- Protection against the sun, wind, rain and moisture
- Nourishment and fluids

Communication Equipment

- Effective communications for the venue which may include VHF, cell phone, SAT phone, other
- USCG required sound and signaling devices to include flares, dyes, horn, whistle, strobe, etc.
- Reflective materials

Navigation Equipment

- Appropriate charts, maps, print outs and devices to resolve all navigation and SAR needs that may arise
- Weather, tide and current information for the trip's duration, with a reliable ability to update
- Boat mounted and hand held compasses

Additional Equipment

- RMG License
- Emergency phone numbers and relevant VHF channels applicable to the venue
- First aid kit adequate for group needs, stored in a waterproof container
- Kayak repair kit adequate to maintain sufficient flotation, functional control of the kayak, and visibility; to include tools, supplies, and materials useful by the guides training and preferences
- Paddle float
- Sponge
- Radar reflector
- Hypothermia kit
- Barometer
- Watch
- Waterproof flashlight
- Waterproof matches
- Writing/note-taking supplies
- Rescue belt, sling, or loop.
- Thermos with hot drink or means of making a hot drink when seen as necessary
- Solid waste management system when necessary