

Northern Spencer Gulf West Coast



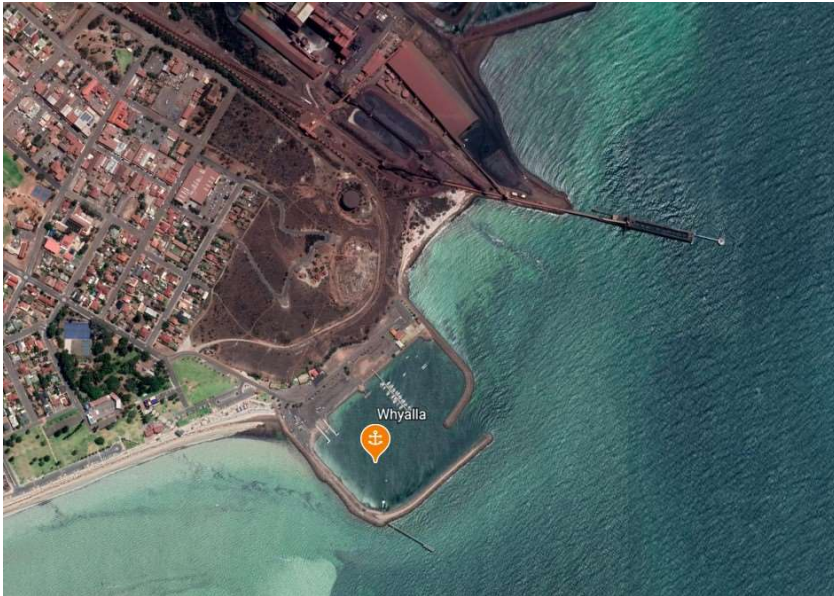
Whyalla

Marina Entrance Position

33° 02.4'S 137° 35.7'E

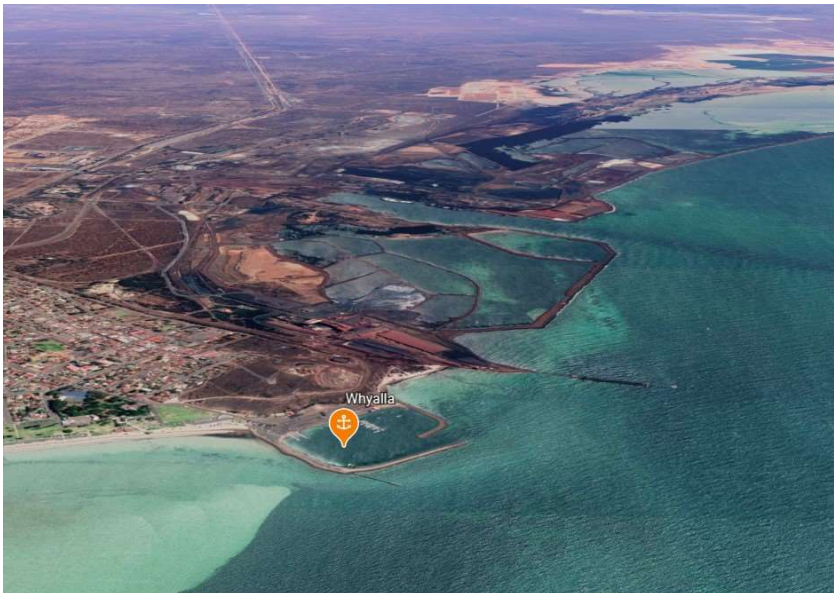
Shelter from All Directions

Note. The marina entrance coordinates are for reference only and should not be used as a waypoint.

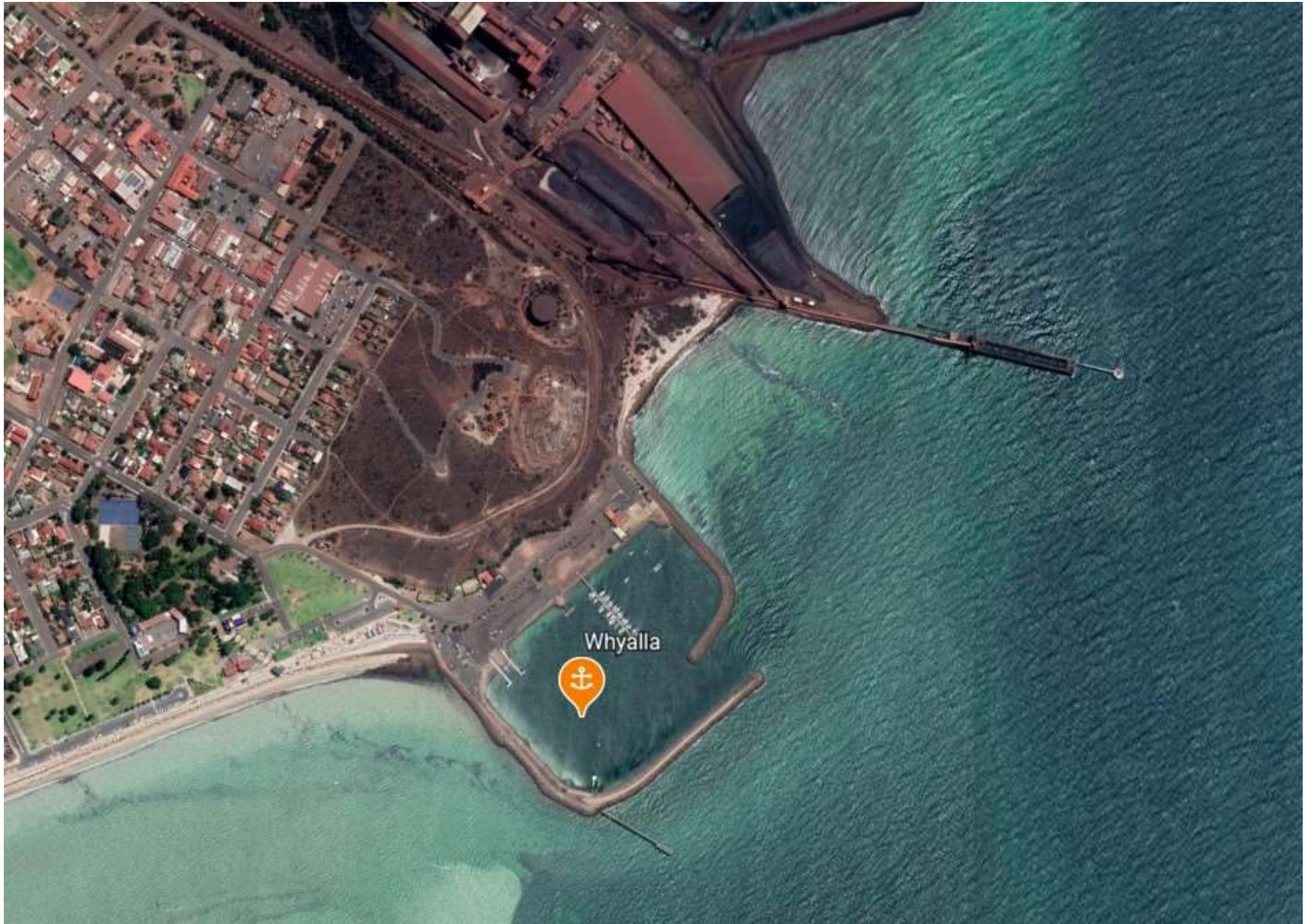


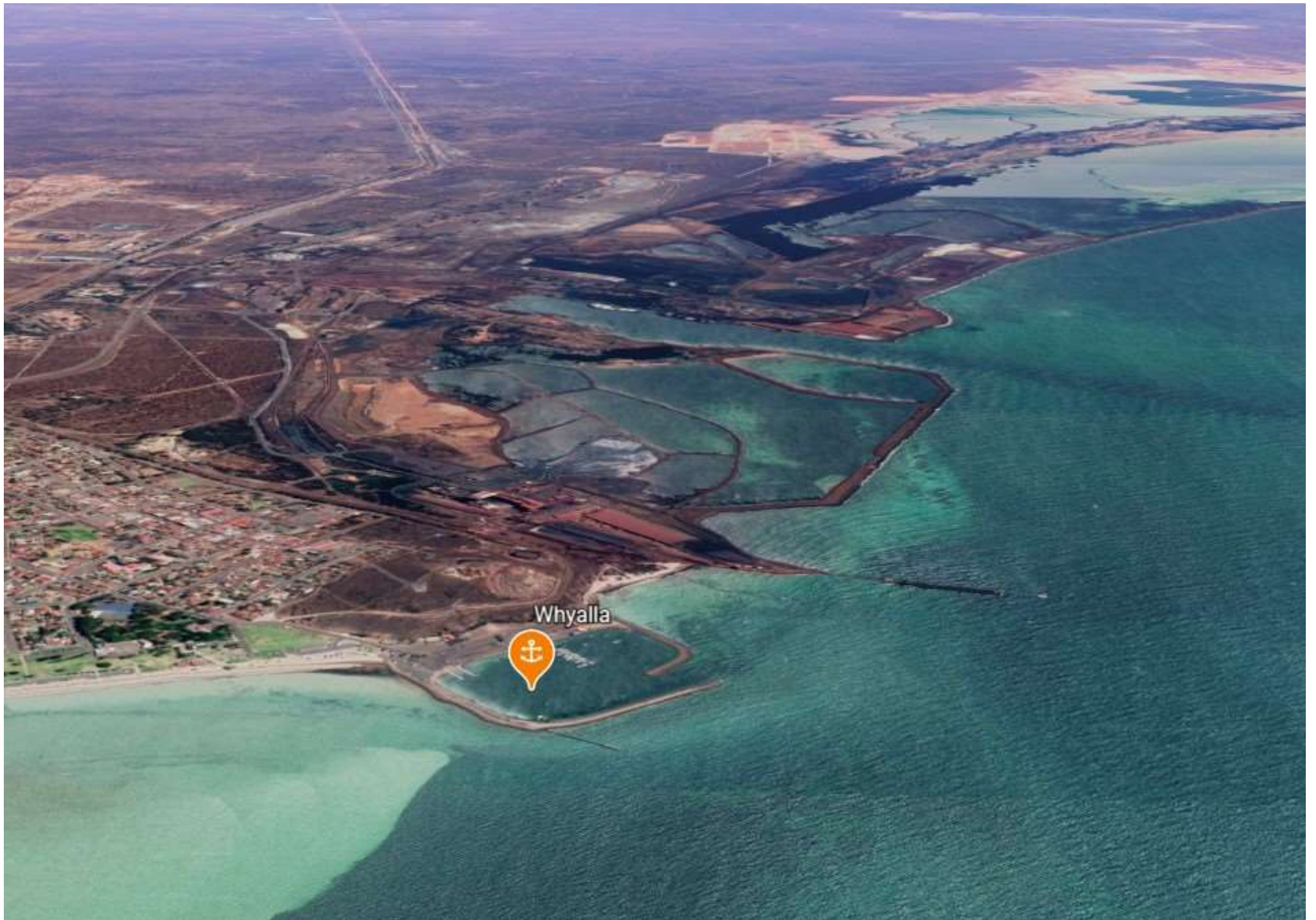
Whyalla is major industrial town based around iron and steel production. It is not renowned for its beauty, but is a centre for a comprehensive range of supplies and services which can be very useful for cruising vessels. The recreational marina basin is located immediately south of the major industrial port, and is close to the main business district.

The basin is large and uncluttered, with the marina berths in the centre, a slipway on the right and boat ramp on the left. It is council owned, and most of the berths are already rented on a long term basis, but two are supposed to be available for short term use by visitors. The council can be contacted on (08) 8640 3444 for information on berth rental. There are a number of fore-aft poles located in the eastern section of the basin, and these may be used for short stays. Water and power are available at each berth on the marina, but there is no fuel berth in the basin. The infamous Whyalla red dust is likely to coat the deck of any vessel which spends much time here.



The Whyalla Yacht Club is located to the right of the marina berths, but is largely inactive. Public showers and toilets, provided free of charge by the council, are located next to the yacht club, and are available 'dawn-to-dusk' and always locked at night.





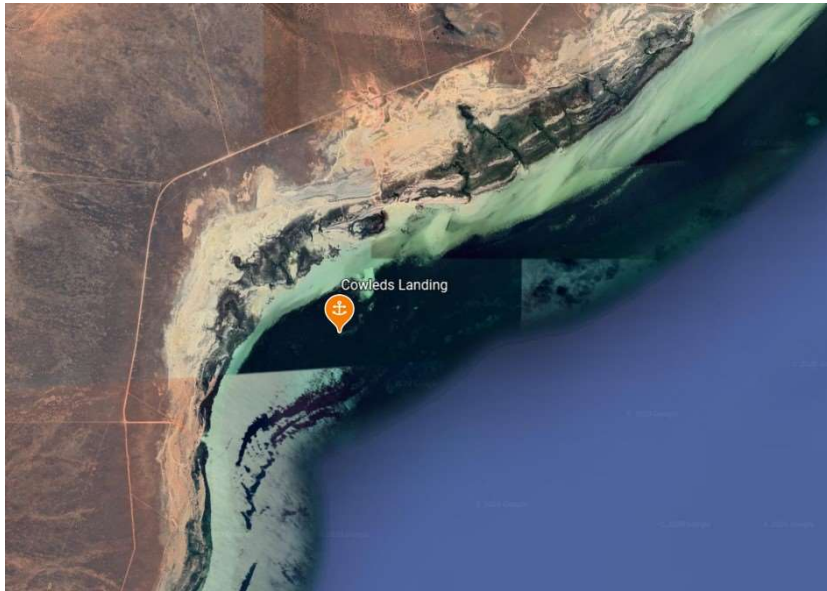
Cowleds Landing

Indicative Anchoring Position

33° 09.7'S 137° 27.6'E

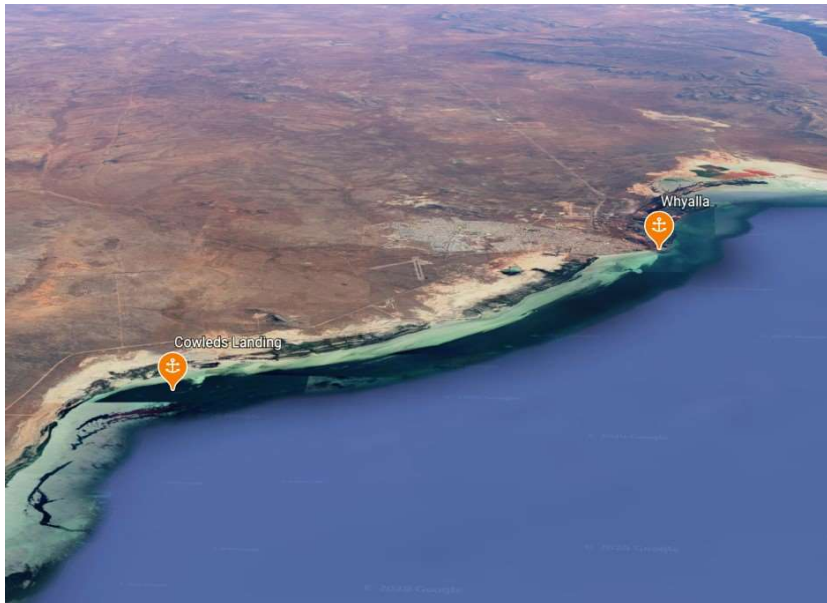
Shelter from W – NW – N

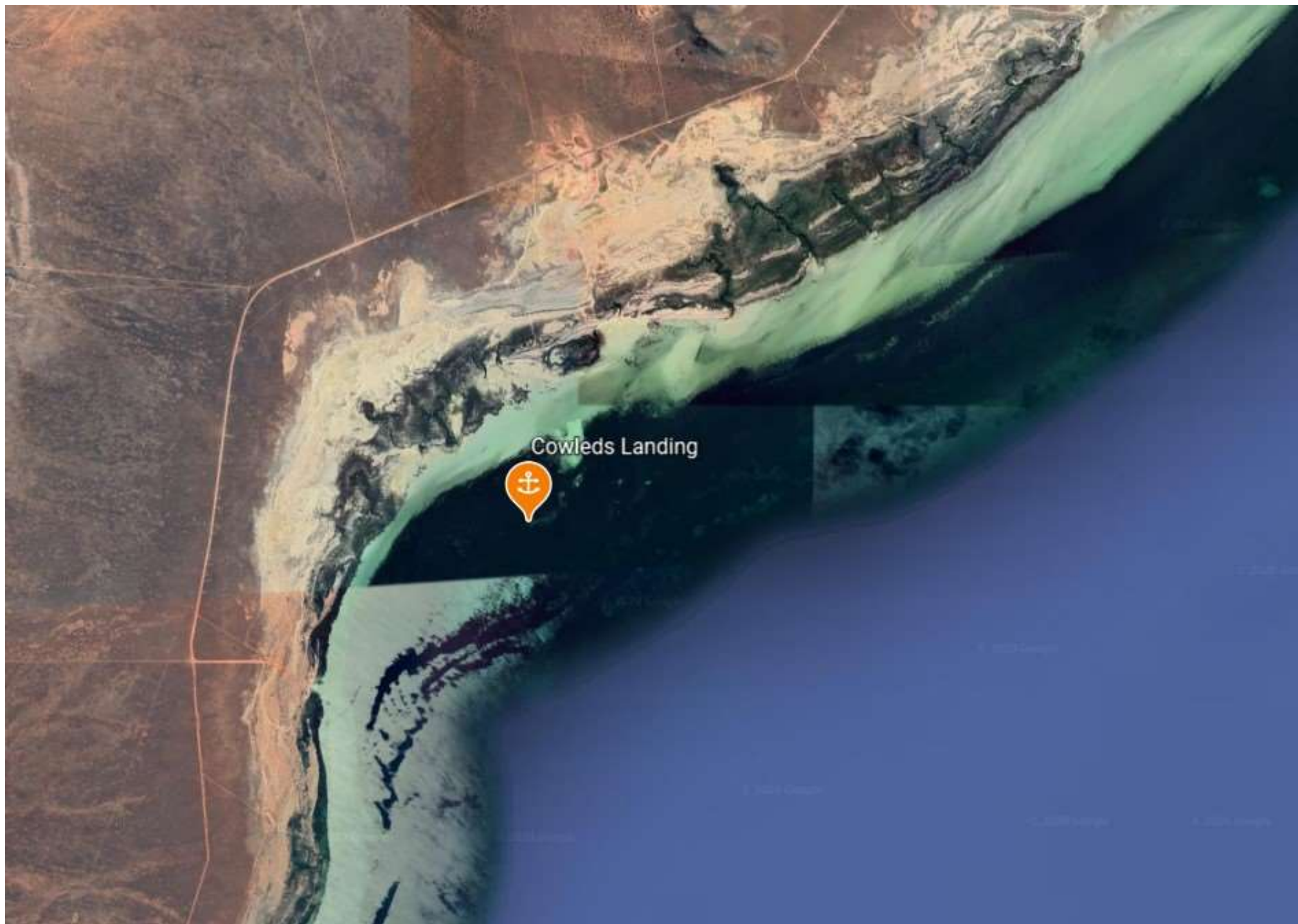
Note. Indicative anchoring positions are for reference only and should not be used as waypoints. The best position for anchoring depends on many factors including vessel draft, tide, and forecast wind.



Cowleds Landing is located about 9 miles south of Whyalla on a nondescript part of the coast whose only attraction is shelter in wind directions from the north and west. Such anchorages are scarce on this side of the Gulf, but it is hard to think of any other reason to go there!

The holding is good, but the shore is mostly mangrove flat and access is not easy.





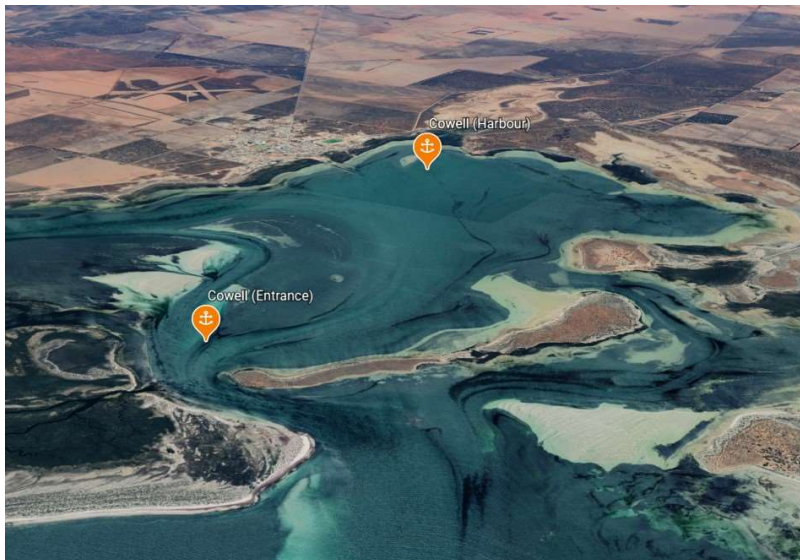
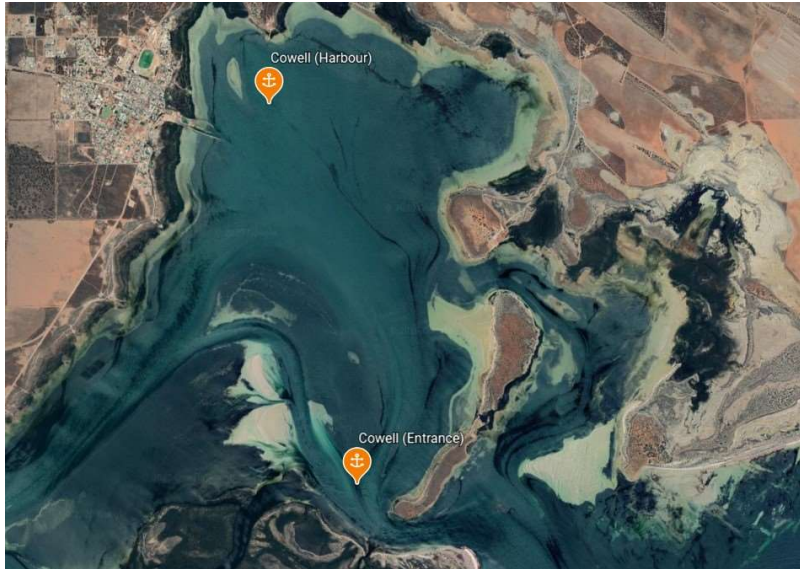


Cowell (Franklin Harbour)

Indicative Anchoring Positions

33° 43.6'S 136° 57.0'E (Entrance)

33° 40.8'S 136° 56.3'E (Harbour)



Shelter from All Directions

Note. Indicative anchoring positions are for reference only and should not be used as waypoints. The best position for anchoring depends on many factors including vessel draft, tide, and forecast wind.

Cowell is a small regional town located at the head of a complex inlet system known as Franklin Harbour. Various anchoring positions are possible, and the two most useful shown here – one near the entrance and the other in the harbour near the town.

Mangrove flats comprise most of the coastline within the inlet, and much of the area is too shallow for keelboats. The entrance to the inlet and the access channel to the township are well marked with fixed beacons, and it is essential to follow these closely to avoid running aground. The shelter is excellent within the inlet, and the holding is good.

The recommended anchorage near the entrance is good for an overnight stop, as it is not far from the sea but well clear of the marked channel. Shore access is not possible here.

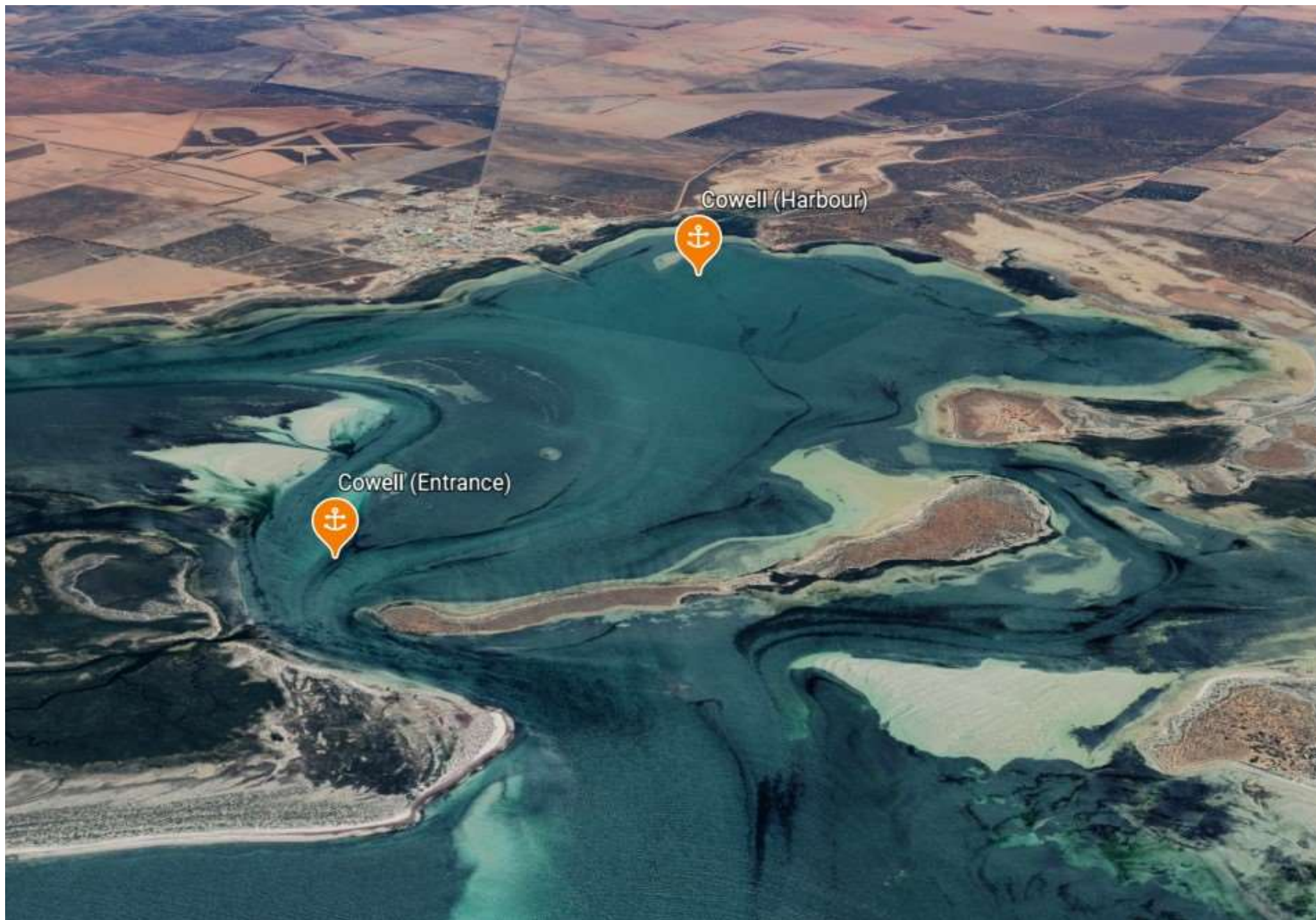
The anchorage near the township is about 3 miles further in, and allows dinghy access to the launching ramp for walks ashore.

Cowell (Harbour)



Cowell (Entrance)





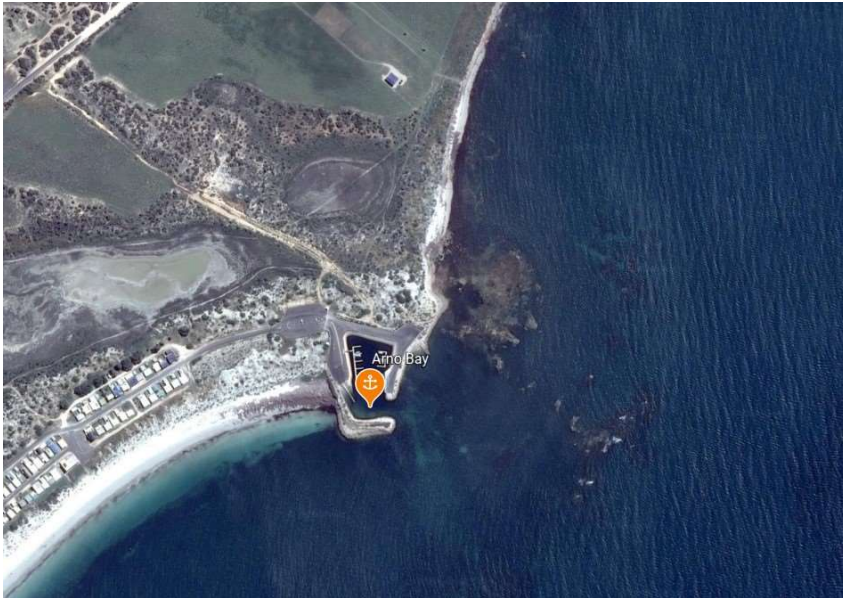
Arno Bay

Marina Entrance Position

33° 54.75'S 136° 35.05'E

Shelter from All Directions

Note. The marina entrance coordinates are for reference only and should not be used as a waypoint.



Arno Bay is a small regional town about 23 miles from Cowell. Despite the name there really is no bay here, and it would be of little interest to cruising yachts without the marina. The area has many fish farms, and the marina is used daily by the associated work vessels.

However, even the marina must be used with caution because the entrance is shallow and cannot be used by a typical keelboat without a favourable tide. The bottom of the channel is rocky, making the occasional bounce even more alarming! Rocks exist to the east and north of the marina entrance.

The township is an easy walk from the marina, and has a general store, a hotel and a caravan park. Showers are available for a fee at the caravan park.

