

CHAPTER 3

CABO FINISTERRE TO RIO MIÑO

GENERAL INFORMATION

Chart 1752

3.1

The coast between Cabo Finisterre (42° 53' N, 9° 16' W) and the mouth of Río Miño, 65 miles SSE, comprises five large inlets and the stretch of coast between Ría de Vigo, the southernmost, and the mouth of Río Miño.

Ría de Vigo and Ría de Arosa provide excellent shelter. The former is the site of the port of Vigo, and the latter is a fine deep-water anchorage. Seno de Corcubión and Ría de Muros are open SW and Ría de Pontevedra is partly so. These inlets contain small ports and are used by coasting vessels and fishing craft.

The coast in general is rugged and fringed by dangers, but there are occasional sandy beaches. High ground, which reaches elevations of over 600 m stands close behind the coast and is visible from the offing in clear

weather but individual peaks are usually difficult to distinguish. Radar echoes can be obtained from the more prominent headlands and islands at distances of from 19 to 24 miles.

Off-lying dangers. There are no dangers which should affect ships on passage off this coast. The dangers farthest offshore are Bajos de los Meixidos (42° 46' N, 9° 12' W), (3.8), and Poza de Tierra (42° 34' N, 9° 12' W) (3.35).

The charted 183 m (100 fm) line, which lies about 10 miles offshore in this vicinity, is a useful guide to navigation in thick weather.

Current. Off Cabo Finisterre the current in the offing usually sets with the prevailing wind and varies in strength with it. Farther S a southerly set begins to be experienced.

CABO FINISTERRE TO CABO CORRUBEDO

SENO DE CORCUBION

Chart 3764

3.2

Seno de Corcubión is entered between Cabo Finisterre (42° 53' N, 9° 16' W) and Punta Remedios, 7 miles SE. Its shores are much indented; on the N side are Ensenada de Llagosteira, Ensenada del Sardiñeiro and Ría de Corcubión, and on its E side are Ensenada de Ezaro and Ensenada de Carnota. See view 1.

The E side of the Peninsula of Cabo Finisterre between that cape and Punta Bardullas, 1½ miles NNE, is high, rocky and precipitous, though less so than its W side. **Punta Bardullas** (42° 54' N, 9° 15' W) is the E extremity of the peninsula, and can be identified by the ruins of **Castillo de San Carlos**, above it.

Ensenada de Llagosteira is entered between Punta Bardullas and **Punta Sardiñeiro**, a high steep point 1½ miles NE. Close N of Punta Bardullas is **Puerto Finisterre**, a port of refuge for small craft consisting of a breakwater which projects NE from **Punta Sulagan** to **El Sinal** with a reclamation, the edge of which is quayed, on its N side. Water and provisions are available. A life-boat and a line-throwing apparatus are maintained.

A light is exhibited from a concrete column, 7 m in height at the head of the breakwater.

Foul ground extends 5½ cables N from Puerto Finisterre and 2½ cables offshore, beyond which is **Playa Llagosteira**, a sandy beach 1 mile long through which **Río Grande** enters the sea. Between the NE end of the beach and Punta Sardiñeiro (42° 56' N, 9° 14' W) the coast is high and precipitous apart from one small cove.

3.3

Fishing ground. There is a drag-net fishery off Playa de Llagosteira. The SW limit of this fishery is marked by

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a white stone pyramidal beacon, 5 m in height, situated on Punta Porcallón, and by the letter "J" painted in black on the E face of a factory a short distance W.

The E limit of the fishery is marked by two white stone pyramidal beacons situated on Punta Sardiñeiro, and in line when bearing 360°; the front beacon stands on a hillock and is 6 m in height; the rear beacon is 4 m in height.

This area should be avoided.

3.4

Anchorage. Good anchorage may be obtained ½ mile SW of Punta Sardiñeiro, and ¼ mile offshore, in depths of 15 m to 18 m (50 ft to 60 ft), sand, sheltered from N winds, or closer inshore in a depth of over 10 m. Care should be taken to avoid the fishing nets mentioned above.

Vessels not wishing to anchor in Ensenada de Llagosteira on account of the drag-net fishing may obtain alternative anchorage 5½ cables SE of Punta Bardullas, but it is not so sheltered from NE winds.

These anchorages are frequented in summer when NE winds are often of long duration, but immediately there are signs of the wind shifting to SE or SW, a vessel should get under way, as all onshore winds are dangerous.

3.5

Ensenada del Sardiñeiro, entered between Punta Sardiñeiro (42° 56' N, 9° 14' W) and **Punta Mosgenta**, 8 cables E, is used only by fishing vessels. A large part of the bay is used for the cultivation of mussels and is a prohibited anchorage.

Foul ground extends 2½ cables from the W side of the bay terminating in a rock with a depth of 0.7 m (2 ft) over it.

At the head of the bay are two beaches separated by **Punta Arnela**, which is rocky. Within the W beach is