



UK BOAT HIRE

Boating Holidays & Short Breaks



2010

narrow boats...

...wide horizons

Welcome

to our brochure of holidays and short breaks on the UK waterways.

A boating holiday is the fastest way to a slower pace of life. Progress is made at an unhurried rate, with the freedom to cruise at your leisure between dawn and dusk, and moor virtually anywhere you please with waterside pubs, villages, towns, cities and historic treasures to visit. With over 200 boats at 12 start points throughout the UK, you have the choice of over 1500 miles of waterways to explore.

This brochure is designed to help you through the many options available, from the choice of where in the country you want to cruise, through the details of each start base and then to the layouts of the boats. In addition to the layout diagrams in this brochure, internal photographs of every class of boat can be viewed at www.ukboathire.com so you can really get a feel for the boats before you book. If you are browsing the choices 'on-line' you can also check the availability of boats and make your provisional reservation from the website. We strive to offer you the highest standards of holiday experience and safety. All the boats have been independently inspected by Visit Britain (The Tourist Board), and, as your safety is important to us, our handovers have been audited and approved by the British Marine Federation.

Staying on one of our boats compares to a holiday cottage, with the added advantage that your holiday home can take you wherever you want to go. With the simple controls, no experience is necessary and as part of our service we will show you everything you need to do with the boat and canals. We clean, check and service the boats between every cruise to ensure that they meet our rigorous standards, and are ready to welcome you when you arrive at the start of your holiday. We are confident your family or crew will never forget the fun of learning to handle a narrowboat and the shared experience of working the locks.

We look forward to welcoming you aboard one of our boats for your next boating holiday.



*Tracey, Alison, Alan, Carl,
Bob, David, Haley*



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We are able to provide, on request, any brochure text in larger print. You will also find further information regarding facilities for those with special requirements on our website.



Introduction to your boating holiday



In response to the current economic climate we are re-launching our Easy-Pay Scheme this year which allows you to spread the cost of your holiday with our easy payment plan. No upfront deposit is needed you just divide the total cost of your holiday to be paid in equal monthly payments. The earlier you book before the actual holiday date the less the monthly payments will be. See page 47 for further information.



*Edward Helps
Managing Director*

The changes we made to the way we deal with fuel in 2009 has been successful with many hirers receiving a refund making their actual holiday costs cheaper, so we are going to continue this arrangement in 2010. We are also able to reduce the fuel deposits to £75 for a week and £40 for a short break. Fuel deposits have proved to be the fairest way to operate as this means that you only pay for the fuel you use. Some of our customers wish to cruise for longer days and therefore it is only right that they should pay to do so rather than other customers who only wish to cruise short days subsidising them.

We have a new start location for 2010, Union Wharf located in the attractive and historic town of Market Harborough allowing you to cruise the Market Harborough arm and the Leicester section of the Grand Union Canal.

I would also like to remind you to order a map or guide to really get the most out of your holiday and the areas that you can visit along the way and you will find details of these on the route pages (12-27) and back cover.

We look forward to welcoming you aboard during 2010.





Green Holidays Campaign

Not only are you about to choose one of the most relaxing and rewarding holidays around, you are also choosing one of the 'greenest'. Starting the moment you board your floating home, a holiday cruising through some of the country's most breathtaking scenery, working the locks or sitting back with a glass of wine won't 'cost' the earth. In fact your holiday is estimated to be some 20* times better for the planet than spending two hours flying for a holiday overseas.

At no cost to you, we will continue donating a percentage of our profits to "The Waterways Trust Green Fund" to offset the environmental impact of your holiday. The Waterways Trust (www.thewaterwaystrust.org.uk/greenfund) is a registered charity which works to promote and protect Britain's waterways. If you wish, you can further reduce the impact of your holiday on the environment by offsetting your own travel to and from the boat with a voluntary donation through us to the same fund. We suggest £5.00 per car all of which will go directly to "The Waterways Trust Green Fund" which you can indicate on the booking form.

giftaid it

In addition if you select Gift Aid when making your donation it will be worth even more. For every pound you give to the Waterways Trust they receive an extra 28 pence from the Inland Revenue. Simply select this on the documentation that we will send you once you have made your booking.

Following the launch of our greener holidays campaign in 2008 we are pleased to report on some of the projects which have benefited from donations from customers and ourselves to "The Waterways Trust Green Fund".

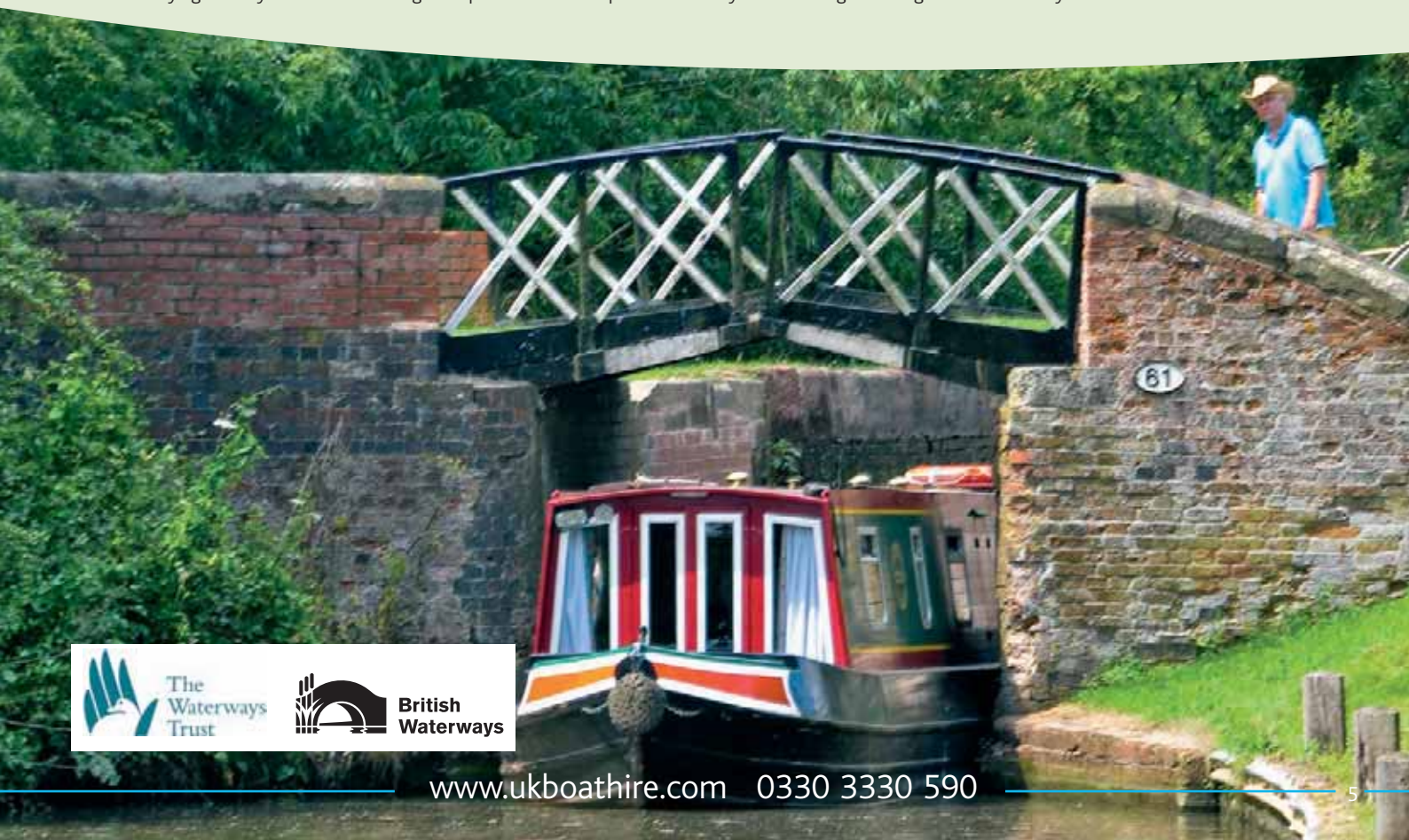
- A new section of traffic-free walking and cycling path has been constructed by Powys Council and Sustrans between Newtown, Llanllwchaearn and Aberbechan on the Montgomery Canal. The 1.5km trail, which received a grant from the Green Fund, is part of the Montgomery Canal Walking and Cycling Project and forms part of Route 81 of the National Cycle Network.

The new stretch allows people to travel more easily and safely between local communities. It also allows better access to the Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust's Pwll Penarth wetland nature reserve by bike or on foot.

- The new Hanbury Lock Towpath will extend an existing route on the Birmingham & Worcester Canal, from Hanbury Wharf into Droitwich encouraging even more people to make use of the restored canals and visit the town.
- Funding has also contributed towards the opening of the Action Outdoors Centre, Falkirk. A brand new outdoor activity centre on the bank of the Union Canal, giving young people in the region the opportunity to get out and get active. The centre offers a wide range of activities both on the canal and in the surrounding area.

In addition to the donation that UK Boat Hire make for every holiday taken you may wish to further support the fund with a voluntary donation. Simply indicate this on your booking form.

* Based on flying a family of four to an average European location compared to a family of four taking an average hire boat holiday.



Your questions answered

Arrival & Departure

We endeavour to have boats ready for collection at 3.00pm on the start day of your holiday. If for any reason you are unable to arrive on time please contact the start base (telephone numbers page 10) or the Booking Office in order that special arrangements can be made well in advance of your holiday. A late arrival charge may apply. Your boat must be returned and vacated by 9.30am on the last day.

Tuition

No previous experience is necessary, as our boats are extremely easy to handle and full tuition is given at the start of every holiday. Comprehensive cruising information is in a manual on the boat and details are sent out with the holiday documents to introduce you to the theory of locks and the 'rules of the road'. We provide our own 24hr emergency helpline.

Maps & Guides

A number of guides are available for planning your trip or locating sites of interest, pubs, shops and facilities along your route. The guides relevant to each route are indicated on the route information pages (12 to 27) and detailed on the back cover. These may either be ordered by post or purchased at the start of the holiday at the marina.



Licences & Restrictions

You do not need a driving licence for a narrowboat and the boat itself is licenced by us for BW waterways. There are a few waterways outside their jurisdiction for which you will need to purchase an additional licence as you enter them, such as the Rivers Avon, Thames and Wey. Our start bases can provide details when you arrive to pick up your boat. The maximum number of people on board is restricted to the number of berths, with an absolute maximum of twelve.

Buoyancy Aids

There are buoyancy aids available free of charge for both children and adults at the marinas (compulsory for children under the age of 18 and non-swimmers). They do not need to be booked in advance and should be requested upon arrival at the marina so the correct size can be fitted.

Young Children

A narrowboat holiday is superb for families. Cot-sides can be provided for very small children on standard berths (see pictures on page 30). Simply indicate this on the booking form.

Cots

If you would like to bring a travel cot please see page 30.

Fishing

Fishing is prohibited on British rivers between 15th March and 15th June. Fishing is allowed outside these dates and on canals at any time, but an Environment Agency rod licence is required available online or from any post office, with a 1-day 8-day or annual licence to choose from. You may also need a valid permit or be prepared to purchase one from the controlling angling club or riparian owner when approached on any fishery that offers day permits. For reasons of hygiene, we regret that live bait may not be kept on the boat.



Overseas Visitors

If this brochure has a travel agent's stamp, we recommend you make your booking via them – they will be able to help with other travel requirements in addition to the narrowboat holiday. Otherwise, you are welcome to book direct with us on +44 1905 734168. Payment is required in £'s sterling.

Bedding

On all our boats freshly laundered bedding is provided.

Towels

These are provided free of charge on all Alvechurch, Red Line and Wessex boats and to overseas Viking Afloat customers. If you are from the UK and hiring a boat from Viking Afloat you will need to bring your own towels.

Groceries

One of the pleasures of a canal holiday is the option to stop off and experience the towns and villages along the way, shopping as and when you need supplies. If you are unable to bring some groceries with you or stop and shop on arrival, there are details of how to get groceries for the start of your holiday in the 'Holiday Guide' that you will receive 8 weeks prior to your holiday.



Pets

This really is a holiday the whole family can enjoy together. We charge £25 for each pet (Normally a maximum of 2 pets per boat). We obviously request that the boat is returned in a clean and tidy condition and reserve the right to refuse pets or charge for any additional cleaning or repairs required as a result of pets being on board during your holiday. Please contact the booking office to discuss your requirements.



Mobile Phone Charging

All of our boats have a 12-volt electricity supply with a car-type cigar lighter socket that can be used with a mobile phone in-car adapter lead (bring your own lead). On some boats there is a 240-volt electricity supply that can be used for your own equipment at your own risk. 110-volt AC supply is not available in the UK.

Extras

There is a voluntary environmental offset donation suggested at £5 per car. See page 5. Page 44 details the items inclusive to your holiday. The only compulsory charges in addition to the brochure price are a fuel deposit, Cancellation Protection Fee (calculated at the rate of 4% of the hire charge) and non refundable Accidental Damage Waiver Fee at £45. We can also provide details of Personal Holiday Insurance for UK customers if required (strongly recommended). A 2% surcharge is applied to any payment made by credit card and £25 for each pet. Optional high level berths are £50 per week, £25 per short break each. See page 50.

Fuel

The boat is ready fuelled for your holiday on arrival, but there is a fuel deposit payable with your holiday booking. This is £75 per week and £40 per short break as the cost of fuel is not included in the hire cost. When you return the boat to us the balance is refundable after deducting fuel used. However if you have used fuel in excess of the deposit you will be asked to pay the difference. We feel this is the fairest way possible as you only pay for what you use.

Parking

There is ample open air parking at our bases which is provided free of charge. We regret that we cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to hirers' vehicles.

Look Before You Book

We welcome inspection of our boats before you book. Please phone the bases before you arrive to ensure they are open and boats are available for viewing. (details on page 10.)



A short history lesson...

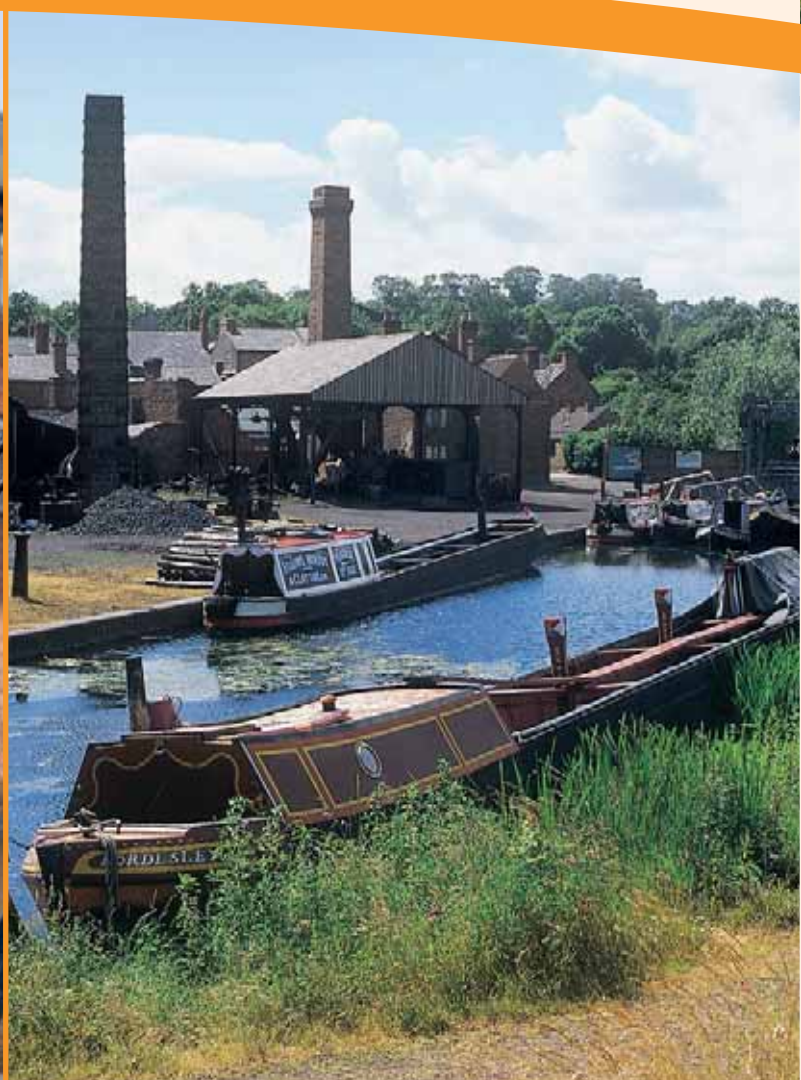
During the industrial revolution of the early 18th Century the transportation of heavy goods and raw materials by road was limited by a poor road network. Cart-horses were the only form of pulling-power and the alternative of movement of loads by river was very limited.

In 1759 the Duke of Bridgewater obtained an Act of Parliament to build the first canal from his coalmines at Worsley to Manchester. James Brindley was employed to build the canal and construction was carried out by gangs of men known as navigators, or "navvies". Built using just hand tools, the canal tunnelled right into the mines and coal was loaded directly onto the horse-drawn boats. Once it opened it became the wonder of the age - and halved the price of coal in Manchester.

Over the next 30 years numerous canals were built, reaching a peak in 1793 when 20 new canals were authorised by Parliament and boats were also built to transport passengers. However, the

introduction of the railways brought an end to the commercial use of the canals and, by the start of the 20th century, many canals closed. Diesel powered boats introduced in the 1930s gave some opportunity for the canals to compete with road transport. Traffic continued throughout the 1940s and 1950s, but was brought to an end as recently as the early 1960s when a severe winter caused the canals to freeze over for nearly three months.

The revival of the canals for pleasure use is largely credited to the book "Narrow Boat" by LTC Rolt, published in 1944. The decision by, amongst others, Rolt and Robert Aickman to form the Inland Waterways Association (IWA) was reputedly spawned just three miles from Alvechurch itself, at the top of the Tardebigge lock flight.





...and today

Today over 6,000 groups of families and friends enjoy the revitalised canal system on one of our hire boats every year. Such is the level of redevelopment that in some cities you could be forgiven for thinking that the canal was originally designed as a leisure feature, rather than the functional transport system that it once was.

Over £84 million has been spent on the canal linking Glasgow with Edinburgh, including the fantastic Falkirk Wheel, opened in 2002. This structure has generated massive interest from both canal lovers and engineering aficionados. In contrast the Victorian Anderton Boat Lift was restored to its former glory and re-opened in 2002 giving access once again from the Trent and Mersey canal to the River Weaver below.

As more people are enjoying cruising the inland waterway network, immense investment in the canal system means that waterways routes and structures are being restored to their former working use to link parts of the country and extend cruising possibilities.

Modern narrow boating is not only one of the most relaxing and rewarding holidays around, it can also be one of the 'greenest'.




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Start locations explained - Spoilt for choice

The following pages give you a flavour of the most popular routes available but, with a few constraints, you are free to travel whichever direction you please from your chosen start base and can holiday for a weekend, a week or longer.


Guide book references for each route (P5, N2, L15, etc) refer to the listing on the back cover of the brochure which can be purchased to help with planning your holiday. As a rough calculation when planning a route, add the number of locks to the distance in miles and divide the total by 3 to give the cruising time in hours.

KEY:

 Worcester = START BASE

 7 = NO. OF NIGHTS

 6 = APPROXIMATE NO. OF HOURS CRUISING PER DAY

 44 = NO. OF LOCKS

Short Breaks

For a few relaxing days, or to see what a holiday afloat is all about, a short break on a narrowboat is perfect. A three or four night break is long enough to unwind and get used to the slow pace of life.

We have short break boats available from all start bases, each with a number of splendid routes to choose from. Take a three night weekend break starting on Friday, or a four night midweek break starting on Monday. Remember that these boats are also available for weekly hire and, by adding a short break to a week, you can also take a longer break of 10/11 nights.



Alvechurch Marina – Worcestershire – 0121 445 1133

The marina is at the heart of an extremely varied canal network, with a fine selection of ring routes. Features include the impressive 30 lock Tardebigge Flight. On-site pub "The Weighbridge" with bar food and real ale. (0121 445 5111 / www.the-weighbridge.co.uk)



Anderton Marina – Cheshire – 01606 79642

With the Cheshire Ring, the remote and beautiful Leeds & Liverpool Canal heading north and the Trent & Mersey heading south, plus of course the Anderton Boat Lift. On-site licensed restaurant "The Moorings". (01606 79789 / www.mooringsrestaurant.co.uk)



Falkirk Base – Scotland – 01324 627212

Explore the lowlands of Scotland with easy cruising and very few locks on the recently restored canals, including experiencing the incredible Falkirk Wheel, linking the Union Canal and the Forth & Clyde Canal.



Gayton Marina – Northamptonshire – 01604 858685

Routes from Gayton are typified by rolling Northamptonshire arable landscapes, the rural countryside punctuated by fair sized towns and villages easily accessible from the canal side.



Hilpert Marina – Wiltshire – 01225 765243

Our most southerly marina, Hilpert is well located on the restored Kennet & Avon Canal, often considered one of the very best for natural beauty and wildlife.



Wrenbury Mill – Welsh Borders – 01270 780544

For pretty scenery and stunning views, little compares to the Llangollen Canal with features including the Ellesmere 'meres' and the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.



Union Wharf Marina – Leicestershire – 01858 432123

Union Wharf is located in the attractive and historic market town of Market Harborough. The Wharf itself is home to a number of impressively refurbished canal warehouses. The Wharf is at the terminus of the canal close to Foxton Locks and the historic Incline Plane.



Worcester Marina – Worcestershire – 01905 734160

Based at the southern end of the Worcester Birmingham Canal in the 19th Century 'Port of Lowesmoor', our Worcester base is an ideal start for routes into Shakespeare country via the Rivers Severn and Avon, or trips north into rural Worcestershire where you will pass through the heart of the picturesque 'Archers' country.



Whitchurch Marina – Shropshire – 01948 662012

For tranquillity and beauty, start from Whitchurch and meander along the Llangollen and Shropshire Union Canals, enjoying the wide open spaces and hillsides of Wales and the north-west and the Pontcysyllte aqueduct..



Rugby Base – Warwickshire – 01788 562183

This is a rural area based on the North Oxford Canal which is ideal for a number of interesting and contrasting routes. Why not make your way to Warwick and visit its beautiful castle or take a gentle cruise through pretty countryside?



Gailey Base – Staffordshire – 01902 790612

Perfectly placed to discover parts of the West Midlands, Staffordshire, Cheshire and Shropshire. Travel along the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, where you can head north towards the Potteries and rolling countryside of the Peak District, or go further afield into Shropshire towards the Cheshire Plains and its dramatic scenery.



Goytre Wharf – South Wales – 01873 880516

Explore the beautiful Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal which meanders through the Brecon Beacons National Park. Although only 36 miles long this canal is considered one of the most relaxing and scenic.

Uk Boat Hire Start Bases



Scotland

Please Note:

Suggested routes and timings are approximate and will be affected by available cruising hours, weather conditions and amount of traffic on the waterway. More detailed advice will be given when the boat is collected. When planning any river cruising within your route, do bear in mind that in some weather conditions river navigation may be restricted, so it is worth having an alternative plan.

The Heart of England



FOR BOAT LAYOUTS	
	GAILEY 32-34
	WORCESTER 32-34
	RUGBY 32-34
	ALVECHURCH 38-43
	GAYTON 38-43

Stourport Ring

P1 N2 L16

Alvechurch/Worcester 7 7.5 116

Gailey 7 8.5 116

One of the most popular one week cruises. This route of contrasts takes in the 21st century Birmingham city centre, 19th century heritage and some of the most rural stretches of canal imaginable along with the River Severn.

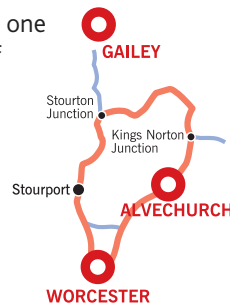
Much of the stunning new development in Birmingham city centre is focused on the canalside area - Symphony Hall, the International Convention Centre and the Sea Life Centre. Branch off to the impressive Netherton tunnel or visit the award winning Black Country Museum.

(B'ham TIC 0870 2250127 / www.beinbirmingham.org.uk)

If time permits, experience the wonder of steam trains on the Severn Valley Railway, with a trip from Kidderminster to the picturesque market town of Bridgnorth.

(01299 403816 / www.svr.co.uk)

Take an enviable river perspective of the magnificent Worcester cathedral in a city where you will also find both quaint and modern shopping malls and, of course, the Royal Worcester Porcelain Museum. (Worcester TIC 01905 726311)



Stratford-upon-Avon & return

P2 N2 L15

Alvechurch 7 7 110

Worcester 7 6 44

(Avon Licence required from Worcester)

Cruise through idyllic stretches of countryside to this historic town, each route offering a superb mixture of culture, history and shopping.

Moor in the beautifully maintained canal basin at Stratford, near to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre. (01789 403444 / www.rsc.org.uk)

The convenient Tourist Information Centre (0870 1607930) gives details of all you need to know about Shakespeare's birthplace.



"We only wish the holiday could have been longer!"

The Black Country Ring

P1 N3 L12

Gailey 7 7.5 76

Alvechurch 7 8 80

This route is packed with options for family activities and also includes a rich mixture of canal scenery.

Birmingham centre boasts the NIA, Symphony Hall and Brindley Place, all with canal frontage.

Encounter life as it was when the canals were built for commercial use at the Black Country 'Living Museum' at Tipton. (0121 557 9643 / www.bclm.co.uk)

Amongst other attractions on the route are Dudley Zoo & Castle. (01384 215313 / www.dudleyzoo.org.uk) and Drayton Manor Park. (08708 725252 / www.draytonmanor.co.uk)



short breaks



Staffordshire & return

P1 N2 L16

> Gailey to Stourport ☾ 7 ☀ 6 📖 58

> Worcester ☾ 7 ☀ 6 📖 80

> Gailey to Worcester ☾ 7 ☀ 8 📖 72

Passing through Worcester by canal, you join the River Severn for a leisurely cruise up to Stourport where you join the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal. Here you will appreciate the contrast between the wide river and the more intimate atmosphere of the canal, which threads its way unobtrusively through the landscape, encouraging you to stop at will. This canal takes you north past dramatic sandstone rocks and through the beautifully preserved Bratch locks towards Autherley Junction where you have the opportunity of joining the Shropshire Union Canal for a short while. You will probably want to turn here in order to make the most of the return journey which, apart from opening up new views of the countryside, will give you a chance to visit some of the attractions you may have missed on the way up, such as the Severn Valley Railway, or the sandstone caves at Austcliffe.



Weekends: Friday to Monday (3 nights)
Midweek: Monday to Friday (4 nights)

Lapworth & return

P2 N2 L15

> Alvechurch ☾ 3 ☀ 4.5 📖 0

(Top of Lapworth)

Briefly heading north, then turning down on the Stratford Canal towards Stratford, this relaxing route involves no locks at all. The views around the "Lapworth Flight" (of 18 locks) are stunning, and a leisurely walk along the canalside from the top lock allows you to take in the atmosphere without the effort of travelling through yourself!

> Alvechurch ☾ 4 ☀ 6.5 📖 36

(Bottom of Lapworth)

Taking a midweek break gives time to go down the locks to Kingswood Junction. Just a couple of hours further cruising takes you towards either Knowle, the top of Hatton Flight or Wootton Wawen. Country World Craft Village is a short walk from the top of Hatton locks. (01926 843411 / www.hattonworld.com)

Stoke Prior & return

P2 N2 L16

> Worcester ☾ 3 ☀ 5 📖 38

Cruise up the Worcester/Birmingham Canal. This trip takes you north into rural Worcestershire where you pass through the very heart of 'Archers' country to the village of Stoke Prior.

Stourton Junction & return

P2 N2 L16

> Worcester ☾ 4 ☀ 6 📖 41

Cruise up the River Severn to the inland port of Stourport, where you join the idyllic Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal. Before returning to Worcester, you'll be able to enjoy seeing North Worcestershire at its best from this gently meandering canal.

The Birmingham Mini-Ring

P1 P3 N3 L3 L16

> Alvechurch ☾ 4 ☀ 7.5 📖 49

A mid-week break that takes you through some of Britain's finest industrial architecture, travelling along the Worcester & Birmingham, Grand Union and Stratford Canals. Cruise through some of the most exclusive Warwickshire villages. Moor in Birmingham near the National Sea Life Centre - a real treat for every member of the family. (0121 6436777 / www.sealifeurope.com)

Droitwich Ring * NEW for 2010 *

P1 N2 L16

> Worcester ☾ 3 ☀ 6.5 📖 41

2010 should see the opening of the restored Droitwich Canal. The canal links the Worcester and Birmingham with the River Severn at Hawford creating a new mini ring from Worcester. Cruising the ring will take approximately 20 hours so a short break is possible, but will require long days cruising. The Droitwich Canal is an amalgamation of the Droitwich Barge Canal and the Droitwich Junction Canal both built to carry salt from Droitwich Spa but were abandoned in 1939.

Avon Ring

P2 N2 L15

> Alvechurch ☾ 14 or 10/11 ☀ 6 📖 139

> Worcester ☾ 14 or 10/11 ☀ 6 📖 139

(Additional licence required for River Avon)

To really enjoy the delightful river cruising on both the Severn and Avon you will need at least a 10 or 11 night break. In fact, allowing two weeks enables a detour down to Gloucester to visit its docks, warehouses and museums. Worcester, Tewkesbury, Evesham and Stratford each offer a superb mixture of culture, history and shopping.



Warwickshire Ring

P6 N3 L13

> Alvechurch ☾ 14 or 10/11 ☀ 6 📖 128

> Rugby ☾ 7 ☀ 8+ 📖 120

> Gayton ☾ 10/11 ☀ 7

Another route with the option to moor at the heart of Birmingham, this cruise includes the spectacular Hatton locks and some fine stretches of the Grand Union Canal.

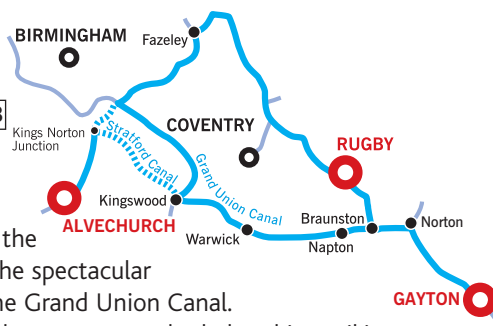
> Once at Coventry, it is a short walk to the war-torn cathedral and its striking 1962 replacement.

> Drayton Manor Park & Zoo (08708 725252 / www.draytonmanor.co.uk) and the Snow Dome at Tamworth (08705 000011 / www.snowdome.co.uk) offer activities for all the family.

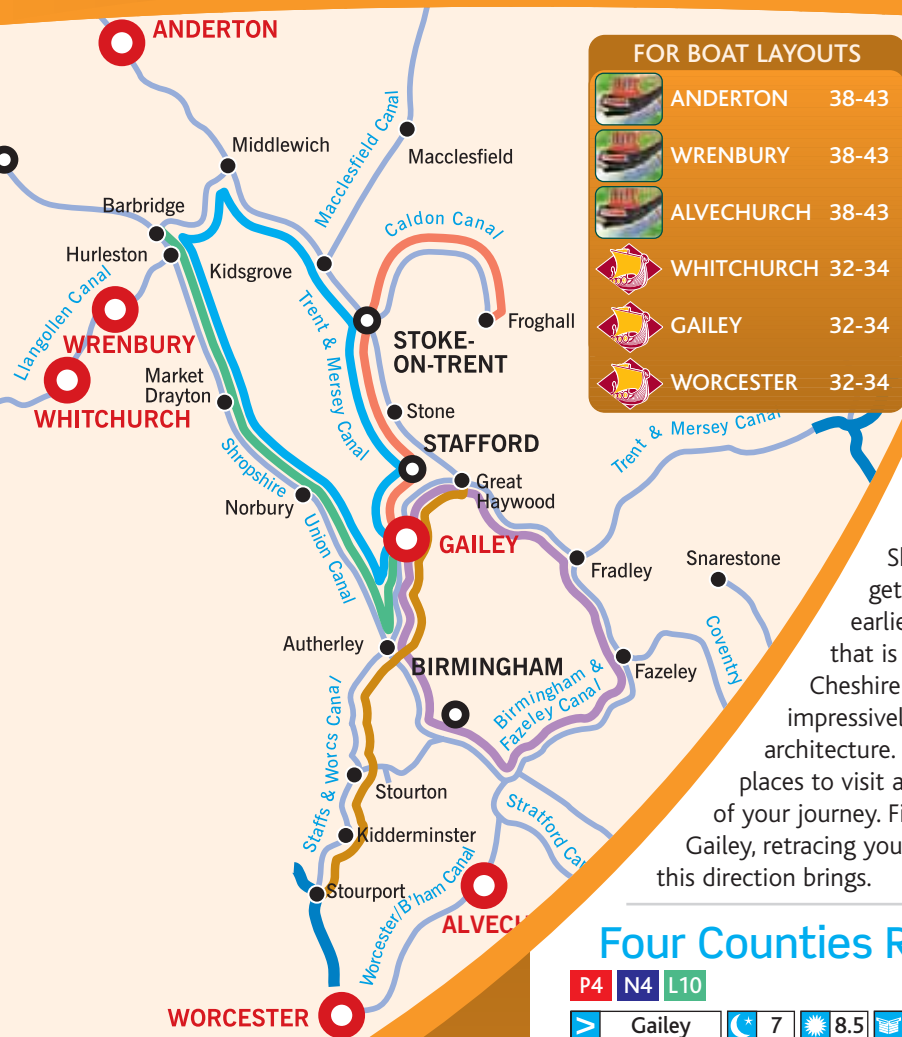
> Warwick Castle is possibly the finest medieval castle in the country.

(Warwick Tourist Information Centre 01926 492212 / www.warwick-uk.co.uk)

> On a two week cruise, include a trip along the Ashby Canal.



Potteries, Peak District & Black Co



Shropshire Union Canal & return

P4 N4 L10

➤ Gailey 🌙 7 ☀️ 6 📖 58

If this is your first time out or if you are just looking for a relaxing and easy time away from it all, this trip is ideal. Leaving Gailey, you head south down the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal to Atherley Junction, where you join the start of the Shropshire Union Canal (Shroppie). You soon get to appreciate the contrast between the earlier 'contour' canal that you have just left and the gem that is the 'Shroppie'. Your journey northwards towards the Cheshire Plains through the rural Shropshire countryside, takes in impressively deep cuttings, dramatic embankments and splendid architecture. Market Drayton, Audlem and Nantwich are all delightful places to visit along the way, either on the way out or on the return leg of your journey. Finally though, you need to turn around and head back to Gailey, retracing your steps and enjoying the new perspective that cruising in this direction brings.

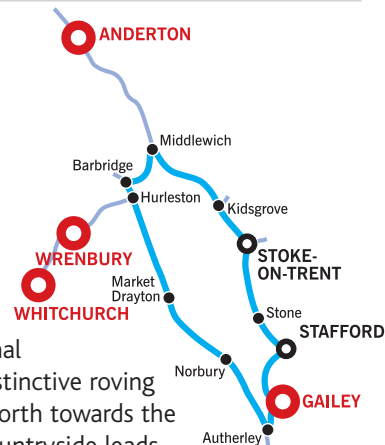


Four Counties Ring

P4 N4 L10

➤ Gailey 🌙 7 ☀️ 8.5 📖 94
 ➤ Wrenbury 🌙 10/11 ☀️ 6.5 📖 112
 ➤ Anderton 🌙 10/11 ☀️ 6.5 📖 102
 ➤ Whitchurch 🌙 14 ☀️ 6 📖 132

A fascinating voyage of discovery and well worth the extra bit of effort! The journey takes you along the wonderfully rural Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal to Great Haywood Junction where, passing under a distinctive roving bridge, you join the Trent and Mersey Canal heading north towards the Potteries and Peak District. The rolling Staffordshire countryside leads you to Stoke-on-Trent, the Wedgwood Visitors Centre and the impressive 2926-yard long Harecastle Tunnel. Beyond Harecastle the 13 miles to the salt town of Middlewich sees the canal descend 31 locks to the Cheshire Plains. The short Middlewich arm links the Trent and Mersey Canal to the Shropshire Union Canal again through more glorious countryside.



- The scenery on the climb up 'Heartbreak Hill' to the summit at Kidsgrove is fantastic.
- As well as sights of the potteries such as the Bottle Kilns at Etruria, the Wedgwood Pottery Centre at Barlaston is not to be missed. (01782 204218 / www.wedgwood.com)
- The National Trust's Shugborough Hall is a short walk from moorings at Great Haywood. (01889 881388 / www.nationaltrust.org.uk)



"A fantastic holiday"





© Black Country Museum

short breaks

Caldon Canal

P4 N4 L10

> Gailey	☾ 7	☀ 8	🚢 78
> Wrenbury	☾ 10	☀ 7	🚢 16
> Anderton	☾ 7	☀ 7	🚢 104
> Whitchurch	☾ 10	☀ 7.5	🚢 136

As an alternative to the four counties ring, but equally energetic, you could follow the above route as far as Stoke-on-Trent where you branch off onto the Caldon Canal which must rate as one of the most delightful waterways in the country. You will head up towards the Peak District and enter the Churnet Valley with its stunning countryside. The canal terminates at Froghall where you turn and retrace your steps.



© Wedgwood Visitor Centre

Weekends: Friday to Monday (3 nights)
Midweek: Monday to Friday (4 nights)

Norbury & return

P4 N4 L10

> Gailey	☾ 3	☀ 5-6	🚢 4
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The most leisurely of the available routes takes you down the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal to Autherley Junction, where you join the Shropshire Union Canal for a relaxing run up northwards to Norbury. Here you will need to turn in order to return.

Market Drayton & return

P4 N4 L10

> Gailey	☾ 4	☀ 6	🚢 14
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If you are taking a four night break the Norbury and return trip can be extended to Market Drayton before you turn around.

Stone & return

P1 N4 L10

> Gailey	☾ 4	☀ 6	🚢 36
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Again, for those on a four night trip, there is the option to travel on up the Trent and Mersey Canal to the town of Stone, enjoying rural Staffordshire as you go.

Great Haywood & return

P4 N4 L10

> Gailey	☾ 3	☀ 6	🚢 22
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An alternative cruise takes you up the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal to Great Haywood Junction, enabling you to visit Shugborough Hall.

The Black Country Ring

P1 N3 L12

> Gailey	☾ 7	☀ 7	🚢 76
> Alvechurch	☾ 7	☀ 8	🚢 80

This route is packed with options for family activities and also includes a rich mixture of canal scenery.

- > Birmingham centre boasts the NIA, Symphony Hall and Brindley Place, all with canal frontage.
- > Encounter life as it was when the canals were built for commercial use at the Black Country 'Living Museum' at Tipton. (0121 557 9643 / www.bclm.co.uk)
- > Amongst other attractions on the route are Dudley Zoo & Castle (01384 215313 / www.dudleyzoo.org.uk), Drayton Manor Park (01827 287979)

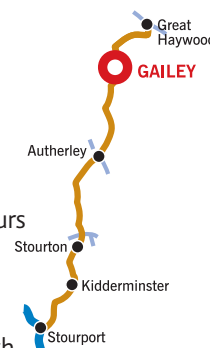


Stourport & return

P1 N2 L16

> Gailey	☾ 7	☀ 6	🚢 58
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This is a comfortable one week cruise to Stourport and back, along what is almost certainly one of England's prettiest waterways. Throughout its length, this historic canal follows the local land contours as it winds its way south towards its junction with the River Severn at the unique inland port of Stourport. Along the way you pass the entrance to the Shropshire Union Canal, which heads northwards through Shropshire towards the Cheshire Plains. As you continue south you soon reach Bratch Locks, which is a distinctive and unusual flight of three locks, together with an octagonal toll office. From here the canal adopts an even more rural aspect: secluded woodlands with rocky cliffs of red sandstone, give way to an area of quiet water meadows as you approach the outskirts of the carpet-manufacturing town of Kidderminster. Kidderminster also hosts the southern terminus of the Severn Valley Steam Railway, which is well worth a half-day trip. Finally, you reach Stourport with its intriguing combination of engineering features and fine period buildings.



© NTPL Nick Meers



© Wedgwood Visitor Centre

Shakespeare Country, Warwickshire



FOR BOAT LAYOUTS

	GAILEY	32-34
	WORCESTER	32-34
	RUGBY	32-34
	ALVECHURCH	38-43
	GAYTON	38-43
	UNION WHARF	38-43

Banbury & return

P7 N1 L17	
> Rugby	☾ 7 ☀ 6 📖 50
> Gayton	☾ 7 ☀ 7 📖 70
> Union Wharf	☾ 10 ☀ 5.75 📖 90

A relatively gentle cruise through pretty Cotswold countryside first takes you down the North Oxford Canal via Braunston and Napton Junctions and onto the South Oxford Canal, renowned for its meandering route to the Thames.



Oxford & return

P7 P17 N1 from Rugby	
P7 P18 N1 from Gayton	
> Rugby	☾ 10/11 ☀ 6 📖 82
> Gayton	☾ 10/11 ☀ 6.5 📖 104
> Union Wharf	☾ 14 ☀ 5.75 📖 126

Continuing on past Banbury to Oxford. The "City of Dreaming Spires" needs little introduction and is an extremely popular choice for those who can stretch their holiday to more than a week.

(Tourist Information 01865 726871)



Stoke Bruerne & return

P7 N1 L17 L18	
> Rugby	☾ 7 ☀ 6 📖 32
> Union Wharf	☾ 7 ☀ 5.75 📖 48

This is essentially a rural route that incorporates several very impressive tunnels including Blisworth Tunnel which is over 3,000 yards long! The village of Stoke Bruerne awaits you as you emerge from Blisworth and we recommend that you visit the excellent Canal Museum here. Milton Keynes is the next point of interest with its wealth of attractions.



Market Harborough & return

P7 N1 L14	
> Rugby	☾ 7 ☀ 6 📖 52
> Gayton	☾ 7 ☀ 6 📖 48

Popular with those seeking something different – if you don't mind a bit of exercise. This route involves cruising down the North Oxford Canal to Braunston, then up the Grand Union Canal towards Leicester. On the way to Market Harborough you will encounter no fewer than four tunnels, two sets of staircase locks and mile after mile of open countryside.



Warwickshire Ring

P6 N3 L13 For more information see p13.	
> Alvechurch	☾ 14 or 10/11 ☀ 6 📖 128
> Rugby	☾ 7 ☀ 8+ 📖 120
> Gayton	☾ 10/11 ☀ 7 📖 120
> Gailey	☾ 10/11 ☀ 7 📖 122

The Grand Ring

N1 N7 G29	
> Gayton	☾ 14/21 ☀ 6-9 📖 175

For more information see page 25.



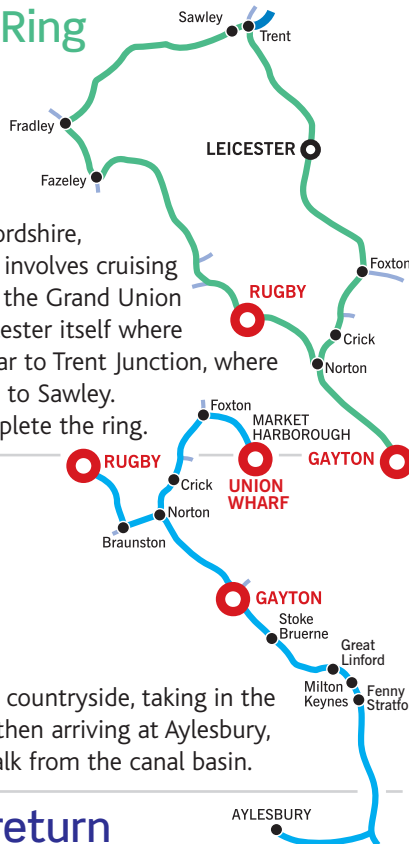
"Very impressed with the friendly helpful staff"



Leicester or East Midlands Ring

- P7 N1 N3** from Rugby
- P7 N1 N3** from Gayton
- > Rugby/Union Wharf 14 6 101
- > Gayton 14 6.5 115

A pleasant two week cruise through parts of Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire and Derbyshire which involves cruising on rivers as well as canals. This route takes you up the Grand Union Canal to the Foxton flight of locks, then onto Leicester itself where you join the River Soar. You continue along the Soar to Trent Junction, where you briefly join the River Trent which takes you up to Sawley. At this point you rejoin the canal system and complete the ring.



Aylesbury & return

- P7 N1 L18**
- > Gayton 7/10 5-7.5 82
- > Rugby 7/10 8 114
- > Union Wharf 14 6 130

A good route for the first timer, through delightful countryside, taking in the Great Ouse Aqueduct at Cosgrove, Milton Keynes then arriving at Aylesbury, with the attractive old town centre just a short walk from the canal basin.

Coventry or Snarestone & return

- P7 N1 L8 L14 L18** (except Snarestone **P6**)
- > Gayton to Coventry 7 6 34
- > Gayton to Snarestone 7 8 34
- > Union Wharf to Coventry 7 or 10 7.25 or 5 54
- > Union Wharf to Snarestone 10 6.25 54

With only 17 locks each way between Gayton and Coventry, this is one of the easiest one-week routes. Continuing up the remote and rural Ashby Canal for Snarestone. Offers 23 miles of lock free cruising after Marston.

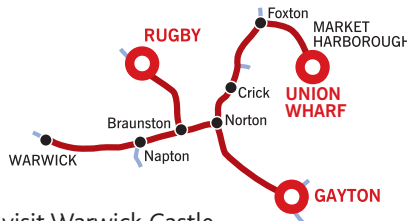
> Moor at Shenton for Bosworth Battlefield Visitor Centre (01455 290429 / www.leics.gov.uk).



Warwick & return

- P6 N3 L14**
- > Gayton 7 6 72
- > Rugby 7 6 56
- > Union Wharf 10 5 92

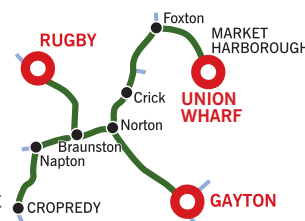
A very popular week cruise with the opportunity to visit Warwick Castle (Tourist Information 01926 492212 / www.warwick-uk.co.uk).



Cropredy & return

- P7 N1 L17** (L18 from Gayton)
- > Gayton 7 6 72
- > Rugby 7 6 56

Home of the annual August Folk Festival, Cropredy is a quaint canal-side village with two pubs, a church and a village store.



Weekends: Friday to Monday (3 nights)
Midweek: Monday to Friday (4 nights)

Leicester & return

- P7**
 - > Union Wharf 4 6.25 48
- Travel north on the Leicester Section of the Grand Union through charmingly unspoilt countryside and onto the city of Leicester.

Snarestone & return

- P7 N3 L14**
- > Rugby 3 6 0

For the non-energetic, this is a relaxing lock-free trip to Snarestone, travelling up the North Oxford Canal and the Ashby Canal.

Crick & return

- P7 N1 L14**
- > Rugby 3 6 32
- > Gayton 4 6.5 28
- > Union Wharf 3 6.5 20

Crick and back, along the Grand Union Canal (Leicester Section).

Welford & return

- N1 N3** from Gayton **N3** from Rugby
- > Gayton 4 8.5 30
- > Rugby 4 6 32
- > Union Wharf 3 5 22

Welford has plenty of overnight mooring places, with a reservoir and village to explore.

Braunston or Napton & return

- P7 N1 L18**
- > Gayton to Braunston 3 8 26
- > Gayton to Napton 4 6.5 26

Heading north from Gayton through Weedon and Norton takes the Grand Union to the busy junction with the Oxford Canal. Onwards to Napton is peaceful, lock free and rural.

Great Linford or Fenny Stratford & return

- P7 N1 L18**
- > Gayton to Gt. Linford 3 8 16
- > Gayton to Fenny Stratford 4 6.5 18

Heading south towards Aylesbury, this route has a taste of everything. The two destinations are separated by the 'new town' of Milton Keynes, where the Grand Union Canal forms the centre piece of the linear park.



Pennines, Chester and Yorkshire

FOR BOAT LAYOUTS

	ANDERTON	38-43
	WRENBURY	38-43
	WHITCHURCH	32-34
	GAILEY	32-34



The Cheshire Ring

P5 N5 L5

> Anderton ☾ 7 ☀ 8 📖 92

> Wrenbury ☾ 10/11 ☀ 6.5 📖 114

> Whitchurch ☾ 14 ☀ 6 📖 137

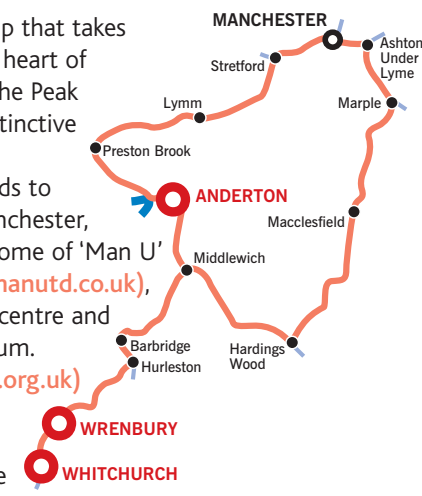
A fascinating trip that takes you through the heart of Manchester and the Peak District with its distinctive stone architecture.

➤ Moor at Castlefields to explore the city of Manchester, including Old Trafford, home of 'Man U' (0870 4421994 / www.manutd.co.uk), the huge Arndale shopping centre and the Science & Industry Museum.

(0161 832 2244 / www.msimg.org.uk)

➤ The trip will let you enjoy glorious scenery as the Pennine Range overlooks the canal and, if time allows, detour along the Peak Forest canal to its terminus.

➤ Enjoy the stunning views from Marple and at Anderton pause to visit the fabulously restored boat lift which now operates throughout the cruising season to link the canal with the River Weaver.



Chester or Ellesmere Port & return

P3 N4 L8

> Anderton to Chester ☾ 7 ☀ 5.5 📖 44

> Wrenbury to Chester ☾ 7 ☀ 4 📖 46

> Whitchurch to Chester ☾ 7 ☀ 5 📖 66

> Gailey to Chester ☾ 10 ☀ 6.5 📖 44

For Ellesmere Port add ☀ 1.5 per day 📖 8

On this popular countryside route the locks are well spaced for easy cruising.

➤ You can choose to travel to Chester and then retrace your steps back to the marina or continue along the Shropshire Union main line to its historic terminal on the River Mersey at Ellesmere Port.

➤ Mooring in Chester is within easy reach of the walled city centre with its medieval 'rows' where there are a variety of shops, galleries and the majestic cathedral.

(Chester TIC 01244 402111 / www.chestertourism.com)

➤ Chester Zoo is just a short walk from the canal. (01244 380280 / www.chesterzoo.org)

➤ The fascinating National Waterways Museum (0151 355 5017 / www.nwm.org.uk) at Ellesmere Port is a few locks beyond Chester, near to the junction with the Manchester Ship Canal. The museum has an extensive collection of preserved inland waterway craft and display areas in many of the former warehouses.



Four Counties Ring

P4 N4 L10

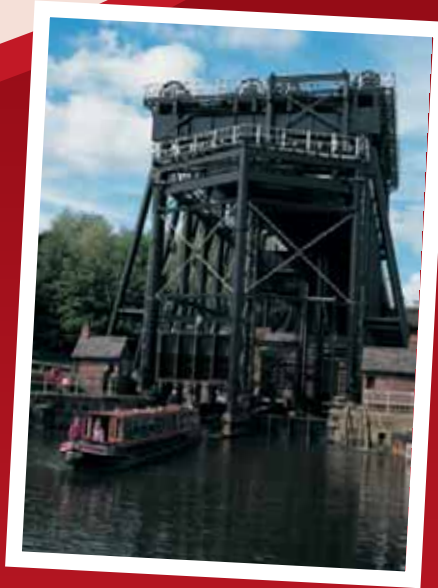
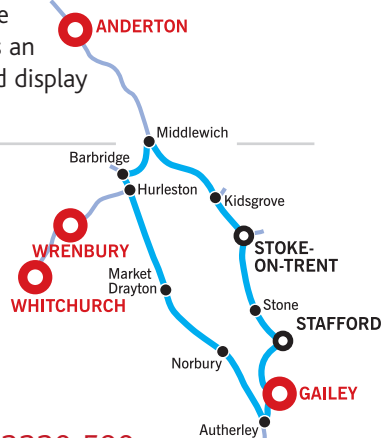
> Anderton ☾ 10/11 ☀ 6.5 📖 102

> Wrenbury ☾ 10/11 ☀ 6.5 📖 112

> Whitchurch ☾ 14 ☀ 6 📖 132

> Gailey ☾ 7 ☀ 8.5 📖 110

See page 14 for more details



"We all had an amazing time"



© Marketing Manchester.

short breaks

Bingley & return

P5 N5 L5 (Does not cover entire route)

> Anderton 14/21 8+ 134

(Max 60ft boats)

For the more energetic this can be a 14 night trip, but if you are wanting to take your time and see the sights then take a more leisurely 3 week break.

> Heading north of the Cheshire Ring the scenery is varied, frequently rural and often spectacular.

You will experience areas of easy, lock-free cruising through the beautiful wide-open moorland of rural Pendle. If just two people are cruising, it is best to share the large double locks with another boat if possible.

> A comfortable turning point for a fortnight cruise is the appealing market town of Skipton. This is a short walking distance from the canal and a lovely market town to explore. It has a good selection of shops, a castle, museum and local bicycle hire.



Weekends: Friday to Monday (3 nights)
Midweek: Monday to Friday (4 nights)

Lymm & return

P5 N5 L5

> Anderton 3 9 2

Cruise above the River Weaver and its valley, where the only lock has a drop of just six inches! Preston Brook has a tunnel of nearly a mile, and there are also two shorter ones on this route.

Beeston or Nantwich & return

P3 P4 N4 L5 L8

> Anderton to Nantwich 3 8.5 16

> Anderton to Beeston 3 10 16

Easy cruising south from Anderton with splendid scenery and good pubs. The lovely medieval town of Nantwich, with its distinctive black & white architecture, is a brisk 1/4 hour walk from the canal.

River Weaver via Anderton Boat Lift & return

P5 N4 L5

> Anderton 4 5 10

A stunning feat of 19th Century engineering, re-opened in Spring 2002, the Anderton boat lift carries two boats at a time hydraulically, one up and one down. At the centre of the Cheshire salt-making region, the River Weaver is steeped in industrial history, yet bristling with wildlife and beautiful scenery.

- Visit the Salt Museum at Northwich. (01606 41331 / www.saltmuseum.org.uk)
- Head south to the head of the navigation and the wildlife haven of the Winsford Flash lakes.

The South Pennine Ring

P5 N5 L5 (Does not cover entire route)

> Anderton 21 6.5 227

(Max 58ft boats)

The recently restored Huddersfield Narrow Canal crosses the Pennines to complete the fantastic south Pennine Ring.

> At 5,698 yards, the Standedge Tunnel is the longest and highest in Britain – the passage requires pre-booking with Standedge Visitor Centre.

(01484 844298)

> East of Huddersfield the canal is wider and the locks are shorter, so the maximum length of boat able to complete the circuit is 58ft.



© Chester Zoo

Wales and the Marches



Llangollen & return

P3 N4 L8 G20

> Whitchurch ☾ 7 ☀ 4 📖 4

> Wrenbury ☾ 7 ☀ 5.5 📖 24

The Llangollen Canal is arguably the most beautiful canal on the whole system and combines the gentle countryside of Shropshire and the more dramatic landscape of the Welsh border. It boasts one of the most striking features on the UK canals – the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct which can be reached from both Whitchurch and Wrenbury in a week or 4 night mid week break from Whitchurch (you will not be able to cross over the aqueduct in a 3 night weekend break).

> Unusually, this canal has a flow of 2mph as it feeds other canals, so the outbound journey will always be slower than on the way back.

> The last locks are at New Marton, half way between Ellesmere and Chirk. From there on, as it clings to the hillside contours, an enchanting blend of aqueducts and tunnels takes the canal, lock free, to Llangollen.

> New visitor moorings in Llangollen are now available, but charges do apply and you need to arrive by 4.30pm.

> Take a steam train ride (www.llangollen-railway.co.uk) from Llangollen up the Dee Valley or visit the ruins of Castell Dinas Bran.

Chester or Ellesmere Port & return

P3 N4 L8

> Anderton to Chester ☾ 7 ☀ 5.5 📖 44

> Wrenbury to Chester ☾ 7 ☀ 4 📖 46

> Whitchurch to Chester ☾ 7 ☀ 5 📖 66

> Gailey to Chester ☾ 10 ☀ 6.5 📖 44

For Ellesmere Port add ☀ 1.5 per day 📖 8

On this popular countryside route the locks are well spaced for easy cruising.

> You can choose to travel to Chester and then retrace your steps back to the marina or continue along the Shropshire Union main line to its historic terminal on the River Mersey at Ellesmere Port.

> Mooring in Chester is within easy reach of the walled city centre with its medieval 'rows' where there are a variety of shops, galleries and the majestic cathedral. ([Chester TIC 01244 402111 / www.chestertourism.com](http://www.chestertourism.com))

> Chester Zoo is just a short walk from the canal.

([01244 380280 / www.chesterzoo.org](http://www.chesterzoo.org))

> The fascinating National Waterways Museum ([0151 355 5017 / www.nwm.org.uk](http://www.nwm.org.uk)) at Ellesmere Port is a few locks beyond Chester, near to the junction with the Manchester Ship Canal. The museum has an extensive collection of preserved inland waterway craft and display areas in many of the former warehouses.



"We had a great holiday and recommend it to all our friends"

short breaks



The Cheshire Ring

P5 N5 L5

>	Anderton	☾*	7	☀️	8	🚢	92
>	Wrenbury	☾*	10/11	☀️	6.5	🚢	114
>	Whitchurch	☾*	14	☀️	6	🚢	137

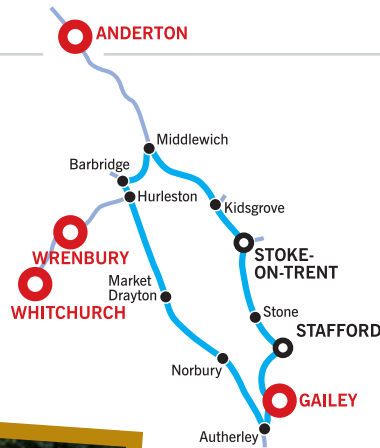
See page 18 for more details.

Four Counties Ring

P4 N4 L10

>	Anderton	☾*	10/11	☀️	6.5	🚢	102
>	Wrenbury	☾*	10/11	☀️	6.5	🚢	112
>	Whitchurch	☾*	14	☀️	6	🚢	132
>	Gailey	☾*	7	☀️	8.5	🚢	110

See page 14 for more details.



Weekends: Friday to Monday (3 nights)
Midweek: Monday to Friday (4 nights)

Whitchurch or Wrenbury & return

P3 N4 L8 G20

>	Wrenbury	☾*	3	☀️	6	🚢	20
>	Whitchurch	☾*	3	☀️	6	🚢	20

After cruising through remote countryside, Grindley Brook is quite a contrast. With 6 locks, 3 as a staircase with a lock-keeper, waiting in turn gives time to unwind and fully take in this relaxing holiday experience.

- Whitchurch is very good to explore within a weekend break as is Wrenbury.

Ellesmere & return

P3 N4 L8 G20

>	Wrenbury	☾*	3	☀️	8.5	🚢	20
>	Whitchurch	☾*	3	☀️	5.5	🚢	0

The run into Ellesmere is through an area of outstanding beauty, with a series of Ice-Age lakes known as 'meres' very close to the canal.

Hurleston Junction & return

P3 N4 L8 G20

>	Wrenbury	☾*	4	☀️	8	🚢	32
>	Whitchurch	☾*	3	☀️	8	🚢	16

For those wanting a bit more activity you can cruise east towards the English end of the canal.

Chirk & return

P3 N4 L8 G20

>	Wrenbury	☾*	4	☀️	8.5	🚢	24
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Towards the Welsh border at Chirk the country's fine hills come into view and the scenery becomes altogether more dramatic.

Chester or Ellesmere Port & return

P3 N4 L8

>	Wrenbury to Chester	☾*	4	☀️	8	🚢	46
	For Ellesmere Port add	☀️	2.5 per day	🚢	8		

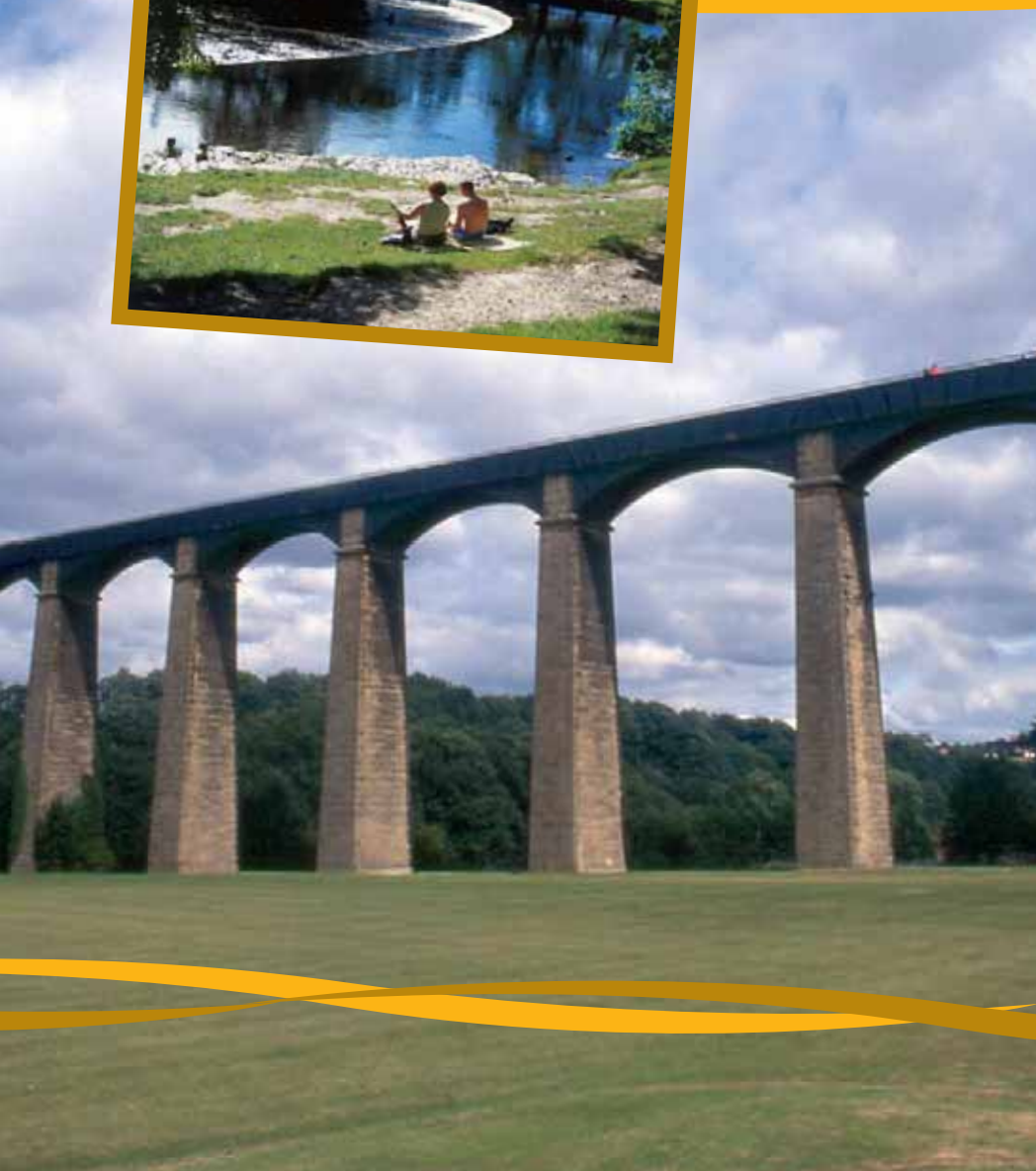
See 7 night trip for more details.

Llangollen & return

P3 N4 L8 G20

>	Whitchurch	☾*	4	☀️	8+	🚢	4
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See 7 night trip for more details.



Monmouthshire & Brecon



FOR BOAT LAYOUTS

 GOYTRE 37

Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal

P3 N4 L24

Goytre 7 7.5 12

The canal meanders its way through the Brecon Beacons National Park for 36 miles with remarkable diversity of scenery and countryside often following the magnificent River Usk.

This canal is considerably quieter than others, as it is isolated from the main canal network. It is arguably one of the most picturesque canals as it offers glorious views of the Brecon Beacons along the way. The canal clings to the mountainside and brings about its uniquely shallow levels.

Goytre Wharf itself, the name meaning 'place in the woods', was once used to supply coal to the nearby estate. Lime kilns remain as well as an aqueduct dating from 1812. There is a licensed restaurant at the Wharf and is a popular place for visitors.

Pontymoile at one end of the canal was once a place thriving with activity with its warehouses and neighbouring industry and is now a convenient mooring place for Pontypool Leisure Centre with its swimming pool and dry ski slope. Between here and the interesting old market town of Brecon at the other end the canal passes close to many delightful towns and villages worth visiting:

Moor at Llangattock and visit Crickhowell a wonderful Georgian town, with excellent shopping and good food. The name is from the Anglicised form of Crug Hywel, the rampart and ditch stronghold of Hywel Dda – now known as Table Mountain, which overlooks the town.

The town has a 13th century castle and a 17th century bridge (with more arches on one side than the other!)

Picturesque Talybont-on-Usk rests below the Central Brecons between the Usk and the Canal. Nearby Talybont Reservoir offers bird watching, trout fishing and easy walks to the waterfalls at Blaen y Glyn.

Brecon is a charming old market town and one of the most historic settlements in Wales. Brecon is a popular holiday destination, affording some of the best views of the Brecon Beacons themselves and Pen y Fan – the highest point in Southern Britain at 886m.

There is something for everyone as Brecon is home to a cathedral, theatre, cinema, castle ruins and stunning Georgian architecture. Brecon is a great place to explore the National Park with walking routes, cycle hire and ponytrekking all available.



"We have already booked another holiday with you"



© Brecon Beacons National Park Authority.

short breaks



Weekends: Friday to Monday (3 nights)
Midweek: Monday to Friday (4 nights)

Llangynidr & return

P3 N4 L24

> Goytre ☾ 3 ☀ 7 🏠 0 or 2

You can choose a leisurely lock-free cruise with fine views along the dramatic Usk Valley by turning below the lock at Llangynidr village, or if you want the experience of locking the boat, you can turn just above the first lock.

Talybont-on-Usk & return

P3 N4 L24

> Goytre ☾* 4 ☀ 7 🏠 10




This trip takes you further up the canal climbing 5 gorgeous locks passing through the Ashford Tunnel to the village of Talybont-on-Usk where you can still see the Wharf with its lime kilns and the old tramroad up the side of the mountain.



Keen hikers will use their boat as a floating base, with easy access to a huge number of walks and routes all along this canal.

Wessex and the Cotswolds

FOR BOAT LAYOUTS

	GAYTON	38-43
	HILPERTON	38-43
	HILPERTON	36



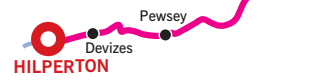
Hungerford & return

P8 N7 L20 G1

Hilpertton 7 7 120 Hungerford

Beyond Pewsey and through

further lush Wiltshire countryside, the highest point of the Kennet & Avon is marked by the 502 yard Bruce Tunnel. The canal then follows close alongside the Great Western main railway line through the Bedwyns - Great & Little - and down to Hungerford. Pass by Savernake Forest, an ancient woodland mentioned in the Domesday Book.



Newbury & return

P8 N7 L20 G1

Hilpertton 10/11 5.5 140

Beyond Hungerford the canal shares the valley with both the railway and the River Kennet, beginning to use the river course as the navigation.

The Kennet & Avon Canal is so central to Newbury that the main shopping street passes directly over it. (Newbury TIC 01635 30267)

Take a day out at the races and visit Newbury Race Course. (01635 40015 / www.newburyracecourse.co.uk)

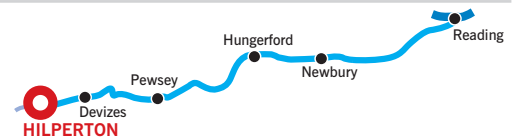


Reading & return

P8 N7 L20 G1

Hilpertton 14 6 186

Considered some of the very best countryside in the UK canal system, this route takes you through a number and variety of towns and villages to Reading. Here you could visit either Blakes Lock Museum (social and industrial history / 0118 939 0918), Reading Museum (0118 939 9800 / www.readingmuseum.org.uk) or the Museum of English Rural Life (0118 378 8660 / www.ruralhistory.org), or you could shop at the retail park known as 'The Oracle' which is located next to the canal.



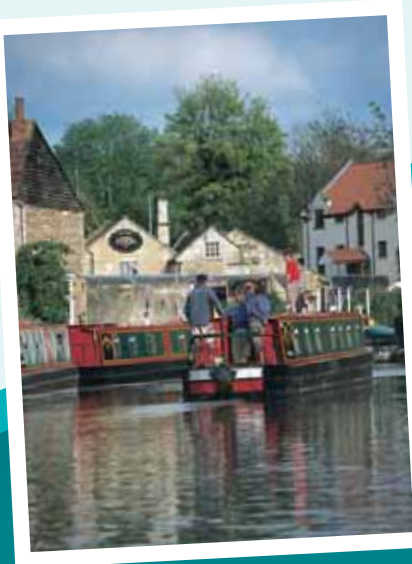
Bristol & return

P8 N7 L20 G1

Hilpertton 7 4 28

25 hours cruising would elsewhere be considered little more than a short break, but here the route includes Bradford on Avon, Bath, Bristol and, unusually, many more towns and villages that the canal passes through the centre of. Having followed the route of the River Avon by canal, after Bath the navigation uses the River itself, reverting to canal to divert into Bristol city centre.

- Some stunning weirs accompany each river lock down to Bristol.
- Museums and waterside features reflect the city's former importance as a sea port.
- Visitor moorings are available right in the centre of the city in the floating harbour (mooring charges apply).
- Frequent reminders of the route's industrial history such as the brass mill at Kelston are found within rolling valley countryside.



"Great boat, great staff, good service"

short breaks



www.visitbath.co.uk

The Grand Ring

N1 N7 G29

> Gayton ☾ 14/21 ☀ 6-9 📖 175

This ultimate ring takes two weeks to complete, or includes plenty to see and do over a three week cruise. An extra licence is required when joining the Thames at either Oxford or London. (Please talk to your marina about this at the start of your holiday.)

> The river cruising on the Thames is superb, with all locks manned during the daytime. Visit places such as Hampton Court Palace (www.hrp.org.uk), Windsor, Eton and Henley.

> Three weeks gives time to explore The Paddington Arm which goes right up to Little Venice, London Zoo (www.zsl.org/london-zoo) and Camden market.



www.visitbath.co.uk

Weekends: Friday to Monday (3 nights)
Midweek: Monday to Friday (4 nights)

Devizes & return

P8 N7 L20 G1

> Hilperton ☾ 4 ☀ 6 📖 72

The spectacular Devizes flight consists of 29 wide beam locks, rising by 237 feet over just two miles. The flight opens at 8am each day and navigation must start no later than 2pm to ensure that ascent or descent is completed by dark.

- Devizes Visitor Centre (01380 729408) has information about the town's medieval history with the Canal Visitor Centre at The Wharf for details more specific to the waterways. (01380 721279 / www.katrust.org)
- Reward yourself after the strenuous rise studying the history of Wadworth & Co (www.wadworth.co.uk), local brewers who still make local deliveries with a shire horse team!

Bradford on Avon / Bottom of Caen & return

P8 N7 L20 G1

> Hilperton ☾ 3 ☀ 4.5 📖 14

For an easy weekend to combine cruising and exploring, spend a day in Bradford and another cruising to the base of the Devizes flight. Perhaps use this as a 'taster' weekend to take a look at the impressive rise to Devizes, incorporating the notable Caen Hill Locks.

Bath & return

P8 N7 L20 G1

> Hilperton ☾ 3/4 ☀ 4-6

📖 2 (east of Bath), 📖 14 (west of Bath)

The canal passes very close to the city centre and Bath is, without doubt, worthy of at least a couple of days of exploration. (www.bath.co.uk)

- The medieval town of Bradford on Avon, just an hour from Hilperton, offers a very pleasant stopping point.
- The splendid Dundas and Avoncliff Aqueducts both take the canal over the River Avon as it follows the river valley between Bradford and Bath.

- Claverton's pumping station (www.claverton.org) and American Museum (01225 460503 / www.americanmuseum.org) may be incongruous with each other but will certainly satisfy differing interests.



Scotland, the Falkirk Wheel, Edinburgh



All routes are covered in Geo map 25 (see back cover).



The Scottish Lowland Canals are quite different from the canals typical of England and Wales. The Forth & Clyde is much wider than the average English canal. The Union Canal is a contour canal and has no locks at all nor bridges that have to be opened. British Waterways staff currently operate all of the locks and

boaters are not allowed to operate the locks themselves, although help is happily accepted. Between Falkirk and Glasgow there are 4 locks and 3 road bridges, with a further 18 locks and a number of pedestrian bridges between Glasgow and the Clyde at Bowling.

Both the Forth & Clyde and Union Canals were closed in the early 1960's and it was not until lottery funding was obtained in 1999 that restoration works rejoined the cities of Glasgow and Edinburgh by canal. At a quarter of the cost of the overall £84.5 million project, the Falkirk Wheel is the most significant structure by far, but only one link in the scheme involving rebuilding bridges, clearing blockages and cutting new stretches of canal. For more facts and figures visit (www.thefalkirkwheel.co.uk / 01324 619888), but in summary the 25m level difference between the canals is traversed via a pair of gondolas which together carry 600 tonnes of water to the 100m aqueduct at the top of the 35m diameter wheel. (TIC 01324 620244 / www.scottish.heartlands.org)

Bowling & return

G25

> Falkirk ☾ 7 ☀ 6 📖 48

The Forth & Clyde Canal follows the Clyde Estuary all the way down to the old ship building village of Bowling – a pleasant boating haven. The route has a rich mix of industry old and new, stunning views of the Clyde and relics of the ship building era.

Edinburgh & Glasgow

G25

> Falkirk ☾ 7 ☀ 6 📖 14

Twice via the wheel

Complete the width of Scotland, and back, visiting both cities in a one week holiday. If you are heading east, towards Edinburgh, you will have to arrange your passage via the wheel before you arrive for your holiday. Find out more at (01324 619888 / www.thefalkirkwheel.co.uk).

"It was perfect, can't wait till next time."

Edinburgh and Glasgow

short breaks

There is no charge for the Falkirk Wheel but it is advisable to book beforehand (01324 676912). Trips operate approximately every half hour from 9.00am to 7.00pm daily, each revolution taking one narrowboat and the British Waterways trip boat. Information will be sent with your booking confirmation and you can view these details on our website at: www.falkirkwharf.com



© British Waterways Scotland



Weekends: Friday to Monday (3 nights)

Midweek: Monday to Friday (4 nights)

Glasgow & return

G25

> Falkirk 🌙 3-4 🌞 6.5-10 📖 8

Four evenly spaced locks after Bonnybridge take the canal up to the broad, straight section before Auchinstarry. The majestic Campsie Fells rise from the valley that the canal shares with the River Kelvin and the scenery is superb as the canal then follows contours for the rest of its journey to Glasgow.

- The canal arm south towards Applecross Street Basin in Glasgow looks down to where the River Kelvin winds from the university past the museums and botanical gardens.

- A major port with a shipping history back to the 18th century, Glasgow has a wealth of museums and collections.

- The art galleries and museums of Glasgow are never without examples by Charles Rennie Mackintosh - there is even a church designed by him in the city.

- Discover more at www.glasgowguide.co.uk

Edinburgh & return

G25

> Falkirk 🌙 3-4 🌞 7.5-10 📖 6

Twice via the wheel

This cruise starts via the Falkirk Wheel and the new Rough Castle Tunnel, two new locks and a mile of new canal to join the original canal at the site of the summit of the flight of 11 locks that used to join the two canals.

- The stalactites and rock-hewn sections of the Falkirk tunnel, a treat for the budding geologist.

- Amongst the numerous minor aqueducts en route, three to note are the 12 arch, 85ft Avon Aqueduct and the Almond and Slateford Aqueducts, both at 75ft high.

- Beecraigs Country Park (01506 844516 / www.beecraigs.com) and the beautifully preserved remains of Linlithgow Palace on the shore of Linlithgow Loch (0131 668 8600 / www.historic-scotland.net) are within easy reach of the canal.

(TIC 01506 844600)

- Edinburgh is packed with history and the canal entry to the city does not disappoint. The western suburbs are pleasant and spacious and the canal is well used by rowers and pleasure boaters as it nears the city centre. (www.edinburgh.org.uk)

Your Boat

Equipment on board



Kitchen Equipment

Kettle
Frying pan
3 Saucepans
Milk pan
Grill pan
2 Pudding basins
2 Casserole dishes
Baking tray
Pie plates large
Pie plates small
Roasting tin
Sugar bowl
Colander
Chopping board
Fruit bowl
Measuring jug
Cheese grater
Condiments set
Bread bin
Tray
Tea caddy
Oven gloves
3 Tea towels
Washing up bowl
Washing up brush
Washing up cloth
Scourer
Detergent
Draining rack
Ice cube tray



Misc Equipment

Vase
Ashtray
Playing cards
Torch
2 sets of waterproofs
First aid kit
Boat manual
Information pack
Kitchen waste bin
Broom
Dustpan & brush
Toilet brush
Toilet roll - 1 per toilet
Tooth mug
Bucket & cloth
Sponge mop
Boat hook
Side fenders
Litter bin
Stools/chairs (where applicable)
Coat hangers
Umbrella
Doormats
3 Windlasses
3 Mooring spikes
Lump hammer
Deck mop
Boatpole
Hose & connector
Gang plank
Life ring
Shaver socket
Colour television
12v Charging point
Fire extinguishers



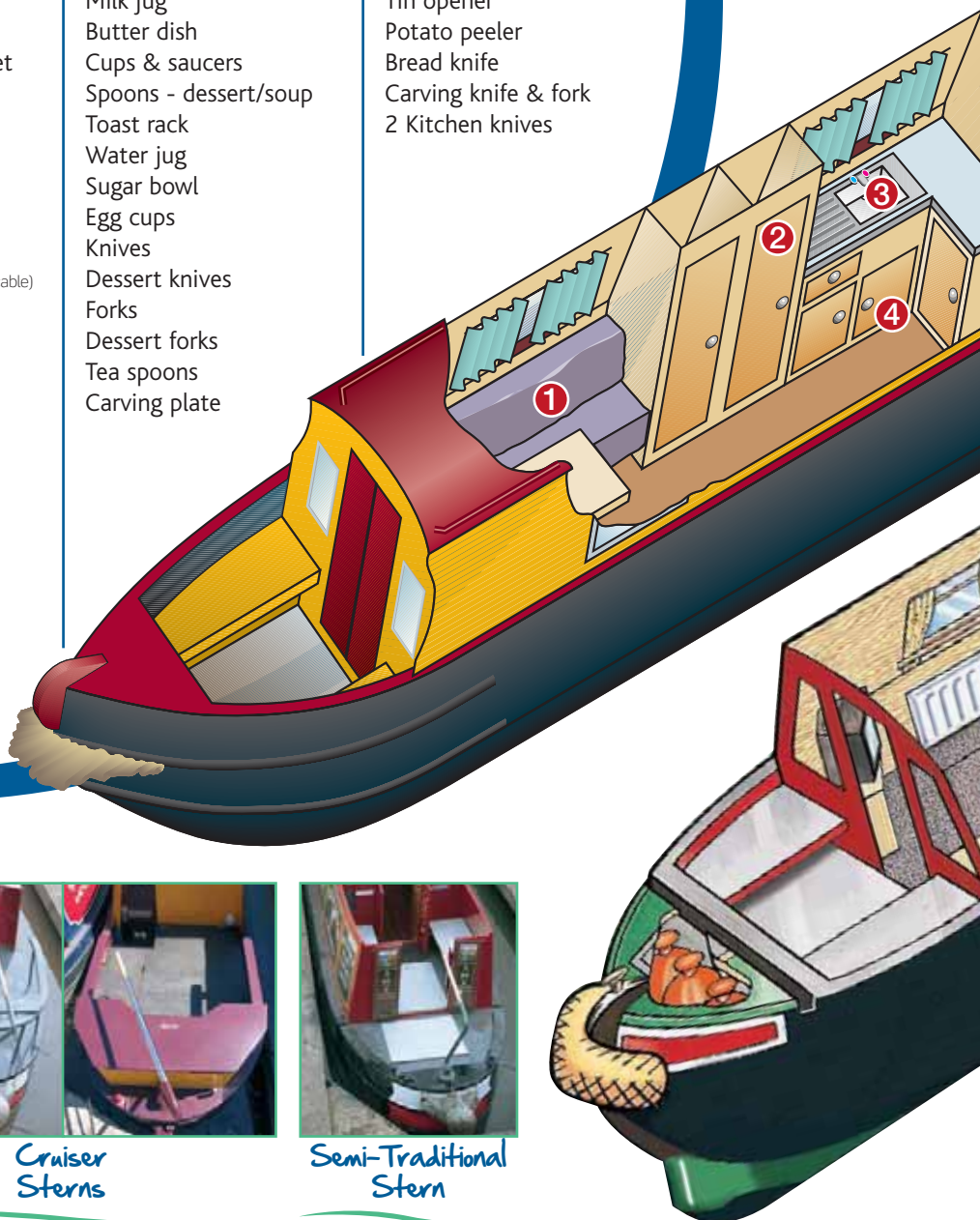
Cutlery, Crockery & Glass

Wine glasses
Tumblers
Dinner plates
Soup plate
Tea plates
Cereal bowls
Mugs
Teapot
Tea strainer
Milk jug
Butter dish
Cups & saucers
Spoons - dessert/soup
Toast rack
Water jug
Sugar bowl
Egg cups
Knives
Dessert knives
Forks
Dessert forks
Tea spoons
Carving plate



Kitchen Utensils

Gas (hob/oven) lighter
Kitchen tool set
Knife sharpener
Tongs
Wooden spatula
2 Serving spoons
Wooden spoon
Whisk
Scissors
Cork screw
Tin opener
Potato peeler
Bread knife
Carving knife & fork
2 Kitchen knives



Bedding

All bed linen is provided: sheets, pillows, pillow cases, duvets and duvet covers and there is 1 medium towel per person on Alvechurch/Wessex & Red Line Fleets. Viking Fleet customers should bring their own towels except overseas customers.



Cruiser Sterns



Semi-Traditional Stern

So much choice

We are sure that you will find amongst the following pages a boat to suit your own individual taste.

We believe that there are no better boats on the inland waterways and we hope by the end of your holiday that you too will be able to support that claim.

Your boat will be clean and serviced ready to hand over on your arrival – a floating holiday home of which you will feel proud.



1 Saloon

During the day it's a sitting room, dining room and play area, complete with a colour television (reception variable at canal level) DVD and CD/radio player - and at night some dinettes can be converted into a double bed.

2 Stowage You'll find plenty of lockers and hanging space.

3 Water We are one of the few fleets to provide pure filtered drinking water on all our boats. The 150 gallon tank will need to be topped up daily from waterpoints along the canal. (These are frequent and clearly marked.)

4 The Galley Boating can give you a splendid appetite, so the galleys are large and fitted with a full size cooker and fridge.

5 Toilets Very efficient and environmentally friendly, fresh water flushing toilets on all boats.

6 Showers Spacious showers with lots of hot water.

7 Berths All our boats have comfortable beds. We provide freshly laundered duvets and bedding.

8 Engines Reliable, quiet, smooth running diesel engines.

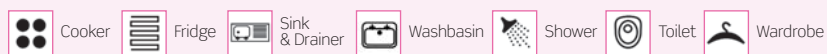


Guide to Symbols

All of our boats have at least the following equipment provided free of charge:

- Central heating with radiators throughout the boat
- Fully equipped galley (See page 28) with 4-burner gas stove with grill and oven, refrigerator, sink and drainer, work surface and storage space
- Bathroom (2 on some boats) with toilet, shower, hand basin and 240 volt shaver socket
- All boats have colour television (reception variable at canal level), CD and DVD players
- Bedding
- Quiet water-cooled engine
- Fresh water tank with double filter system for drinking water

Standard items available on all boats:



The chart next to each boat description indicates the bases and start days for which boats in the class are available. Saturday and Sunday starts are for full weeks or more. Monday / Friday boats are available for either short breaks, weekly hire or 10/11 nights.

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	
Anderton	✓		
Worcester	✓		

Additional items available on some boats:



Buoyancy aids Please request buoyancy aids (compulsory for children and non-swimmers) on arrival. We will ensure that one of the correct size is provided on request for any member of the crew needing one.



Optional bunks Some classes of boat have an optional bunk bed which provides greater layout flexibility. These beds are operated by the boat yard who will either lock it away or set it up for use if you have requested and paid for it.



Cot sides For that extra peace of mind with toddlers and younger children (where possible) – request on the booking form. If you would like to use a travel cot please contact the booking office.



Towels On Alvechurch, Red Line and Wessex boats a towel is provided for every member of the crew, plus a hand towel in each bathroom. For Viking Afloat you need to bring your own towels unless travelling from overseas.

Choosing Your Boat

As part of our commitment to quality and as independent evidence of our very high standards. We have all of our boats inspected and graded annually by a Tourist Board Inspector, in line with the very strict criteria laid down.



As part of our commitment to safety all of our start bases have been independently audited by the British Marine Federation for the standard of boat handover and tuition.



Electricity

All of our boats have 12 volt electricity, the batteries being charged whilst the engine is running to power items such as the fridge, TV, DVD, CD/ Radio, lights and cigar lighter socket.



240 volt electricity

This symbol indicates that the boat has an inverter that supplies 240v electricity to certain appliances on the boat. This is suitable for the electrical items supplied, but may damage your own equipment. If you decide to use any of your own 240v appliances you do so at your own risk.

For charging mobile phones or camcorders we recommend you bring a 12 volt car type charger with you, for which there is a socket on every boat.



Toilets

All of our boats are equipped with fresh water flush toilets which will, in most cases, last for a full week without need of pumping out (pump-outs are readily available at most boat yards for a small fee).



Electric toilet

This symbol indicates the boat has the latest design of electrically operated toilets, which are comparable to a domestic toilet in terms of size and appearance. Please note that these are not suitable for the disposal of 'moist toilet wipes', quilted toilet paper or any other items.

Cots

If you would like to use a travel cot or you are bringing your own to use please contact the booking office. Space is obviously limited and for health and safety reasons we can advise on suitable boats that they can be accommodated on.

NB. Boats are individually hand crafted so layouts may vary on different boats within each class from the diagram shown. For specific advice on boat layouts contact the marina or booking office.

All of our boats have been individually hand made in this country and have unique interiors with different styles. Here is a selection of cabins from boats across our fleets.



Viking Fleet

Boat Layouts

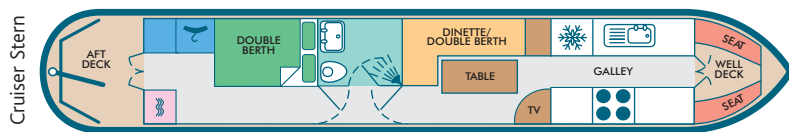


The Viking Afloat fleet operates from Worcester, Whitchurch, Rugby and Gailey (see pages 12-27 for details of routes). We operate 6 different classes of boat with a flexibility of design that allows a choice of berths to suit any group from 2 to 8 people. You will note that virtually every permanent cabin can be made up as

either a double or two single berths. You just need to tell us the layout you require and we will set the boat up in that configuration, with the appropriate bedding, for when you arrive. All the Viking Afloat boats have been Tourist Board rated at 4 stars when the saloon is not used as a berth at night.

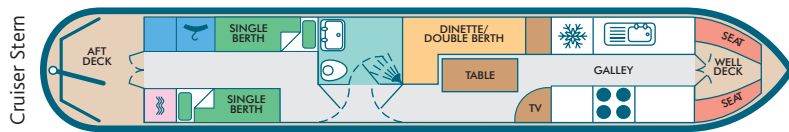
Nene Class 2+2 Berth Length 42ft. Sleeps up to 4

Layout 1



One double berth and one dinette/double berth

Layout 2



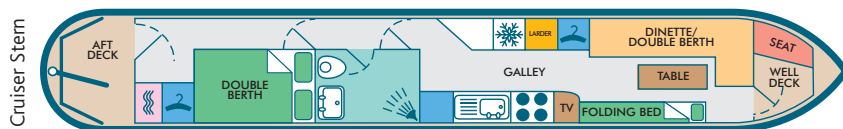
Two single berths and one dinette/double berth



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Gailey	✓	✓	
Price Code:	A		

Tyne Class 2+2 Berth Length 48ft. Sleeps up to 4

Layout 1



One Double berth, one dinette/double berth (or two single berths)

Layout 2



Two single berths, one dinette/double berth (or two single berths)



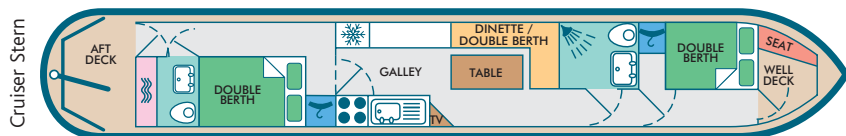
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Worcester	✓	✓	
Whitchurch	✓	✓	✓
Rugby	✓	✓	✓
Gailey	✓	✓	✓
Price Code:	B		



UK BOAT HIRE

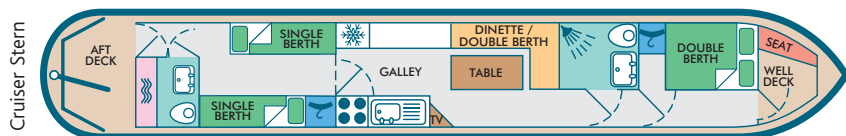
Medway Class 4+2 Berth Length 57ft. Sleeps up to 6

Layout 1



Two double berths, one dinette/double berth

Layout 2



Two single berths, one double berth, one dinette/double berth

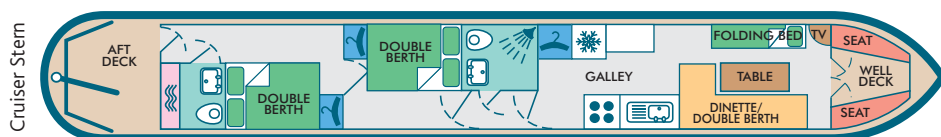
CD DVD (Except Gailey)

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Worcester	✓	✓	
Whitchurch	✓	✓	✓
Rugby	✓	✓	✓
Gailey	✓	✓	✓

Price Code: **D**

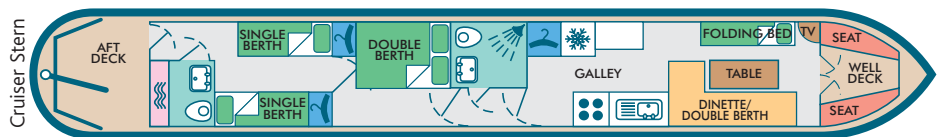
Derwent Class 4+2 Berth Length 60ft. Sleeps up to 6

Layout 1



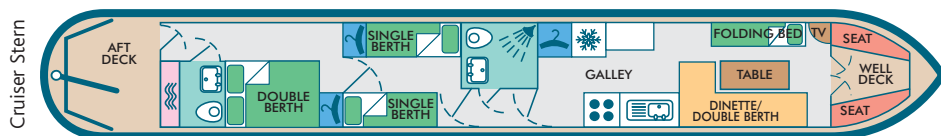
Two double berths, one dinette/double berth (or two single berths)

Layout 2



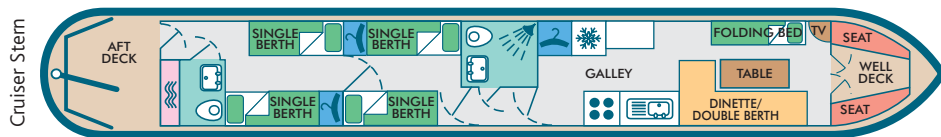
Two single berths, one double berth, one dinette/double berth (or two further single berths)

Layout 3



One double berth, two single berths, one dinette/double berth (or two further single berths)

Layout 4



Four single berths one dinette/double berth (or two further single berths)

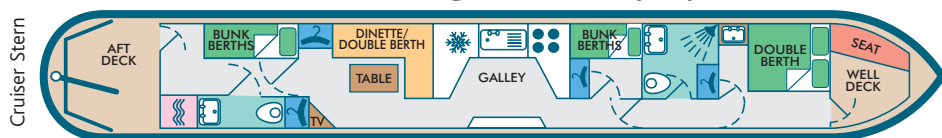
CD DVD (Except Gailey)

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Worcester	✓	✓	
Whitchurch	✓	✓	✓
Rugby	✓	✓	✓
Gailey	✓	✓	✓

Price Code: **E**



Severn Class 6+2 Berth Length 61ft. Sleeps up to 8



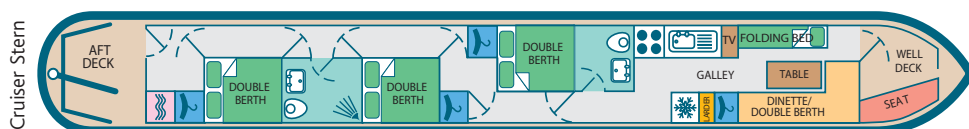
One double berth, one dinette/double berth, four bunk berths (two in separate cabin)



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Worcester	✓		
Price Code:	F		

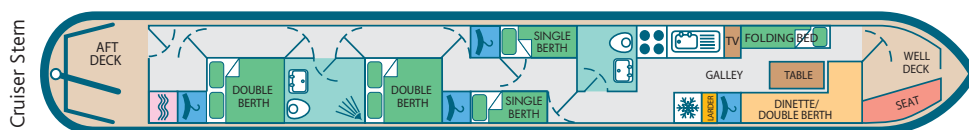
Wye Class 6+2 Berth Length 68ft. Sleeps up to 8

Layout 1



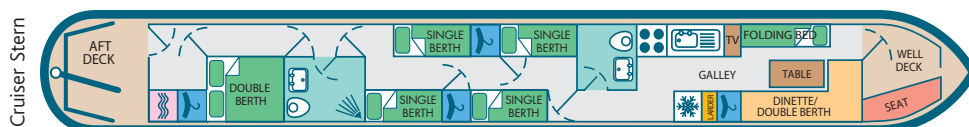
Three doubles, one dinette/double berth (or two further single berths)

Layout 2



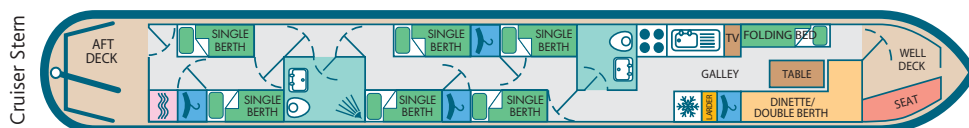
Two doubles, two single berths, one dinette/double berth (or two further single berths)

Layout 3



One double, four single berths, one dinette/double berth (or two further single berths)

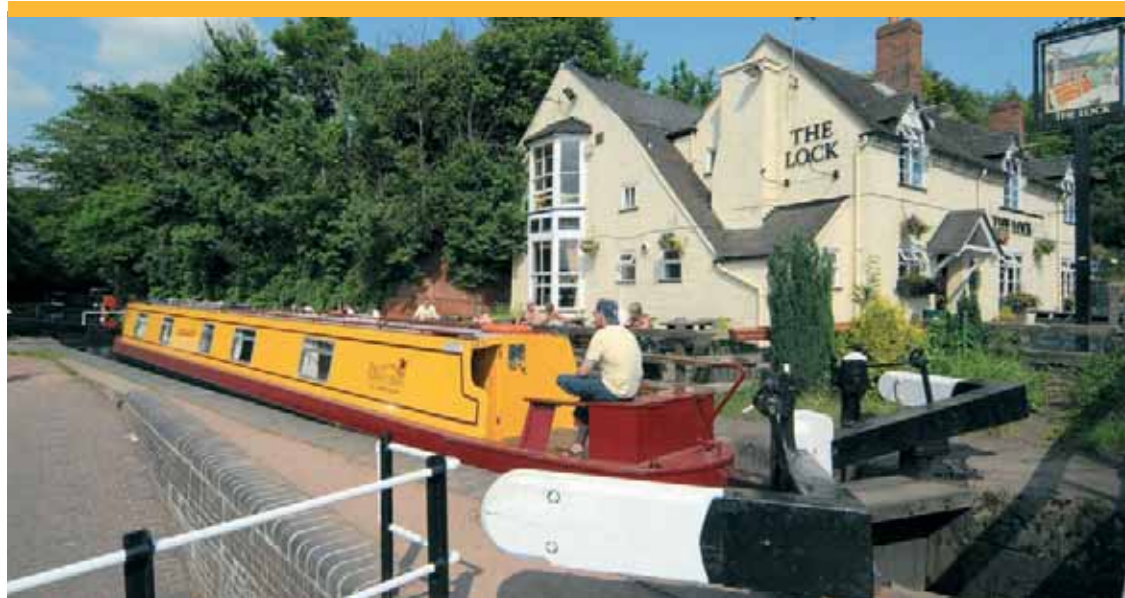
Layout 4



Six single berths, one dinette/double berth (or two further single berths)



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Worcester	✓	✓	
Whitchurch	✓	✓	
Rugby		✓	
Gailey		✓	✓
Price Code:	I		



UK BOAT HIRE



Wessex Fleet

Boat Layouts

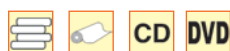
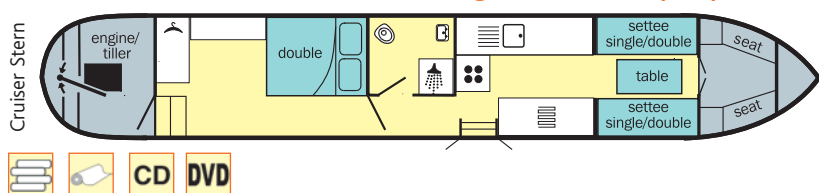


**WESSEX
NARROWSBOATS**

The Wessex Boat fleet operates exclusively from Hilperton Marina (see pages 24-25 for details of the routes). Each of the Wessex boats have been individually designed and built providing 5 unique boat layouts suitable for between 2 to 6 people. Wessex

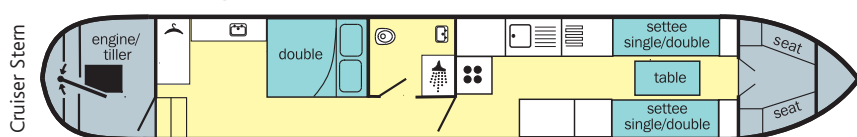
Elaine & Morgaine have saloons that can provide either cross doubles or two single berths. All the Wessex boats have been Tourist Board rated between 3 and 5 stars when the saloon is not used as a berth at night.

Wessex Elaine 2+2 Berth Length 47ft. Sleeps up to 4



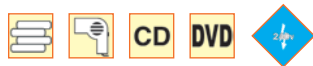
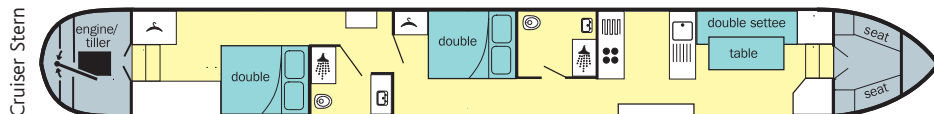
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton	✓		
Price Code:	B		

Wessex Morgaine 2+2 Berth Length 50ft. Sleeps up to 4



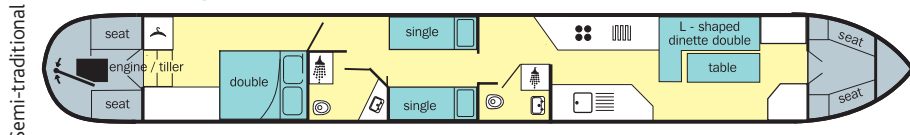
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton	✓		
Price Code:	C		

Wessex Gawaine 4+2 Berth Length 62ft. Sleeps up to 6



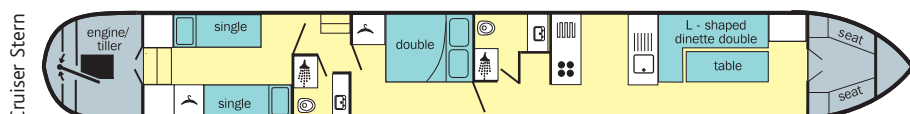
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton		✓	
Price Code:	G		

Wessex Empress 4+2 Berth Length 58ft. Sleeps up to 6



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton		✓	
Price Code:	G		

Wessex Accolon 4+2 Berth Length 60ft. Sleeps up to 6



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton	✓		
Price Code:	H		



UK BOAT HIRE

Red Line Fleet Boat Layouts

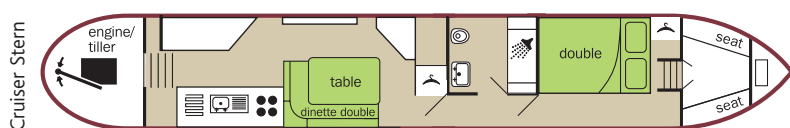


The Red Line fleet operates from Goytre Wharf (route page 22) and has specially designed boats to suit the special conditions, tight turns, and comparative shallowness of the old and beautiful Monmouthshire and Brecon canal. The varied compact designs of boat reflects the size constraints of this unique canal and the

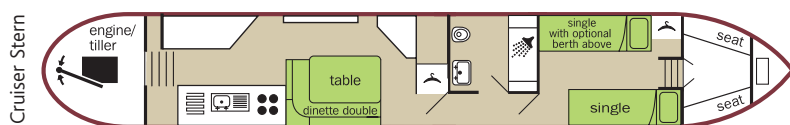
development of the Red Line fleet over a number of years providing boats for between 2 and 8 people. All Red Line Boats have been Tourist Board inspected and awarded ratings between 3 and 5 stars.

Red Finch 2+3 Berth Length 49ft. Sleeps up to 5

Layout 1



Layout 2



SPECIAL OFFER!
£100 Off per week or £50 Off per short break when used as 2 berth

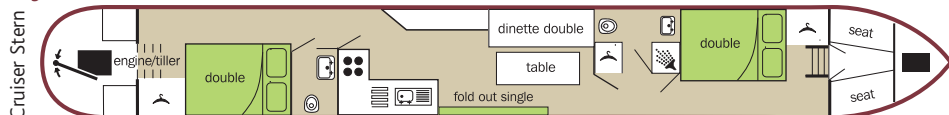
Two low level single berths or a double berth available in forward cabin. One optional high level single providing 5th berth in forward cabin at extra cost if required.

BASES	Fri/Mon	Sat	Sun
Goytre Wharf	✓	✓	
Price Code:	D		

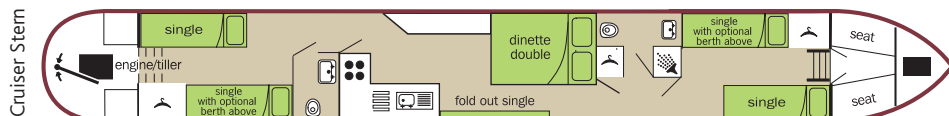
£50 extra charge per week or £25 per short break for the high level single berth if required for the 5th crew member.

Red Swallow 4+4 Berth Length 56ft. Sleeps up to 8

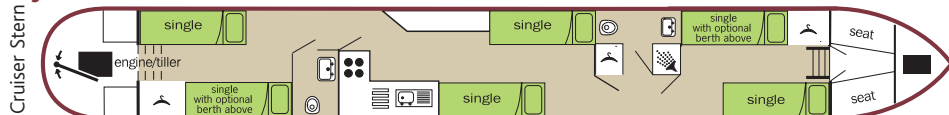
Layout 1



Layout 2



Layout 3



Ideal for two couples as a luxury boat with separate cabins and bathrooms.

Two low level single berths or a double berth available in all cabins. One optional high level single providing 7th and 8th berth in forward and rear cabins at extra cost if required.

BASES	Fri/Mon	Sat	Sun
Goytre Wharf	✓	✓	
Price Code:	H		

£50 extra charge per week or £25 per short break, each for the 7th and 8th high level single berths if required for the 7th and 8th crew members.

Alvechurch Fleet

Boat Layouts

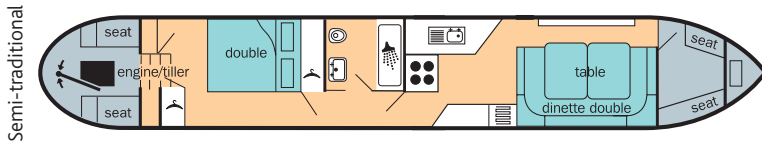


The Alvechurch Boat fleet operates from Alvechurch, Anderton, Falkirk, Gayton, Hilperton, Union Wharf and Wrenbury start bases (See pages 12-27 for details of the routes). The fleet has 12 different boat classes, many with the option of either single or double berth configurations which provides the very widest choice to best suit the make-up of groups of between 2 and 12 people. You just need to tell us the berth layout you require and we will set the boat up in that configuration, with the appropriate bedding, for when you arrive. All the Alvechurch boats have been Tourist Board rated between 3 and 5 stars when the saloon or extra berths are not used at night.

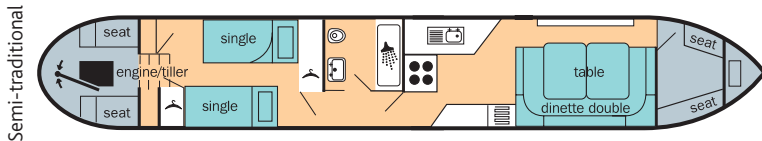


Weaver 2+2 Berth Length 47ft. Sleeps up to 4

Layout 1



Layout 2



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	
Anderton		✓	
Falkirk	✓	✓	
Gayton		✓	
Hilperton	✓	✓	
Wrenbury	✓	✓	✓

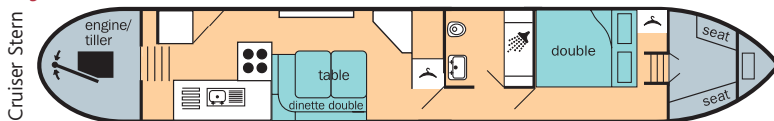
Price Code: **D**



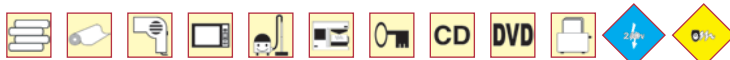
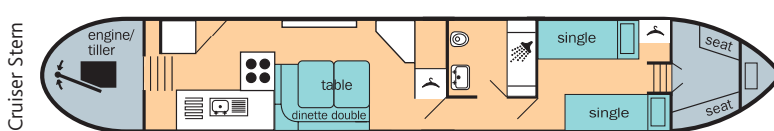
**£100 Off per week or
£50 Off per short break
when used as 2 berth**

Grebe 2+2 Berth Length 49ft. Sleeps up to 4

Layout 1



Layout 2



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch		✓	
Anderton	✓		
Gayley	✓		
Gayton	✓	✓	
Hilperton			✓
Union Wharf	✓		
Wrenbury		✓	✓

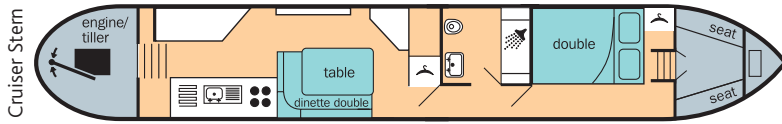
Price Code: **D**



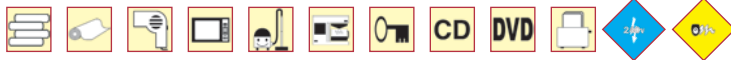
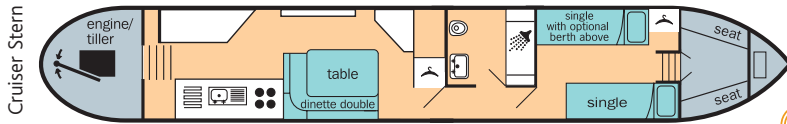
**£100 Off per week or
£50 Off per short break
when used as 2 berth**

Bunting 2+3 Berth Length 49ft. Sleeps up to 5

Layout 1



Layout 2



Two low level single berths or a double berth available in forward cabin
One optional high level single providing 5th berth in forward cabin at extra cost if required.



**£100 Off per week or
£50 Off per short break
when used as 2 berth**

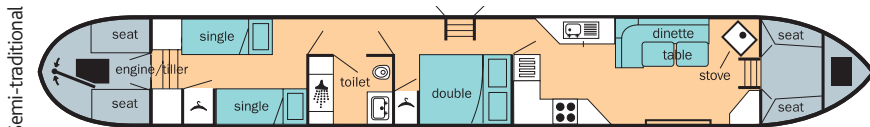
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	
Anderton	✓		
Gayton	✓		
Hilperton	✓		
Wrenbury	✓	✓	

Price Code: **D**

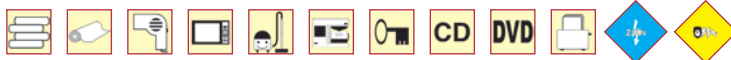
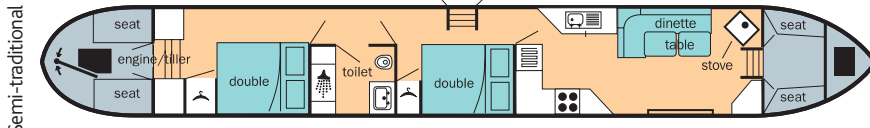
£50 extra charge per week or £25 per short break for the 5th high level berth if required for the fifth crew member.

Heron 4+1 Berth Length 58ft. Sleeps up to 5

Layout 1



Layout 2



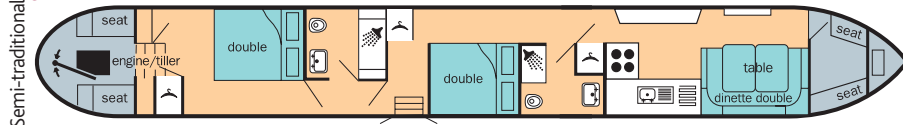
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓		
Anderton		✓	
Gailey		✓	
Hilperton		✓	
Wrenbury	✓	✓	✓

Price Code: **G**

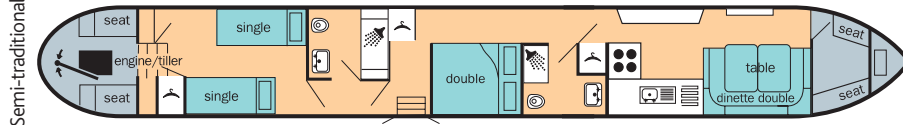


Thrush 4+2 Berth Length 66ft. Sleeps up to 6

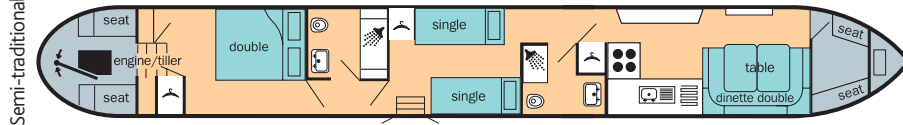
Layout 1



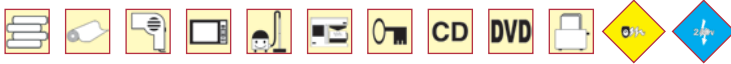
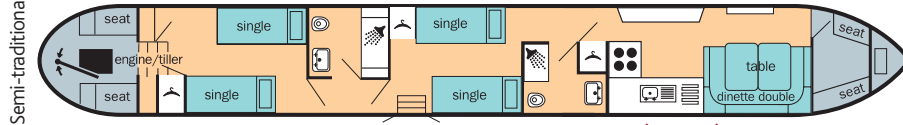
Layout 2



Layout 3



Layout 4



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	
Anderton	✓	✓	
Falkirk	✓	✓	
Gayton	✓	✓	
Hilperton		✓	✓
Wrenbury	✓	✓	✓
Price Code:	I		



Gull 4+2 Berth Length 66ft. Sleeps up to 6

Layout 1



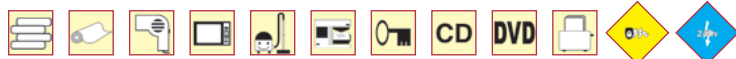
Layout 2



Layout 3



Layout 4



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	
Anderton	✓	✓	
Gayton	✓	✓	
Hilperton	✓	✓	✓
Wrenbury	✓	✓	✓

Price Code: I

Eagle 4+3 Berth Length 66ft. Sleeps up to 7

Layout 1



Layout 2



Layout 3



Layout 4



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	
Anderton		✓	
Gayton	✓	✓	
Hilperton	✓	✓	
Union Wharf	✓		
Wrenbury	✓	✓	

Price Code: I

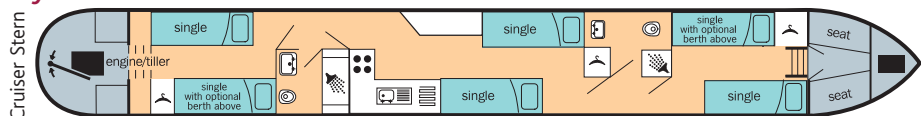
£50 extra charge per week or £25 per short break for the 7th high level berth when required for the 7th crew member.

Two low level single berths or a double berth available in middle and forward cabins.
One optional high level single providing 7th berth in forward cabin at extra cost if required.

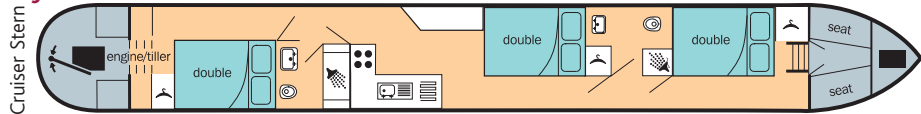


Woodpecker 4+4 Berth Length 60ft. Sleeps up to 8

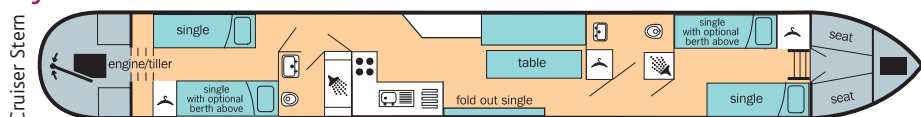
Layout 1



Layout 2



Layout 3



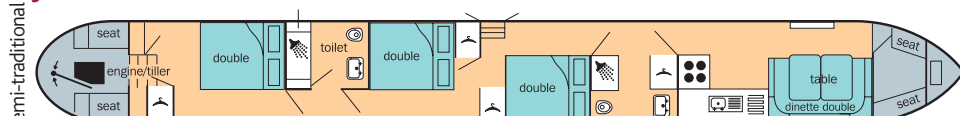
Two low level single berths or a double berth available in all cabins. Optional high level single berths providing 7th and 8th berths in forward and rear cabins at extra cost if required.

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Gayton	✓		
Wrenbury	✓		
Price Code:	H		

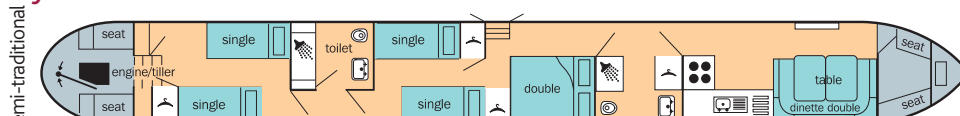
£50 extra charge per week or £25 per short break for the 7th and 8th high level berths if required for the 7th and 8th crew members.

Goose 6+2 Berth Length 69ft. Sleeps up to 8

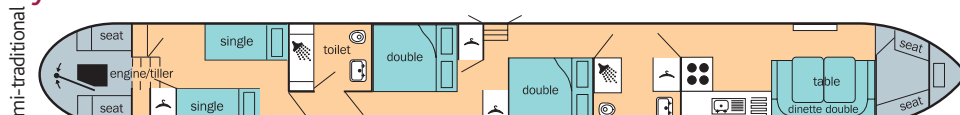
Layout 1



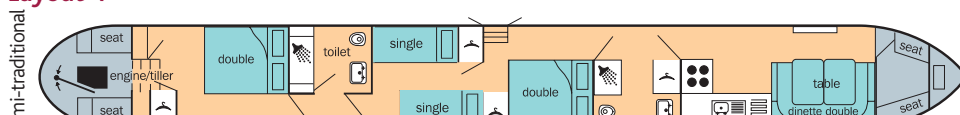
Layout 2



Layout 3



Layout 4



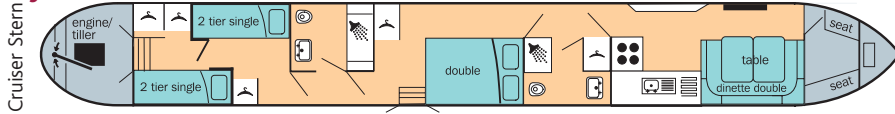
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	✓
Anderton		✓	
Gayton	✓	✓	
Hilperton		✓	✓
Wrenbury	✓	✓	✓
Price Code:	L		



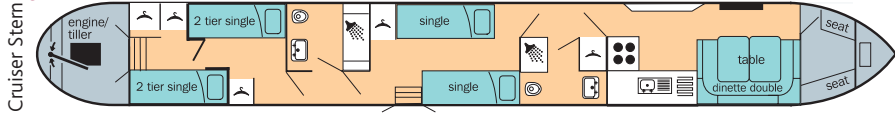
UK BOAT HIRE

Gosling 6+2 Berth Length 63ft. Sleeps up to 8

Layout 1



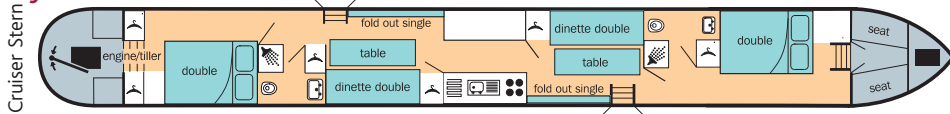
Layout 2



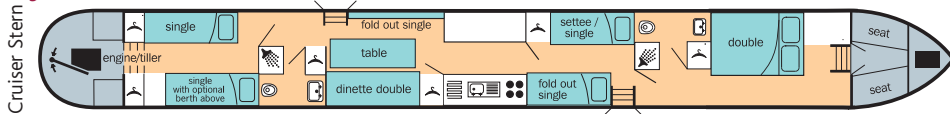
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Falkirk	✓		
Price Code:	J		

Owl 6+4 Berth Length 70ft. Sleeps up to 10

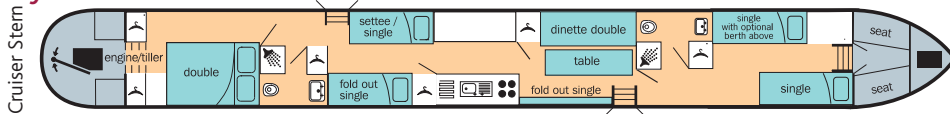
Layout 1



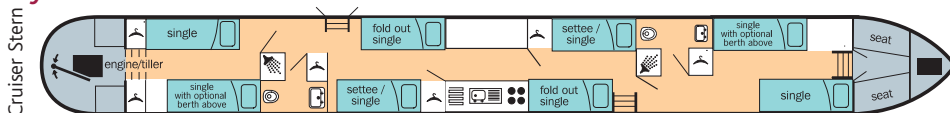
Layout 2



Layout 3



Layout 4



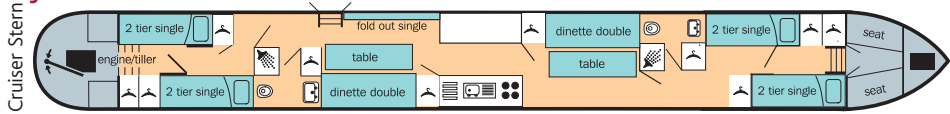
Two low level single berths or a double berth available in all cabins. Optional high level single berths providing 9th and 10th berths in forward and rear cabins at extra cost if required.

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	
Anderton	✓		
Gayton	✓	✓	
Hilperton	✓	✓	
Union Wharf	✓		
Wrenbury	✓	✓	
Price Code:	K		

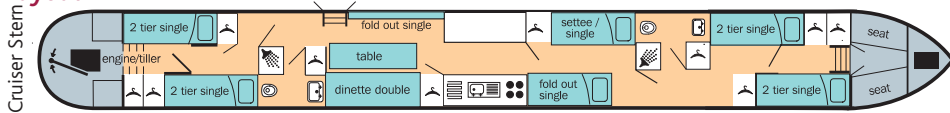
£50 extra charge per week or £25 per short break, each for the 9th and 10th high level berths if required for the 9th and 10th crew members.

Swan 8+4 Berth Length 70ft. Sleeps up to 12

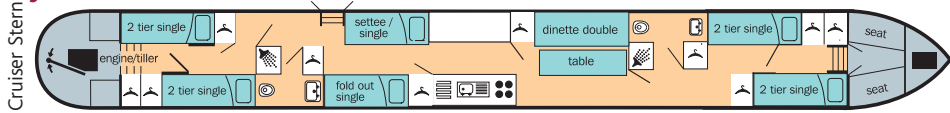
Layout 1



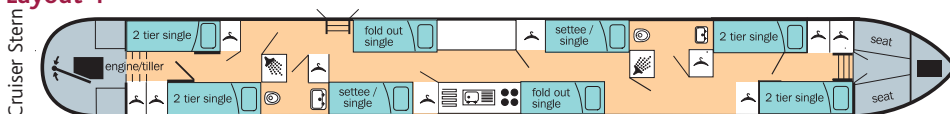
Layout 2



Layout 3



Layout 4



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	
Anderton		✓	
Gayton	✓		
Hilperton	✓		
Price Code:	M		

2010 Weekly Hire

All prices shown are in £'s per boat, per week or short break.

The price is inclusive of:

- VAT
- Car parking
- Bed linen
- Buoyancy aids
- Welcome pack: washing up liquid, toilet roll, sponge, tea towel
- Useful handbook in advance of holiday and initial tuition on arrival
- Boat licence for all BW controlled navigations
- Towels are provided for everybody on Alvechurch, Red Line and Wessex boats, but are only provided for those travelling from overseas on Viking boats.

Pricing:

- For holidays starting on Friday, Sunday or Monday, price as the nearest Saturday
- For 10/11 night holidays add the cost of the first week to half the weekly charge for the second week.

In addition to the hire charge you will be required to pay:

- Cancellation Protection Plan fee at the rate of 4% of the hire charge.
- Non-refundable accidental Damage Waiver fee at £45.
- Pets at £25 each
- For optional high level berths a fee of £50 per week or £25 per short break each. (If required for extra crew members.)
- The boat is ready fuelled for your holiday on arrival, but there is a fuel deposit payable with your holiday booking. This is £75 per week as the cost of fuel is not included in the hire cost. When you return the boat to us the balance is refundable after deducting fuel used. However if you have used fuel in excess of the deposit you will be asked to pay the difference. We feel this is the fairest way possible as you only pay for what you use



Book before 31st December 2009
and get your Early Booking Discount!

2010 Weekly Hire

		MAR	APRIL			MAY				JUNE			JULY		AUG		SEPT			OCT	
Saturday		13 27 20	3 10 17 24	1 15 22 29 8	5 12 26 19	3 17 10 24 31	7 28 14 21	4 11 18 25	2 23 9 16												
	Code	* *	* * *	* * * *			*	* * * *			*	* * * *	* *								
		EASTER		MAYDAY			BH														
Nene	A	520 670	775 725 725	775 830 830 1085	880 930 985	985 1035	1035 930	880 830 775 670	620 725												
Tyne	B	555 720	835 775 780	835 890 890 1165	945 1000 1055	1055 1110	1110 1000	945 890 835 720	665 780												
Elaine	B	555 720	835 775 780	835 890 890 1165	945 1000 1055	1055 1110	1110 1000	945 890 835 720	665 780												
Morgaine	C	585 755	875 815 820	875 935 930 1225	990 1045 1110	1110 1165	1165 1050	990 935 875 755	700 820												
Grebe	D	665 860	995 930 930	995 1065 1060 1390	1130 1190 1260	1260 1325	1325 1195	1130 1065 995 860	795 930												
Weaver	D	665 860	995 930 930	995 1065 1060 1390	1130 1190 1260	1260 1325	1325 1195	1130 1065 995 860	795 930												
Bunting	D	665 860	995 930 930	995 1065 1060 1390	1130 1190 1260	1260 1325	1325 1195	1130 1065 995 860	795 930												
Medway	D	665 860	995 930 930	995 1065 1060 1390	1130 1190 1260	1260 1325	1325 1195	1130 1065 995 860	795 930												
Finch	D	665 860	995 930 930	995 1065 1060 1390	1130 1190 1260	1260 1325	1325 1195	1130 1065 995 860	795 930												
Derwent	E	695 900	1040 970 970	1040 1110 1110 1455	1180 1245 1320	1320 1385	1385 1245	1180 1110 1040 900	830 970												
Severn	F	720 935	1080 1010 1010	1080 1155 1150 1510	1225 1295 1370	1370 1440	1440 1295	1225 1155 1080 935	865 1010												
Heron	G	750 975	1125 1050 1055	1125 1205 1200 1575	1275 1350 1430	1430 1500	1500 1350	1275 1205 1125 975	900 1055												
Gawaine	G	750 975	1125 1050 1055	1125 1205 1200 1575	1275 1350 1430	1430 1500	1500 1350	1275 1205 1125 975	900 1055												
Empress	G	750 975	1125 1050 1055	1125 1205 1200 1575	1275 1350 1430	1430 1500	1500 1350	1275 1205 1125 975	900 1055												
Accolon	H	780 1010	1165 1090 1090	1165 1250 1245 1635	1325 1400 1480	1480 1555	1555 1400	1325 1250 1165 1010	935 1090												
Swallow	H	780 1010	1165 1090 1090	1165 1250 1245 1635	1325 1400 1480	1480 1555	1555 1400	1325 1250 1165 1010	935 1090												
Woodpecker	H	780 1010	1165 1090 1090	1165 1250 1245 1635	1325 1400 1480	1480 1555	1555 1400	1325 1250 1165 1010	935 1090												
Thrush	I	825 1070	1235 1150 1155	1235 1320 1315 1725	1400 1480 1565	1565 1645	1645 1480	1400 1320 1235 1070	990 1155												
Gull	I	825 1070	1235 1150 1155	1235 1320 1315 1725	1400 1480 1565	1565 1645	1645 1480	1400 1320 1235 1070	990 1155												
Eagle	I	825 1070	1235 1150 1155	1235 1320 1315 1725	1400 1480 1565	1565 1645	1645 1480	1400 1320 1235 1070	990 1155												
Wye	I	825 1070	1235 1150 1155	1235 1320 1315 1725	1400 1480 1565	1565 1645	1645 1480	1400 1320 1235 1070	990 1155												
Gosling	J	865 1120	1295 1210 1210	1295 1385 1380 1810	1470 1550 1640	1640 1725	1725 1555	1470 1385 1295 1120	1035 1210												
Owl	K	895 1160	1340 1250 1255	1340 1435 1430 1875	1520 1605 1700	1700 1785	1785 1605	1520 1435 1340 1160	1075 1255												
Goose	L	935 1210	1400 1305 1310	1400 1500 1490 1960	1585 1675 1775	1775 1865	1865 1680	1585 1500 1400 1210	1120 1310												
Swan	M	960 1245	1435 1340 1345	1435 1540 1530 2010	1630 1720 1825	1825 1915	1915 1725	1630 1540 1435 1245	1150 1345												

2010 Short Breaks

Every year sees an increase in the demand for these popular short breaks. Some people like the idea of being able to try the holiday out for a few days before committing themselves to a week or longer, whilst others regularly take the opportunity to get away for a few days. Narrowboat holidays are the fastest way of slowing down and so what could be better than a leisurely three or four night break away, enjoying the countryside, relaxing and unwinding.

Because we have boats available for Friday and Monday starts, we can offer superb three night weekend breaks that conveniently start at 3.00pm on a Friday afternoon and finish at 9.30am on the following Monday. Or if you are looking for extra value for money, you could try our four night midweek breaks. These start on Monday at 3.00pm and finish on Friday at 9.30am. Since the price is the same as a weekend break, you effectively get the extra midweek night free! This can be an additional bonus to those of you that are committed to weekend activities, as you can enjoy a decent break away without losing a weekend. Short breaks are available from all of our bases and sample trips are outlined on the route pages 12-27.

Pricing:

- For short break holidays starting on Monday and Friday, price as the nearest Saturday.
- The boat is ready fuelled for your holiday on arrival, but there is a fuel deposit payable with your holiday booking. This is £40 per short break as the cost of fuel is not included in the hire cost. When you return the boat to us the balance is refundable after deducting fuel used. However if you have used fuel in excess of the deposit you will be asked to pay the difference. We feel this is the fairest way possible as you only pay for what you use



Book before 31st December 2009
and get your Early Booking Discount!

2010 Short Breaks

		MAR		APRIL			MAY				JUNE			JULY		AUG		SEPT				OCT	
Saturday		13	27	3	10	17	1	15	22	29	5	12	26	3	17	7	28	4	11	18	25	2	23
		20			24		8				19		10	24	14	21					9	16	
	Code	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*					*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
		EASTER					MAYDAY							BH									
Nene	A	340	435	505	470	470	505	540	540	705	570	605	640	640	675	675	605	570	540	505	435	405	470
Tyne	B	360	470	545	505	505	545	580	580	755	615	650	685	685	720	720	650	615	580	545	470	430	505
Elaine	B	360	470	545	505	505	545	580	580	755	615	650	685	685	720	720	650	615	580	545	470	430	505
Morgaine	C	380	490	570	530	535	570	610	605	795	645	680	720	720	755	755	685	645	610	570	490	455	535
Grebe	D	430	560	645	605	605	645	690	690	905	735	775	820	820	860	860	775	735	690	645	560	515	605
Weaver	D	430	560	645	605	605	645	690	690	905	735	775	820	820	860	860	775	735	690	645	560	515	605
Bunting	D	430	560	645	605	605	645	690	690	905	735	775	820	820	860	860	775	735	690	645	560	515	605
Medway	D	430	560	645	605	605	645	690	690	905	735	775	820	820	860	860	775	735	690	645	560	515	605
Finch	D	430	560	645	605	605	645	690	690	905	735	775	820	820	860	860	775	735	690	645	560	515	605
Derwent	E	450	585	675	630	630	675	720	720	945	765	810	860	860	900	900	810	765	720	675	585	540	630
Severn	F	470	610	700	655	655	700	750	750	980	795	840	890	890	935	935	840	795	750	700	610	560	655
Heron	G	490	635	730	685	685	730	785	780	1025	830	880	930	930	975	975	880	830	785	730	635	585	685
Gawaine	G	490	635	730	685	685	730	785	780	1025	830	880	930	930	975	975	880	830	785	730	635	585	685
Empress	G	490	635	730	685	685	730	785	780	1025	830	880	930	930	975	975	880	830	785	730	635	585	685
Accolon	H	505	655	755	710	710	755	815	810	1065	860	910	960	960	1010	1010	910	860	815	755	655	610	710
Swallow	H	505	655	755	710	710	755	815	810	1065	860	910	960	960	1010	1010	910	860	815	755	655	610	710
Woodpecker	H	505	655	755	710	710	755	815	810	1065	860	910	960	960	1010	1010	910	860	815	755	655	610	710
Thrush	I	535	695	805	750	750	805	860	855	1120	910	960	1015	1015	1070	1070	960	910	860	805	695	645	750
Gull	I	535	695	805	750	750	805	860	855	1120	910	960	1015	1015	1070	1070	960	910	860	805	695	645	750
Eagle	I	535	695	805	750	750	805	860	855	1120	910	960	1015	1015	1070	1070	960	910	860	805	695	645	750
Wye	I	535	695	805	750	750	805	860	855	1120	910	960	1015	1015	1070	1070	960	910	860	805	695	645	750
Gosling	J	560	730	840	785	785	840	900	895	1175	955	1010	1065	1065	1120	1120	1010	955	900	840	730	675	785
Owl	K	580	755	870	815	815	870	935	930	1220	990	1045	1105	1105	1160	1160	1045	990	935	870	755	700	815
Goose	L	610	785	910	850	850	910	975	970	1275	1030	1090	1155	1155	1210	1210	1090	1030	975	910	785	730	850
Swan	M	625	810	935	870	875	935	1000	995	1305	1060	1120	1185	1185	1245	1245	1120	1060	1000	935	810	750	875

Conditions of Hire

1. Definitions

In these conditions and agreement:

'the Company' means ABC Leisure Group Limited and Subsidiaries who act as agents for Boat Owners.

'the Hirer' means the person or persons named on the booking confirmation. Where there is more than one Hirer they shall be individually responsible and liable under this agreement.

'the Boat Owner' means the person (corporate or otherwise) who owns the boat that is hired to the Hirer under the terms of these Conditions.

'the Conditions' means the conditions set out in this form

'the price' means the price for the booking set out in the booking confirmation

'the start date' means the date when the booking starts as set out in the booking confirmation

'the end date' means the date when the booking ends as set out in the booking confirmation

'the period of hire' means the period between the start date and the end date.

2. Booking Agreement

The parties acknowledge and agree that the Company is acting as the agent of the Boat Owner and is authorised to enter into contracts with Hirers on behalf of Boat Owners and to collect payment from Hirers and to otherwise manage the hiring of boats to Hirers.

A booking is a legally binding contract between the Hirer and the Boat Owner. Submission of a completed booking form is an offer by the Hirer and the booking agreement is made only if and when the Company gives a written boat hire confirmation. Telephone bookings do not create legal agreements and any offer by the Company to hold a reservation is not legally binding except where the booking deposit is authorised by the Hirer by credit card when acceptance by the Company shall create the booking agreement though the Hirer shall also complete a booking form.

The entire contract between the Boat Owner and the Hirer is contained in these Conditions and the booking form and to the extent permitted by law no representations, terms, warranty or condition expressed or implied shall be deemed to be or have been made or agreed or imported by reference to any other writing, advertisement or conversation. No agent, servant or representative of the Company has any right to alter or vary or waive any of these conditions. Nor is any such person authorised to undertake any liability whatsoever on behalf of the Boat Owner.

These conditions can only be varied with the written permission signed by a Director or the General Manager of the Company. The Hirer acknowledges that no statement or representation which may have been made by or on behalf of the Company or the Boat Owner induced the Hirer to enter into the contract and that any such statements or representations do not form part of the contract. Any liability of the Company or the Boat Owner and any remedy of the Hirer in respect of any such statement or representation is excluded save in so far as liability in respect of any particular statement or representation may not be excluded by law. In accepting a booking, the Company's and the Boat Owner's responsibility does not extend beyond the provision of the boat and in particular there is no warranty that any particular route will be available for navigation during the period of hire. Where more than one boat is booked on the same booking form each boat shall be deemed to be the subject of a separate contract. Bookings for optional extras are taken subject to availability on the start date.

3. Group Bookings, Age Limits and Unsuitable Hirers

The Hirer must be aged 21 years or over. Though there is no age limit for driving the boat, the Hirer warrants that whenever the boat is driven by a person aged under eighteen years they will always be under the close supervision of a competent adult. Where a boat is occupied by a group comprising mainly young persons, the Hirer warrants that at all times a responsible person aged more than 21 years will be in charge of the group. The Hirer must provide on the booking form full details of all persons in their party.

The Company or the Boat Owner may at their discretion cancel any booking made in contravention of this condition before or at the start date. In this event any money paid will be forfeit and any balance payment will remain due unless the Company is able to re-let. If the Company is able to re-let the Hirer will remain liable for 15% of the price to cover administration expenses.

The Company or the Boat Owner may at their discretion cancel the booking and refuse to hand over the boat to any person or group who in its opinion is not suitable to take charge on the grounds of infirmity, ill health, disability, suspected influence of alcohol or drugs or who have failed to demonstrate a reasonable standard of competence following appropriate instruction in boat handling. In this event the Company will refund all monies paid for boat hire and the contract shall be discharged without further liability on either party.

The Company or the Boat Owner may repossess the boat at any time if in the opinion of the Company or the Boat Owner the Hirer is unsuitable for the reasons given above or if the Hirer is not behaving responsibly or if the boat or any persons are at risk. In this event the Hirer shall remain liable to pay the hire price and no refund shall be due.

4. Cancellations and Changes

The agreement including the payment terms is a legally binding contract and may not be cancelled or amended except as provided in the Conditions. Should the Hirer wish to cancel or amend the booking they must advise the Company immediately by telephone and at the same time send written confirmation by Recorded Delivery post. The Company reserves the right to levy an administration charge of £40 for any alteration to a booking made by the hirer after it has issued a booking confirmation. In the event of a cancellation, the deposit will be forfeited and the hirer will pay the balance price on the due date. The Company may at its discretion waive the balance price if it is successful in re-letting the boat for the whole of the hire period minus CPP and 15% of the hire charge as an admin fee. It is therefore strongly recommended that the hirers protect themselves against cancellation liability by taking out cancellation protection. In the event of any claim being disallowed for any reason the hirer remains liable for the full hire charges. In the event of the operator being unable to re-book the boat the hirer will remain responsible for the full hire price unless covered by a cancellation protection scheme.

5. Hire Period, Collection and Return of Boat

The hire period is as shown in the booking confirmation. The Company will endeavour to have the boat ready for the Hirer by 3pm on the start date. The Hirer must notify the Company of any likely delay in arrival as soon as possible by fax or telephone. Before the Hirer departs with the boat the Company will give the Hirer such instructions, demonstrations and trials as it thinks fit and require the hirer to check and sign for the contents, inventory and Boat Acceptance. In the event that the boat is not available because of circumstances beyond the Company's or Boat Owner's control the Company may substitute a boat of similar accommodation but if no such boat is available the Company shall refund any payments made but shall not otherwise be liable and the contract shall be discharged. Substitution of a boat of similar accommodation will create a new contract between the Hirer and the Boat Owner of the new boat subject to all the terms set out

in these Conditions and the booking form.

The boat shall be returned to the Company's hire base and be vacated in a clean and tidy condition no later than 9.30am on the end date. Hirers are responsible for ensuring that their cruising schedule allows time for unforeseen contingencies so as to permit their return and vacation of the boat by the scheduled time. Breach of this condition will incur a minimum additional charge of £50 per hour or part thereof. In addition, the Hirer will be liable for any extra costs and/or damages incurred by the Company and or the Boat Owner as a result of the boat not being available on time for the next Hirer. Where the Boat is liable to recover a boat and return it to the base, the Hirer shall be liable for all the costs involved.

Where operational circumstances make it necessary the Company reserves the right to require the boat to start from or return to a place other than its normal base of operation. In such circumstances the Company will where necessary provide transport to the original base.

6. Prices and Payment

Prices are inclusive of any V.A.T. which may be chargeable and are subject to any change in the V.A.T. rate prior to the settlement of the price in full. The booking confirmation and booking statement are not V.A.T. invoices.

Prices are in pounds sterling. The Hirer shall reimburse the Company on demand for any expenses incurred in the conversion of foreign currencies, bank charges, special clearance, re-presenting cheques, processing payments or otherwise in obtaining cleared sterling funds of the amount due on the due date. Payment is not made until cash or cleared funds have been received by the Company

The booking deposit must be sent with the booking application and unless otherwise stated is 25% of the total price.

The balance of the price is due not less than 8 weeks before the hire start date. Time of payment shall be of the essence of the contract. For bookings made within 8 weeks before the hire start date payment in full must accompany the booking form.

Without prejudice to any other rights of the Company it may charge interest (both before and after any judgement) at the rate of 3% over the Company's bankers base lending rate on any monies due from the due payment date until the date of payment and interest shall accrue from day to day.

7. Insurance

The Company insures the boat and its equipment and inventory against public liability risks. The Company's insurance does not cover personal accidents or loss or damage to personal effects. Hirers and their crews are advised to take out their own personal insurance cover. The Hirer shall pay a compulsory accidental damage waiver of £45.00 per booking. Accidental damage waiver excludes damage arising from speeding, contact with a lock sill causing damage to the rudder, skeg or stern gear, TV aerials, chimneys, negligence, malicious or intentional damage to the boat. Also excluded is negligence, malicious or intentional damage to other boats and property and the late return of the boat and return of the boat in unclean condition.

The Hirer will indemnify the Company and the Boat Owner against all costs, damage, expenses, liability and claims howsoever arising from the negligence, neglect or default of the Hirer to the extent that they are not covered by the Company's policy.

8. Safety and Other Rules

The Hirer agrees to comply with the following rules at all times for the health and safety of the persons on the boat and other persons and for safeguarding the boat and other property:-

Not to tow other craft or allow the boat to be towed except under professional assistance in the event of breakdown or emergency.

Not to cruise between sunset and sunrise. The boat is only equipped for cruising during daylight hours.

To observe all speed limits, not to race and not to cruise at a speed which creates a breaking wash or disturbs or inconveniences other waterway users.

Not to take or have on the boat without the Company's prior written permission any dinghies, canoes, inflatables, portable heaters, bicycles, vehicles, lighting equipment, t.v. sets, electrical appliances, (other than razors) inflammable liquids or substances, gas cylinders, barbecues, car batteries, fire arms or any other items which might create dangers or hazards.

Not to use the boat for business purposes.

Not to allow on the boat at any time more persons than the maximum number of berths and under no circumstances more than 12 persons.

To give way to laden or unladen cargo boats, sailing craft, rowing boats and other human propelled craft.

Not to take the boat to sea or on tidal waters.

Not to have or carry any live fishing bait on the boat.

At all times to observe all byelaws, navigational limits or instructions and advice of British Waterways and other navigational authorities and the Company and their respective officers and employees.

To comply with any mooring restrictions and charges, and to be responsible of any fines levied for not doing so.

The Company and the Boat Owner reserve the right at their discretion without liability to restrict cruising areas or routes in the light of prevailing conditions.

9. Accidents

The Hirer is in charge of the boat and is responsible for its safe navigation and return. In the event of any accident or damage to the boat other craft or the waterway the Hirer must:-

Obtain and record the name and registration number of the other boat and names and addresses of all parties involved including the other boat owners and other hirers.

Notify the Company by telephone immediately with full details of the accident including damage incurred.

NOT IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCES ADMIT OR ALLOW OTHER PERSONS ON THE BOAT TO ADMIT LIABILITY TO ANY OTHER PERSON.

Not to carry out or have carried out repairs without the consent of the Company or the Boat Owner.

Obtain and follow the Company's instructions. In the event of an accident the Company may repossess the boat and the hiring contract shall then terminate without liability on the Company or the Boat Owner.

In the event that the Company's insurance cover is prejudiced or invalidated by any failure on the part of the Hirer to comply with the provisions of this condition the Hirer shall indemnify the Company and the Boat Owner in respect of all liability claims, loss, damage or expenses incurred.

The Hirer is liable for and shall indemnify the Company and the Boat Owner against any claim or charge made by any Navigation Authority for damage to waterway property or loss of water.

10. Maintenance, Repairs, Damage and Breakdown

The Hirer shall take reasonable care of the boat, its equipment and contents, and shall return them at the end of the hire period in accordance with the Company's instructions and in good clean and

tidy order and condition.

The Hirer shall notify the Company in the event of breakdown, damage, theft or loss and shall provide full details and comply with the Company's instructions.

The Hirer must not undertake or have undertaken any repairs, adjustment or service without the Company's prior approval. Any repairs or replacements by the Hirer without the Company's approval will not be accepted. The Hirer shall be responsible for getting the boat off mud banks or other grounding and for removal of weeds, rope and other matter from proppers.

The Hirer shall notify the Company if any of these operations cannot be carried out without risk of accident or damage.

The Hirer shall have no claim on the Company or the Boat Owner as a result of breakdown or failures of the boat and its equipment or for any delays caused by repairs to the boat. The Hirer shall comply with the Company's instructions; otherwise the Hirer shall be liable for any loss or damage incurred.

11. Hirer's Property

Vehicles may be left in the Company's car parks at the owner's risk. The Company will be under no liability for any loss of or damage to vehicles or contents of the hirers or other peoples property on the boat or elsewhere or howsoever caused except by the Company's negligence or that of those for whom the Company is responsible. Hirers are particularly advised not to leave any valuable or portable items in the car.

The Company shall take such action as may be necessary to silence car alarms in the Company's car parks and to recover the costs from the Hirer.

The Company may return hirer's property left behind if claimed and following the receipt of payment for postage and packing (minimum charge £10). Property not claimed within two months from the end date will be disposed of by the Company.

12. Fuel

The boat is handed over ready fuelled but the cost of hire does not include the fuel consumed. A fuel deposit is payable 8 weeks before the start of your holiday. At the end of your holiday period the boat must be refuelled and any difference to the deposit paid will be refunded or charged.

The Boat Owner or the Company may make a fuel surcharge if there is any material increase of diesel or gas prices or duty.

Whilst water supply and moorings on the canals are normally free of charge, any costs incurred are the responsibility of the Hirer.

Where pump-outs are required to toilet tanks, the cost is the responsibility of the Hirer unless carried out at the Company's base.

13. Pets

Pets are allowed on the boat but must be put on the booking form, and must be paid for. Hirers must provide their own pet baskets or blankets. All pets must be properly house trained or caged as appropriate, must not be left unattended, and must not be allowed on bedding or chairs. Pets are not covered under the Company's insurance policy and the Hirer shall be liable for the cost of any damage or extra cleaning required.

14. Complaints

The Hirer shall check the boat its contents and equipment fully immediately after taking possession of the boat. In the unlikely event of any alleged deficiencies or shortcomings the Hirer must notify the Company before the boat leaves the boat yard. The Hirer shall sign the Boat Acceptance form before departure and thereafter the Hirer is completely responsible for the boat, its equipment and its operation until it is handed back to the Company at the end of the period of hire. Any shortcomings subsequently discovered shall immediately be notified to the Company by telephone in order to give the Company the opportunity to take any necessary remedial action. The Company and the Boat Owner shall not be liable in respect of any matter which is not so notified immediately and in any event shall not be liable in respect of any matter which is notified after the end of the hire period, as the boat may then have been taken over by another hirer and may not be available for inspection.

15. Exemption

The Company [and/or] the Boat Owner shall not be liable for any matters arising from any cause beyond the Company's [and/or] the Boat Owner's reasonable control or not due to the Company's [and/or] the Boat Owner's negligence or wilful default including (without limitation) death or personal injury of Hirers their crew and passengers, loss or damage to property, non-fulfilment or interruption of the booking or delays, breakdowns, mechanical problems, defects, damage, restrictions or obstructions, repairs or damage to waterways, non availability of routes, navigational works, storms, floods, droughts, ice, shortage of water or other weather conditions, rationing, shortage or non availability of fuel or in respect of any consequential loss, damage, expense, injury, or claim.

Hirers are recommended to take out personal holiday insurance cover.

16. Brochure

The specification of boats, their accommodation, facilities and equipment in the brochure is intended as a general guide but the Company [and/or] the Boat Owner shall not be liable in the event of any differences in the boat supplied and reserves the right to make modifications. Layout plans are for guidance only and are not to scale and may have steps which are not shown. If the hirer's party includes any infirm persons the Hirer should make relevant enquiries at the time of booking.

The Company and/or the Boat Owner reserve the right to change boat specifications without prior notice.

17. Disputes

Any dispute difference or question which may at any time arise out of the booking contract may be referred at the Company's sole discretion to a single arbitrator to be agreed between the parties or failing agreement to be nominated upon application of either party by the President of the Birmingham Law Society. The decision of such arbitrator (acting as an expert and not as an arbitrator) including any direction as to payment of fees and costs in the arbitration shall be binding on both parties.

18. Jurisdiction

The contract between the Boat Owner and the Hirer shall be deemed to have been made in England and shall be governed in all respects by English law. The Hirer shall submit to the jurisdiction of the English courts provided that the Company and the Boat Owner at their option may bring any legal proceedings against the Hirer from courts in any other country.

19. Waiver

No indulgence, forbearance or delay by the Company or the Boat Owner shall constitute any bar to its enforcement of its rights at any time and no waiver in respect of any breach shall operate as a waiver in respect of any other subsequent breach.

ABC Leisure Group Limited
Booking Office: PO Box 232, Worcester WR1 2SD

Registered Office: Scarfield Wharf, Alvechurch, Worcestershire B48 7SQ
Registered in England No 2860394
VAT Registration No 641002792

How to Book

Booking with us could not be easier.

We will be delighted to assist you in making your decision regarding which boat, route and base best suits you.

Our booking office is open 7 days a week, every day of the year except Christmas Day and Boxing Day. For availability and booking enquiries, advice and information you can contact the office from 8.30am to 6pm weekdays and 9am to 5pm at weekends (and on public holidays) or visit our website 24hrs a day.

Having made your provisional booking with us on www.ukboathire.com or by telephone, we will hold the reservation for seven days. Complete the booking form in the brochure or on the website, making note of the reference number that you will have been given, and send it to us with your deposit payment (or full payment if your holiday starts within 8 weeks) along with any vouchers or offers being claimed.

We will then send you a confirmation of booking as well as any maps and guides you may have ordered.

If you are planning your holiday and would like further information outside our usual office hours you can access a wealth of information, including availability, via the internet.

Visit www.ukboathire.com and click on the **Availability** button. Simply enter details of your preferred start location, dates and the size of your group to enable you to view the boats currently available. You can choose either to phone to make your reservation or use the on-line form to make your booking. Please note that availability or bookings are not contractual until confirmation is received from the booking office.

We look forward to welcoming you aboard.

UK Boat Hire:

Telephone: 0330 3330 590 (local rate)

Overseas: +44 1905 610660

Or visit: www.ukboathire.com



Easy-pay Scheme

Easy Pay allows you to spread the cost of your holiday with our easy payment plan.

No upfront deposit is needed you just divide the total cost of your holiday to be paid in equal monthly installments.

The first payment is due on the 1st day of the month after making your reservation and the final payment on the 1st day of the month that falls not less than 8 weeks prior to the start of the holiday. The earlier you book before the actual holiday date the less the monthly payments will be.

The monthly payment will be taken on 1st of every month by credit or debit card only. For credit card payments the usual 2% handling charge will apply. Debit Cards are free.

Just tick 'easy pay' on the booking form for this option.



Green donation

This is a voluntary donation scheme (suggested at £5.00 per car) to offset the impact of your travel to your holiday start base. This is in addition to the donation we will be making on your behalf to offset the impact of your boating holiday. (See p5.)



Discounts

The following discounts are available to those booking longer holidays, or more than one holiday in the year. These discounts may not be used in conjunction with any other offer, voucher or discount except the special 2 berth offer.



brochure price for bookings of 10/11 nights



brochure price for bookings of two consecutive weeks.



brochure price for bookings of three consecutive weeks



brochure price for bookings of four consecutive weeks or more



25% Second holiday discount

If you book a holiday of a week or more to start in June, July or August, you will be entitled to a 25% discount on any holiday taken during the weeks marked with a red star (*) on the price table. This applies only to two holidays taken in 2010.

Maximum discount off any booking is 25% off the brochure hire price.

Day Boat Hire

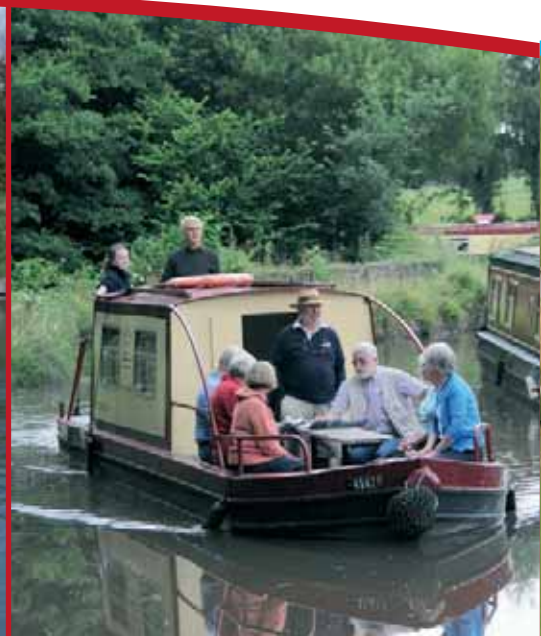
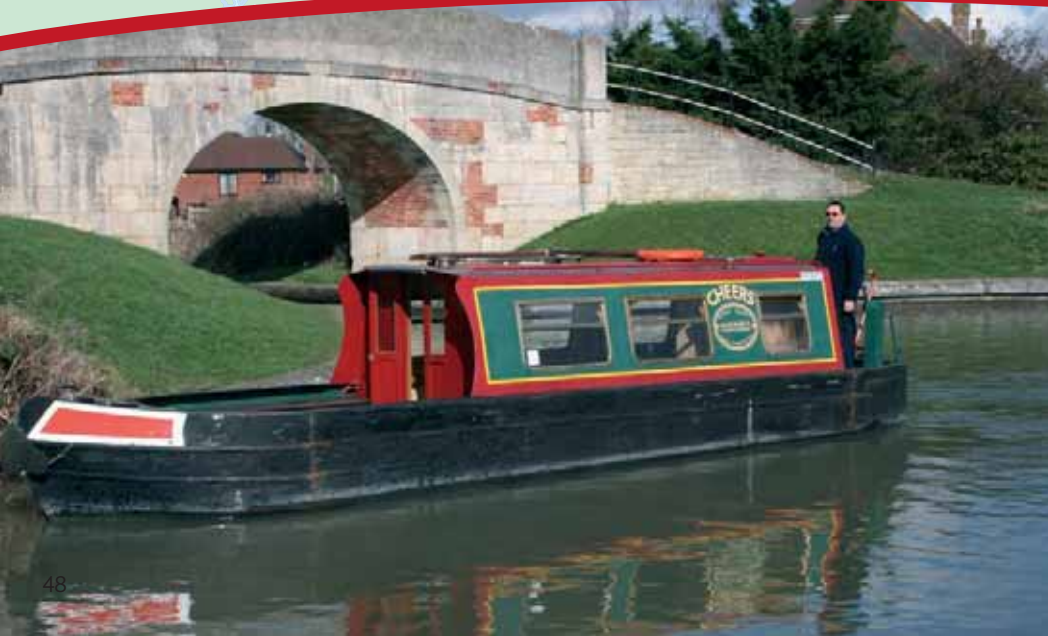
If you don't have time to take a holiday, why not book a boat for the day?

Enjoy a cruise with family or friends on boats that can accommodate up to 8 people if cruising on the Kennet and Avon or up to 12 people on the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal.

See www.ukdayboathire.com for more information on the individual boats at each marina.



Visit www.ukdayboathire.com for more information.



Other services we provide for boat owners



ABC LEISURE GROUP

In addition to the UK Boat Hire holiday fleet (pages 8 onwards) ABC Leisure Group are also able to offer a variety of other services to canal users.

Boat Sales

If you're thinking of purchasing a new or used boat then take a look at our brokerage for details. Our staff are happy to guide and advise you on all aspects of purchasing a boat.

www.boatsales-uk.com



© Waterways World

Boat Builders

If you would like to own a brand new boat we have a team of skilled craftsmen that can build you the boat of your dreams.

www.boatbuildinguk.com



Boat Shares

An increasingly popular way of enjoying the waterways is to purchase a share in a boat. This way you enjoy all the benefits of owning your own boat without the hassles of private ownership and considerable investment.

www.ukboatshare.com



Chandlery

In addition to chandlery stores at each of our bases we are able to offer an online chandlery service delivering direct to your door at www.webchandler.com.

Boat Maintenance & Repair Work

The teams of engineers at our marinas are able to undertake maintenance and repair work including dry docking and on LPG. (Contact marina see p10.)

Marina Services

We are able to offer a variety of services from our marinas using the facilities we have on site such as dry docks, wet docks and craning. (Contact marina see page 10.)

Boat Management

We are able to offer boat management services for syndicate, shared and corporate boats covering administration and maintenance. Taking away the operational hassle so you can enjoy using the boat.

Helmsman Training

If you would like to gain extra confidence and develop your boat handling skills then we are able to offer a RYA Inland Waterways Helmsman Certificate training course.

Moorings

Choosing one of our marinas to moor your boat at allows you to take advantage of a variety of benefits ranging from discounts off chandlery and maintenance to your boat, as well as being able to moor at any of our other bases for a few weeks a year.

Additional Charges Explained

Accidental Damage Waiver (Compulsory)

The Accidental Damage Waiver Fee of £45 covers you in the event of damage, loss or accident to your boat or its inventory during your holiday. It is non-refundable and avoids the requirement for a damage deposit payment of £500 to cover the insurance excess pending any claims. There are certain exclusions:

- Any claims arising from excessive speed (the limit is 4mph)
- Damage arising from negligence, malicious or intentional damage to the boat, its inventory, third party property, the canal and its structures.
- Damage to the rudder, skeg or transmission due to contact with a lock cill.
- Return of the boat late and/or in an unclean condition.

Cancellation Protection Plan (Required)

Once a deposit has been paid and a booking confirmed, a contract exists and you will be liable for the whole of the hire charge even if you are prevented from taking your holiday. The Company have arranged a Cancellation Protection Plan (CPP) to offer protection against this liability in certain circumstances.

The charge for the CPP is calculated at the rate of 4% of the hire charge payable. CPP payments are not refundable.

The fee is automatically added to the initial payment and will only be waived if:

- a) the whole cost of the holiday is paid on booking and written confirmation is received that you accept the risk of no refund if cancellation becomes necessary or
- b) if you have a cancellation insurance with cover that is comparable or exceeds our scheme, and can provide documentary evidence of such at the time of booking the holiday. Payments for the cancellation protection plan are not refundable.

Where any of the qualifying circumstances are met, all hire monies paid will be refunded less the CPP subscription fee and you will be absolved from liability for any balance of hire payment outstanding. The decision of The Company on all claims will be final.

- CPP only covers complete cancellation prior to the start of the holiday. It does not give a partial refund in the event of one or more persons being unable to take their place in the crew.
- Cover is only provided to those people detailed with names and addresses shown on the booking form.
- Any claim must be supported by suitable documentary evidence.
- Any claim must be made at the earliest opportunity by telephone and then be confirmed within seven days by Recorded Delivery Mail.

Qualifying Circumstances

Death, injury, illness, pregnancy complications or confinement immediately prior to holiday commencement (certified in all cases by a qualified registered medical practitioner).

Death, injury, illness, pregnancy complications or confinement (certified in all cases by a qualified registered medical practitioner) of a near relative (husband, wife, father, mother, parent-in-law, sister, brother or child) or a close business associate of any named member of the party immediately prior to holiday commencement.

Jury or witness service (in a court of law), or redundancy (qualifying for payment under the Redundancy Payment Act 1965).

Fire, storm, flood, subsidence or malicious damage making the hirer's home uninhabitable.

Police requiring the hirer's presence following burglary at home or place of business.

Cancelled leave orders in respect of the U.K. police and military personnel.

Unforeseen occupational posting in respect of the hirer's present employment immediately prior to holiday commencement.

With the exception of maternity the above circumstances must occur after the holiday has been booked and the CPP fee paid.

Credit Card Surcharge

Please note that a surcharge of 2% of the payment made will be applied if a credit card is used. If only part payment is made (e.g. deposit) by credit card and the remainder by an alternative method, the surcharge will only apply to the amount paid by credit card (overseas debit cards may also incur the 2% surcharge, please check with your card issuer to verify).

Personal Holiday Insurance

We recommend that you take out personal holiday insurance as we only insure the boat which does not cover you or your personal possessions. If you would like details about personal holiday insurance please indicate on the booking form.

Fuel

The boat is ready fuelled for your holiday on arrival, but there is a fuel deposit payable with your holiday booking. This is £75 per week and £40 per short break as the cost of fuel is not included in the hire cost. When you return the boat to us the balance is refundable after deducting fuel used. However if you have used fuel in excess of the deposit you will be asked to pay the difference.

Pets

This really is a holiday the whole family can enjoy together. We charge £25 for each pet. We obviously request that the boat is returned in a clean and tidy condition and reserve the right to refuse pets or charge for any additional cleaning or repairs required as a result of pets being on board during your holiday.

Optional Berths

Optional high level berths where available are £50 per week £25 per short break each. (See page 30 for more information.)

Green Donation

A voluntary environmental charity donation see page 5 for further details.



2010 Booking Form

UK contact:

Tel: UK Boat Hire - 0330 3330 590 • Fax: UK Boat Hire - 0330 3330 591

Overseas contact:

Tel: UK Boat Hire - +44 1905 610660 • Fax: UK Boat Hire - +44 1905 616715

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS. Cut along dotted line and return to: **PO Box 232, Worcester WR1 2SD**

Mr	Mrs	Miss	Ms	Initial	Surname:
Address:					
Postcode:					
Day Phone:					
Evening Phone:					
Mobile Phone:					
Email Address:					

How did you hear about us?





Experience? Y N Details:

Booking Reference: Base:

Boat class:

Start Date: Number of nights:

Names	First line of address (if not the same as above)	Postcode	Age if under 18
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

Credit Cards* (2% surcharge)	Debit Cards
Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/>  	Visa Debit <input type="checkbox"/> Maestro/Switch <input type="checkbox"/>  

- Please charge my initial payment to my credit/debit card now.
- Please charge the full cost of my holiday now.
- Easy-Pay (See page 47 for details).

*A surcharge of 2% will be added to Credit/Charge Card payments. Payments by cheque or postal order should be made to UK Boat Hire

Please state numbers of each in box.

LAYOUT DOUBLE BERTH SINGLE BERTH OPTIONAL HIGH LEVEL BERTH COT SIDE

(Low Level) (Low Level) (where possible) (where possible)

PETS: no. of pets pets £25.00 each

PERSONAL HOLIDAY INSURANCE: Tick 'Yes' if required Y N
(STRONGLY RECOMMENDED)

MAPS & GUIDES: For details of suitable guides see the back cover and refer to the route planning pages. Insert the reference numbers of those you require in this section and add the total price where indicated. Note that UK postage and packing is included but please add £2.00 per item for overseas.

BOATERS (see back page): Video DVD

A	Basic Brochure Holiday Price (P44-45)	<input type="text"/>
B	Offers/Discounts/Tokens claimed (P47)	<input type="text"/>
C	Maps & Guides (back cover)	<input type="text"/>
D	Pet(s) (P50)	<input type="text"/>
E	Optional High Level Berth (P50)	<input type="text"/>
F	Cancellation Protection Plan (CPP) (P50) (4% of section A)	<input type="text"/>
G	Green Donation (suggested £5.00) (P50)	<input type="text"/>
H	Fuel Deposit (P50) (£75 per week & £40 per short break)	<input type="text"/>
I	Accidental Damage Waiver (P50)	<input type="text" value="45.00"/>
HOLIDAY TOTAL		<input type="text"/>

PAYMENTS REQUIRED NOW	Deposit 25% <input type="text"/> *
*A 25% Deposit of holiday price (A) + CPP (G) + Maps & Guides (D) if required must be returned with this booking form.	CPP <input type="text"/> *
	Maps & Guides <input type="text"/> *
	DEPOSIT TOTAL <input type="text"/> *

I DECLARE THAT I AM 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER. I AGREE TO BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BALANCE SHOWN ON MY BOOKING CONFIRMATION. I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF HIRE IN THIS BROCHURE.

WHEN PAYING BY CARD I AUTHORISE THE COMPANY TO CHARGE MY ACCOUNT FOR THE PAYMENT SHOWN HERE. I ALSO CERTIFY THAT I AM THE PERSON BOOKING THE HOLIDAY AND THAT THE ADDRESS IS THE SAME AS FOR MY CARD ACCOUNT.

Signature Date

Cardholders Name

Your Card Number

Valid From Valid To Issue Number Security Code

Maps & Guides

The following is a selection of the most popular guides that are available. We do also stock other titles and ranges, so please ask if there is a particular map that you would like. For details of the guide most suited to the area you intend to cruise, the numbers shown against this list are indicated on the route planning pages for each marina (see pages 12 to 27). Detail the reference number of each guide required on the booking form, overleaf, to receive your maps and guides when your holiday is confirmed.



UK BOAT HIRE

Nicholson's Guides

Ring-bound, A5 guide-books with detailed narrative information about the area surrounding the route taken by the canals and rivers. Information is given regarding the history of the area, pubs, restaurants, boatyards and local places of interest, including telephone numbers and opening hours where applicable. Each map section shown is a genuine Ordnance Survey extract with the waterway route and features highlighted. Set into chapters covering each waterway, a general introduction at the start of the chapter gives more specific navigational information.



N1	Grand Union, Oxford & the South East	£14.95	N5	North West & the Pennines	£14.95
N2	Severn, Avon & Birmingham	£14.95	N6	Nottingham, York & the North East	£14.95
N3	Birmingham & the Heart of England	£14.95	N7	River Thames & the Southern Waterways	£14.95
N4	Four Counties & the Welsh Canals	£14.95			

Lockmaster Maps

Black and white flat maps (sent rolled in a tube) measuring approximately 40cm x 48cm (16" x 19") detailing the route of the canal, canal features (bridges, locks etc) and the location of towns along the route. These maps give a good overview of areas of canals such as 'ring' routes.



L5	The Cheshire Ring	£5.00	L16	The Stourport Ring	£5.00
L8	Chester & the Llangollen	£5.00	L17	From Avon to Thames	£5.00
L10	The Four Counties Ring	£5.00	L18	Grand Union South - Braunston to Brentford	£5.00
L12	Black Country Canals	£5.00	L20	Kennet & Avon Waters	£5.00
L13	The Warwickshire Ring	£5.00	L22	London's Waterways	£5.00
L14	East Midland Canals	£5.00	L23	Southern Counties Waterways	£5.00
L15	The Avon Ring	£5.00	L24	Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal	£5.00

Pearson's Guides

A5 guidebooks with a similar level of information to the Nicholson's guides. Each map page details the facilities immediately near to the canal or river, with a summary given of the number of miles and locks covered by that page, together with the approximate cruising time to be allowed. Popular with first-timers and experienced boaters alike.



P1	Stourport Ring including BCN	£10.40	P6	South Midlands & Warwickshire Ring	£10.40
P2	Severn & Avon	£10.40	P7	Oxford & Grand Union	£10.40
P3	Welsh Waters	£10.40	P8	Kennet & Avon and Middle Thames	£10.40
P4	Four Counties Ring	£10.40	P9	Pennine Waters	£10.40
P5	Cheshire Ring	£10.40			

Geo Projects Maps & Guides

Coloured fold-out maps detailing the route of the canal or waterway, extending to significant villages and towns up to about 5 miles from the waterway. Each map includes an overall introduction to the waterway, with additional paragraphs detailing history, sites of interest and significant canal features.



G1	Kennet & Avon Canal	£6.40	G25	Forth & Clyde and Union Canals	£6.40
G20	Llangollen & Montgomery Canals	£6.40	G29	Thames Ring Atlas (47 page ring-bound book)	£13.20

Route Planners

NP	Nicholson's OS Inland Waterways Map of GB	£9.50	LP	Lockmaster Coloured Route Planner	£4.70
GP	Geo Projects Canal Map of Great Britain	£7.20	NPS	Nicholson's OS Inland Waterways Map of Scotland	£9.50

Safety Information

BDVD	The Boaters DVD (UK only)	£0.85	BVID	The Boaters Video (VHS)	£1.50
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(Free publications – charge only for p&p)

Note: The video detailed above can be seen on arrival at our base. A copy of The Boaters Handbook will be sent out 8 weeks prior to the start of your holiday.

All prices include UK postage and packing and you are welcome to order maps and guides at any time – simply phone the booking office if you would like to receive guides at a time other than when you make your booking. For postage to overseas add £2.00 to the price for each item.

For further information at any time, including up to date availability, visit our website at:

www.ukboathire.com



0330 3330 590

From overseas dial:

+44 1905 610660