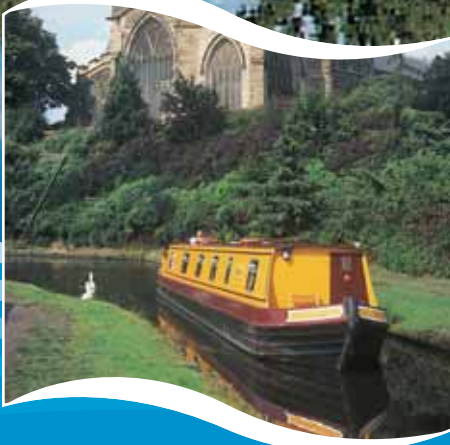
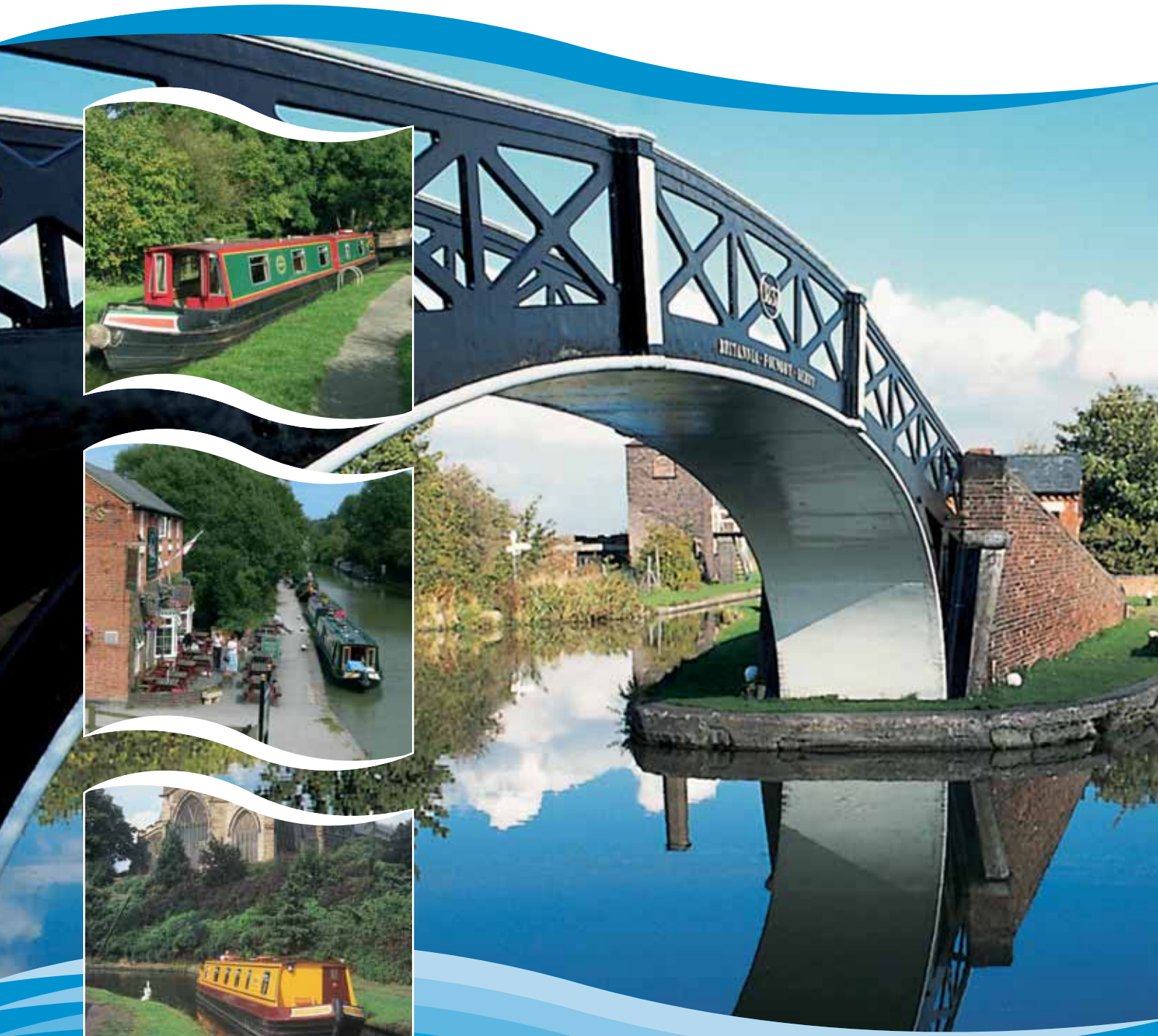


# Boating Holidays & Short Breaks

Great Britain



2007

— narrow boats...

...wide horizons —

# Welcome to our new combined brochure of holidays and short breaks on the UK waterways.

We have combined four boat fleets in one brochure so you have the very widest choice of start bases and boats catering for groups of between two and twelve people. Although the four boat fleets are combined in this one brochure, those of you who have used them previously will notice no difference as they operate exactly as they have always done with their easily recognizable liveries and unique company bases.

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 are shown on the websites at [www.alvechurch.com](http://www.alvechurch.com) and [www.viking-afloat.com](http://www.viking-afloat.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 even make your reservation from the websites. We strive to offer you the highest standards of holiday experience and safety. You will see that 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.



Edward Helps - Managing Director



## contents

2	Welcome to our holidays
3	Introduction to boating holidays
4	Your questions answered
6	Short history lesson & hiring today
8	Start locations explained
9	Canal map showing start bases
10 - 11	The Heart of England
12 - 13	Potteries and the Peak District
14 - 15	Shakespeare country, Warwick and the Chilterns
16 - 17	Pennines, Chester and Yorkshire
18 - 19	Welsh Borders and Marches
20 - 21	Wessex and the Cotswolds
22 - 23	Scotland, the Falkirk Wheel, Edinburgh and Glasgow
24 - 25	Boat facilities overview
26	Guide to symbols in the boat layout pages
27-29	Viking boat layouts
30 - 31	Wessex boat layouts
32 - 33	Red Line boat layouts
34 - 39	Alvechurch boat layouts
40	Conditions of hire
41 - 42	Hire charges
43	How to book / Discounts
44	Additional charges explained
45	Booking form (Inside back cover)
46	Maps and guides (Outside back cover)



**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



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 almost 200 boats at 11 start points throughout the UK, you have the choice of over 1500 miles of waterways to choose from.



Tracey Secker  
Booking Office Manager

Your family or crew will never forget the fun of learning to handle a narrowboat and the shared experience of working the locks.

There is a choice of holiday duration from a 3 or 4 night short break, a week or 10 / 11 night holiday to a fortnight or more. All of the English 'ring' routes are accessible from one or other of our bases, with the route planning pages (8 to 23) also including some of the most popular out and return trips making the choice almost endless. Travel as far as you wish, pacing yourself for the return journey – excuse the cliché, but it really never looks the same on the way back. Most of the canals were built over 200 years ago as commercial transport routes – the regular refreshment points of those times remain as the pubs and restaurants of today.

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. The boats have plenty of storage space, soft beds, central heating, showers, televisions and fully equipped kitchens. We are confident that our Visit Britain inspected fleets are of the highest standard, and continually updated to ensure that we offer the very best selection of narrowboats available in the UK. 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 look forward to helping you plan your next boating 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 8) or 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 all the sites of interest, pubs, shops and facilities along your route. The guides relevant to each route are indicated on the route information pages (8 to 23) 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 26). Simply indicate this on the booking form.

## 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 and Wessex boats and to overseas Viking Afloat and Red Line customers. If you are from the UK and hiring a boat from Viking Afloat or Red Line you will need to bring your own towels.

## Pets

There is no extra charge if you want to bring one pet with you, so this really is a holiday the whole family can enjoy together. The first pet per boat is free, but we charge £25 for each additional 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.

## 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 a licence is required. This is available from any post office with a 1-day, 8-day or annual licence to choose from. For reasons of hygiene, we regret that live bait may not be kept on the boat.

## 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 with your final holiday documents.

## 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.

## Mobile phone hire

We have mobile phones available for hire whilst you are on holiday with us. We require a £50 returnable deposit and a hire charge of £25 for the first week (including £5 of calls) and £10 per week thereafter (no additional inclusive calls – top up cards may be purchased from a number of outlets). Please arrange mobile phone hire with the Booking Office at least two weeks before the start of your holiday.

## Extras

Page 41 details the items inclusive to your holiday. The only compulsory charges in addition to the brochure price are Cancellation Protection Fee (calculated at the rate of 4% of the hire charge) and Accidental Damage Waiver Fee at £45. We can also arrange Personal Holiday Insurance for UK customers if required (strongly recommended). A 1% surcharge is applied to any payment made by credit card and £25 for second and subsequent pets. Further details can be found on page 44.

## 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 8)









# A short history lesson...

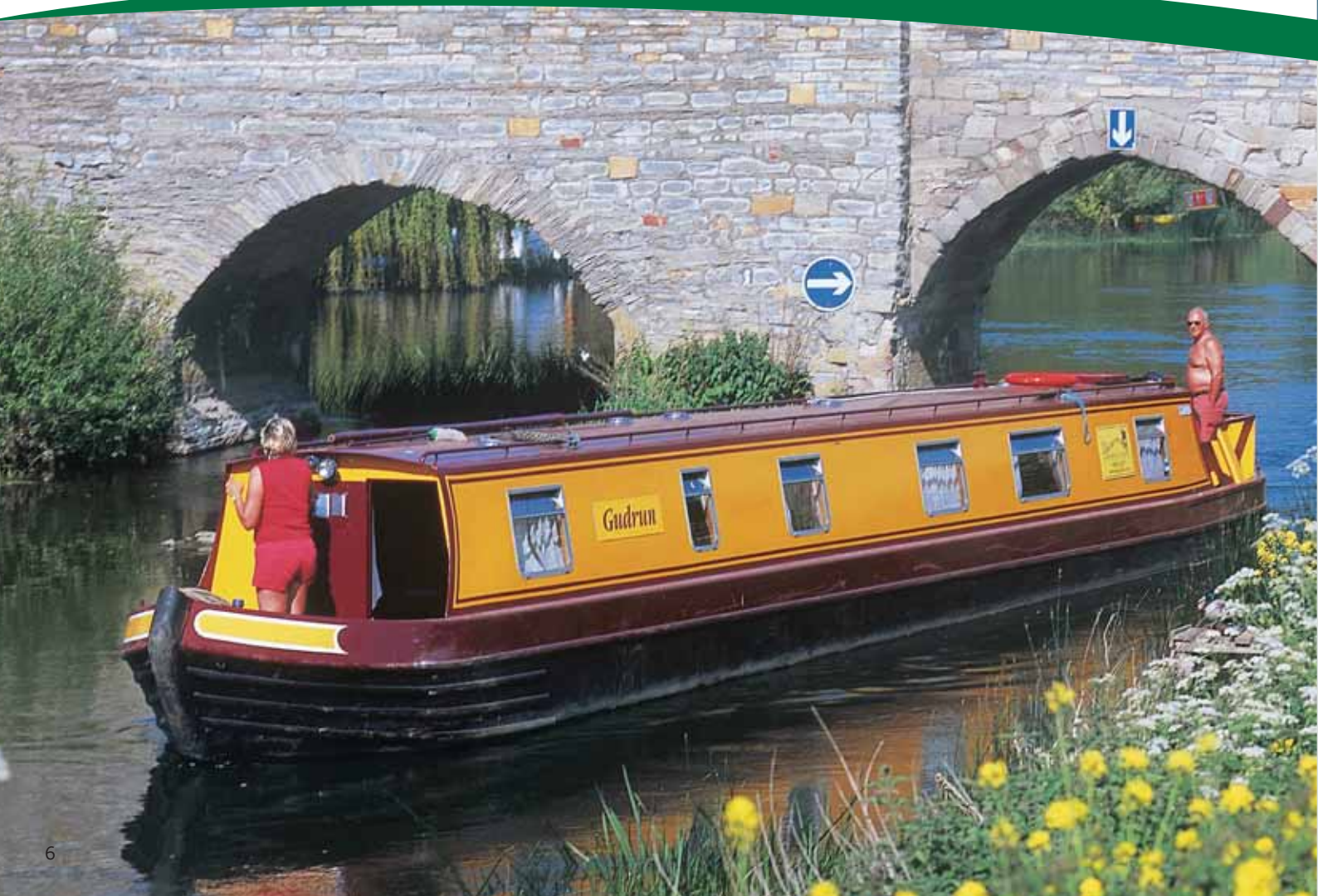
During the industrial revolution of the early 18th Century the transportation of heavy goods and raw materials by road was limited by a poor road network. Cart-horses were the only form of pulling-power and the alternative of movement of loads by river was very limited.

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 on to the horse-drawn boats. Once it opened it became the wonder of the age - and halved the price of coal in Manchester.

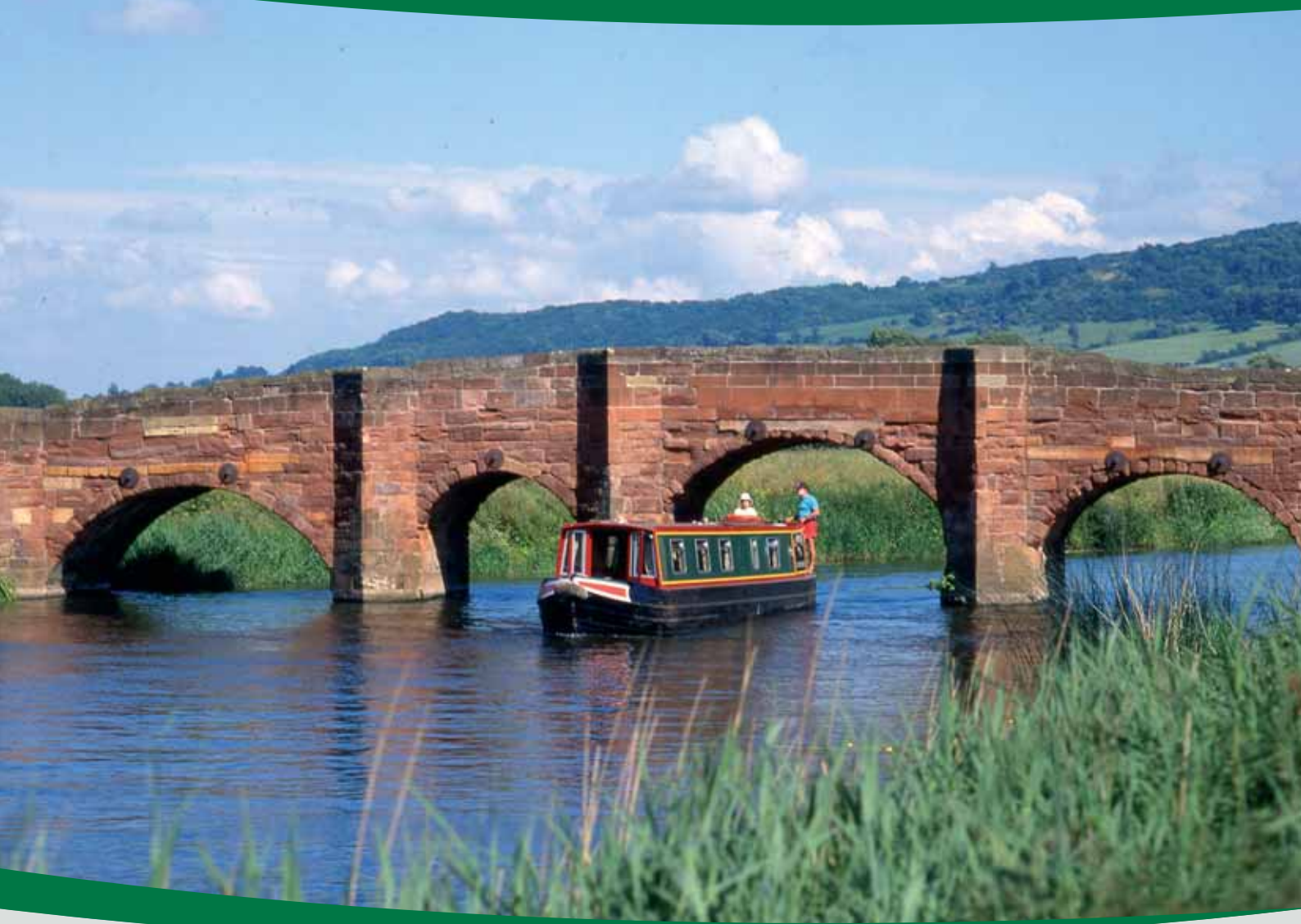
Over the next 30 years numerous canals were built, reaching a peak in 1793 when 20 new canals were authorised by Parliament and boats were also built to transport passengers. However, the

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 '50s, 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 reportedly spawned just 3 miles from Alvechurch itself, at the top of the Tardebigge lock flight.





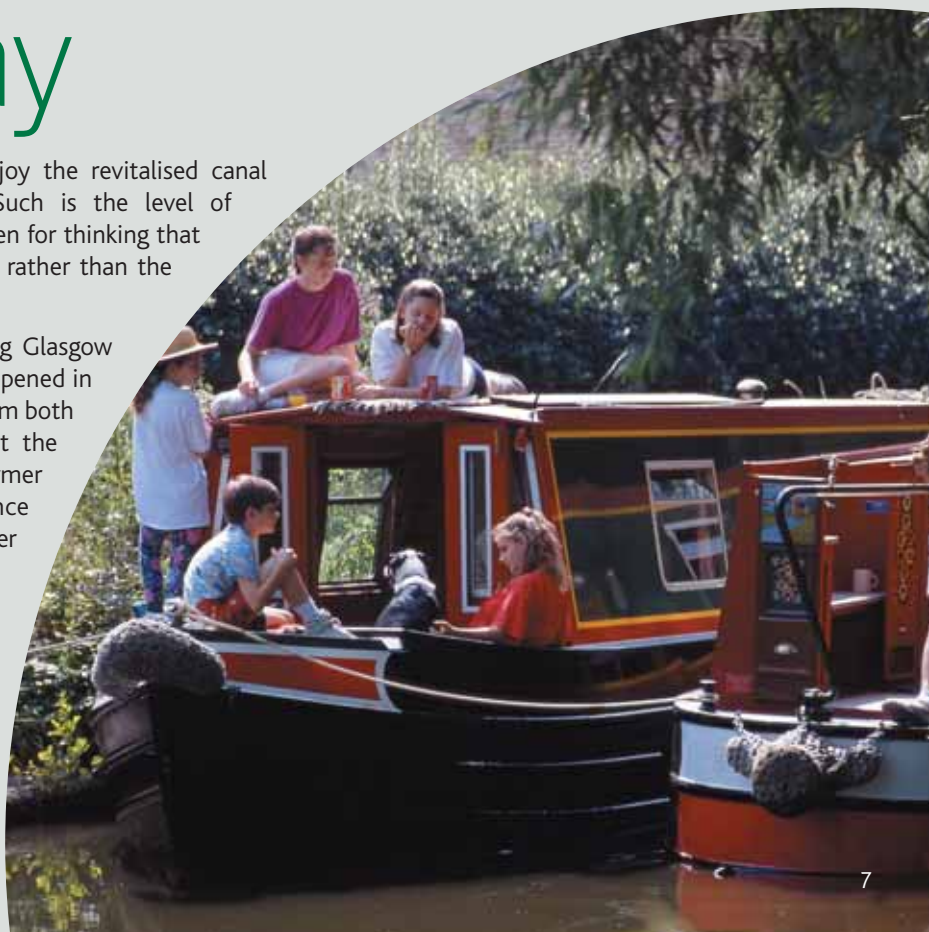


## ...and today

Today over 6000 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.



# Start Locations explained

# Spoilt for choice

The following pages give you a flavour of the most popular routes available but, with a few restraints, 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 cruising time in hours.

## 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](http://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](http://www.mooringsrestaurant.co.uk))



### Falkirk Base – Scotland – 07973 503916

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 recently 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.



### Worcester Marina – Worcestershire – 01905 734160

Based at the southern end of Worcester 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.



### 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 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 Monmouth and Brecon Canal which meanders through the Brecon Beacons National Park.

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.



# Scotland



**FALKIRK**

**ANDERTON**

**WRENBURY**

**WHITCHURCH**

**GAILEY**

**ALVECHURCH**

**WORCESTER**

**RUGBY**

**GATYON**

**GOYTRE**

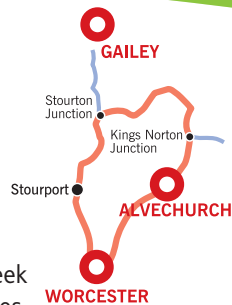
**HILPERTON**

# The Heart of England



## Stourport Ring

- Guides: P1, N2, L16
- From either Alvechurch or Worcester 7 nights, 7.5 hours per day, 116 locks
  - From Gailey 7 nights, 8.5 hours, 116 locks



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](http://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](http://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 factory. (Worcester TIC 01905 726311)

## Stratford-upon-Avon & return

- Guides: P2, N2, L15
- From Alvechurch 7 nights, 7 hours per day, 110 locks
  - From Worcester 7 nights, 6 hours per day, 44 locks (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](http://www.rsc.org.uk))
- The convenient Tourist Information Centre (0870 1607930) gives details of all you need to know about Shakespeare's birthplace.

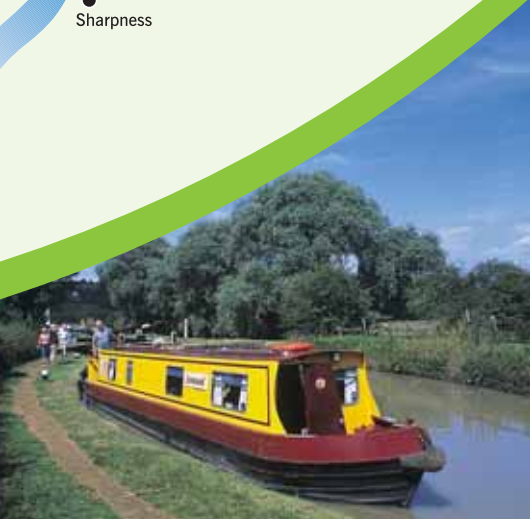
## The Black Country Ring

- Guides: P1, N3, L12
- From Gailey 7 Nights, 7.5 hours per day, 76 locks
  - From Alvechurch 7 nights, 8 hours per day, 80 locks



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





# short breaks

## Staffordshire & return

Guides: P1, N2, L16

- From Gailey to Stourport 7 nights, 6 hours per day, 58 locks
- From Worcester 7 days, 6 hours per day, 80 Locks
- From Gailey to Worcester & return 7 nights, 8 hours per day, 72 locks

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

Guides: P2, N2, L15

• From Alvechurch 3 nights, 4.5 hours per day, 0 locks (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 canal side from the top lock allows you to take in the atmosphere without the effort of travelling through yourself!

• From Alvechurch 4 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 36 locks (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](http://www.hattonworld.com))

## Avon Ring

Guides: P2, N2, L15

- From Alvechurch 14 nights or (10/11 nights, 6 hours a day), 139 locks
- From Worcester 14 nights or (10/11 nights, 6 hours a day), 139 locks (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

Guides: P6, N3, L13

- From Alvechurch 14 nights or (10/11 nights, 6 hours per day), 128 locks
- From Rugby 7 nights, 8+ hours per day, 107 locks
- From Gayton 10/11 nights, 7 hours per day, 120 locks

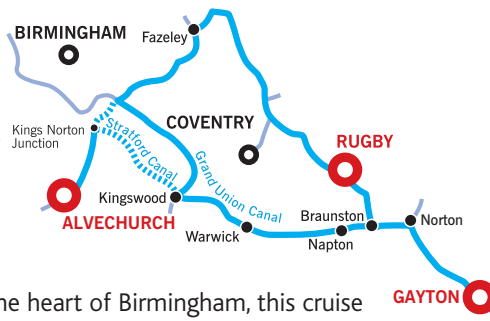
Another route with the option to moor at the heart of Birmingham, this cruise includes the spectacular Hatton locks and some fine stretches of the Grand Union Canal.  Once at Coventry, it is a short walk to the war-torn cathedral and its striking 1962 replacement.

 Drayton Manor Park & Zoo ([08708 725252](http://08708 725252) / [www.draytonmanor.co.uk](http://www.draytonmanor.co.uk)) and the Snow Dome at Tamworth ([08705 000011](http://08705 000011) / [www.snowdome.co.uk](http://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](http://Warwick Tourist Information Centre 01926 492212) / [www.warwick-uk.co.uk](http://www.warwick-uk.co.uk))

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



### > Stoke Prior & return

• From Worcester 3 nights, 5 hours per day, 38 locks  
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.

### > Stourport & return

• From Worcester 4 nights, 6 hours per day, 41 locks  
• From Gailey 7 nights, 8 hours per day, 72 locks  
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.

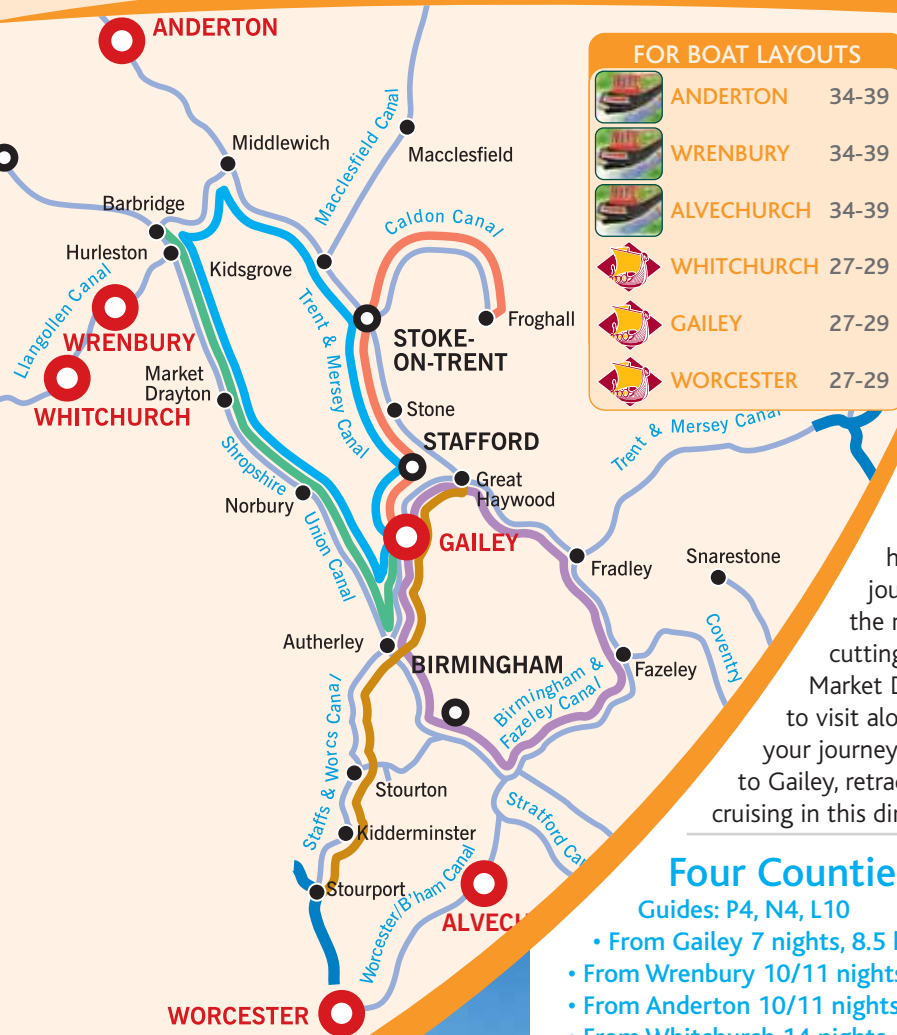
### > The Birmingham Mini-Ring

Guides: P1, N3, L13

• From Alvechurch 4 nights, 7.5 hours per day, 49 locks  
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](http://www.sealifeurope.com))



# Potteries & Peak District



## Shropshire Union Canal & return

Guides: P4, N4, L10

• From Gailey 7 nights, 6 hours per day, 58 locks

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

Guides: P4, N4, L10

- From Gailey 7 nights, 8.5 hours per day, 94 locks
- From Wrenbury 10/11 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 112 locks
- From Anderton 10/11 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 102 locks
- From Whitchurch 14 nights, 6 hours per day, 132 locks

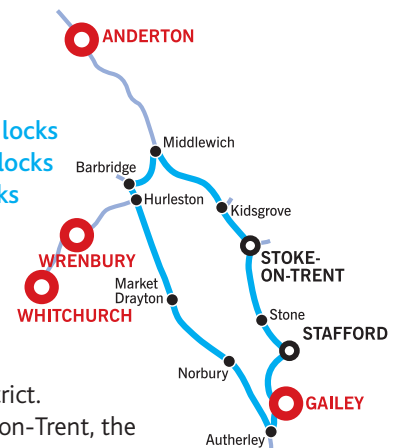
A fascinating voyage of discovery and well worth the extra bit of effort! The journey takes you along the wonderfully rural Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal to Great Haywood Junction where, passing under a distinctive roving bridge, you join the Trent and Mersey Canal heading north towards the 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.thewedgwoodstory.com](http://www.thewedgwoodstory.com))

- The National Trust's Shugborough Hall is a short walk from moorings at Great Haywood. (01889 881388 / [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk))





# short breaks



## Caldon Canal

Guides: P4, N4, L10

- From Gailey 7 nights, 8 hours per day, 78 locks
- From Wrenbury 10 nights, 7 hours per day, 16 locks
- From Anderton 7 nights, 7 hours per day, 104 locks
- From Whitchurch 10 nights, 7.5 hours per day, 136 locks

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.



## The Black Country Ring

Guides: P1, N3, L12

- From Gailey 7 Nights, 7 hours per day, 76 locks
- From Alvechurch 7 nights, 8 hours per day, 80 locks

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](http://www.bclm.co.uk))
- Amongst other attractions on the route are Dudley Zoo & Castle (01384 215313 / [www.dudleyzoo.org.uk](http://www.dudleyzoo.org.uk)), Drayton Manor Park (01827 287979)

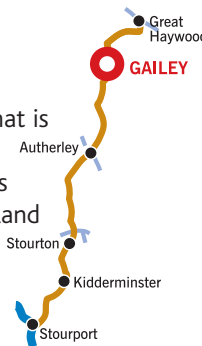


## Stourport & return

Guides: P1, N2, L16

- From Gailey 7 Nights, 6 hours per day, 58 locks

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.



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

### ➤ Norbury & return

Guides: P2, N4, L10

- From Gailey 3 nights, 5-6 hours per day, 4 locks
- The most leisurely of the available routes takes you down the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal to Atherley 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

Guides: P4, N4, L10

- From Gailey 4 nights, 6 hours per day, 14 locks
- If you are taking a four-day break the Norbury and return trip can be extended to Market Drayton before you turn around.

### ➤ Stone & return

Guides: P1, N2, L10

- From Gailey 4 nights, 6 hours per day, 30 locks
- Again, for those on a four-day 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

Guides: P4, N4, L10

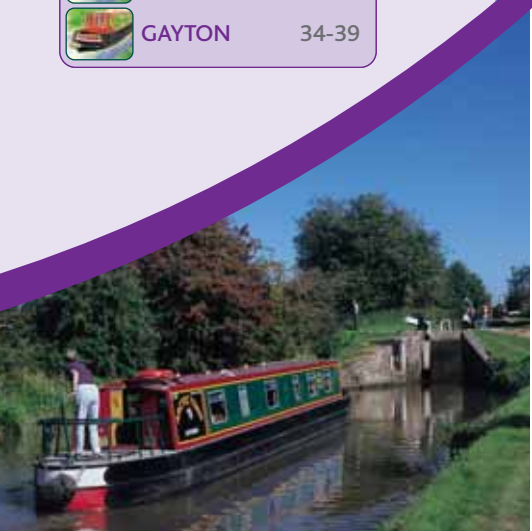
- From Gailey 3 nights, 6 hours per day, 36 locks
- An alternative cruise takes you up the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal to Great Haywood Junction, enabling you to visit Shugborough Hall.



# Shakespeare Country, Warwickshire a



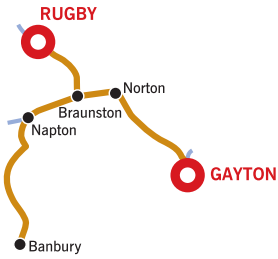
FOR BOAT LAYOUTS	
	GAILEY 27-29
	WORCESTER 27-29
	RUGBY 27-29
	ALVECHURCH 34-39
	GAYTON 34-39



## Banbury & return

- Guides: P7, N1, L17
- From Rugby, 7 nights, 5 hours per day, 50 locks
  - From Gayton 7 nights, 7 hours per day, 70 locks

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.

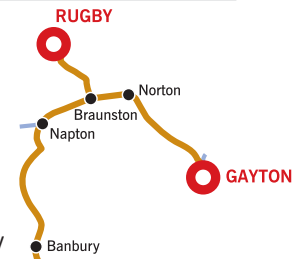


## Oxford & return

- Guides: P7, N1, L18
- From Rugby, 10/11 nights, 6 hours per day, 82 locks
  - From Gayton, 10/11 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 104 locks

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.

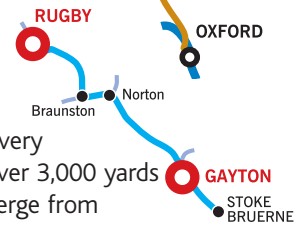
(Tourist Information 01865 726871)



## Stoke Bruerne & return

- Guides: P7, N1, L17 & 18
- From Rugby, 7 nights, 4+ hours per day, 30 locks

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.



## Warwickshire Ring

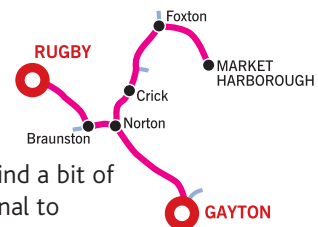
- Guides: P6, N3, L13
- From Rugby 7 nights, 8+ hours per day, 107 locks
  - From Gayton 10/11 nights, 7 hours per day, 120 locks
  - From Gailey 10/11 7 nights, 7 hours per day, 122 locks
  - From Alvechurch 14 nights or (10/11 nights, 6 hours per day), 128 locks

For more information see page 11

## Market Harborough & return

- Guides: P7, N1, L14
- From Rugby, 7 nights, 5 hours per day, 50 locks
  - From Gayton, 7 nights, 6 hours per day, 48 locks

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.





## Leicester or East Midlands Ring

Guides: P7, N1 & N3, L14 & L18

- From Rugby 14 nights, 5 hours per day, 100 locks
- From Gayton 14 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 115 locks

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 on to 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.



## The Grand Ring

Guides: The Geo Thames Ring Atlas (29) covers the entire route, or Nicholson's Guides 1 & 7

- From Gayton 14/21 nights, 6-9 hours per day, 175 locks

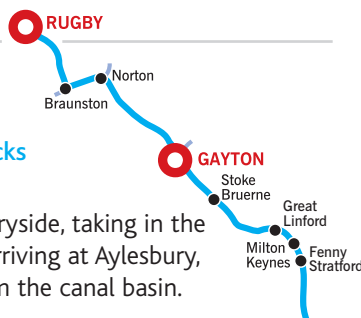
For more information see page 21

## Aylesbury & return

Guides: P7, N1, L18

- From Gayton 7/10 nights, 5-7.5 hours per day, 82 locks
- From Rugby 7/10 nights, 8 hours per day, 96 locks

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

Guides: P7, N1, L8, L14, L18 (except Snarestone - P6)

- From Gayton to Coventry 7 nights, 6 hours per day, 34 locks
- From Gayton to Snarestone 7 nights, 8 hours per day, 34 locks

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](http://www.leics.gov.uk))



## Warwick & return

Guides: P6, N3, L14

- From Gayton 7 nights, 6 hours per day, 72 locks
- From Rugby 7 nights, 6 hours per day, 56 locks

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

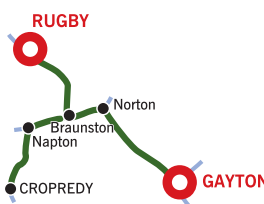


## Cropredy & return

Guides: P7, N1, L17

- From Gayton 7 nights, 6 hours per day, 62 locks
- From Rugby 7 nights, 6 hours per day, 40 locks

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)

### ➤ Snarestone & return

Guides: P7, N3, L14

- From Rugby 3 nights, 6 hours per day, 0 locks
- 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

Guides: P7, N1, L14

- From Rugby 3 nights, 6 hours per day, 6 locks
  - From Gayton 4 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 28 locks
- Crick and back, along the Grand Union Canal (Leicester Section).

### ➤ Welford & return

Guides: P7, N1, L14

- From Gayton 4 nights, 8.5 hours per day, 30 locks
  - From Rugby 4 nights, 6 hours per day, 16 locks
- Continue past Crick and a short detour up its own canal arm, Welford has plenty of overnight mooring places, with a reservoir and village to explore.

### ➤ Braunston or Napton & return

Guides: P7, N1, L18.

- From Gayton to Braunston 3 nights, 8 hours per day, 26 locks
  - From Gayton to Napton 4 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 26 locks
- 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

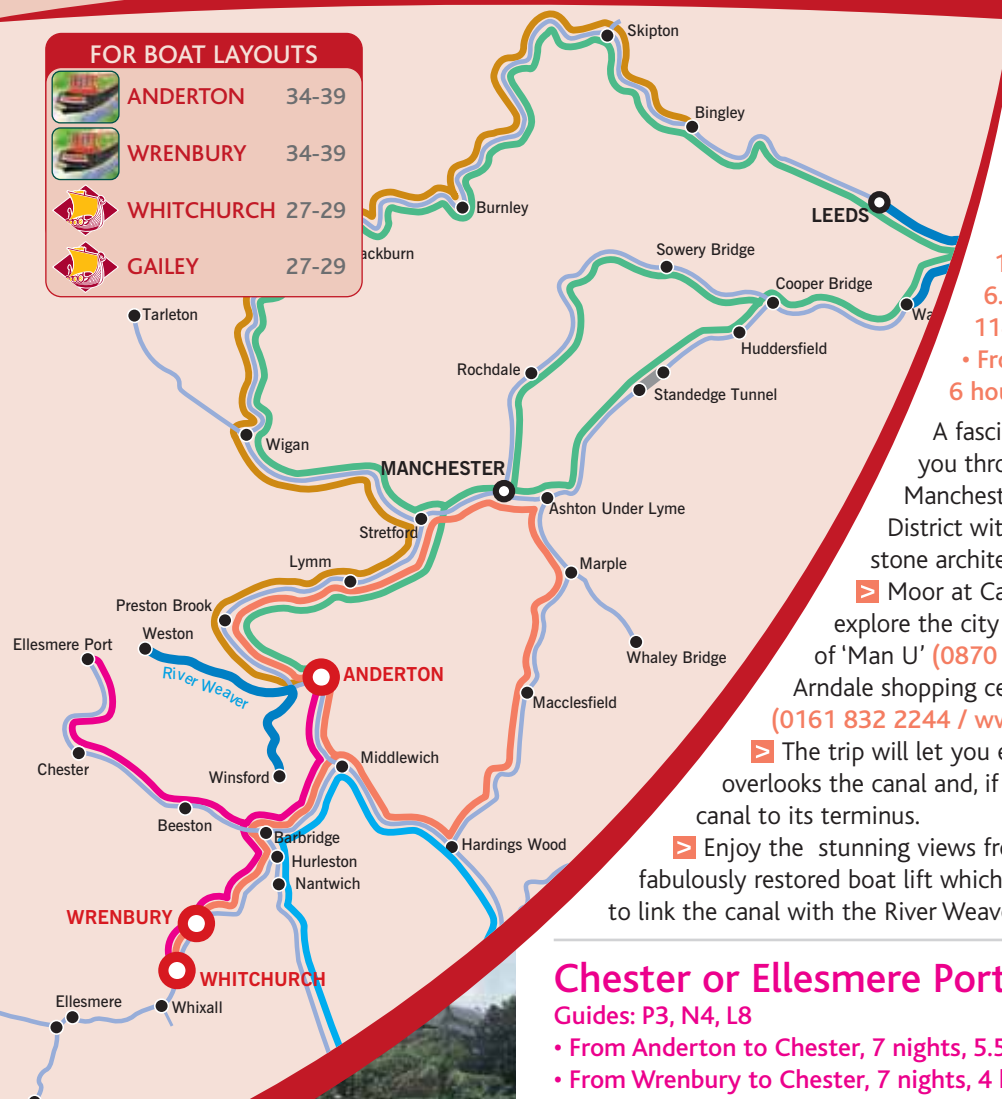
Guides: P7, N1, L18

- From Gayton to Great Linford 3 nights, 8 hours per day, 16 locks
  - From Gayton to Fenny Straford 4 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 18 locks
- Heading south towards Aylesbury, this route has a taste of everything even in just a weekend break. 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

	<b>ANDERTON</b>	34-39
	<b>WRENBURY</b>	34-39
	<b>WHITCHURCH</b>	27-29
	<b>GAILEY</b>	27-29



## The Cheshire Ring

Guides: P5, N5, L5

- From Anderton, 7 nights, 8 hours per day, 92 locks
- From Wrenbury 10/11 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 114 locks
- From Whitchurch 14 nights, 6 hours per day, 137 locks

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](http://0870 4421994) / [www.manutd.co.uk](http://www.manutd.co.uk)), the huge Arndale shopping centre and the Science & Industry Museum. ([0161 832 2244](http://0161 832 2244) / [www.msim.org.uk](http://www.msim.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

Guides: P3, N4, L8

- From Anderton to Chester, 7 nights, 5.5 hours per day, 44 locks
  - From Wrenbury to Chester, 7 nights, 4 hours per day, 46 locks
  - From Whitchurch to Chester, 7 nights, 5 hours per day, 66 locks
- For Ellesmere Port add 1.5 hours per day and 8 locks
- From Gailey 10 nights, 6.5 hours, 44 locks

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

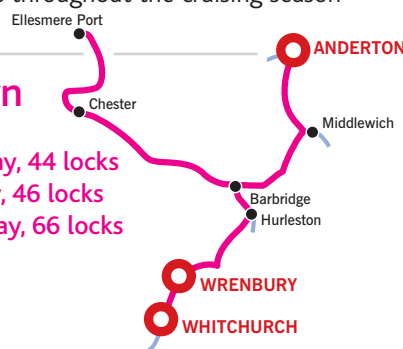
➤ You can choose to travel to Chester and then retrace your steps back to the marina or continue along the Shropshire Union main line to its historic terminal on the River Mersey at Ellesmere Port.

➤ 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](http://Chester TIC 01244 402111) / [www.chestertourism.com](http://www.chestertourism.com))

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

➤ The fascinating Boat Museum ([0151 355 5017](http://0151 355 5017) / [www.boatmuseum.org.uk](http://www.boatmuseum.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

Guides: P4, N4, L10

- From Anderton 10/11 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 102 locks
- From Wrenbury 10/11 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 112 locks
- From Whitchurch 10/11 nights, 7 hours per day, 132 locks
- From Gailey 7 nights, 8.5 hours per day, 110 locks

See page 12 for more details





# short breaks

## Bingley & return

Guides: P5, N5, L5

• From Anderton, 14/21 nights, 8+ hours per day, 134 locks (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

Guides: P5, N5, L5

• From Anderton 3 nights, 9 hours per day, 2 locks

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.

## The South Pennine Ring

Guides: P5, N5, L5

• From Anderton 21 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 227 locks (Max 58ft boats)

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

➤ At 5698 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.



### ➤ Beeston or Nantwich & return

Guides: P3 or P4, N4, L5 or L8

• From Anderton – Nantwich 3 nights,

8.5 hours per day, 16 locks

• From Anderton – Beeston 3 nights,

10 hours per day, 16 locks

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

Guides: P5, N4, L5

• From Anderton 4 nights, 5 hours per day, 10 locks

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](http://www.saltmuseum.org.uk))

- Head south to the head of the navigation and the wildlife haven of the Winsford Flash lakes.



# Wales and the Marches



FOR BOAT LAYOUTS	
	GAILEY 27-29
	WHITCHURCH 27-29
	WRENBURY 34-39
	ANDERTON 34-39
	GOYTRE 32-33

## Llangollen & return

Guides: P3, N4, L8, G20

- From Whitchurch 7 nights, 4 hours per day, 4 locks
- From Wrenbury 7 nights, 5.5 hours per day, 24 locks

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.

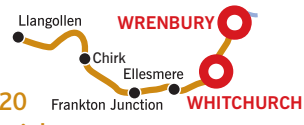
It boasts one of the most striking features on the UK canals - the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct which can be reached from both Whitchurch and Wrenbury in a week or 4 night mid week break (you will not be able to cross over the aqueduct in a 3 night weekend break).

➤ 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 (£5.00 per night per boat, need to arrive by 4.30pm).

➤ Take a steam train ride ([www.llangollen-railway.co.uk](http://www.llangollen-railway.co.uk)) from Llangollen up the Dee Valley or visit the ruins of Castell Dinas Bran.



## Chester or Ellesmere Port & return

Guides: P3, N4, L8

- From Anderton to Chester, 7 nights, 5.5 hours per day, 44 locks
  - From Wrenbury to Chester, 7 nights, 4 hours per day, 46 locks
  - From Whitchurch to Chester, 7 nights, 5 hours per day, 66 locks
  - From Gailey 10 nights, 6.5 hours, 44 locks
- For Ellesmere Port add 1.5 hours per day and 8 locks

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 Boat Museum ([0151 355 5017 / www.boatmuseum.org.uk](http://www.boatmuseum.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.





# short breaks



## The Cheshire Ring

Guides: P5, N5, L5

- From Anderton, 7 nights, 8 hours per day, 92 locks
- From Wrenbury 7 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 114 locks
- From Whitchurch 14 nights, 6 hours per day, 137 locks

See page 16 for more details.

## Four Counties Ring

Guides: P4, N4, L10

- From Anderton 10/11 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 102 locks
- From Wrenbury 10/11 nights, 6.5 hours per day, 112 locks
- From Whitchurch 14 nights, 6 hours per day, 132 locks
- From Gailey 7 nights, 8.5 hours per day, 110 locks

This is a popular circular route that takes you on a fascinating journey through parts of Shropshire, Staffordshire, West Midlands and Cheshire. This is an active trip, but well worth the extra effort. There is lots to see including Wedgwood Pottery factory (01782 204141) and the Wedgwood Museum at Barlaston (01782 282986 / [www.thewedgwoodstory.com](http://www.thewedgwoodstory.com)), the impressive 2926-yard long Harecastle Tunnel and Shrugborough Hall (01889 881388 / [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)) at Great Haywood. You will travel on the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, the Trent and Mersey, Shropshire Union and Llangollen Canal depending on which base you start from, giving you a variety of scenery from the rolling Staffordshire countryside to the Cheshire Plains to extensive views of the beautiful Shropshire countryside. See page 12 for more details.

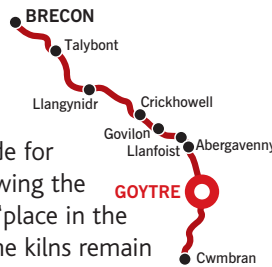


## Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal

Guides: P3, N4, L24

- From Goytre 7 nights, 7.5 hours per day, 12 Locks

The canal meanders and threads its way through the countryside for 36 miles with a remarkable diversity of scenery and often following the magnificent River Usk. 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 and with its licensed restaurant providing 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 Brecon at the other end it passes close to Abergavenny, often referred to as the gateway to Wales, Crickhowell with its 13 arch bridge, Talybont -on-Usk with its four mile long reservoir, and a number of other delightful villages.



## Llangynidr & return

Guides: P3, N4, L24

- From Goytre 3 nights, 7 hours a day, 0 or 2 locks

You can choose a leisurely lock free cruise with fine views along the valley and 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

Guides: P3, N4, L24

- From Goytre 4 nights, 7 hours a day, 10 locks

This trip takes you further up the canal climbing 5 locks and 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.



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

### ➤ Whitchurch or Wrenbury & return

Guides: P3, N4, L8, G20

- From Wrenbury 3 nights, 6 hours per day, 20 locks
- From Whitchurch 3 nights, 6 hours per day, 20 locks

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

Guides: P3, N4, L8, G20

- From Wrenbury 3 nights, 8.5 hours per day, 20 locks
- From Whitchurch 3 nights, 5.5 hours per day, 0 locks

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.

### ➤ Hurlston Junction & return

Guides: P3, N4, L8, G20

- From Whitchurch 4 nights, 8 hours per day, 32 locks
- From Wrenbury 3 nights, 8 hours per day, 16 locks

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

### ➤ Chirk & return

Guides: P3, N4, L8, G20

- From Wrenbury 4 nights, 8.5 hours per day, 24 locks

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

Guides: P3, N4, L8

- From Wrenbury to Chester, 4 nights, 8 hours per day, 46 locks. For Ellesmere Port add 2.5 hours per day and 8 locks
- See 7 night trip for more details

### ➤ Llangollen & return

Guides: P3, N4, L8, G20

- From Whitchurch 4 nights, 8+ hours per day, 4 locks

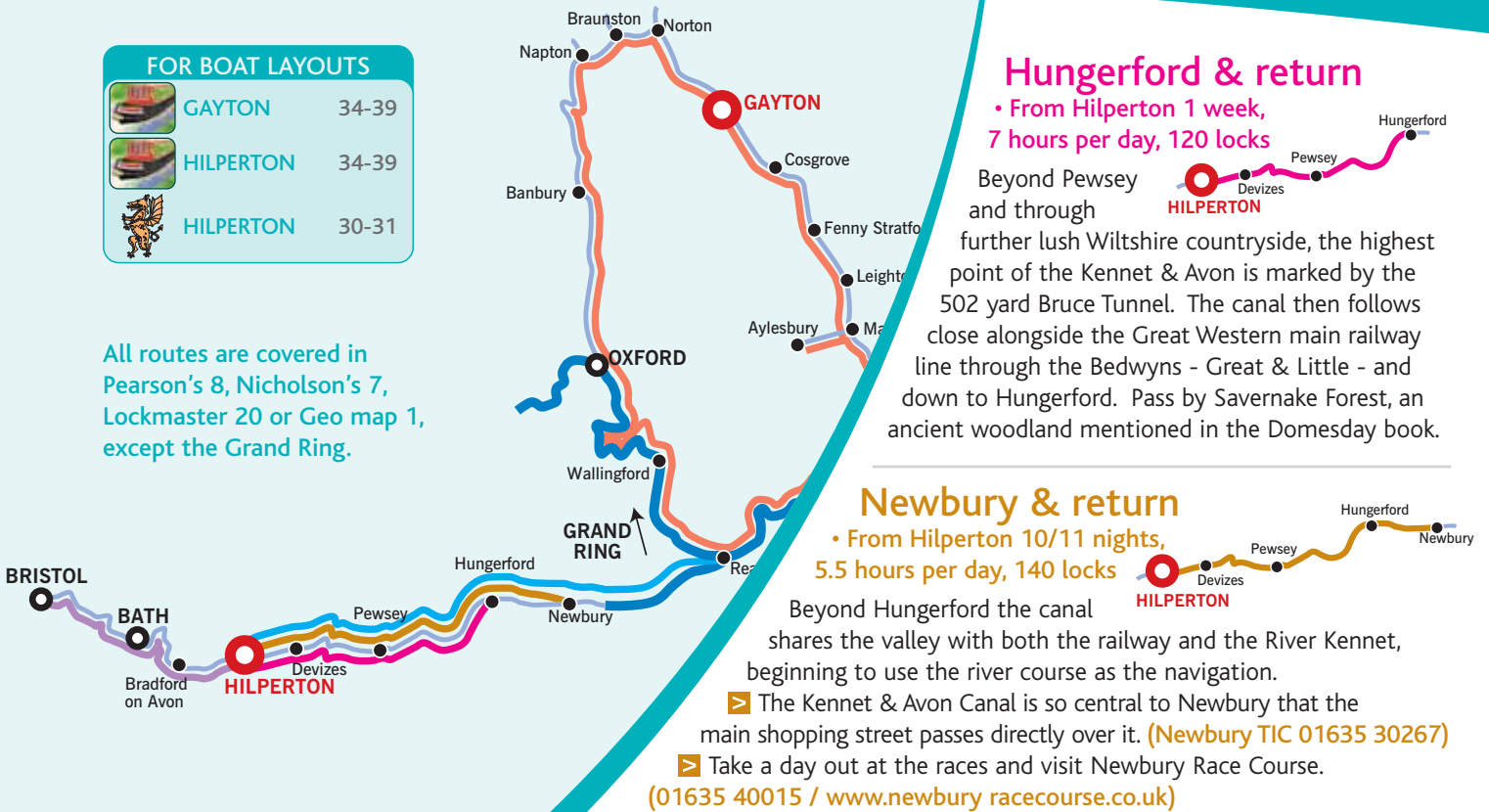
See 7 night trip for more details.

# Wessex and the Cotswolds

## FOR BOAT LAYOUTS

	GAYTON	34-39
	HILPERTON	34-39
	HILPERTON	30-31

All routes are covered in Pearson's 8, Nicholson's 7, Lockmaster 20 or Geo map 1, except the Grand Ring.



## Hungerford & return

• From Hilperton 1 week, 7 hours per day, 120 locks

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

• From Hilperton 10/11 nights, 5.5 hours per day, 140 locks

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

• From Hilperton 2 weeks, 6 hours per day, 186 locks

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](http://www.blakeslockmuseum.org.uk)), Reading Museum ([0118 939 9800 / www.readingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.readingmuseum.org.uk)) or the Museum of English Rural Life ([0118 378 8660 / www.ruralhistory.org](http://www.ruralhistory.org)), or you could shop at the retail park known as 'The Oracle' which is located next to the canal.

## Bristol & return

• From Hilperton 7 nights, 4 hours per day, 28 locks

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 (£1.20 per metre, £20.00 plus per night approximately).
- ▶ Frequent reminders of the route's industrial history such as the brass mill at Kelston are found within rolling valley countryside.





# short breaks



## The Grand Ring

Guides: The Geo Thames Ring Atlas (29) covers the entire route, or Nicholson's Guides 1 & 7

• From Gayton 14/21 nights, 6-9 hours per day, 175 locks

This ultimate ring takes two weeks to complete, or includes plenty to see and do over a three week cruise. An extra licence 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](http://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](http://www.zsl.org/london-zoo)) and Camden market.



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

### ➤ Devizes & return

• 4 nights, 6 hours per day, 72 locks  
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](http://www.katrust.org))  
- Reward yourself after the strenuous rise studying the history of Wadworth & Co ([www.wadworth.co.uk](http://www.wadworth.co.uk)), local brewers who still make local deliveries with a shire horse team!

### ➤ Bradford on Avon / Bottom of Caen & return

• 3 nights, 4.5 hours per day, 14 locks  
For an easy weekend to combine cruising and exploring, spend a day in Bradford on Avon 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

• 3/4 nights, 4-6 hours per day, 2 locks (east of Bath), 14 locks (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](http://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](http://www.claverton.org)) and American Museum (01225 460503 / [www.americanmuseum.org](http://www.americanmuseum.org)) may be incongruous with each other but will certainly satisfy differing interests.



All routes are covered in Pearson's 8, Nicholson's 7, Lockmaster 20 or Geo map 1.

# Scotland, the Falkirk Wheel, Edinburg



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](http://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](http://www.scottish.heartlands.org))



## Bowling & return

• 1 week, 40 hours, 48 locks

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 & new, stunning views of the Clyde and relics of the ship-building era.

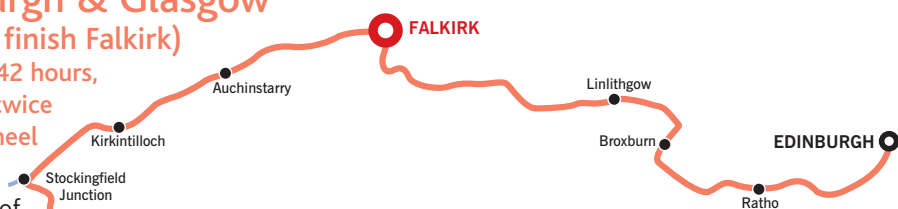


## Edinburgh & Glasgow (start & finish Falkirk)

• 1 week, 42 hours, 14 locks, twice via the wheel

Complete the width of Scotland, and Glasgow

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](http://01324 619888) / [www.thefalkirkwheel.co.uk](http://www.thefalkirkwheel.co.uk)).







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.alvechurch.com/marinas/falkirk](http://www.alvechurch.com/marinas/falkirk).



Weekends: Friday to Monday (3 nights)

Midweek: Monday to Friday (4 nights)

### > Glasgow & return

• 3-4 nights, 6.5-10 hours per day, 8 locks

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](http://www.glasgowguide.co.uk)

### > Edinburgh & return

• 3-4 nights, 7.5-10 hours per day, 6 locks, 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](http://www.beecraigs.com)) and the beautifully preserved remains of Linlithgow Palace on the shore of Linlithgow Loch (0131 668 8600 / [www.historic-scotland.net](http://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](http://www.edinburgh.org.uk))

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

# 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 caddy
- 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



## Miscellaneous 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
- Toothmug
- 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



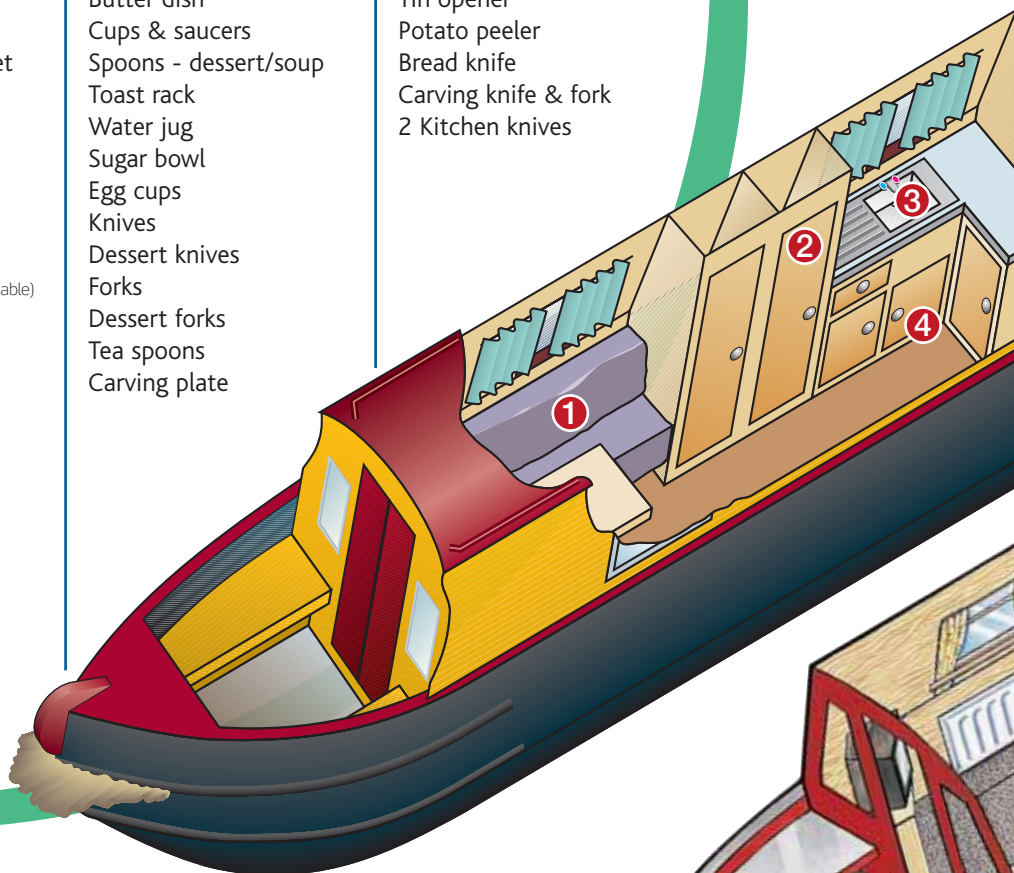
## Cutlery, Crockery & Glass

- 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



CruiserSterns



Semi-Traditional Stern



Traditional Stern



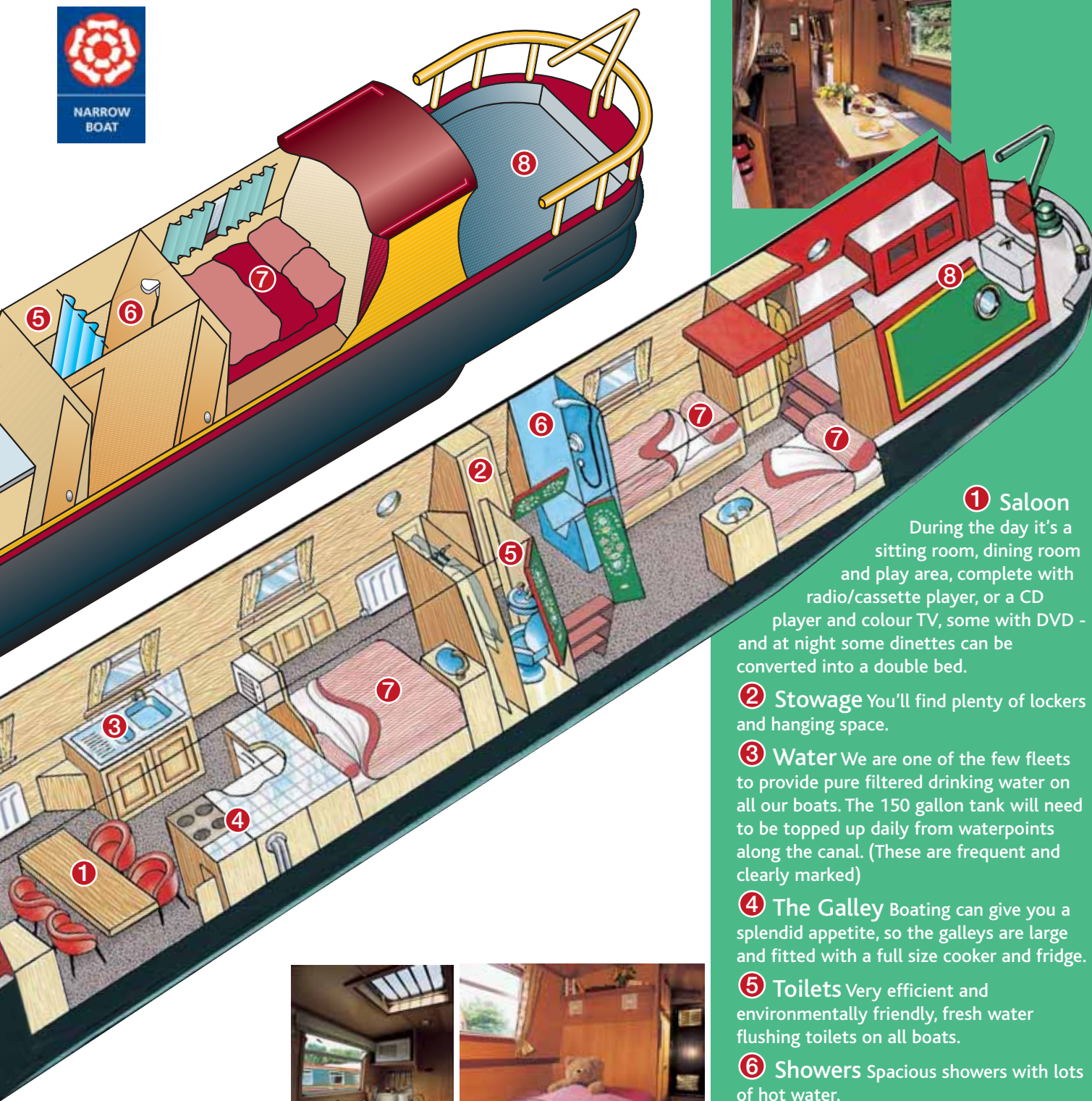


## So much choice

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 radio/cassette player, or a CD player and colour TV, some with DVD - 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 - all fuel is included.



# 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 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
- Colour television (reception variable at canal level) with **DVD** where marked
- Radio / cassette player – unless marked, **CD** which have a radio / CD player
- 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, Sunday, for weeks or more. Monday / Friday boats are available for either short breaks, weekly hire or 10/11 nights.

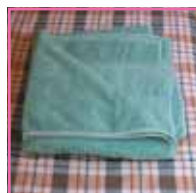
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	
Anderton	✓		
Worcester	✓		

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.



## Towels

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



## Pipe beds

Some classes of boat are equipped with temporary berths, known as 'pipe beds'. Suitable for children over 5, of up to 10 stone (65kg), these give greater flexibility and sleeping capacity.



## Cot sides

For that extra peace of mind with toddlers and younger children – request on the booking form.

## 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.

## Visit Britain Classifications

One to Five stars - tell you the range of facilities and equipment you can expect. The more stars the greater the range. The star rating shown against each boat is relevant for the occupancy shown.



## 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, 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' or quilted toilet paper.



## Eco-Hull

The environmentally friendly design of the Eco-Hull is the result of extensive research reducing the wash (that erodes banks) from the hull as well as reducing fuel consumption and exhaust emissions.

*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.*



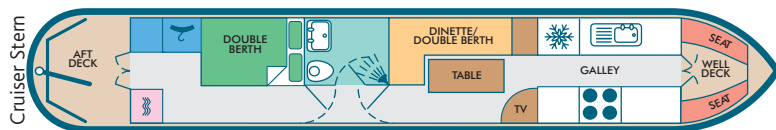
# Viking Fleet Boat Layouts



The Viking Afloat fleet operates from Worcester, Whitchurch, Rugby and Gailey (See pages 8-19 for details of routes). We operate 8 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 - Layout 1 2 Berth Length 42ft. Sleeps 2

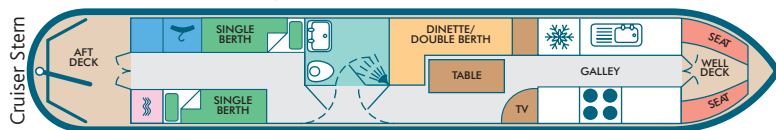


One double berth and one dinette/double berth



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

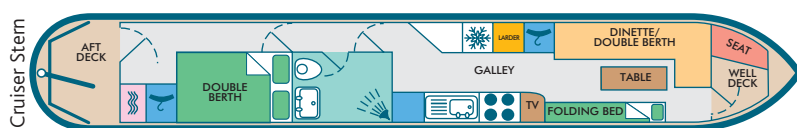
## Nene Class - Layout 2 2 Berth Length 42ft. Sleeps 2



Two single berths and one dinette/double berth



## Trent Class 2/4 Berth Length 45ft. Sleeps 4

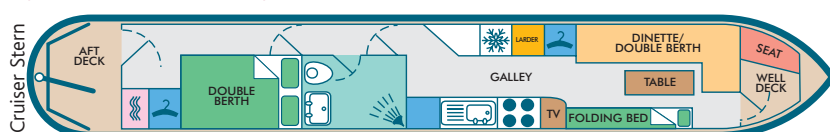


One Double berth, one dinette/double berth (or two single berths)



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

## Tyne Class - Layout 1 2/4 Berth Length 48ft. Sleeps 4



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



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

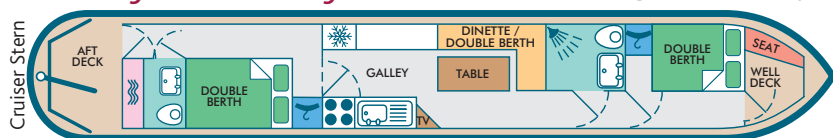
## Tyne Class - Layout 2 2/4 Berth Length 48ft. Sleeps 4



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



## Medway Class - Layout 1 4/6 Berth Length 57ft. Sleeps 6



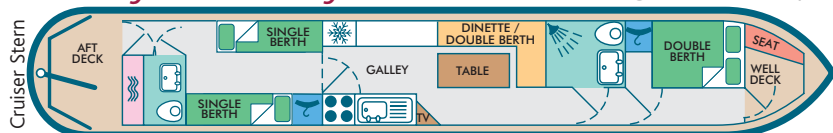
Two double berths, one dinette/double berth



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

Price Code: **J**

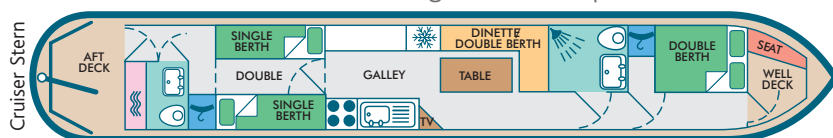
## Medway Class - Layout 2 4/6 Berth Length 57ft. Sleeps 6



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



## Medina Class 4/6 Berth Length 57ft. Sleeps 6



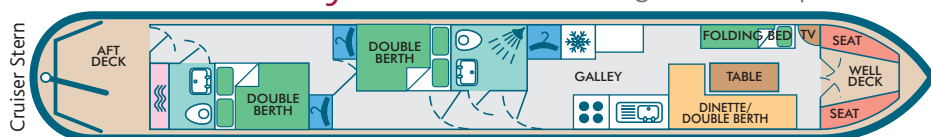
One double berth, one dinette/double berth, two single berths (can be converted into a third double)



BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Worcester	✓	✓	

Price Code: **I**

## Derwent Class - Layout 1 4/6 Berth Length 60ft. Sleeps 6



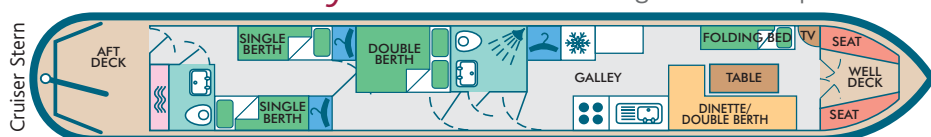
Two double berths, one dinette/double berth (or two single berths)



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

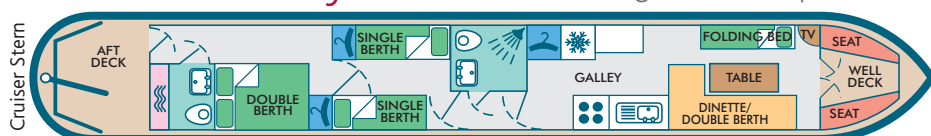
Price Code: **K**

## Derwent Class - Layout 2 4/6 Berth Length 60ft. Sleeps 6



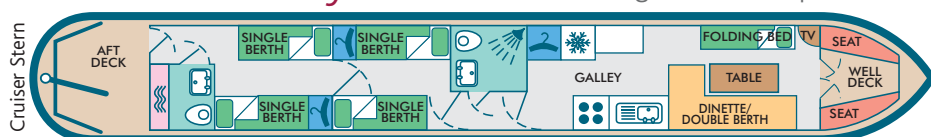
One double berth, two single berths, one dinette/double berth (or two further single berths)

## Derwent Class - Layout 3 4/6 Berth Length 60ft. Sleeps 6



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

## Derwent Class - Layout 4 4/6 Berth Length 60ft. Sleeps 6



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





## Severn Class 6/8 Berth Length 61ft. Sleeps 8

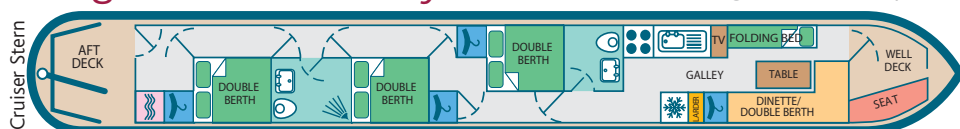


BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Worcester	✓		
Price Code:	M		

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



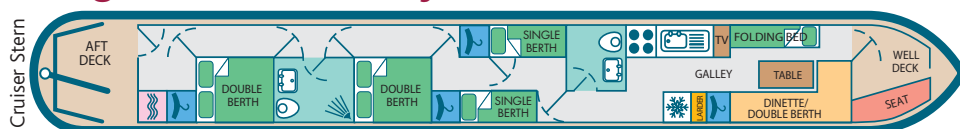
## Viking Weaver Class - Layout 1 6/8 Berth Length 68ft. Sleeps 8



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

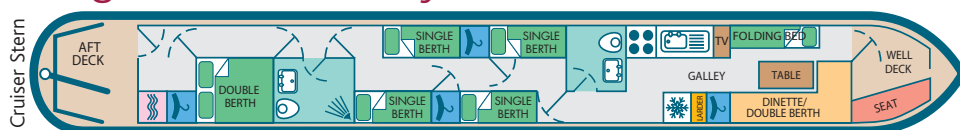
Three doubles, one dinette/double berth (or two single berths)

## Viking Weaver Class - Layout 2 6/8 Berth Length 68ft. Sleeps 8



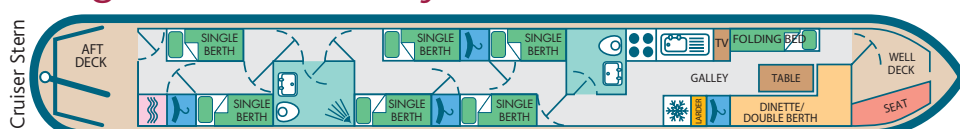
Two doubles, two single berths, one dinette/double berth (or two single berths)

## Viking Weaver Class - Layout 3 6/8 Berth Length 68ft. Sleeps 8



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

## Viking Weaver Class - Layout 4 6/8 Berth Length 68ft. Sleeps 8



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



# Wessex Fleet Boat Layouts

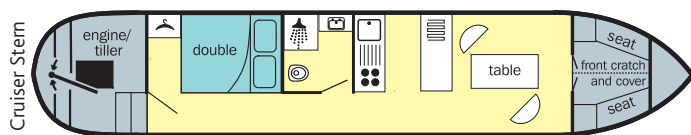


**WESSEX  
NARROWBOATS**

The Wessex Boat fleet operates exclusively from Hilperton Marina (See pages 20-21 for details of the routes) and is booked through Alvechurch Waterway Holidays. Each of the Wessex boats have been individually designed and built providing 10 unique boat layouts suitable for between 2 to 8 people. Wessex Elaine & Morgaine have saloons that can provide either cross doubles or

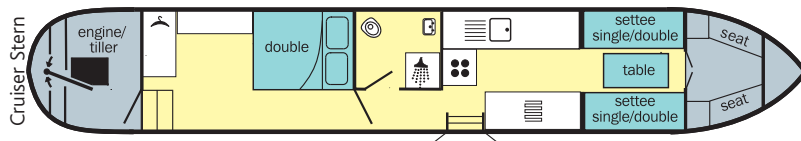
two single berths, and Wessex Snowgoose has two cabins that can be either a double or two single berths which we will set up if you let us know your requirements. All the Wessex boats have been Tourist Board rated between 3 and 5 stars when the saloon is not used as a berth at night.

## Wessex Galahad 2 Berth Length 40ft. Sleeps 2



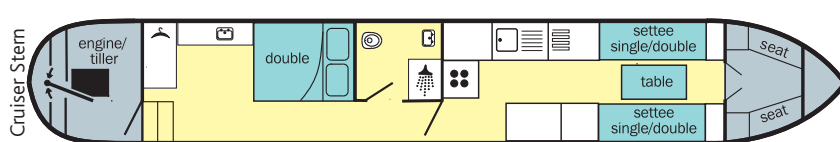
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton	✓		
Price Code:	<b>B</b>		

## Wessex Elaine 2/4 Berth Length 47ft. Sleeps 4



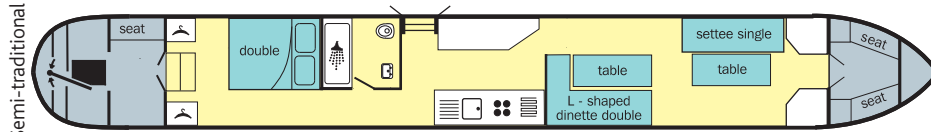
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton	✓		
Price Code:	<b>F</b>		

## Wessex Morgaine 2/4 Berth Length 50ft. Sleeps 4



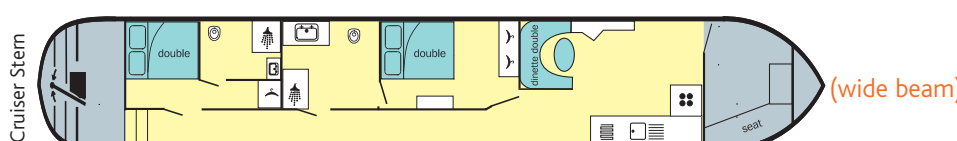
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton	✓		
Price Code:	<b>G</b>		

## Wessex Bedivere 2/5 Berth Length 60ft. Sleeps 5



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

## Wessex Pellinore 4/6 Berth Length 55ft. Width 10ft 6". Sleeps 6

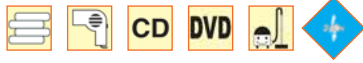
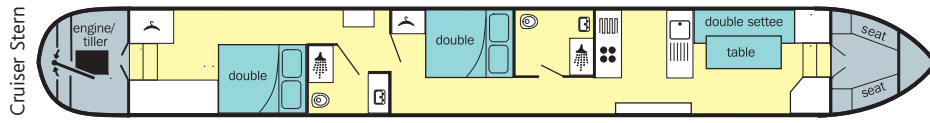


BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton	✓		
Price Code:	<b>V</b>		

The 240v power supply on this boat is produced via a generator, so only available when the engine is running.

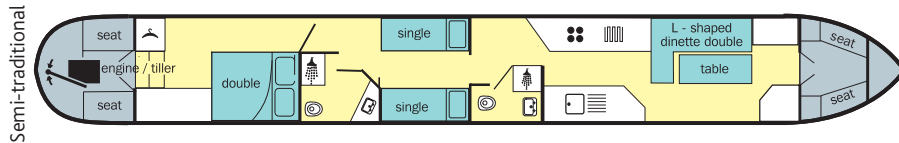


**Wessex Gawaine** 4/6 Berth Length 62ft. Sleeps 6



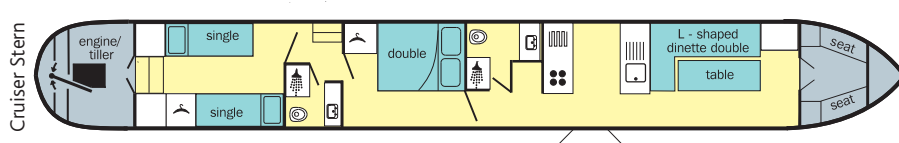
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton		✓	
Price Code:	O		

**Wessex Empress** 4/6 Berth Length 58ft. Sleeps 6



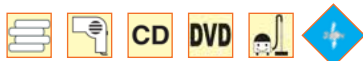
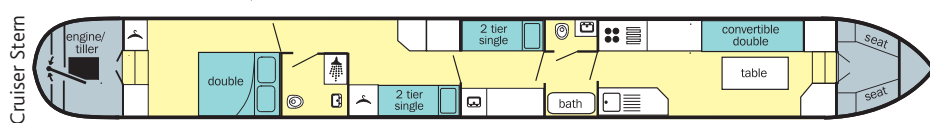
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton		✓	
Price Code:	O		

**Wessex Accolon** 4/6 Berth Length 60ft. Sleeps 6



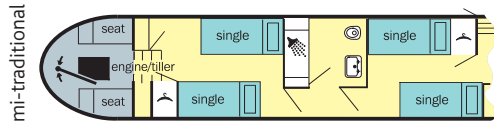
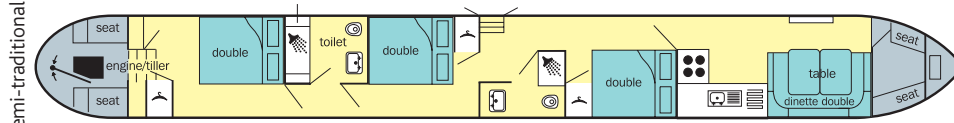
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Hilperton	✓		
Price Code:	P		

**Wessex Merlin** 6/8 Berth Length 67ft. Sleeps 8



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

**Wessex Snow Goose** 6/8 Berth Length 69ft. Sleeps 8



Alternative rear cabin layout



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



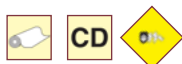
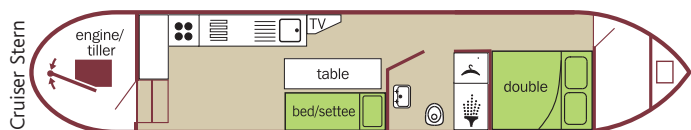
# Red Line Fleet Boat Layouts



The Red Line fleet booked through Alvechurch operates from Goytre Wharf (route page 19) 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

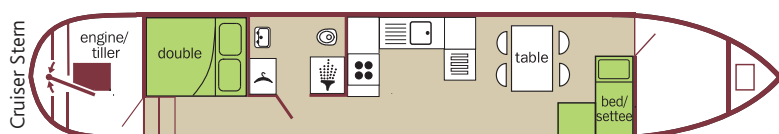
constraints of this unique canal and the development of the Red Line fleet over a number of years providing both narrow and broad beam boats for between 2 and 8 people. All Red Line Boats have been tourist board inspected and awarded the ratings shown

## Red Shank 2/3 Berth Length 36ft. Sleeps 3



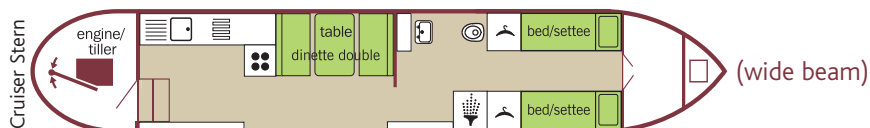
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Goytre Wharf		✓	
Price Code:	B		

## Red Kite 2/3 Berth Length 42ft. Sleeps 3



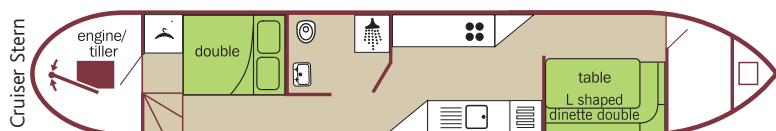
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Goytre Wharf		✓	
Price Code:	B		

## Red Swan 2/4 Berth Length 38ft. Width 7ft. 6in. Sleeps 4



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

## Red Start 2/4 Berth Length 40ft. Sleeps 4

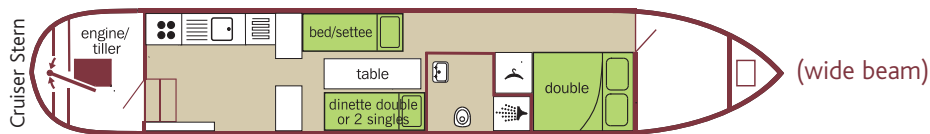


BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Goytre Wharf		✓	
Price Code:	B		



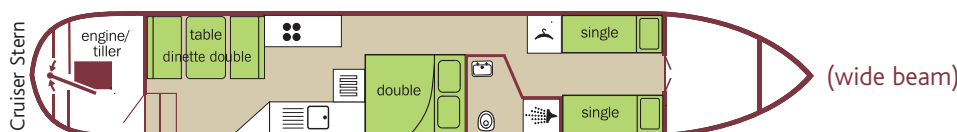


**Red Cardinal** 2/4 Berth Length 40ft. Width 8ft. Sleeps 4



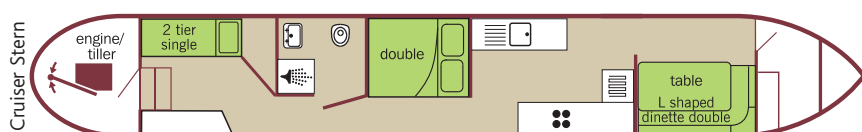
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Goytre Wharf		✓	
Price Code:	C		

**Red Dove** 4/6 Berth Length 45ft. Width 8ft. Sleeps 6



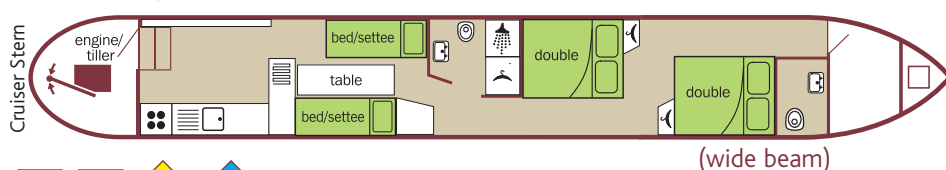
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Goytre Wharf		✓	
Price Code:	H		

**Red Grouse** 4/6 Berth Length 48ft. Sleeps 6



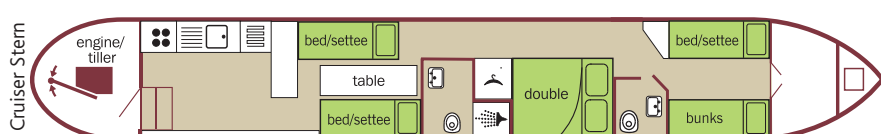
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Goytre Wharf	✓		
Price Code:	H		

**Red Wing** 4/6 Berth Length 53ft. Width 7ft. 6in. Sleeps 6



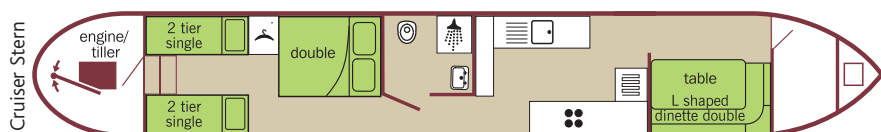
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Goytre Wharf		✓	
Price Code:	I		

**Red Crest** 4/7 Berth Length 51ft. Sleeps 7



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

**Red Hawk** 6/8 Berth Length 50ft. Sleeps 8



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

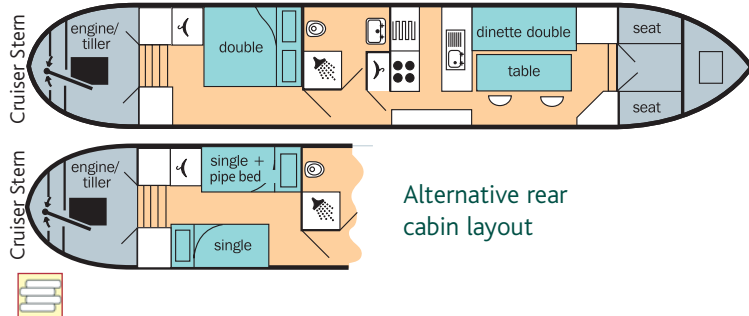
# Alvechurch Fleet Boat Layouts



The Alvechurch Boat fleet operates from Alvechurch, Anderton, Falkirk, Gayton, Hilperton and Wrenbury start bases (See pages 8-23 for details of the routes). The fleet has 25 different boat classes, many with the option of either single or double berth configurations which provides the very widest choice for 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 is not used as a berth at night.



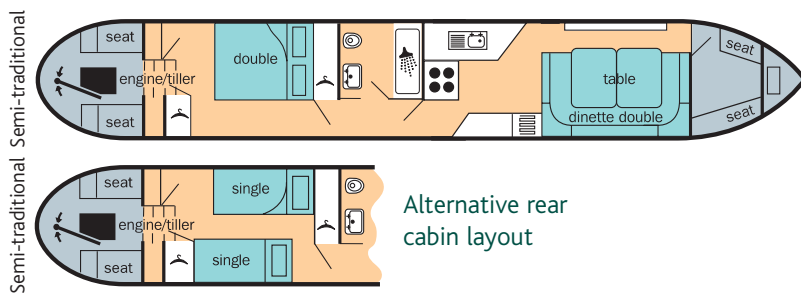
## Crow 2/5 Berth Length 45ft. Sleeps up to 5 (1 on pipe bed)



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

Price Code: **E**

## Alvechurch Weaver 2/4 Berth Length 47ft. Sleeps 4



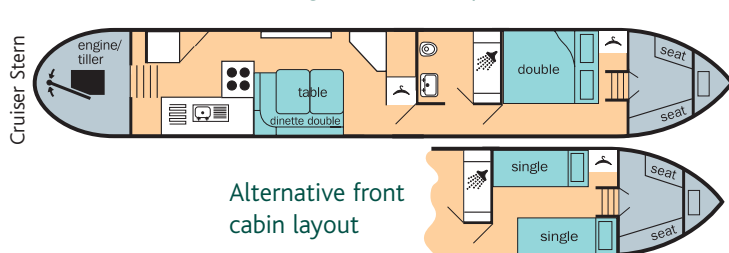
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch		✓	✓
Falkirk	✓	✓	
Gayton		✓	
Hilperton		✓	✓
Wrenbury		✓	✓

Price Code: **J**



**£50 per head under occupancy discount**

## Grebe 2/4 Berth Length 49ft. Sleeps 4



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

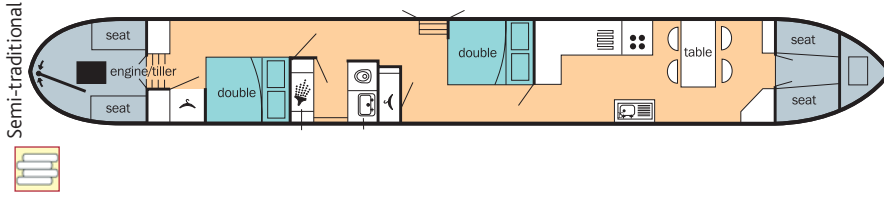
Price Code: **J**



**£50 per head under occupancy discount**



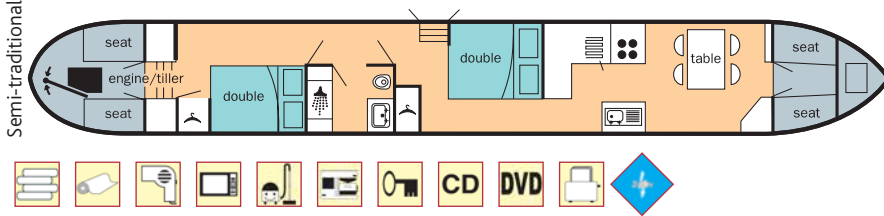
**Skua** 4 Berth Length 58ft. Sleeps 4



4 Berth

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch		✓	
Wrenbury		✓	
Price Code:	J		

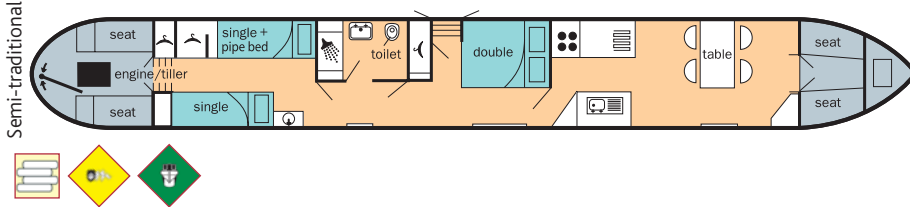
**Pipit** 4 Berth Length 58ft. Sleeps 4



4 Berth

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Anderton	✓		
Gayton		✓	
Price Code:	K		

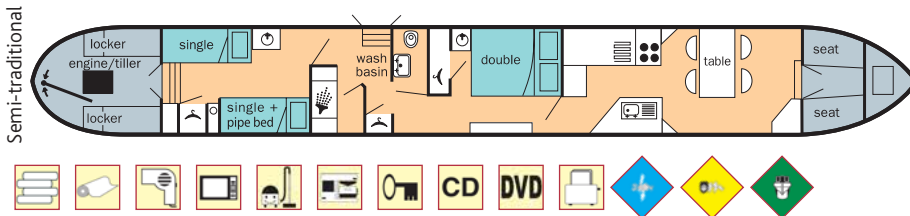
**Partridge** 4/5 Berth Length 60ft. Sleeps up to 5 (1 on pipe bed)



4 Berth

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

**Swift** 4/5 Berth Length 63ft. Sleeps up to 5 (1 on pipe bed)

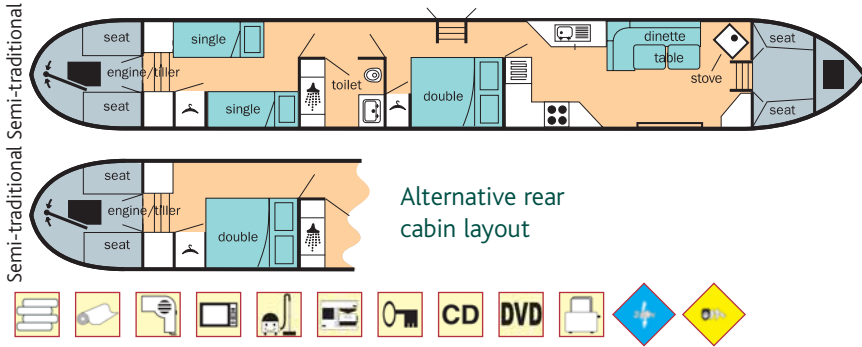


4 Berth

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



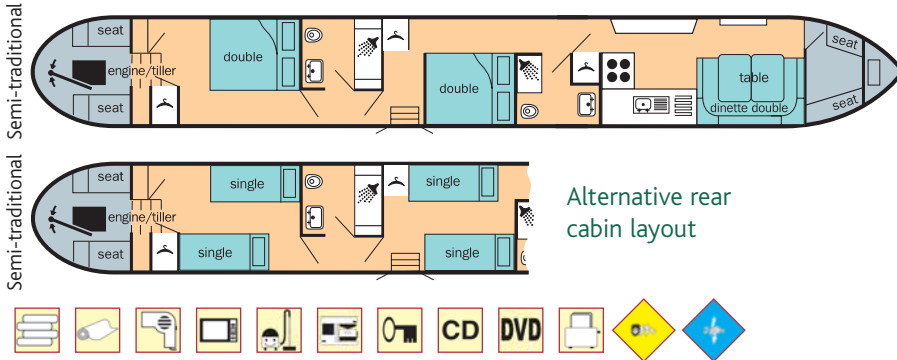
**Heron** 4/5 Berth Length 58ft. Sleeps up to 5



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

Price Code: **N**

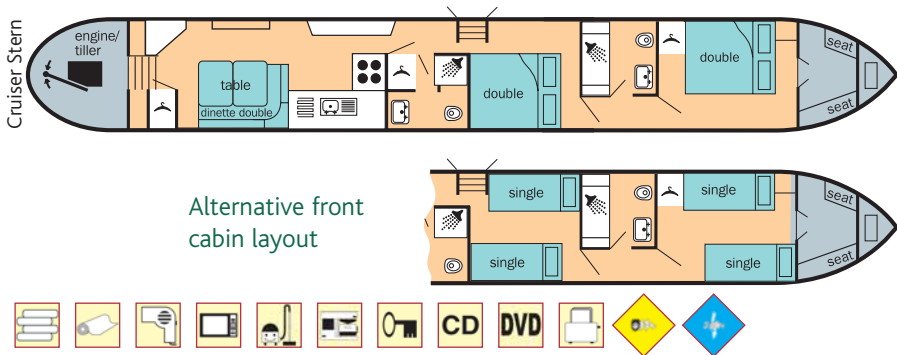
**Thrush** 4/6 Berth Length 66ft. Sleeps 6



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

Price Code: **R**

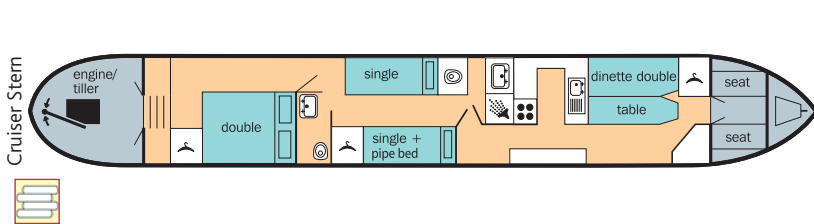
**Gull** 4/6 Berth Length 66ft. Sleeps 6



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

Price Code: **R**

**Duck** 4/7 Berth Length 56ft. Sleeps up to 7 (1 on pipe bed)



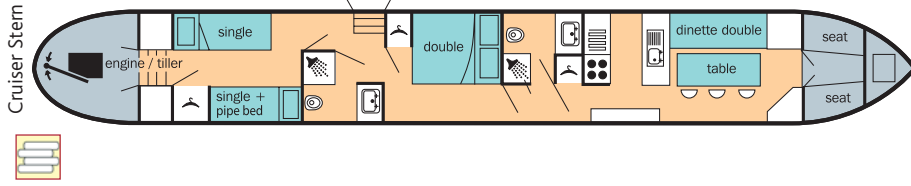
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓		
Anderton	✓		
Gayton	✓		
Hilperton	✓		
Wrenbury	✓		

Price Code: **K**





**Tern** 4/7 Berth Length 60ft. Sleeps up to 7 (1 on pipe bed)

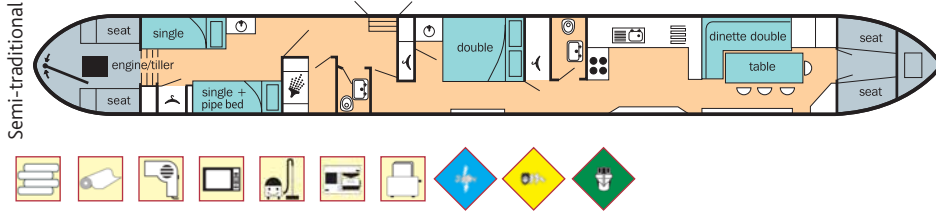


4 Berth

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

Price Code: **K**

**Buzzard** 4/7 Berth Length 69ft. Sleeps up to 7 (1 on pipe bed)

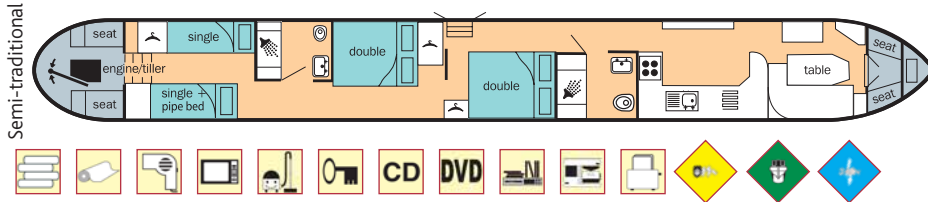


4 Berth

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch		✓	
Wrenbury	✓		

Price Code: **R**

**Warbler** 6/7 Berth Length 69ft. Sleeps up to 7 (1 on pipe bed)

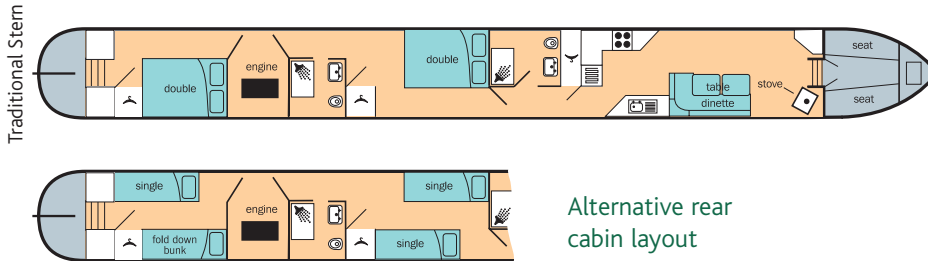


6 Berth

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch		✓	

Price Code: **U**

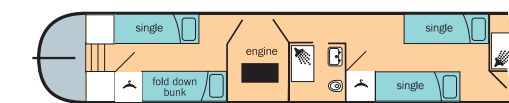
**Falcon** 4/7 Berth Length 69ft. Sleeps up to 7



4 Berth

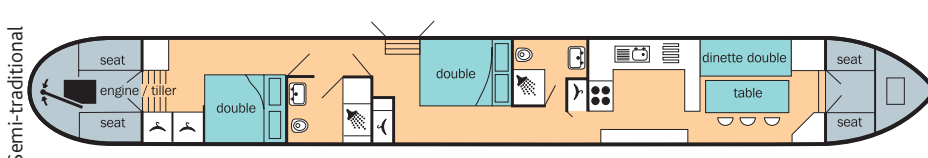
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch			✓

Price Code: **T**



Alternative rear cabin layout

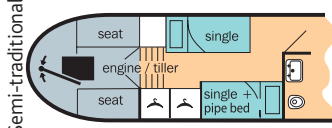
**Rail** 4/7 Berth Length 65ft. Sleeps up to 7 (1 on pipe bed)



4 Berth

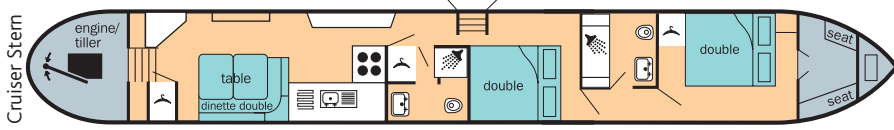
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓		
Gayton	✓		
Wrenbury	✓		✓

Price Code: **L**

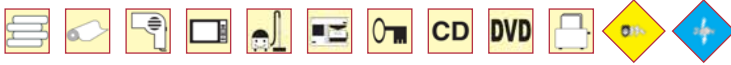
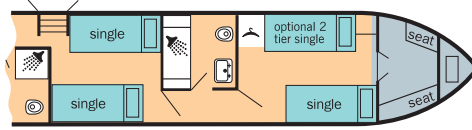


Alternative rear cabin layout

**Eagle** 4/7 Berth Length 66ft. Sleeps up to 7

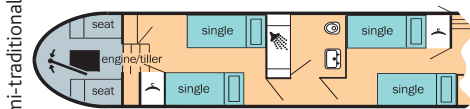
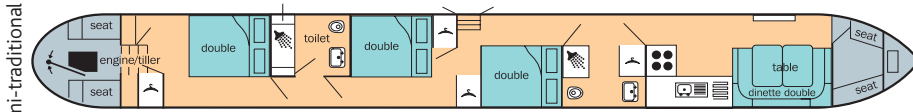


Alternative front cabin layout

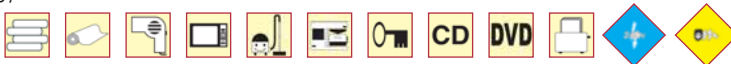


BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch		✓	
Gayton		✓	
Hilperton			✓
Wrenbury	✓	✓	
Price Code:	<b>R</b>		

**Goose** 6/8 Berth Length 69ft. Sleeps 8

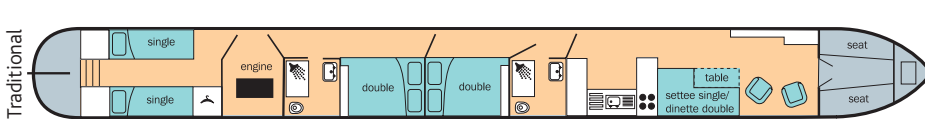


Alternative rear cabin layout



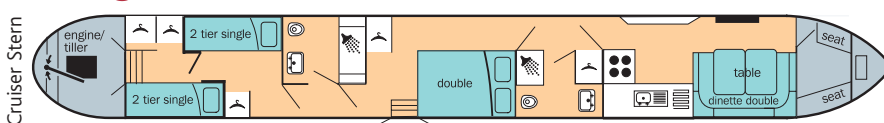
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	✓
Anderton		✓	
Gayton	✓	✓	
Hilperton			✓
Wrenbury	✓	✓	✓
Price Code:	<b>W</b>		

**Goldcrest II** 6/8 Berth Length 70ft. Sleeps 8

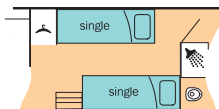


BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Wrenbury		✓	
Price Code:	<b>T</b>		

**Gosling** 6/8 Berth Length 63ft. Sleeps 8



Alternative central cabin layout

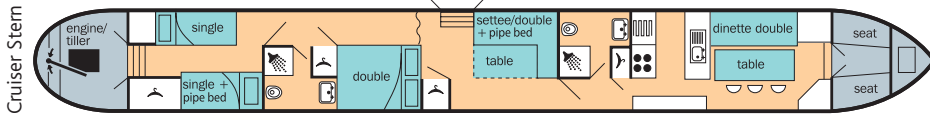


BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Falkirk	✓		
Price Code:	<b>T</b>		





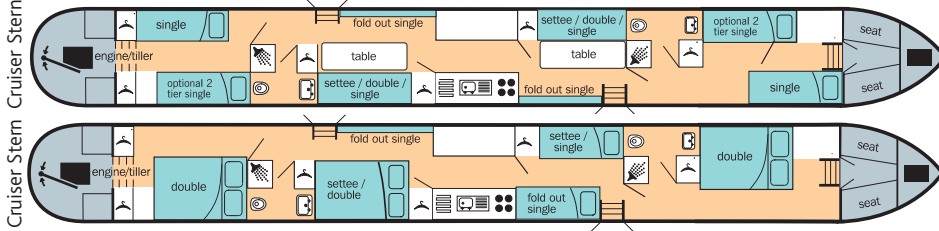
**Lark** 8/10 Berth Length 67ft. Sleeps up to 10 (2 on pipe beds)



8 Berth

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch		✓	
Gayton	✓		
Price Code:	<b>S</b>		

**Owl** 8/10 Berth Length 70ft. Sleeps 10



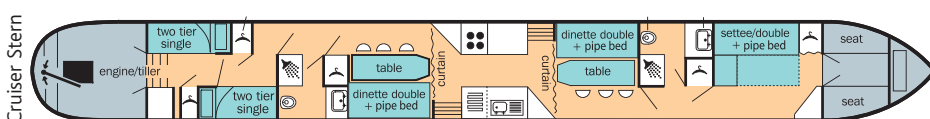
10 Berth

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓		
Anderton	✓		
Gayton		✓	
Hilperton	✓		
Wrenbury	✓	✓	
Price Code:	<b>W</b>		



Alternative cabin layouts  
(dining layout shown above)

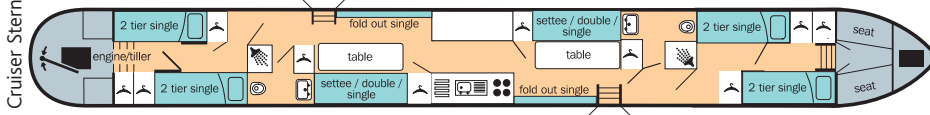
**Wagtail** 10 Berth Length 69ft. Sleeps up to 12 (2 on pipe beds)



10 Berth

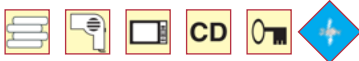
BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Anderton		✓	
Gayton	✓		
Price Code:	<b>S</b>		

**Swan** 12 Berth Length 70ft. Sleeps 12



12 Berth

BASES	Fri/ Mon	Sat	Sun
Alvechurch	✓	✓	
Anderton	✓		
Gayton	✓		
Hilperton	✓		
Price Code:	<b>X</b>		



Alternative central cabin layouts  
(dining layout shown above)



# Conditions of Hire

## 1. Definitions

In these conditions and agreement:

'the Company' means Alvechurch Boat Centres Ltd and Viking Afloat 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 Owner has 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, malicious or intentional damage to the boat. Also excluded is 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, Gas, Water etc.

The boat is handed over fully fuelled and the price includes the cost of fuel consumed. If refuelling becomes necessary, it may only take place at the premises of suppliers designated by the Company. The Boat Owner or the Company will only reimburse the cost to the Hirer for fuel purchases that are authorised, and in the case of gas on a like for like exchange, and on presentation of a V.A.T. receipt.

The Boat Owner or the Company may take 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. The first pet travels free but additional pets 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 willful 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 to 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.

Alvechurch Boat Centres Limited, & Viking Afloat  
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



# 2007 Weekly Hire Charges

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

The price is inclusive of:

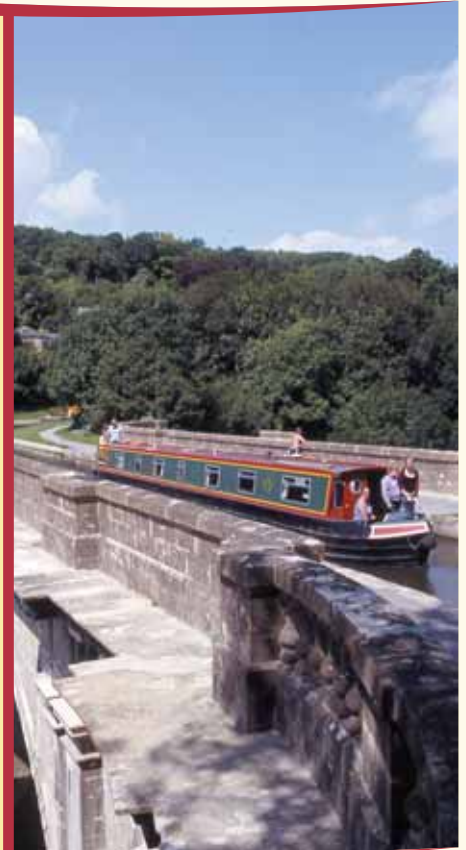
- VAT at 17.5%
- Diesel fuel (at 2006 duty rate)
- Gas
- Car parking
- Bed linen
- Buoyancy aids
- Welcome pack: washing up liquid, toilet roll, sponge, tea towel.
- First pet travels free as long as the boat is left in a clean and undamaged condition.
- Useful handbook in advance of holiday and initial tuition on arrival
- Boat licence for all BW controlled navigations.
- Towels are provided for everybody on Alvechurch and Wessex boats, but are only provided for those travelling from overseas on Viking and Red Line 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.
- Accidental Damage Waiver fee at £45.
- For second and subsequent pets £25 each (The first pet on each boat goes free).



## Weekly Hire Charges

Code	17/Mar	24/Mar	31/Mar	7/Apr	14/Apr	21/Apr	28/Apr	5/May	12/May	19/May	26/May	2/Jun	9/Jun	16/Jun	23/Jun	30/Jun	7/Jul	14/Jul	21/Jul	28/Jul	4/Aug	11/Aug	18/Aug	25/Aug	1/Sep	8/Sep	15/Sep	22/Sep	29/Sep	6/Oct	13/Oct	20/Oct	27/Oct
A	400	475	595	595	515	515	555	595	595	595	835	715	715	715	755	755	795	795	795	795	795	795	795	795	675	675	635	595	555	475	475	595	475
B	545	545	680	680	545	545	680	680	680	680	905	815	815	815	815	905	905	905	905	905	905	905	905	905	815	815	815	680	680	545	545	680	545
C	475	570	715	715	620	620	670	715	715	715	995	860	860	860	905	905	955	955	955	955	955	955	955	955	810	810	765	715	670	570	570	715	570
D	495	595	745	745	645	645	695	745	745	745	1045	895	895	895	945	945	995	995	995	995	995	995	995	995	845	845	795	745	695	595	595	745	595
E	510	615	770	770	665	665	715	770	770	770	1075	920	920	920	975	975	1025	1025	1025	1025	1025	1025	1025	1025	870	870	820	770	715	615	615	770	615
F	620	620	775	775	620	620	775	775	775	775	1035	930	930	930	930	930	1035	1035	1035	1035	1035	1035	1035	1035	930	930	930	775	775	620	620	775	620
G	645	645	805	805	645	645	805	805	805	805	1075	970	970	970	970	970	1075	1075	1075	1075	1075	1075	1075	1075	970	970	970	805	805	645	645	805	645
H	565	675	845	845	730	730	785	845	845	845	1180	1010	1010	1010	1070	1070	1125	1125	1125	1125	1125	1125	1125	1125	955	955	900	845	785	675	675	845	675
I	575	690	870	870	755	755	805	870	870	870	1235	1050	1050	1050	1115	1115	1175	1175	1175	1175	1175	1175	1175	1175	990	990	930	870	805	690	690	870	690
J	610	735	920	920	795	795	855	920	920	920	1285	1100	1100	1100	1165	1165	1225	1225	1225	1225	1225	1225	1225	1225	1040	1040	980	920	855	735	735	920	735
K	640	770	960	960	830	830	895	960	960	960	1345	1150	1150	1150	1215	1215	1280	1280	1280	1280	1280	1280	1280	1280	1090	1090	1025	960	895	770	770	960	770
L	665	795	995	995	865	865	930	995	995	995	1395	1195	1195	1195	1260	1260	1330	1330	1330	1330	1330	1330	1330	1330	1130	1130	1065	995	930	795	795	995	795
M	680	815	1020	1020	885	885	955	1020	1020	1020	1430	1225	1225	1225	1295	1295	1360	1360	1360	1360	1360	1360	1360	1360	1155	1155	1090	1020	955	815	815	1020	815
N	695	830	1040	1040	900	900	970	1040	1040	1040	1455	1245	1245	1245	1315	1315	1385	1385	1385	1385	1385	1385	1385	1385	1180	1180	1110	1040	970	830	830	1040	830
O	840	840	1050	1050	840	840	1050	1050	1050	1050	1395	1260	1260	1260	1260	1260	1395	1395	1395	1395	1395	1395	1395	1395	1260	1260	1260	1050	1050	840	840	1050	840
P	860	860	1080	1080	860	860	1080	1080	1080	1080	1435	1295	1295	1295	1295	1295	1435	1435	1435	1435	1435	1435	1435	1435	1295	1295	1295	1080	1080	860	860	1080	860
Q	900	900	1125	1125	900	900	1125	1125	1125	1125	1495	1350	1350	1350	1350	1350	1495	1495	1495	1495	1495	1495	1495	1495	1350	1350	1350	1125	1125	895	895	1125	895
R	760	915	1140	1140	990	990	1065	1140	1140	1140	1595	1370	1370	1370	1445	1445	1520	1520	1520	1520	1520	1520	1520	1520	1295	1295	1215	1140	1065	915	915	1140	915
S	775	930	1160	1160	1005	1005	1085	1160	1160	1160	1625	1395	1395	1395	1470	1470	1545	1545	1545	1545	1545	1545	1545	1545	1315	1315	1240	1160	1085	930	930	1160	930
T	800	960	1195	1195	1040	1040	1120	1195	1195	1195	1680	1440	1440	1440	1520	1520	1595	1595	1595	1595	1595	1595	1595	1595	1360	1360	1280	1195	1120	960	960	1195	960
U	820	985	1230	1230	1070	1070	1150	1230	1230	1230	1725	1480	1480	1480	1560	1560	1645	1645	1645	1645	1645	1645	1645	1645	1395	1395	1315	1230	1150	985	985	1230	985
V	990	990	1235	1235	990	990	1235	1235	1235	1235	1650	1485	1485	1485	1485	1485	1650	1650	1650	1650	1650	1650	1650	1650	1485	1485	1485	1235	1235	990	990	1235	990
W	865	1035	1295	1295	1120	1120	1210	1295	1295	1295	1810	1555	1555	1555	1640	1640	1725	1725	1725	1725	1725	1725	1725	1725	1465	1465	1380	1295	1210	1035	1035	1295	1035
X	900	1080	1350	1350	1170	1170	1260	1350	1350	1350	1890	1620	1620	1620	1710	1710	1795	1795	1795	1795	1795	1795	1795	1795	1530	1530	1440	1350	1260	1080	1080	1350	1080

# 2007 Short Break Hire Charges

Every year sees an increase in the demand for these popular 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 8-23.

## Pricing:

■ For short break holidays starting on Monday and Friday, price as the nearest Saturday.



## Short Break Hire Charges

for Friday to Monday and Monday to Friday short breaks.

Code	17/Mar	24/Mar	31/Mar	7/Apr	14/Apr	21/Apr	28/Apr	5/May	12/May	19/May	26/May	2/Jun	9/Jun	16/Jun	23/Jun	30/Jun	7/Jul	14/Jul	21/Jul	28/Jul	4/Aug	11/Aug	18/Aug	25/Aug	1/Sep	8/Sep	15/Sep	22/Sep	29/Sep	6/Oct	13/Oct	20/Oct	27/Oct		
A	240	285	357	357	309	309	333	357	357	357	501	429	429	429	453	453	477	477	477	477	477	477	477	477	405	405	381	357	333	285	285	357	285		
B	327	327	408	408	327	327	408	408	408	408	543	489	489	489	489	543	543	543	543	543	543	543	543	543	489	489	489	408	408	327	327	408	327		
C	285	342	429	429	372	372	402	429	429	429	597	516	516	516	543	543	573	573	573	573	573	573	573	573	486	486	459	429	402	342	342	429	342		
D	297	357	447	447	387	387	417	447	447	447	627	537	537	537	567	567	597	597	597	597	597	597	597	597	507	507	477	447	417	357	357	447	357		
E	306	369	462	462	399	399	429	462	462	462	645	552	552	552	585	585	615	615	615	615	615	615	615	615	522	522	492	462	429	369	369	462	369		
F	372	372	465	465	372	372	465	465	465	465	621	558	558	558	558	621	621	621	621	621	621	621	621	621	621	558	558	558	465	465	372	372	465	372	
G	387	387	483	483	387	387	483	483	483	483	645	582	582	582	582	645	645	645	645	645	645	645	645	645	582	582	582	483	483	387	387	483	387		
H	339	405	507	507	438	438	471	507	507	507	708	606	606	606	642	642	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	675	573	573	540	507	471	405	405	507	405	
I	345	414	522	522	453	453	483	522	522	522	741	630	630	630	669	669	705	705	705	705	705	705	705	705	705	594	594	558	522	483	414	414	522	414	
J	366	441	552	552	477	477	513	552	552	552	771	660	660	660	699	699	735	735	735	735	735	735	735	735	735	624	624	588	552	513	441	441	552	441	
K	384	462	576	576	498	498	537	576	576	576	807	690	690	690	729	729	768	768	768	768	768	768	768	768	768	654	654	615	576	537	462	462	576	462	
L	399	477	597	597	519	519	558	597	597	597	837	717	717	717	756	756	798	798	798	798	798	798	798	798	798	678	678	639	597	558	477	477	597	477	
M	408	489	612	612	531	531	573	612	612	612	858	735	735	735	777	777	816	816	816	816	816	816	816	816	816	693	693	654	612	573	489	489	612	489	
N	417	498	624	624	540	540	582	624	624	624	873	747	747	747	789	789	831	831	831	831	831	831	831	831	831	708	708	666	624	582	498	498	624	498	
O	504	504	630	630	504	504	630	630	630	630	837	756	756	756	756	837	837	837	837	837	837	837	837	837	837	756	756	756	630	630	504	504	630	504	
P	516	516	648	648	516	516	648	648	648	648	861	777	777	777	777	861	861	861	861	861	861	861	861	861	861	861	777	777	777	648	648	516	516	648	516
Q	540	540	675	675	540	540	675	675	675	675	897	810	810	810	810	810	897	897	897	897	897	897	897	897	897	810	810	810	675	675	537	537	675	537	
R	456	549	684	684	594	594	639	684	684	684	957	822	822	822	867	867	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912	912
S	465	558	696	696	603	603	651	696	696	696	975	837	837	837	882	882	927	927	927	927	927	927	927	927	927	789	789	744	696	651	558	558	696	558	
T	480	576	717	717	624	624	672	717	717	717	1,008	864	864	864	912	912	957	957	957	957	957	957	957	957	957	816	816	768	717	672	576	576	717	576	
U	492	591	738	738	642	642	690	738	738	738	1,035	888	888	888	936	936	987	987	987	987	987	987	987	987	987	837	837	789	738	690	591	591	738	591	
V	594	594	741	741	594	594	741	741	741	741	990	891	891	891	891	891	990	990	990	990	990	990	990	990	990	891	891	891	741	741	594	594	741	594	
W	519	621	777	777	672	672	726	777	777	777	1,086	933	933	933	984	984	1,035	1,035	1,035	1,035	1,035	1,035	1,035	1,035	1,035	879	879	828	777	726	621	621	777	621	
X	540	648	810	810	702	702	756	810	810	810	1,134	972	972	972	1,026	1,026	1,077	1,077	1,077	1,077	1,077	1,077	1,077	1,077	1,077	918	918	864	810	756	648	648	810	648	



# 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.alvechurch.com](http://www.alvechurch.com) or [www.viking-afloat.com](http://www.viking-afloat.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 the website 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 straight away. Please note that availability or bookings are not contractual until confirmation is received from the booking office.

**We look forward to welcoming you aboard.**

Alvechurch including Wessex & Red Line boats:

Telephone: **08708 35 25 25** Overseas: **+44 1905 734168**

Or visit: [www.alvechurch.com](http://www.alvechurch.com)

Viking Afloat:

Telephone: **01905 610660** Overseas: **+44 1905 610660**

Or visit: [www.viking-afloat.com](http://www.viking-afloat.com)

## 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 or discount.

### The greater of either:

**£50  
or 5%  
OFF**

**£50 or 5% off brochure price for bookings of 10/11 nights**

**£100  
or 10%  
OFF**

**£100 or 10% off brochure price for bookings of two consecutive weeks**

**£150  
or 15%  
OFF**

**£150 or 15% off brochure price for bookings of three consecutive weeks**

**£200  
or 20%  
OFF**

**£200 or 20% off brochure price for bookings of four consecutive weeks or more**

**or  
HALF  
PRICE**

### HALF PRICE SECOND WEEK

For holidays of two consecutive weeks commencing between 17th March 2007 and 7th July 2007 the cheaper week will be charged at half the brochure price.

**25%  
OFF**

### 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 2007.



# 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 sill.
- 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 1% of the payment made will be applied if a credit card is used. If only part payment is made (eg 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 1% surcharge, please check with your card issuer to verify).

## Personal Holiday Insurance (Optional but recommended)

Summary of details – for further information, claims or queries about this cover please contact:

P J HAYMAN & Company Ltd, Stansted House, Rowlands Castle, Hants. PO9 6DX. Claims Dept Telephone 0845 230 3524 Underwriting Dept (for cover queries) Telephone 0845 230 3526

We have arranged a special insurance scheme with Travel Insurance specialists P J Hayman & Company Ltd to cover clients booking through us. This insurance covers certain risks that fall outside the insurance cover provided with the boat. This insurance is underwritten by ELVIA Travel Insurance International N.V. (Netherlands) and is administered by Mondial Assistance (UK) Ltd. Participation is optional, but strongly recommended. We regret that clients from outside Great Britain and Northern Ireland cannot be included in this scheme, but overseas visitors can normally get this cover as part of travel insurance arranged in their own country.

- It is important that at the date of booking you are not aware of any reason why the proposed holiday could be abandoned.
- The premium payable is for the total number of people on board the boat and cannot be reduced if some members of the party do not wish to participate.
- All members of the party must be named on the booking form.
- We will not pay for any costs arising from a serious or chronic pre-existing illness/ condition of any insured which has required consultation or treatment during the 12 month period before buying insurance unless accepted by us in writing.

## Premium per person per booking:

Adults of 16 years or over	£6
Children up to & including 15 years	£4

The premium is dependent upon the total number of people on the boat and cannot be offered on an individual or part-group basis.

The following is a summary of cover only and does not contain the full terms and conditions of the contract. Full terms, conditions and exclusions can be found in the certificate of insurance, which you should read carefully.

## Benefits per person:

- a) Personal baggage and money - up to £1,500 (limit of £150 per single item)
- b) Personal accident - over 16s - £5,000 death and permanent total disablement. Under 16s - £1,000 death and £10,000 permanent total disablement. 75 and over- no cover.
- c) Personal liability up to £2,000,000
- d) Medical repatriation in the UK - up to £10,000

A £40 excess under items (a) and (d) applies in respect of each claim made. Benefit under item (b) is limited in respect of children under 16. Full details of the terms and benefits of Personal Holiday Insurance will be sent with your booking form confirmation or on request at any time.

## Note: Health Conditions

Whilst this insurance is not subject to a health warranty, all claims are excluded WHERE AT THE TIME OF TAKING OUT THIS INSURANCE:

- a) The insured person is aware of any set of circumstances, which would reasonably be expected to give rise to a claim.\*
- b) Any person including those not travelling whose condition may give rise to a claim:
  - (i) Is receiving, or on a waiting list for, inpatient treatment in a hospital or nursing home; or
  - (ii) Is expected to give birth before, or within 14 weeks of, the date of arrival home; or
  - (iii) Is travelling against the medical advice of a Medical Practitioner or for the purposes of obtaining medical treatment; or
  - (iv) Has been given a terminal prognosis.
  - (v) Is suffering, or has suffered, from any diagnosed psychiatric disorder, anxiety or depression.

\* If the insured person has a pre-existing medical condition for which consultation or treatment has been received within the 6 months prior to the date of issue of this insurance, the excess under Medical repatriation is increased to £80.

## Pets

There is no extra charge if you want to bring one pet with you, so this really is a holiday the whole family can enjoy together. The first pet per boat is free, but we charge £25 for each additional 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.



# 2007 Booking Form

Tel: Alvechurch - 08708 35 25 25 Viking - 01905 610660 • Fax: Alvechurch - 08708 35 25 55 Viking - 01905 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:					

How did you here about us?

Experience? Y  N  Details:

Booking Reference: Base:

Boat class:

Start Date: Number of nights:

Names	First line of address	Postcode	Age if under 18
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

Please state numbers of each in box.  
 DOUBLE BERTH  SINGLE BERTH  LAYOUT  PIPE BED  COT SIDE   
(where possible) (where possible)

PETS: no. of pets First pet goes free additional pets £25.00 each

MOBILE PHONE HIRE: Please tick 'Yes' if required Y  N





PERSONAL HOLIDAY INSURANCE: Tick 'Yes' if required Y  N

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 in section 6. Note that UK postage and packing is included but please add £1.50 per item for overseas.

BOATERS: Video  DVD

A	Basic Brochure Holiday Price (P41,42)	<input type="text"/>
B	Offers/Discounts/Tokens claimed (P43)	<input type="text"/>
C	Personal Holiday Insurance (PHI) (P44)	<input type="text"/>
D	Mobile Phone Hire (P4)	<input type="text"/>
E	Maps & Guides (back cover)	<input type="text"/>
F	Additional Pet(s) (P4)	<input type="text"/>
G	Cancellation Protection Plan (CPP) (P44)	<input type="text"/>
H	Accidental Damage Waiver (P44)	45.00
<b>HOLIDAY TOTAL</b>		<input type="text"/>

PAYMENTS REQUIRED NOW		Deposit 25%	<input type="text"/>	*
*A 25% Deposit of holiday price (A), CPP (G) and the cost of PHI (C) and Maps & Guides (E) if required must be returned with this booking form.		CPP	<input type="text"/>	*
		PHI	<input type="text"/>	*
		Maps & Guides	<input type="text"/>	*
		<b>DEPOSIT TOTAL</b>	<input type="text"/>	*

Credit Cards* (1% 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.
- Also please charge the whole of the balance (plus any additional items then due) to my credit/debit card account eight weeks before the start date of my holiday.
- Please charge the full cost of my holiday now.

\*A surcharge of 1% will be added to Credit/Charge Card payments. Payments by cheque or postal order should be made to Alvechurch Boat Centres Limited or Viking Afloat.

Your Card Number

Valid From   Valid To   Issue Number

Cardholders Name

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

For office use only

# 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 8 to 23). Detail the reference number of each guide required on the booking form, overleaf, to receive your maps and guides when your holiday is confirmed.



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 £1.50 to the price for each item.

## 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	£13.95	N5	North West & the Pennines	£13.95
N2	Severn, Avon & Birmingham	£13.95	N6	Nottingham, York & the North East	£13.95
N3	Birmingham & the Heart of England	£13.95	N7	River Thames & the Southern Waterways	£13.95
N4	Four Counties & the Welsh Canals	£13.95			

## 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	£4.50	L16	The Stourport Ring	£4.50
L8	Chester & the Llangollen	£4.50	L17	From Avon to Thames	£4.50
L10	The Four Counties Ring	£4.50	L18	Grand Union South - Braunston to Brentford	£4.50
L12	Black Country Canals	£4.50	L20	Kennet & Avon Waters	£4.50
L13	The Warwickshire Ring	£4.50	L22	London's Waterways	£4.50
L14	East Midland Canals	£4.50	L23	Southern Counties Waterways	£4.50
L15	The Avon Ring	£4.50			

## 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	£9.90	P6	South Midlands & Warwickshire Ring	£9.90
P2	Severn & Avon	£9.90	P7	Oxford & Grand Union	£9.90
P3	Welsh Waters	£9.90	P8	Kennet & Avon and Middle Thames	£8.95
P4	Four Counties Ring	£9.90	P9	Pennine Waters	£9.90
P5	Cheshire Ring	£9.90			

## 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	£5.90	G25	Forth & Clyde and Union Canals	£5.90
G20	Llangollen & Montgomery Canals	£5.90	G29	Thames Ring Atlas (47 page ring-bound book)	£12.70

## Route Planners

NP	Nicholson's OS Inland Waterways Map of GB	£6.95	LP	Lockmaster Coloured Route Planner	£4.20
GP	Geo Projects Canal Map of Great Britain	£6.70			

## Safety Information

BDVD	The Boaters DVD (UK only)	£0.85	BVID	The Boaters Video (VHS)	£1.50
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Note: The video detailed above can be seen on arrival at our base. A copy of The Boaters Handbook will be sent out with holiday confirmation.

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

08708 35 25 25

01905 610660

From overseas dial +44 1905 734168

[www.alvechurch.com](http://www.alvechurch.com)

[www.viking-afloat.com](http://www.viking-afloat.com)