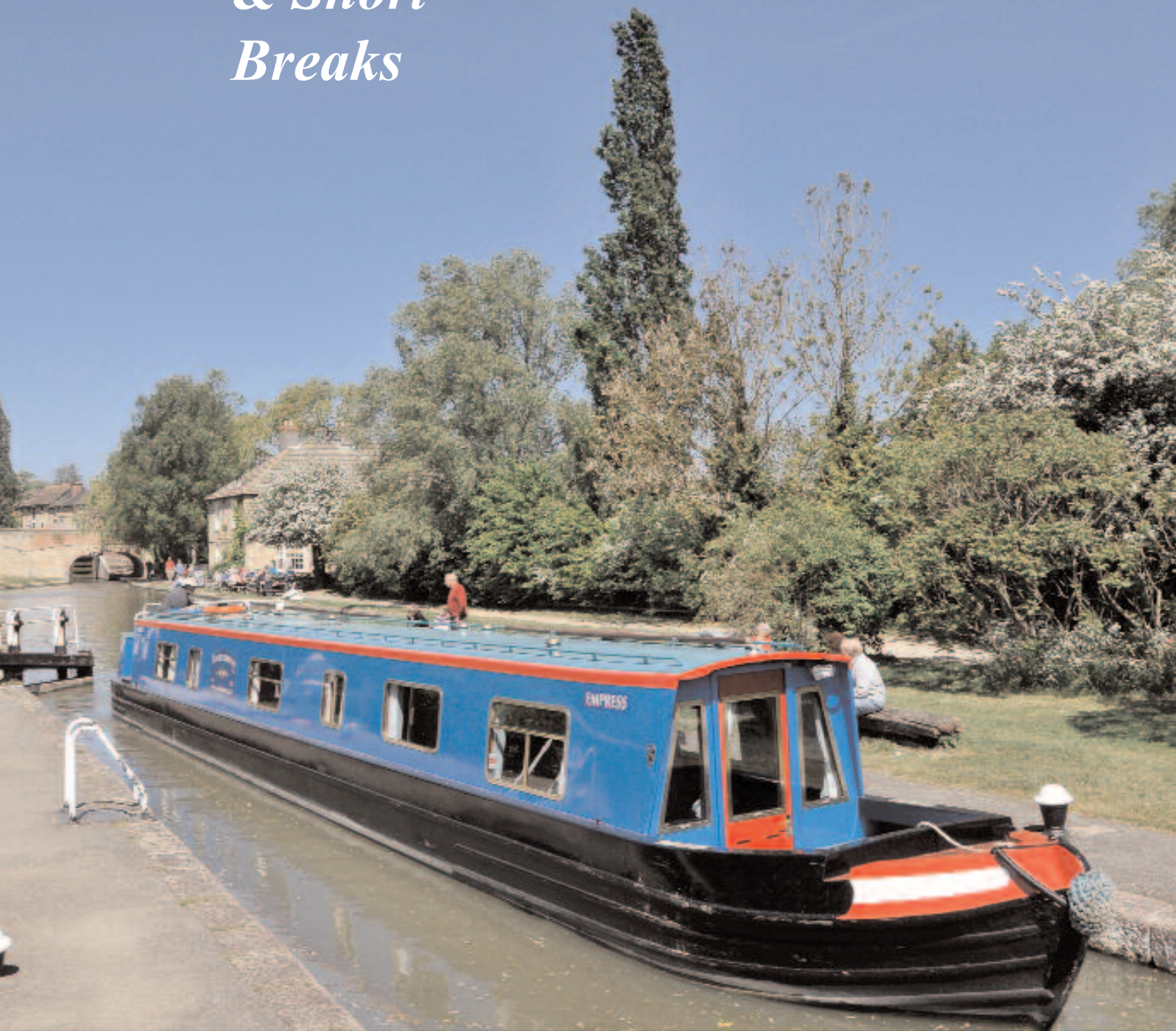


Narrow Boat Holidays

*& Short
Breaks*



The Wyvern Shipping Co. Ltd.

Cruising the Canals & Rivers of England and Wales

01525 - 372355 - www.canalholidays.co.uk

The Wyvern Shipping Co. Ltd

Company History

The Wyvern Shipping Company Limited was founded in 1953 as a cargo carrying company with three pairs of narrowboats. These boats mainly carried coal from the Coventry coal fields to London and returned with timber to Birmingham.

Times were changing and by 1956 canal holidays were the future trade with former cargo boats being converted to luxury holiday boats.

The Company has been run by the Griffin family since 1961 and is now managed by James Griffin with his dedicated and skilled labour force.

All our boats have been built in the Wyvern workshops to the highest standard of luxury and safety.

To ensure a clean and reliable boat for your holiday we employ an experienced team of cleaners and service engineers. All towels, sheets, duvets, and pillowcases are washed by our local laundry service.

Over the past 60 years many thousands of customers have found the fastest way of slowing down is to have a relaxing holiday on a Wyvern boat. Many of our new hirers come from recommendations.

Canal Cruising

This is a holiday designed for every member of the family. A holiday that brings the English countryside alive with the excitement and adventure of boating.

It offers a real change from everyday routine, hidden away from main roads and free from crowded and noisy streets, peaceful, pleasant and unspoilt.

Canals are unique in many ways. Since their construction in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries they have mellowed and matured into a heritage of beauty, framed by every bridge and changing at every bend.



Wyvern trip boat 'Victoria' waiting to go in a lock circa 1964.

The Grand Union Canal

Your holiday begins and ends at our base here in Linslade on the Grand Union Canal. The Grand Union Canal leaves The River Thames at Brentford and climbs over fifty locks up into The Chiltern Hills. It then descends before climbing again as it heads to its terminus at Birmingham.

In total The Grand Union Canal is 137 miles long with 166 locks, two long tunnels and several aqueducts.

Architecture

Canal architecture is a subject of great interest. We have two aqueducts in our area; The Iron Trunk Aqueduct at Cosgrove, which was opened in 1805 and then rebuilt in 1811 and the much newer Grafton Street Aqueduct at Wolverton which was built to replace an embankment and opened in 1991.

There are also two tunnels which can be travelled through while holidaying on a Wyvern boat. The nearest is The Blisworth Tunnel at 3,076 yards (2,813 m) long and originally constructed between 1793-1805 with a major rebuild in the 1980s.

The Braunston Tunnel is shorter at 2,042 yards (1,867 m) in length and was opened in 1796. Canal tunnels can be an exciting experience.

We have many different shapes and sizes of bridges on The Grand Union Canal, from the 'tripod' bridge at the new Campbell Wharf Marina to the much older 'Solomon's Bridge' at Cosgrove.

There is even a 'Horse Tunnel' to explore at Cosgrove, which originally went from the towpath to the blacksmiths yard and stables at The Barley Mow, one of the many canal side pubs along the way.

Locks

A series of locks carry the different levels of waterway over the hills, each with its own particular charm.

The locks are unmanned and simple to operate and combine pleasant breaks in the cruise with some gentle exercise.

On the day of departure all novices and those wanting a refresher are given practical instruction through their first lock from one of our experienced instructors.



Picture Courtesy of Graham Bland



Entrance to The Blisworth Tunnel at Stoke Bruerne

The Holiday . . . with a Difference

The All-Weather Holiday

Perfect weather helps any holiday. Unfortunately we can only guarantee the boat and not the weather. All our boats have full central heating to keep you warm and cosy in cold or wet weather and in hot weather the large sliding or hopper windows allow a cooling breeze through the boat.

The open-front cockpits are able to seat all the crew in comfort for outdoor meals and the rear deck has seats for the helmsman and crew. We are often complimented on our very comfortable cockpits and steering position.

Canal cruising has something for everyone whether you are an artist, fisherman, walker, helmsman, lock operator or out to sample the local ale in the many canal side pubs.

People are always friendly on the canals and many of the canal side pubs are able to offer a discount on food to Wyvern customers.

We hope you will discover good food, drink and entertainment to make the perfect holiday whether it be wet or fine.



Parasols & Fans

During the hotter months of June, July and August all our boats are fitted with fans in the saloon and removable parasols in the forward cockpits.

What better way to spend a sunny day than to sit in the front cockpit shaded by a parasol watching the world go by?

Wet Weather

For wet weather all boats carry a set of waterproofs and an umbrella.

The umbrella can be used to shelter the helmsman from both sunshine and rain.

All boats have heated hanging cupboards and an airing cupboard for drying clothes and towels.



Novices

Even if you have no previous narrow boat experience you will be surprised just how easy it is to become a confident skipper of your narrowboat.

All the boats are purpose built for easy and responsive handling.

If you have any doubts over any aspect of canal boating we will do our best to assist.

All our novice hirers are taken for a free tuition cruise by an experienced instructor at the start of their holiday and shown through a canal lock. A lock refresher is offered to all customers with previous experience.

Instruction continues until you and your crew are confident of how to handle the boat and work the locks to ensure a relaxing and enjoyable holiday.

We also email or post our hirers the Boater's handbook and DVD to look at before you arrive, which covers all aspects of good boating and safe canal cruising.



About our Boats



Our Narrowboats

The boats are built on the traditional lines of the working narrowboat and are designed and fitted out to the highest standards for luxury living afloat.

All boats have been specifically designed to cater for the needs of an increasingly sophisticated holiday market.

The tiller steering is much more precise, quicker in operation and has more feel than a wheel. It is also a great advantage to have the whole boat in front of you when steering.

Outdoor Seating

The open-front cockpits are able to seat all the crew in comfort for outdoor meals and on the rear deck the storage boxes double up as seats for the helmsman and crew.

Water and Water Filters

All boats have a large fresh water tank with a sight gauge so no more queuing to take on water when you don't need to. A hose, reel and connector are provided for filling up from the canalside taps.

All the tanks are regularly treated and there is a 'springclear' drinking water filter fitted to the cold water tap in the galley.

Toilets

Boat toilets are simple to operate. They have china bowls and are fresh water flushing.

Windows & Ventilation

A combination of hopper windows over the beds and sliding windows in the galley and passage give good ventilation in both hot and wet weather. All the forward facing windows are double glazed.

All bathrooms have extractor fans.

Heating & Hot Water

All boats are fitted with gas boilers that provide full central heating via radiators.

There is also a large airing cupboard and heated hanging cupboard that can prove very useful in wet weather.

The hot water is heated by the engine when it is running and by the gas boiler when it is not.



Electrics and Lighting

The 12v electric power for the LED lighting and fridge is supplied through large heavy-duty traction batteries that are recharged by the engine whilst you cruise.

There is a separate battery for starting the engine.

240 Mains Voltage

On all boats there is a minimum 1500 watt output inverter with household square pin sockets, which means that on all boats you will be able to:-

1. Use the supplied hair dryer, toaster, vacuum cleaner and microwave.
2. Recharge Ni-Cd battery packs as used for mobile phone, camcorders and laptops.
3. Operate low consumption appliances such as electric razors.

The Engine

All craft have reliable, low carbon emission Kubota diesel engines with a single lever control to operate both the throttle and gear shift.

Engine rooms are well sound-proofed to reduce noise and vibration both inside and outside the boat.



The Saloon

All saloons are large enough to sit the whole crew. The settees are dralon-covered with scatter cushions, providing a warm comfortable area in which to relax and look out through the forward and side windows.

The Galley

The well equipped modern galley has a full size cooker, microwave, toaster, electric refrigerator and a full inventory of crockery, cutlery, saucepans and cooking utensils (see opposite).

Carpets & Flooring

Many of our boats have fitted carpets, except in the galley and bathroom. All non-carpeted boats have modern vinyl flooring.



Equipment on Board your Boat

Bedding

Each berth is provided with an under blanket or mattress protector, fitted sheet, duvet and duvet cover, pillow and pillow-case.

All fixed double beds have interior sprung mattresses and four pillows.

Extra bedding is always available.

Entertainment Centres

In the saloon all boats carry an LED flat screen colour TV/DVD combi and have one or more radio/CD players with USB/Aux connectivity.

Headroom & Bed Size

All boats have headroom and bed lengths of over 6ft 2in (1.88m). For individual heights please see the boat plans.

If you have tall crew members please phone our office for individual bed lengths, as some boats have up to 7ft (2.13m) beds and 6ft 8in (2.03m) headroom.

Bicycles

Bicycles are not allowed on board any of our boats, however by prior arrangement a small folding bicycle may be stowed under the cockpit seats. Under no circumstances may bicycles be carried on the roof.

Smoking Policy

Smoking is not allowed inside the boats. We have no objection to smoking outside the boat on the rear deck or in the front cockpit.

Kitchen Equipment

Kettle
Measuring Jug
Oven Tray
Roasting Tin
Plastic Bowl
Chopping Board
Cheese Grater
Colander
Saucepans
Frying Pan
Splatter Guard
Bread Knife
Kitchen Knife
Carving Knife
Corkscrew
Tin Opener
Toast Rack
4 Piece Kitchen Set
Whisk
Tongs
Wooden Spoon
Casserole dish & Lid
Milk Jug
Pudding Basin
Gas Lighter
Grill Pan
Pair of Scissors
Teapot
Tray
Dishcloth
Sponge/Scourer
Washing Up Brush
Washing Up Liquid
Kitchen Cleaner
Kitchen Roll & Holder
Oven Gloves
2 Tea Towels
Toilet Rolls
Air Freshener
Bin Liners & Black Bags
Fly Spray
Broom
Dust Pan & Brush
Floor Cloth
Bucket

Crockery, Cutlery & Glass

Plates - Dinner
Plates - Tea
Cereal Bowls
Mugs
Egg Cups
Cafetière
Knives
Forks
Spoons - Dessert
Spoons - Serving
Spoons - Tea
Fruit Bowl
Sugar Bowl
Wine Glasses
Tumblers
Water Jug
Ashtray (for outdoor use)

Misc. Equipment

Boat Manual
Entertainment Manual
Doormats
Coat Hangers
Fire Blanket
Fire Extinguishers
First Aid Kit
Folding Chairs (where applicable)
Folding Dining Table
Pedal Bin
Scatter Cushions
Parasol & Stand (summer only)
Umbrella
2 Adult Lifejackets

Electrical Equipment

Vacuum Cleaner
Microwave
Toaster
Hair Dryer

Navigation & Deck Gear

Adjustable Spanner
Anchor & Chain
Boat Hook
Boat Poles
Boarding Plank
Bow Fender
Deck Mop
Club Hammer
2 Front Door Keys
1 CRT Key
1 Gas/Diesel Key
Lifebuoy
Mooring Ropes
3 Mooring Stakes
2 Piling Hooks
2 Mooring Chains
2 Side Fenders
Stern Fender
Water Hose & Reel
Hose Connector
3 Windlasses
Wire Clippers

Bedding & Towels

All bed linen is provided: duvets, duvet covers, pillows, pillow cases, fitted sheets and under blankets. 1 hand towel and a bathmat are provided per bathroom, additional towels are available on request (max. 1 per person).

Extras (Free on Request)

Buoyancy Aids
Child's Mattress
Cot Side
Bed Guard
International Flags

No Hidden Extras

Fully Inclusive Hire Fee

At first glance the initial cost of hiring a boat may seem expensive.

But please remember the cost of the boat includes your accommodation as well as your transport and entertainment.

This means entertainment for the whole family, including the dog!

The canal scene is not commercialised and you may even find it difficult to spend money! There is none of this "forever putting your hand in your pocket" associated with seaside, touring and hotel holidays.

Our prices are fully inclusive of VAT (as applicable), car parking, bottled gas, diesel fuel, bed linen, colour television/DVD player. We also provide all bed linen, tea towels, washing up liquid, cleaning materials, bin bags, toilet rolls and kitchen paper.

All you need to bring is food, clothes and personal items. Bath towels are available free of charge on request.

Hire fees from other boatyards may appear more reasonable but be careful of what is actually included. We have no essential extras like fuel.

	Wyvern Shipping	'Bargain Boats'
Boat Hire	£600.00	£500.00
VAT	included	£100.00
Bedding	included	£30.00
Car Park	included	£20.00
Colour TV/DVD	included	£20.00
Damage Waiver	included	£45.00
Diesel Fuel	included	£85.00
Cleaning Materials	included	£15.00
Pump Out	included	£20.00
Total	£600.00	£835.00



Safety Afloat

Canal holidays are one of the safest ways to enjoy a holiday afloat.

Wyvern boats include the following safety features to ensure you have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

- * A life buoy - carried in a position within easy reach of the helmsman.
- * A gas leak detector - positioned in the gas locker to enable regular gas checks.
- * Carbon monoxide and smoke detectors.
- * All gas appliances are annually inspected by Gas Safe registered engineers.
- * All gas boilers have external flues.
- * Electric 12v fridge.
- * Mattress foam and insulation materials are fire retardant.
- * Three fire extinguishers and a fire blanket.
- * A first aid box for minor injuries.
- * Non-slip tread pads on the gunwales and handles on the front corner of the cabin roof to ensure safe stepping on and off at the bow.
- * An emergency stop valve fitted to the engine fuel system.
- * Battery master switches between the boat electrical system and the batteries.
- * Permanently fitted anchor for river work.
- * Canal & River Trust Boat Safety Certificate.
- * Personal safety issues will be explained in your tuition and you will be asked to sign a 'Boat Acceptance Certificate' to show that you have understood the handover instruction.

Buoyancy Aids

Each boat carries two self-inflating adult life jackets. Buoyancy aids are supplied free of charge on request; not just for children but for any crew member who cannot swim or would like one.

Pets

Pets are welcomed on all non-carpeted and some carpeted boats provided they are well trained and you bring their own bed. Puppies are not allowed.

We regret that no more than two pets may be taken on any one boat without our prior agreement. We do charge a small fee for pets, please see page 25 for details.

For those customers with pet allergies we have boats which we do not allow pets on board.

Car Park

Cars may be parked free of charge at the boatyard for the duration of your holiday at the owner's risk.

For added security some of our staff live on-site, adjacent to the car park.

Provisions

There is a Tesco supermarket half a mile from the boat yard (see back cover map).

If possible, please do your food shopping before arriving at the boat yard, so you are ready to board at 1.30pm.

While cruising, extra provisions can be picked up at village shops and town supermarkets.

Come and See Us

We are always pleased to invite customers to view the boats. Before visiting the yard we advise you to phone the office to check which boats are available for viewing.

During the summer months
(April-October inclusive):

boats may be viewed any day
Monday to Saturday between
11.30am and 1pm

During the winter months
(November to March inclusive):

we are open Monday to Friday
9am until dusk



How about a few days away on a Wyvern Boat?

If you have less than a week to spare then one of our short breaks is just the thing.

Weekend & Midweek Breaks

On all the Friday start boats we are able to offer weekend cruises, the hire period runs from 4pm Friday afternoon, until 9.30am Monday morning and mid week cruises from 4pm Monday afternoon to 9.30am Friday morning. The boats are available for boarding and handover any time between 1.30pm and 3pm (after 3pm by prior arrangement with the boatyard).

Boats may also be returned the Sunday evening if preferred.

Saturday start boats may also be booked for short breaks until Tuesday morning and mid week from Tuesday to Saturday - the same times apply as above. Please see 'when can we board our boat' on page 17.

Winter Breaks

We offer winter breaks until the middle of November and spring breaks from the beginning of March.

We are closed for our winter maintenance program from mid November to the beginning of March.

10 / 11 Day Hire or Longer

All our boats can be booked for 10/11 day hire, starting and finishing on a Friday/Monday or a Saturday/Tuesday.

All boats can also be hired for two, two and a half, three weeks or longer.

For discounts please see page 25.
Please don't forget our prices are inclusive of:
All Fuel & Gas, Car Parking, TV/DVD, VAT, Bedding & Damage Waiver.

Office Opening Hours

Weekdays - 9am to 5pm
Weekends - April to October
9am to 2pm Saturdays
Closed Sundays
Closed all Bank Holiday Mondays
Weekends - November to March
Closed all weekend

Out of hours - please check our website for the latest availability of our boats, you can reserve a boat online or call and leave a message.



Skipper & Crew

For your safety, there is a minimum requirement for two adults of 18 or over to be present on board at all times when navigating the boat and that any minors (under 18) must be supervised.

We regret that bookings by skippers under 21 cannot be accepted on 2 to 4 berth boats and by skippers under 25 on 6 to 8 berth boats.

For details of the damage waiver please see point 17 of our conditions of hire on page 26.

Babies & Toddlers

We are able to provide cot sides that can be fitted to one of the bunks in the rear cabin. These make very good play pens during the day as well as a cot during the night. We also have bed guards available.

On all the boats with single berths in the rear cabin, the berths can either convert to a double or we can supply a 4 foot long mattress to go between the berths. This makes an extra 4 foot berth, ideal for accommodating an extra child.

Disabilities Policy

For reasons of safety at least two of the crew on the boat should be able (with instruction) to steer the boat and operate the locks. The boat is accessed at the bow by stepping onto the gunwale and down onto the cockpit seat using the large cabin handle provided, from here it is a step down into the cockpit. The cabin is then accessed down a step at the bow door and the rear deck is accessed by four steps up at the stern.

The insides of the boats are not suitable for wheelchairs due to the narrow doors and passageways. Once on the boat customers with disabilities are in a safe environment much the same as a large caravan.

If you have any questions or concerns about our boats or a canal holiday please phone the office for advice.



Eco-Friendly Holidays



Carbon Footprint

Boating holidays have a low carbon footprint, here at Wyvern Shipping, our high quality narrow boats have many eco-friendly features. It has been estimated that a canal boat holiday produces 20-30 times less carbon emissions than flying for two hours across Europe.

The boats are built to be streamlined and efficient through the water with minimal wash and bank corrosion.

Kubota Engines

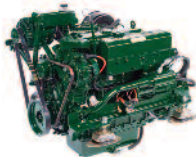
The boats are fitted with modern low emission Kubota Engines, marinised by Beta Marine Ltd. These engines have E-TVCS (Three Vortex Combustion System) technology that results in a considerable emissions reduction compared to older engine models.

Kubota engines are known for their great reliability and long service leading to less breakdowns and lower running costs.

The hot water is heated by the engine when it is running and by the gas boiler when it is not.

The drip-tray system employed underneath the engine ensures that no oil ever pollutes the canal.

Waste oil from the fleet's engines is collected by Safety Kleen, who then either process it to produce a high specification fuel oil for industry or recycle it for reuse as a base oil.



Low Energy Lighting

The entire Wyvern fleet is fitted with energy-efficient LED light bulbs in place of the old type of filament bulbs. This results in less demand on the battery and longer battery life. The electrics are powered by the large alternators which charge the batteries while cruising, no generators required.

The working life of the alternator is also extended as it doesn't need to work as hard. Fuel is saved as the engine works less hard to power the alternator.

Other Ways we Help

Wyvern Shipping uses sustainable wood and timber, which is sourced from Jewson and BGN Boards who are both PEFC Certified and FSC Certified (nation-wide schemes that ensure sustainability in wood production).



There are some recycling collection points along the canal network that you may use during your holiday.



The refuse bins from the boatyard are emptied by Biffa, who use technology designed to achieve a high recovery rate of recyclable materials when sorting the waste at their Material Recycling Facilities.

Waste from the toilet is kept in hygienic plastic tanks which are pumped-out into the urban sewerage system after your holiday; none of it goes into the canal!

Every year Wyvern Shipping sponsors a team of volunteers in "clearing up" any rubbish that has found its way into the canals.

The company has a policy of employing local staff who live within walking distance of the boatyard. Even in the severest of weather all members of staff are able to walk to work

Nature & Wildlife

One of the joys of hiring a canal boat for a relaxing holiday is seeing the wildlife as you cruise through the meadows and villages of rural England. You may be surprised to learn that you're likely to see more than just mallard ducks and swans when on a Wyvern narrowboat holiday!

Canada geese are also a common sight as are coots and moorhens. Some birds hunt the fish that inhabit the waterways so look out for kingfishers, grey herons and even the odd cormorant.

Small mammals such as otters, badgers, water voles, stoats, weasels and dormice are also found along the canal and riverbanks, but are harder to spot. Keep a keen eye out for any of these as you cruise along.

Look out for fields full of sheep and cows which are a regular sight, as are horses, goats and chickens.

The following also love to be around water: butterflies, newts, frogs, damselflies, dragonflies and grasshoppers.

Countless different species of fish live in the UK's canals and rivers. There are too many to list here, but to name a few, you might see swimming just beneath the surface carp, roach, perch and gudgeon.

Trees are an almost constant companion to the country's waterways giving shade on sunny days and providing a home for birds and other wildlife. The types of trees that are particularly common on the canal and riverbank are willow, oak, ash and maple.

Plenty of wild flowers dot the landscape especially in the spring and summer. Look out for bluebells around woodland and water lilies, foxgloves, kingcups and yellow iris, to name just a few.



Waterside Cottage *Sleeps up to 11*



If you prefer to watch boats rather than be on one, how about a relaxing holiday in our 4 star holiday cottage 'Waterside'.

Our 150 year-old detached cottage is a fun place to be and perfect for guests wishing to sit and relax while watching the boats.

Waterside is a great base for visiting local attractions like Woburn Abbey & Safari Park, Whipsnade Zoo, Ascott House & Gardens, Tring Reservoirs, Stoke Bruerne Canal museum and Dunstable Downs.

Milton Keynes is also close by with its big shopping centre, Xscape and theatre.

Facilities include:

Lounge with oak beams and log burning stove, conservatory and terrace with BBQ, farmhouse style kitchen and large dining room.

There are two double bedrooms (1 with an ensuite) and two twin bedrooms on the ground floor along with a shower room and a large family bathroom.

Upstairs there is a small attic lounge, with a single bedroom which you walk through to a further twin bedroom.

Available for short breaks starting on a Friday or Monday throughout the year (except Bank Holiday weekends when we only accept Friday start weekly bookings).

You can also book 7 nights, 10/11 nights or longer!

Sleeps up to 11 in 6 bedrooms.

(Special reduced rates for 1 to 5 guests and 6 to 8 Guests).

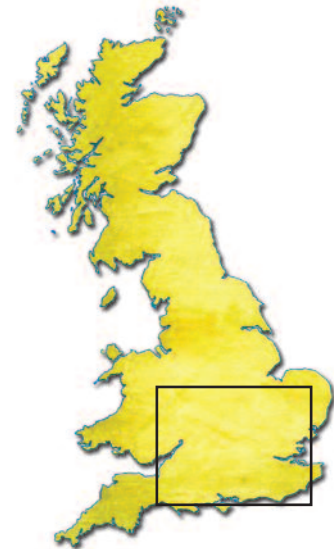


Please see our separate enclosed price list and booking form
For further pictures and a visual tour please visit our website: www.canalholidays.co.uk/waterside-cottage



Canal Holiday Map

England and Wales have over two thousand miles of rivers and canals that can be navigated aboard a narrowboat.



. 7-5-3 .

The large map shows three sets of figures between black dots, the first being distance in miles, then number of locks and then in black the cruising time in hours.

Leighton Buzzard - Linslade

is situated on the northern edge of the Chiltern Hills, just an hour's journey by road or rail from London.

Linslade adjoins the Market Town of Leighton Buzzard, which over the last hundred years has become famous for its sand. Much of this sand was transported by Narrow Gauge Railway to the canal and loaded aboard narrow boats. Many of these loading wharves can still be seen today.

The Grand Union Canal was one of the last canals to be built and opened in 1805 to provide a direct route from the Oxford Canal at Braunston to the River Thames at London. It has many outstanding engineering achievements like the Blisworth and Braunston tunnels, the aqueducts at Cosgrove and Milton Keynes and the Weedon embankments.

Many of our experienced customers returning from their holidays have commented on how the southern Grand Union is one of the most beautiful, varied and quietest of canals with excellent pubs and leisure facilities.



Short Break & One Week Cruises

North from Leighton Buzzard

Travel north along the Ouzel Valley through the parks of Milton Keynes, over the aqueduct at Cosgrove and onto the picturesque Northamptonshire village of Stoke Bruerne.

This is an ideal mini-break cruise for the novice with plenty of entertainment for your children, some locks, two aqueducts and many good pubs and restaurants.

Stoke Bruerne - 3 nights

Moor at the bottom of the Stoke Bruerne locks and enjoy a short walk up the locks to the famous canal village with its shops, pubs, restaurants and Waterways Museum. You can turn all our boats below and above the locks at Stoke Bruerne

Hours cruising each way to:

Bottom of Stoke Bruerne: 10-12 hrs*

26 miles, 7 locks and two aqueducts.

(Ideal for a weekend cruise)



Stoke Bruerne

Gayton Junction - 4 nights

For the more energetic take your boat up the flight of seven locks and on through the nearly 2 mile long Blisworth Tunnel, through Blisworth village and on to Gayton Junction.

Hours cruising each way to:

Gayton Junction: 13 - 15 hrs*

30 miles, 14 locks, 2 aqueduct, 1 tunnel.

(Ideal for a midweek cruise)

Braunston - 7 nights

Cruise as for the 4 night cruise, on through Northamptonshire and its attractive stone villages to Weedon, reputed to be the centre of England. Then on to Braunston Junction where the Oxford to Coventry Canal crosses the London to Birmingham Grand Union Canal.

Braunston village grew up around the canal and became well known for the building of wooden narrowboats. The church steeple can be seen for miles around.

This cruise gives the perfect introduction for a week's canal cruising.

Hours cruising each way to:

Braunston Junction: 21-23 hrs*

46 miles, 27 locks, 2 aqueducts, 2 tunnels.

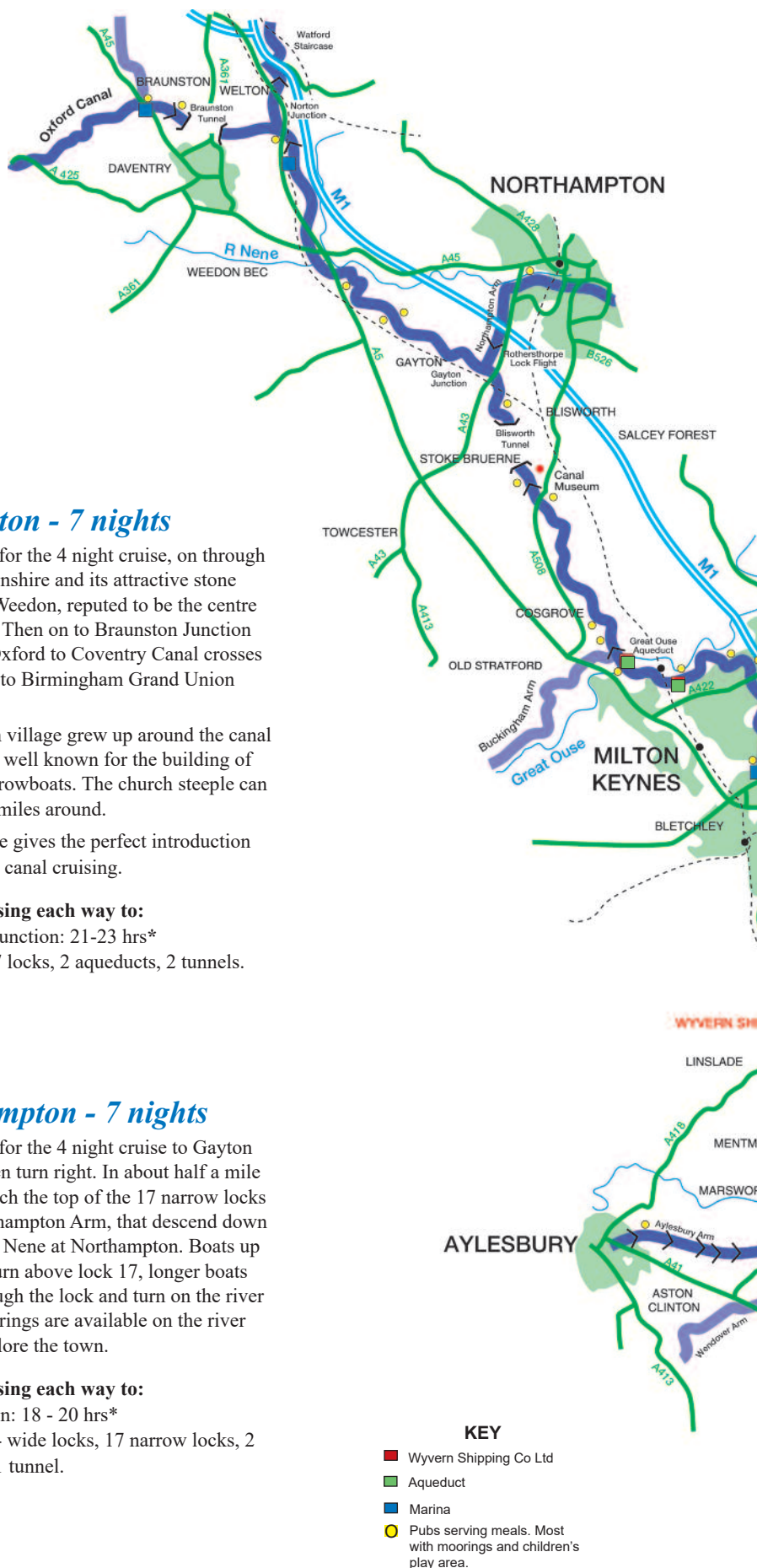
Northampton - 7 nights

Cruise as for the 4 night cruise to Gayton Junction then turn right. In about half a mile you will reach the top of the 17 narrow locks on the Northampton Arm, that descend down to the River Nene at Northampton. Boats up to 65' can turn above lock 17, longer boats can go through the lock and turn on the river below. Moorings are available on the river front to explore the town.

Hours cruising each way to:

Northampton: 18 - 20 hrs*

35 miles, 14 wide locks, 17 narrow locks, 2 aqueducts, 1 tunnel.



This map is simplified and is not an accurate guide.

South from Leighton Buzzard

Head south up the Chiltern Hills towards the beautiful village of Marsworth, keeping an eye out for the lion cut in the chalk on the side of Whipsnade hill.

The reservoirs at Marsworth, which were built to supply water to the canal summit, are now also used as extensive nature reserves. Wildlife is in abundance and it is very rewarding to have an afternoon or evening stroll around the lakes and to study the bird life.

At Marsworth either cruise on for Berkhamsted or turn right for Aylesbury.

Aylesbury Arm - 3 nights

This canal runs from Marsworth to Aylesbury and is just 6 miles long with 16 narrow locks, only inches wider than your boat. Aylesbury has a small basin with visitor moorings close to the market town centre.

Hours cruising each way to:

Aylesbury: 10 - 12 hrs*
15 miles, 11 wide locks, 16 narrow locks.

Wendover Arm - 3 nights

The first 1.5 miles of this canal is now open from Bulbourne to Tringford pumping station where water is pumped from the canal reservoirs into the canal. It is a narrow canal that meanders past Heygates Mill, terminating at the newly made winding hole at Little Tring.

Hours cruising each way to:

Little Tring: 8- 10 hrs*
11 miles, 18 locks.

Cowroast - 3 nights

From Marsworth travel up the seven locks to Bulbourne. The canal then enters a three mile cutting past Tring Station to Cowroast. Be on special alert as kingfishers are often spotted in the cutting.

Hours cruising each way to:

Cowroast: 10 - 12 hrs*
12 miles, 18 locks.

Berkhamsted - 4 nights

At Cowroast the canal starts its descent to London, passing through Berkhamsted close to the old castle, outdoor swimming pool and leisure parks.

Hours cruising each way to:

Berkhamsted Station: 14 - 16 hrs*
15 miles, 26 locks.

Cassiobury Park - 7 nights

Cruise to Berkhamsted as for the 4 night cruise and then on down the Colne Valley towards the Thames Valley and London.

Although there are more locks as you cross the Chiltern Hills than travelling north the canal is extremely pretty through places such as Bourne End and Cassiobury Park.

Hours cruising each way to:

Cassiobury Park: 25 - 27 hours*
26 miles, 51 locks.

Cruising Guide

All boats carry a local entertainment manual that lists many local facilities and attractions between Watford and Braunston.

The manual also includes details of canal side pubs (including phone numbers), shops, swimming pools and churches as well as many leaflets on local attractions.

Also listed are fresh water taps, turning places and refuse disposal points.



Cassiobury Park



Berkhamsted

* These are approximate hours and do not account for possible delays.

Longer Cruises

N. Oxford & Ashby Canals 10 to 14 nights

After turning right at Braunston you head up the North Oxford Canal through Rugby to Hawkesbury Junction where the Oxford Canal finishes and joins the Coventry Canal. In a few miles you will come to Marston Junction where you will turn right onto the Ashby Canal.

The Ashby Canal is a tranquil 21 mile lock-free canal terminating north of Snarestone tunnel where the Globe Inn offers good food and beer. On the way you can explore 'Bosworth Field' battleground and visit the Shackerstone steam railway.

Hours cruising each way to:

Snarestone Tunnel: 41 hrs*
95 miles, 31 locks, 2 aqueducts, 4 tunnels.

Warwick 10-14 nights

After turning left at Braunston continue on to Napton Junction and turn right, back on to the Grand Union Canal. Cruise on through Royal Leamington Spa and on to Warwick and its famous castle.

Hours cruising each way to:

Warwick: 31 hrs*
60 miles, 50 locks, 2 aqueducts, 2 tunnels.

Stratford-upon-Avon 14 nights

After Warwick, continue up the Hatton locks to Kingswood Junction and turn left and left again on to the narrow South Stratford Canal with its narrow locks to Stratford Basin which is in the centre of the medieval market town, close to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre.

Hours cruising each way to:

Stratford-upon-Avon: 50 hrs*
81 miles, 73 wide locks, 36 narrow locks, 2 aqueducts, 3 tunnels.



Stratford Basin

The Warwick Ring 14 to 17 nights

After Braunston continue along the Grand Union Canal towards Warwick where a stop is essential to visit Warwick Castle.

Up the flight of 21 locks at Hatton, 'the stairway to heaven' (which has been completed in under two hours) and on towards Birmingham. This section through the eastern end of the Birmingham Canal Navigation gives a fascinating insight into industrial architecture and the original function of the canal system.

Under 'spaghetti junction' and after Birmingham you have the rural section that is lightly locked, leading you north along the Birmingham and Fazeley Canal to the Coventry Canal at Fazeley Junction. Then past Drayton Manor Park and Zoo and back to Braunston via the North Oxford Canal.

Hours cruising:

The Warwick Ring: 95 hrs*
187 miles, 148 locks, 2 aqueducts, 6 tunnels.



Lechlade

Banbury 10-14 nights

After turning left at Braunston continue on to Napton Junction where you bear left and on to the meandering South Oxford Canal with its narrow locks. Continue on through the beautiful historic village of Cropredy then on to Banbury where the canal runs adjacent to the new shopping centre.

Hours cruising each way to:

Banbury: 34 hrs*
73 miles, 27 wide locks, 22 narrow locks, 2 aqueducts, 2 tunnels.



Lechlade 14 nights

After Banbury continue on through the villages of Aynho and Thrupp, then turn right on to Dukes Cut, which takes you to the Thames. The river here meanders to the extreme, ending up on the southern edge of the Cotswolds at Lechlade with its pubs and antique shops. The River Thames is controlled by the Environment Agency and therefore the Canal & River Trust Licence is not valid; a visitor licence for the River Thames can be purchased at Eynsham lock.

Hours cruising each way to:

Lechlade: 58 hrs*
126 miles, 74 lock, 2 aqueducts, 2 tunnels.

Oxford 14 nights

At Dukes Cut continue on down the Oxford Canal to the canal terminus at Isis Lock close to the city centre with its famous university college buildings.

Hours cruising each way to:

Oxford: 48 hrs*
101 miles, 27 wide locks, 39 narrow locks, 2 aqueducts, 2 tunnels.

This map is simplified and is not an accurate guide.

Market Harborough 10 to 14 nights

Cruise North to Norton Junction and turn right onto the Leicester section of the Grand Union Canal. Cross the embankment and through the woods to the locks at Watford Gap. Here you will come across your first staircase locks where the bottom gates of one lock form the top gates of the next. After Watford Gap there is the twenty mile lock-free pound across the summit to Foxton, which includes the Crick and Husbands Bosworth tunnels.

At Foxton are the remains of the old steam driven inclined plane. The old engine house is now an excellent museum illustrating how the steam driven plane was built and worked.

At the bottom of Foxton locks turn right along the 5 mile lock free Market Harborough Arm, which terminates at the Market Harborough Canal Basin just a short distance from the town centre.

Hours cruising each way to:

Market Harborough: 32 hrs*
72 miles, 21 wide locks, 17 narrow locks,
2 aqueducts, 3 tunnels.



Foxton locks

Leicester Ring 14 to 17 nights

At the bottom of Foxton locks continue on through the Saddington tunnel to the city of Leicester with its large shopping centre and covered market. Then on to Loughborough where the Great Central Railway Museum is just a short walk from the canal.

The canal then joins the River Soar, which flows down to its junction with the River Trent just south of Nottingham.

Up the River Trent for 2 miles and on to the Trent & Mersey Canal to Fradley Junction where you head south on to the Coventry and North Oxford Canals back to Braunston and the Grand Union Canal to Leighton Buzzard.

Hours cruising:

The Leicester Ring: 108 hrs*
239 miles, 92 wide locks, 44 narrow locks,
2 aqueducts, 6 tunnels.

London 10 to 14 nights

In order to have a day or two for sightseeing in the centre of London take a minimum ten day cruise.

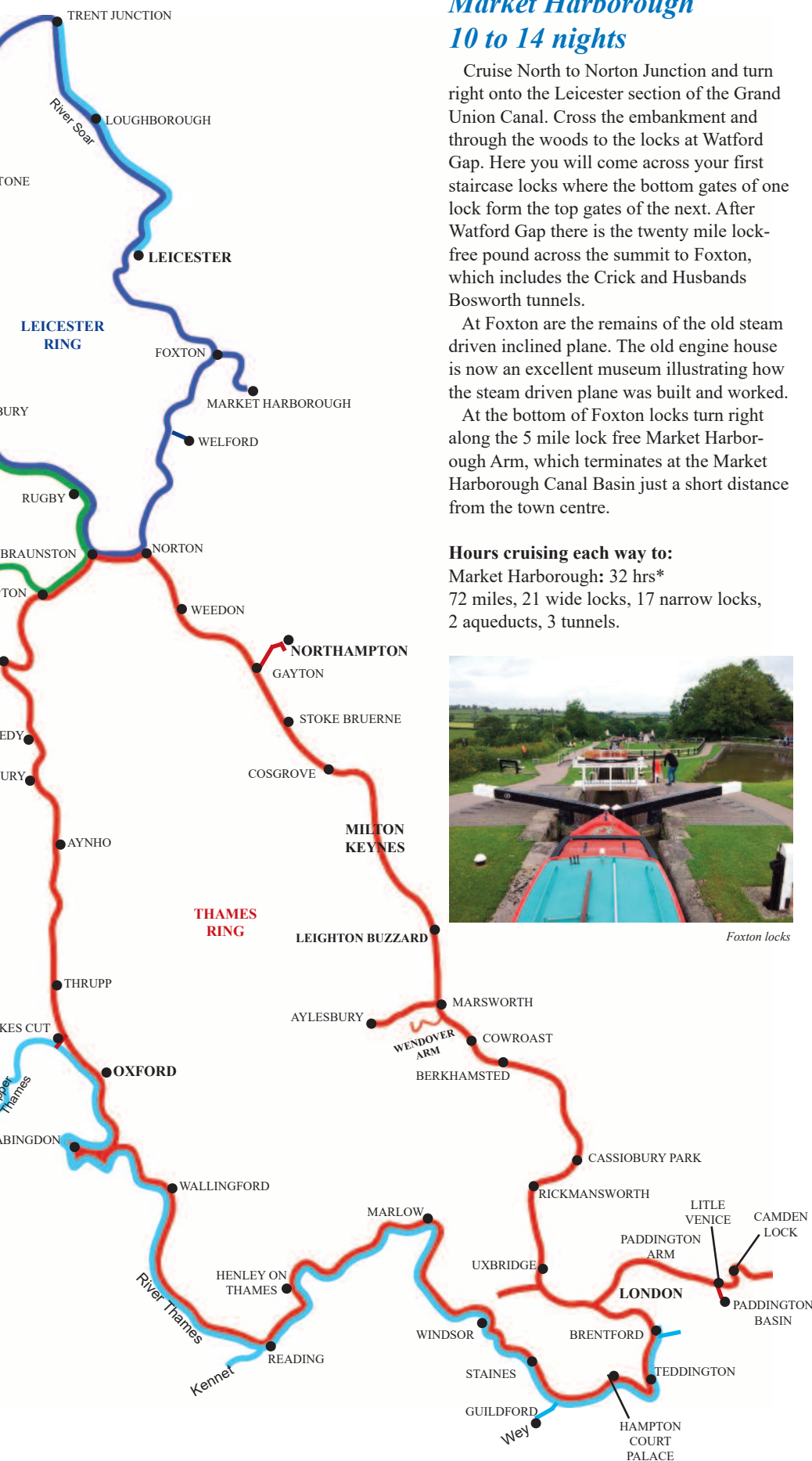
Paddington Basin provides visitor moorings close to the theatres and sights of central London. Cruise on through Maida Hill tunnel to Regents Park, home to London Zoo, before turning at Camden Lock with its markets and restaurants.

Hours cruising each way to:

Paddington Basin: 37 hrs*
51 miles, 63 locks.



Paddington Basin



* These are approximate hours and do not account for possible delays.

Thames Circular Cruise - 17 to 21 nights

The Thames cruise is probably the most exciting and rewarding of all circuits, incorporating every aspect of the Inland Waterways.

Experience wide locks up the Grand Union Canal and long tunnels at Blisworth and Braunston. The narrow locks and meandering South Oxford Canal contrast with the width and grandeur of the River Thames.

Oxford Canal

The canal rises up the hill at Napton with views of the village and windmill before meandering 11 miles across the summit through Fenny Compton, giving some breathtaking views of the Warwickshire countryside.

The canal passes right through the centre of the picturesque market town of Banbury before following the Cherwell Valley down to the River Thames at Oxford.

The lift bridges, narrow locks and stone-walled villages will make it a journey to remember.

Thames Licence

The River Thames is controlled by the Environment Agency and therefore the Canal & River Trust Licence is not valid; a seven day licence for the River Thames can be purchased from the lock-keepers at both Oxford and Teddington when you first go on the river.

Upper Thames to Lechlade

In a three week cruise the Upper Thames from Oxford to Lechlade may be included. Here the river meanders to the extreme and on occasions you can see boats that you have not yet met.

Lower Thames

There are two ways of joining the Thames from the Oxford Canal: either by the Duke's Cut above King's Lock or at Isis Lock near the city centre.

The locks are manned and shared with river and seagoing craft, so sit back and enjoy travelling through the front garden of England and ending up at Windsor Castle and Hampton Court.

There is a short tidal section between Teddington Lock and the Grand Union at Brentford, which may only be navigated at high tide as directed by the lock-keepers.



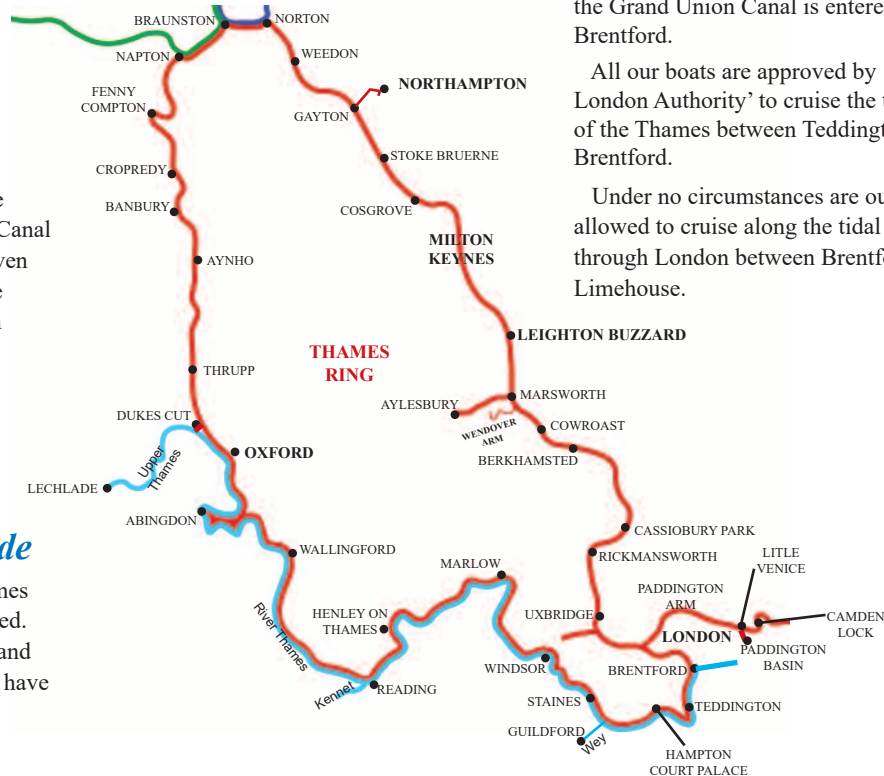
Brentford

Tidal Thames

The Thames is tidal below Teddington, and the Grand Union Canal is entered at Brentford.

All our boats are approved by 'The Port of London Authority' to cruise the tidal section of the Thames between Teddington and Brentford.

Under no circumstances are our boats allowed to cruise along the tidal Thames through London between Brentford and Limehouse.



Windsor Castle

Hours Cruising:

The Thames Ring: 116 hours*
248 miles, 102 wide locks, 37 narrow locks,
36 Thames locks, 2 tunnels.

This Cruise takes a minimum of two and a half weeks, allowing some time for sight-seeing.



Near Shillingford

This map is simplified and is not an accurate guide.

* These are approximate hours and do not account for possible delays.

Preparing for your holiday

When can we board our boat?

When you have paid in full for your holiday we will email or post to you, your joining pack and arrival details. Also a check list of things to bring/things we put on board and details of how to find us, along with the Canal & River Trust Boater's Handbook and accompanying DVD.

Although our hire period officially starts at 4pm we hope to have all the boats cleaned, serviced and ready for boarding and handover from 1.30pm. We ask you to arrive at the boatyard between 1.30pm and 3pm (after 3pm by prior arrangement). The time of boarding will depend on the amount of cleaning and servicing work needed on your boat before you can board.

If you are unable to board your boat by 3.00pm please let us know so special arrangements can be made. Late arrivals may not receive their instruction until the following morning.

Boat Handover

Before you set off on your cruise one of our instructors will go through the boat with you to make sure you have all the information you need for your canal boat holiday. Your boat handover will include - how to start the engine; fill up with water; turn the heating on and off; and anything else specific to your boat that you might need to know!

They will also talk to you about how to steer, where best to position your boat when cruising, which side to pass another boat, working the locks as well as tips on mooring and good places to stop.

On board every boat is a boat manual with the information the instructors give you about the boat, plus details for contacting the boat yard during office hours and the out of hours on call engineer. We aim to help you over the telephone or come out to you if needed.

Once you have completed your handover on the boat and depending on your previous experience your instructor will take you through your first lock and show you some practical boat handling skills. You will then be off on your narrow boat adventure!



Cruising

The speed limit on the canals is 3-4mph. We ask that all our boats go past moored boats on tickover and without causing a wash.

When meeting other cruising boats keep to the right.

At blind bends and bridges you can sound your horn to warn other boats you are coming.

Locks

Each lock takes about 20 minutes to go through. The majority of locks on The Grand Union are operated by yourself, but you will sometimes find Canal & River Trust volunteer lock keepers on flights of locks to assist your passage.

On the day of departure all novices and those wanting a refresher are given practical instruction through their first lock from one of our experienced instructors.

Mooring up

You are only permitted to cruise during daylight hours - dawn until dusk - so please make sure you are moored up by nightfall.

You can moor anywhere on the towpath side unless there is signage to say otherwise. Overnight mooring is not allowed on water points, lock bollards, or bridge holes.

On board information

As well as the boat manual all our boats carry a local entertainment folder that lists many local facilities and attractions between Watford and Braunston.

This also includes details of canal side pubs and shops. Also listed are water points, winding holes and refuse disposal points.

Fishing

After a day's cruising why not enjoy an evening's fishing. We do however have a strict rule that no live bait of any kind (including maggots) is allowed onboard. Please note an Environment Agency rod licence is required by anyone aged 12 years and over.

Flags

We can supply 5ft (1.5m) flagpoles which attach to the helm so you can fly your National Flag. This is especially popular with overseas customers.

Please bring your own 1m flag.

Returning your boat...

The hire period ends at 9.30am on the last day. So bear this in mind when choosing your last night's mooring. Please ensure the boat is returned clean and tidy to the yard between 9am and 9.30am on that day or, if you prefer, you can return the boat before dusk the previous evening.

Members of :

Bedford & Milton Keynes Waterways Trust.
British Marine Inland Boating.
British Marine Hire Boat Handover.
Buckingham Canal Society.
Federation of Small Businesses.
Friends of Stoke Bruerne Museum.
Inland Waterways Association (IWA).
Wendover Arm Trust.



Sponsors of :

Buckingham Canal Society.
IWA Canal Clean Ups.
Stoke Hammond Lock Gardens.
Friends of Leighton Lock.
Wendover Arm Trust.

Key to Symbols



240V/1500W Inverter



Radio & CD with USB/Aux



Vacuum cleaner



Hairdryer



Pet friendly



Toaster



CH - Full radiator central heating
DG - Double glazed front windows



Pet free



Microwave



Flat screen TV & DVD



Fitted carpet except in kitchen
and bathrooms



Bowthruster

Key to Boat Diagram

C Airing Cupboard

BB Bunk Beds

C Cupboard

CT Coffee Table

DC Drinks Cupboard

DT Dinette Table

F Fridge

FT Folding Table

HC Hanging Cupboard

S Settee/Pullout Double

SB Shower Bath

ST Shower Tray

T Toilet

TV Flat screen TV & DVD
and Radio & CD with USB/Aux

N.B. Low level berths are standard height beds

Blue Boat Names - Saturday/Tuesday Start

Green Boat Names - Friday/Monday Start



VisitEngland

4 & 5 Star

In the same way as hotels, narrowboats are awarded 1 to 5 stars by Visit England to indicate their quality, space and comfort.

As part of our commitment to quality we invite Visit England to independently grade our boats on an annual basis.

All equipment and furnishings on our 4 & 5 star boats are the same.



8 Berth Boats

'Mallard' sleeps up to 8

Length 68ft (20.7m)

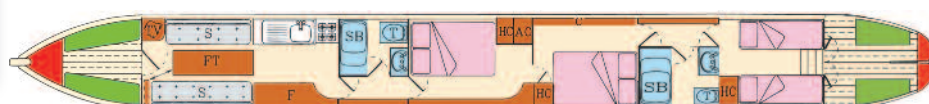
Headroom 6ft 8in (2.03m)



'Mallard' is a spacious 5 star boat with all low level berths in four separate sleeping areas, including the two sofa beds in the saloon, which can convert to a large double, as can the two single beds in the rear cabin. The middle cabin can have either a fixed double or two single berths - please advise your preference when booking. Mallard has two full bathrooms.

1 6 or 2 4 or 3 2 or 4

5 star as a
6 berth



'Kingfisher' sleeps up to 8

Length 66ft (20.1m)

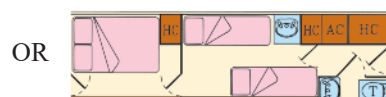
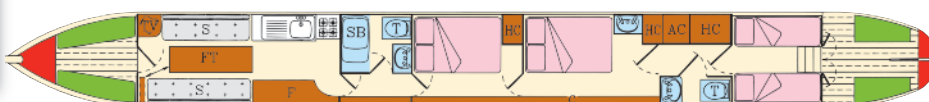
Headroom 6ft 8 in (2.03m)



'Kingfisher' is a spacious 5 star boat with all low level berths in four separate sleeping areas, including the two sofa beds in the saloon, which can convert to a large double, as can the two single beds in the rear cabin. The middle cabin can have either a fixed double or two single berths - please advise your preference when booking.

1 6 or 2 4 or 3 2 or 4

5 star as a
6 berth



'Splendid' sleeps up to 8

Length 62ft (18.9m)

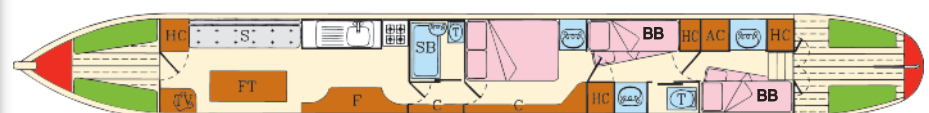
Headroom 6ft 3in (1.9m)



'Splendid' is a very popular 4 star boat with four separate sleeping areas, including the sofa bed in the saloon. The two rear cabins have a set of bunk beds in each and there is a double bed in the centre cabin.

2 4

4 star as a
6 berth



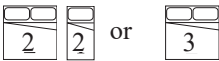
6 Berth Boats

visit www.canalholidays.co.uk
To Reserve a Boat
Call 01525 372355

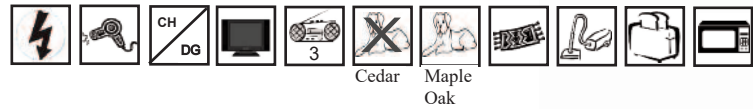
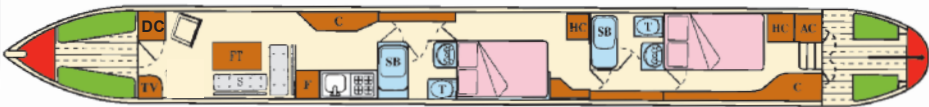
‘Cedar’, ‘Maple’, ‘Oak’ sleeps up to 6
Length 65ft (19.8m)
Headroom 6ft 6in (1.98m)



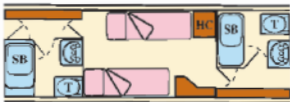
These spacious 5 star boats have all low level berths in three separate sleeping areas including the double sofa bed in the saloon. There is a double bed in the rear cabin and the middle cabin can be either a fixed double or two single berths - please advise your preference when booking. These boats have two full bathrooms.



4 star as a
6 berth



OR



4 Berth Boats



‘Juniper’ sleeps up to 4

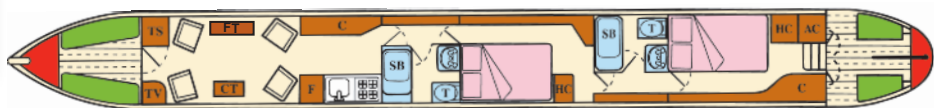
Length 62ft (18.9m)
Headroom 6ft 6in (1.98m)



This 5 star boat with all low level berths has two separate bedrooms both with ensuite bathrooms. The saloons have two armchairs and two leather reclining chairs.



5 star as a
4 berth

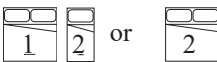


‘Countess’, ‘Empress’ ‘Princess’ sleeps up to 4

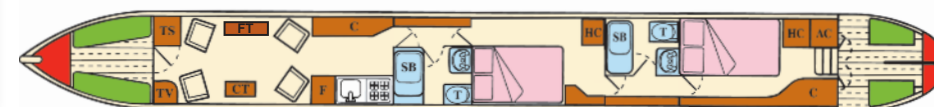
Length 65ft (19.8m)
Headroom 6ft 6in (1.98m)



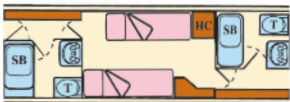
These 5 star boats with all low level berths have two separate bedrooms both with ensuite bathrooms. The rear cabin is a double bed and the middle cabin can be either a fixed double or two fixed single beds - please advise your preference when booking. The saloons have two armchairs and two leather reclining chairs..



5 star as a
4 berth



OR



Countess
Empress
Princess

Key

AC Airing Cupboard	HC Hanging Cupboard
BB Bunk Beds	S Settee/Pullout Double
C Cupboard	SB Shower Bath
CT Coffee Table	ST Shower Tray
DC Drinks Cupboard	T Toilet
DT Dinette Table	TV Flat screen TV & DVD and Radio & CD with USB/Aux
F Fridge	
FT Folding Table	

N.B. Low level berths are standard height beds

Blue Boat Names - Saturday/Tuesday Start
Green Boat Names - Friday/Monday Start



4 Berth Boats

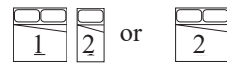


'Tulip' sleeps up to 4

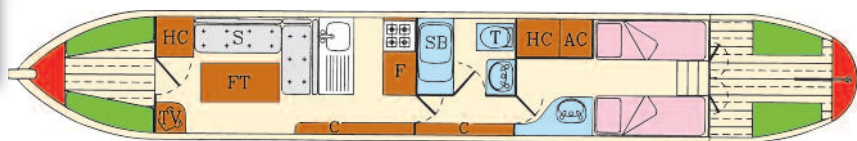
Length 46ft (14.0m)
Headroom 6ft 4in (1.93m)



'Tulip' is a 4 star boat with all low level berths in two separate sleeping areas, including the sofa bed in the saloon. The rear cabin berths can convert to a large double or triple child berth.



4 star as a
2 berth

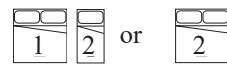


'Bullrush' sleeps up to 4

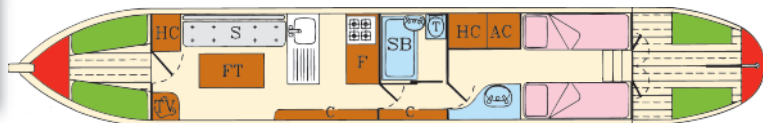
Length 45ft (13.7m)
Headroom 6ft 3in (1.9m)



This 4 star boat has two separate sleeping areas with all low level berths, including the sofa bed in the saloon. The rear cabin berths can convert to a large double or triple child berth.



4 star as a
2 berth



4 & 2 Berth Boats



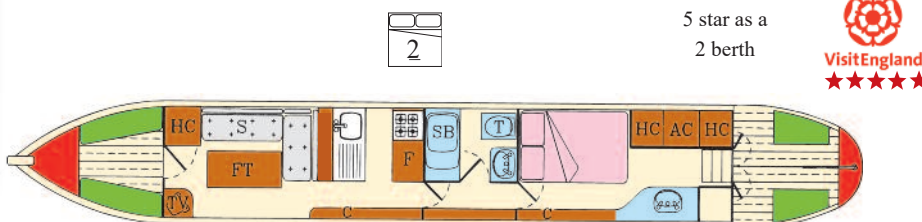
'Foxglove', 'Poppy' sleeps up to 4

Length 48ft (14.6m)

Headroom 6ft 6in (1.98m)



These 5 star boats with all low level berths have two separate sleeping areas, a double berth in the rear cabin and a double sofa bed in the saloon.



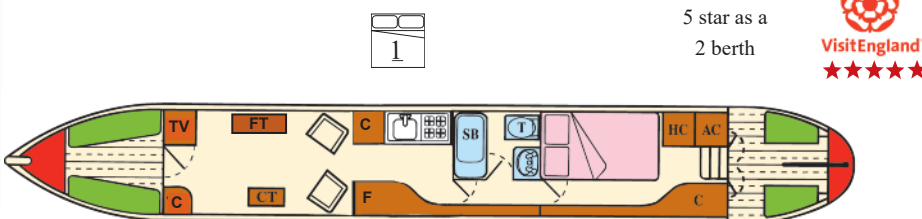
'Daisy' sleeps 2

Length 48ft (14.6m)

Headroom 6ft 7in (2m)



'Daisy' is a spacious 5 star boat with a double bed, which at night can be extended to 4'6" wide. The large saloon has two leather reclining armchairs with footstools, this is the perfect honeymoon boat.



Key

AC Airing Cupboard	HC Hanging Cupboard
BB Bunk Beds	S Settee/Pullout Double
C Cupboard	SB Shower Bath
CT Coffee Table	ST Shower Tray
DC Drinks Cupboard	T Toilet
DT Dinette Table	TV Flat screen TV & DVD and Radio & CD with USB/Aux
F Fridge	
FT Folding Table	

N.B. Low level berths are standard height beds

Blue Boat Names - Saturday/Tuesday Start

Green Boat Names - Friday/Monday Start



Arrival Day Gallery



Once you have checked in at the office, we will show you to your boat, so you can board and load up and we will show you where to put your car in the long stay car park, when you are finished loading.



When you have parked your car, stop off in the office on the way back to your boat to let us know you are ready and we will arrange for an instructor to come onboard as soon as one is available to complete the boat handover.



Once we have finished going through the boat we will get you facing in the right direction and show you how to handle the boat.

For all novices and also any hirer that would like, or require a refresher, we will come down to the lock and show you how to work the lock and handle the boat through the lock.



We are lucky to sometimes have Canal & River Trust Volunteers assisting boaters through the flight of locks at Soulbury 'Three Locks'.

Conditions of Boat Hire

1. Booking

A boat booking is confirmed when a completed booking form together with 20% of the total hire fee to the nearest pound, or full payment if within 8 weeks has been received and acknowledged by the Company. This booking can then only be altered or cancelled by the authorised person.

2. Balance of Hire Fees

The balance of hire fees is due to be paid to the Company 8 weeks before the start of your holiday. Published prices are subject to changes in V.A.T.

3. Gas & Fuel

The Company may make a fuel surcharge if there are any material increases of gas or diesel prices or fuel duty.

4. Cancellation

If you have to cancel, please telephone the company immediately and confirm the cancellation in writing or by email. The company will then make every effort to re-let the boat for an administrative charge of 20% of the hire fee. If we are unable to re-let the boat you remain responsible for the balance of the hire fees. Our Holiday Cancellation Scheme is only available to residents of the UK. See page 25.

5. Change of holiday dates/boat

If you haven't taken out our cancellation scheme, once your booking has been confirmed, changes to dates and or boat may be made up to 8 weeks before the start of your holiday for a £40.00 administration fee. Within 8 weeks of the start of your holiday cancellation charges will apply as in above paragraph.

6. Skipper and Crew

For your safety there is a minimum requirement of two adults over 18 when navigating the boats. We regret that bookings by skippers under 21 cannot be accepted on 2 to 4 berth boats and by skippers under 25 on 6 to 8 berth boats. For single sex crews of three or more people and crews hiring more than one boat at least two crew members per boat must be over 30. All male/all female and multi-boat crews only at the Company's discretion.

7. Extra Persons

On some of the boats an extra person may be carried with the prior consent of the Company at £40.00 per week or £20.00 per short break. Please enquire when booking. There is no charge for an extra child under 4 years.

8. Pets

A maximum of two pets are allowed on our pet friendly boats but they must be pre-booked. Please see page 25 for charges. There is no charge for registered assistance dogs. Hirers must provide their own pet blankets/beds, all pets must be properly house trained or crated as appropriate and must not be left unattended on the boat. Under no circumstances must pets be allowed on any beds or seating. Pets are not covered under the Company insurance and the Hirer shall be liable for the cost of any damage or extra cleaning required. Under no circumstances are pets allowed on pet free boats.

9. Hire Periods

The hire period starts at 4pm on the Monday/Tuesday/Friday/Saturday, however every effort will be made to have your boat ready for 1.30pm and the boat may be boarded any time between 1.30pm and 3pm (after 3pm by prior arrangement with the boatyard). The time of departure will depend on the amount of servicing work, instruction required and staff availability. The hire period ends at 9.30am on the end date.

10. Taking Over

On arrival at the boat yard please check in at the office where you will be shown to your boat. Having unloaded and parked your car in the long term car park please let the office know that you are ready to receive your boat instruction. Having received your instruction you will be asked to sign a '**Boat Acceptance Certificate**'. Thereafter the Hirer is responsible for the boat, its equipment and its operation until it is handed

back to the Company at the end of the hire period.

Further instruction in boat handling and lock operation will continue until you are confident.

11. Fishing

On no account may live bait or maggots be taken aboard.

A valid rod licence for anyone age 12 years and over is required. Day tickets may be purchased from the local angling club bailiff.

12. Smoking

Smoking is not permitted inside the boats, but is allowed outside.

13. Bicycles & Canoes

Bicycles are not allowed on board any of our boats, however by prior arrangement a small folding bicycle may be carried provided it can be stowed under the cockpit seats. Under no circumstances may bicycles be carried on the roof. One canoe per boat may be carried on the roof, provided there is adequate padding and strapping.

14. Cruising

All craft are based at Linslade and are licensed to cruise the rivers and canals controlled by Canal & River Trust. (The main independent waterways are the Rivers Thames, Avon & Nene where an additional license is required.) No craft may go on tidal waters except on the River Thames between Brentford and Teddington. Boats are not allowed to cruise to or from Limehouse on the tidal River Thames. You must not navigate the craft at a speed above 4 miles per hour or between sunset and sunrise. You must slow down when meeting other boats and passing moored boats. No more than two day visitors above the number of berths are allowed on any one vessel. No craft may tow another craft.

15. Helmsman

Minors under 18 must on no account be allowed to steer boats unless an experienced adult is close at hand at all times, near to the controls, so that they can take over in an emergency.

16. Return to Base

The boat must be returned on time in a clean and tidy condition. The Company reserves the right to charge for extra cleaning. Should the boat not be returned on time a charge of £50.00 for every hour or part of an hour is made until the boat is safely returned.

17. Damage Waiver & Security Deposit

For family bookings the damage waiver is included in the hire fee. The Company reserves the right to charge a £250.00 security deposit for any non-family, all male/all female and multi-boat crews. Minor losses and breakages to the boat inventory must be paid for on returning the boat. Damage waiver does not cover non-accidental damage, cilling of the boat or speeding.

18. Insurance

Insurance of the craft with Third Party risks covered to £3,000,000 is included in the hire fee. In the event of an accident, however small, you must not accept liability. You must collect the names of witnesses, complete the onboard incident report form and notify the Company immediately by telephone with full details. The Company's insurance does not cover personal accidents or loss or damage to personal effects. Personal accident insurance remains the responsibility of the Hirer.

19. Maintenance, Repairs, Damage & Breakdowns

The Hirer shall take reasonable care of the boat, its equipment and contents and shall return them at the end of the hire period as per the Company's instructions and in good, clean and tidy condition. Any repairs or replacements by the Hirer without the Company's approval will not be accepted. The Hirer shall be responsible for the removal of weeds, rope and other matter from the propeller where possible. The Hirer shall have no claim on the Company as a result of breakdown or failures of the boat and its equipment or for any delays caused by repairs to the boat.

Should repairs be necessary they are the Company's responsibility and must not be put into the hands of others without the Company's permission. The Company is unable to make service calls for televisions or bow-thrusters. The Hirer shall comply with the Company's instructions; otherwise the Hirer shall be liable for any loss or damage incurred.

20. Hirer's Property

Hirer's vehicles may be left in the company car park at the owner's risk. The Company cannot accept any liability for loss or damage to your vehicles, property, baggage, etc. however caused, whether on our premises or on the boat. The Company may return Hirer's property left behind if claimed and following receipt of payment for postage and packing (minimum charge £5). Property not claimed within two months from the end date of the holiday will be disposed of by the Company. The Company shall take such action as may be necessary to silence car alarms in the Company car park and to recover the costs from the Hirer.

21. Events Beyond the Company Control

Unfortunately events or circumstances beyond our control, which the Company could not foresee or avoid, occasionally affect bookings. Such events could include the following: death or personal injury of Hirers their crew and passengers. Destruction or damage of your boat which can not be easily remedied before the start of your holiday due to fire, flood, explosion, extreme weather, accident, break-in, criminal damage or any similar cause. Non-fulfilment or interruption of the booking or delays due to damage, breakdowns or mechanical problems with the boat. Restrictions or obstructions, resulting from repairs or damage to the waterways, C&RT emergency stoppages, non-availability of routes, navigational works, storms, floods, ice, other weather conditions or shortage of water. Shortage or non-availability of fuel for the boat. Late return by previous Hirers. Industrial action, riots, civil strife, natural or nuclear disaster, fire, war, threat of war, actual or threatened terrorist activity and all similar situations. We regret that the Company can not accept responsibility for or pay any compensation, costs or expenses where the performance of your contract is prevented or affected or you otherwise suffer any loss or damage as a result of events beyond our control. Hirers are recommended to take out personal holiday insurance cover.

22. Brochure and Website

Every effort is made to ensure that descriptions of craft are accurate but the Company will not accept liability for any inaccuracy that may exist. Canal maps and boat plans are not necessarily to scale. Craft may be viewed by appointment before or after booking and we welcome the opportunity of showing you our boats.

23. Company's Reservations

A. The Company reserve the right to refuse to hand over a boat to any person who in their opinion is not suitable to take charge of it. In this event all money will be refunded in full and the Hirers shall have no other claim against the Company.

B. The Company may repossess the boat at any time, if in its opinion the Hirer is not behaving responsibly and is a danger to himself and/or other canal users. The Hirer shall have no further claim on the Company and no refund shall be due.

C. If owing to circumstances beyond the control of the Company, the Company is unable to provide the boat booked or a suitable alternative, the Company will refund in full all monies paid and the Hirer shall have no further claim against the Company.

24. Data Protection Policy

The handling and collection of any personal customer data is processed in accordance with local law and is not sold to third parties.

Booking your Holiday

When should we book?

The sooner you book the better. We have many regular customers who book early. Leaving your booking until the Spring could lead to disappointment, so better to book as early as possible.

How do we book?

The easiest way to check availability and book is by contacting the booking office on 01525 372355 (opening hours on page 7) or by using the 'Availability Search' on the home page of our website www.canalholidays.co.uk.

We can then hold your boat for up to three working days. Once we have a completed booking form and taken payment, which can be done over the phone, we will confirm your booking by email or post.

Ten/Eleven Day Hire

For 10/11 day hire take the first week's hire price then add 40% of the next week's.

Two & Three Week Discount

Book an extra week or two for 25% off the second and third consecutive weeks.

Longer Hire Discount

For hire periods of more than three weeks there is a 30% discount on the second and subsequent full weeks booked.

Loyalty Discount

If you have booked with us within the last four years we offer a further £25 off a short break and £50 off a week or more.

Please contact the office for help with pricing and discounts.

Included in the hire fee?

The hire of the boat and all its equipment including bedding, VAT (where applicable), fuel, gas, toilet pump-out, buoyancy aids, car parking, television and damage waiver is all included in the hire fee.

There is no security deposit or damage waiver payable by family groups. For all male/all female, non-family and multi-boat bookings a £250.00 security deposit is payable per boat on arrival at the boatyard.



Not included in the hire fee?

Cancellation scheme.

Extra persons aged 4 and over are £20.00 for a short break and £40.00 for a week.

Pets are charged as follows:

No. of Nights	1st Pet	2nd Pet
3 or 4	£20.00	£10.00
7	£30.00	£15.00
10 or 11	£40.00	£25.00
14 or more	£45.00	£30.00

When is the balance due?

The balance is due 8 weeks before the start of your holiday. You will receive a remittance advice with your booking confirmation.

Cancellation Scheme

We offer an optional cancellation scheme whereby for a small premium we can cover your liabilities with the Company if you unfortunately have to cancel your holiday.

This scheme can only be offered to residents of the UK.

We recommend that all overseas hirers take out their own holiday insurance to cover all flights, hotels, car hire etc as well as the boat hire.

If required the premium must be paid when booking your holiday.

Cancellation Scheme Cover

If you have paid the Cancellation Scheme premium, you may cancel your holiday without giving any reason up to 8 weeks before you are due to start.

Should you cancel within 8 weeks of the start of your holiday the scheme covers you in the event of death, injury, illness, pregnancy (commencing after the date of booking), compulsory quarantine, witness summons, jury service or unemployment through compulsory redundancy (after the date of booking) of:

1. The insured and any prospective or actual travelling companion of the insured.
2. Partner, parent or step-parent, brother, sister, child or step-child or parent-in-law of any named member of the party.

Claims Procedure

Claimants must give immediate notice by telephone and in writing (letter or email) to The Wyvern Shipping Co. Ltd. of any event which may give rise to a claim.



Cancellation Scheme Premium

Total Hire including Deposit

<i>Up to</i>	<i>£400.00</i>	<i>£20.00 Premium</i>
	£500.00	£23.00
	£600.00	£26.00
	£700.00	£29.00
	£800.00	£32.00
	£900.00	£35.00
	£1000.00	£38.00
	£1100.00	£41.00
	£1200.00	£44.00
	£1300.00	£47.00
	£1400.00	£50.00

<i>Up to</i>	£1500.00	£53.00	<i>Premium</i>
	£1600.00	£56.00	
	£1700.00	£59.00	
	£1800.00	£62.00	
	£1900.00	£65.00	
	£2000.00	£68.00	
	£2100.00	£71.00	
	£2200.00	£74.00	
	£2300.00	£77.00	
	£2400.00	£80.00	
	£2500.00	£83.00	

Each £100.00 thereafter please add £3.00

Boat Booking Form

The Wyvern Shipping Company Limited

Booking Office: Rothschild Road, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire LU7 2TF

Telephone: (01525) 372355 – Fax: (01525) 852308 – International: +44 1525 372355

Email: bookings@canalholidays.co.uk – Web Site: www.canalholidays.co.uk



The easiest way to check availability and book is by contacting the booking office.

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

BOOKING DETAILS

BOAT NAME _____

START DAY Fri / Sat / Mon / Tues DATE _____

FINISH DAY Fri / Sat / Mon / Tues DATE _____

WE REQUIRE **TWIN / DOUBLE** BEDS IN THE CENTRE CABIN.

THIS APPLIES TO THE FOLLOWING BOATS:

8 BERTHS - MALLARD / KINGFISHER

6 BERTHS - CEDAR / MAPLE / OAK

4 BERTHS - COUNTESS / EMPRESS / PRINCESS

YOUR DETAILS

MR / MRS / MS / MISS _____ FIRST NAME _____

SURNAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ POSTCODE _____

HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____

MOBILE PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

I HAVE HIRED FROM YOU BEFORE **YES / NO** YEAR _____

HOW DID YOU FIND US _____

OTHER PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE _____

ALL CREW DETAILS

FAMILY GROUP **YES / NO**

	FULL NAME	AGE IF U-18
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		

MEDIUM TOWELS REQ. (MAX. 1 PER PERSON) _____

NO. OF PETS _____ TYPE _____

HOLIDAY COST

BROCHURE OR SPECIAL OFFER PRICE £ _____

LOYALTY DISCOUNT £ _____

SUB-TOTAL £ _____

PET ONE £ _____

PET TWO £ _____

EXTRA CREW £ _____

TOTAL HIRE FEE £ _____

20% DEPOSIT (Full amount if within 8 wks) £ _____

CANCELLATION SCHEME £ _____

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED £ _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

I declare that I am 21 or over and agree to be responsible for the balance shown. I have read and agree to the conditions of hire.

PAYMENT DETAILS

I WISH TO PAY BY: (tick as applicable)

☐ DEBIT CARD: VISA / MASTERCARD / MAESTRO / J.C.B.

☐ CREDIT CARD: VISA / MASTERCARD

CREDIT / DEBIT CARD DETAILS

These details will be destroyed once payment has been taken.

Card Number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Valid From

--	--	--	--

Expiry Date

--	--	--	--

Issue No. (Switch only)

--	--

Security Code (last 3 digits on the back of the card)

--	--	--

Name if different to hirer _____

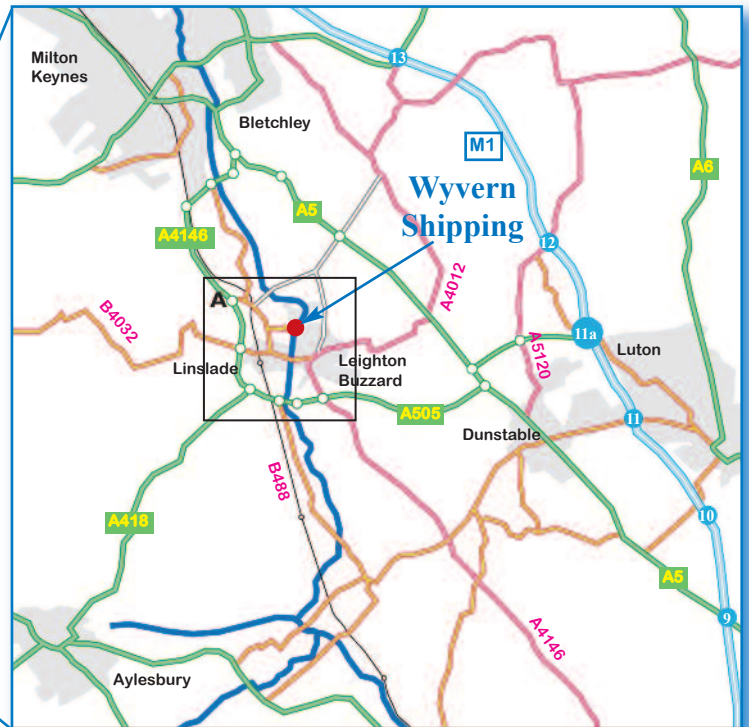
House number & Postcode if different _____

Signature if different to hirer _____

How to find us

We are on the Grand Union Canal at Linslade which adjoins Leighton Buzzard.

The boatyard is about a mile from the town centre and a fifteen minute walk from the Railway station.



Arriving by train

Leighton Buzzard is on the main railway line from London (Euston) to Birmingham and the North West and has a frequent train service. Trains approx. every half hour.

Arriving by road

To avoid the centre of Leighton Buzzard follow the ring road A4146 to the roundabout marked A on the map.

Take exit signposted Linslade and Stoke Hammond. Stay on this road for about 1 mile, pass the sign to the Globe Inn then take the first left down Rothschild Road.

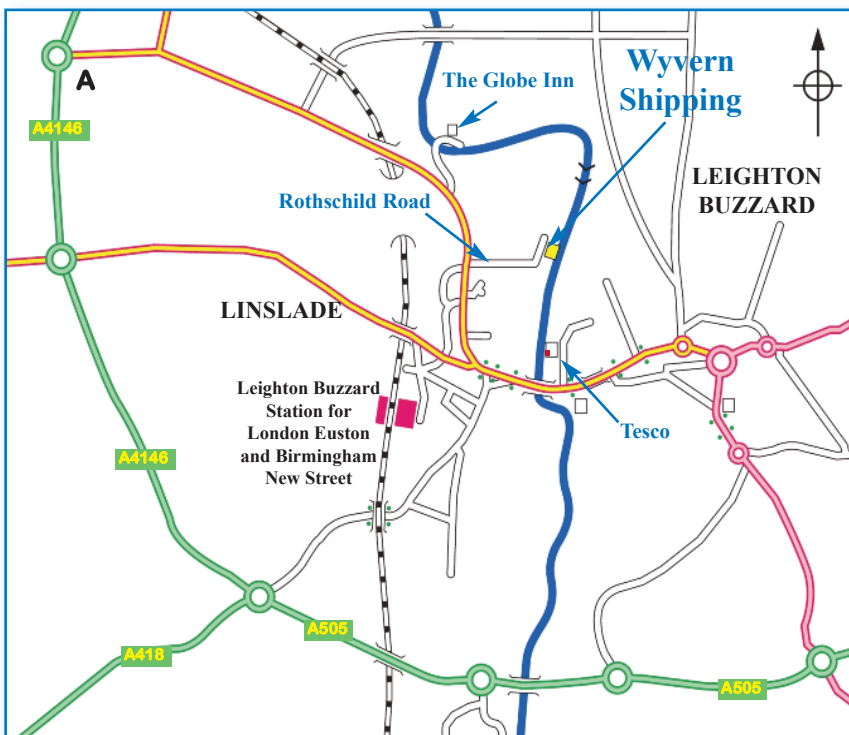
The boatyard is at the end of Rothschild Road.

Arriving by Air

Luton Airport	18 miles
Heathrow Airport	48 miles
Stanstead Airport	56 miles
Gatwick Airport	85 miles

Arriving by Sea

Port of Harwich	115 miles
Port of Dover	130 miles



The Wyvern Shipping Company Limited

Booking Office: Rothschild Road, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire LU7 2TF

Telephone: (01525) 372355 – International: +44 1525 372355

Fax: (01525) 852308 – International: +44 1525 852308

Email: enquiries@canalholidays.co.uk – Web Site: www.canalholidays.co.uk

Managing Director: Mr E. J. Griffin Directors: Mr & Mrs J. C. Griffin

