

1994

ENGLISH COUNTY CRUISES



Getting away from it all!

An English County Cruises narrow boat holiday is your key to peace, tranquillity and adventure. The peace of Britain's beautiful countryside, the tranquillity of gently cruising along our quiet waterways, and the adventure of discovering the secret world of the canals.

A world of locks, aqueducts and tunnels, of water vole, heron and kingfisher, of country villages, historic towns, canalside inns, castles and stately houses.

Our canal network consists of hundreds of miles of gentle water highways along which to make your holiday escape from the hurly-burly of modern life to a bygone world where you are in unison with nature and the countryside. A world with time to stand and stare, to fish and to explore at the gentle cruising speed of a narrow boat.

Carefree holiday cruising for the whole family is guaranteed by the quality, comfort and reliability of our English County Cruises "Golden" boats, which have justly earned their reputation as "the best hire cruisers on the narrow canals" - boats backed by the standard of service that only a friendly family company such as ours can provide.

Let the pages of our brochure be your introduction to the world of the waterways, to us at English County Cruises and to what we guarantee will be the best of boating holidays.



Holiday security and value for money!

We are a friendly family company whose management is available to deal personally with anything that may arise in the booking and planning of your holiday. English County Cruises is a very soundly financed company. We own all our boats and our base and have substantial reserves and no borrowings. We are solid, in the old fashioned way, so you may be confident of two things -

Your boat will be awaiting your arrival and your final advance payment will be secure.

If you have any doubts, your final payment may be made - by prior arrangement - on arrival instead of the usual three weeks before.

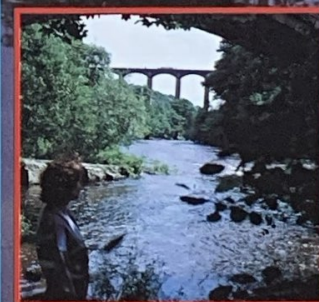
You can forget about cancellation worries by adding a small payment to your initial deposit. (See the section for this on the booking form). You will then become free of all charges, if ill-fortune compels you to cancel. No proof is asked for: your signed explanation, given in honour, is enough. There are no other conditions; our scheme could not be more straightforward.

We regret however that changes of holiday by an employer and changes of house removal dates are NOT covered by the scheme.

Our few formal conditions of booking are liberally interpreted: e.g. In the rare event of a canal stoppage curtailing your holiday, we will get you back to base free of charge and grant an allowance for holidays lost.

The prices quoted in our list are truly inclusive. There are NO irritating extra payments for fuel, gas, parking, bedding, pets, and the like - even TV is included. You do not have to pay for extra passengers (if they sleep in a pipe cot). It is our policy to provide under one fee all that you need for the navigation of your boat and for comfortable and elegant living aboard, except for the purely personal items such as soap, towels and table linen. (Overseas visitors see page 13).

If you have any query - no matter how small - special requirements, or changes in arrangements, please contact us directly and immediately. It will be dealt with personally, quickly, and without fuss. There is no substitute for the confidence gained by booking a holiday with a soundly financed, friendly family company that offers a personal service. ENGLISH COUNTY CRUISES provide this confidence. It is just one of the many things that support our high reputation. Relax and enjoy your waterway holiday with us.

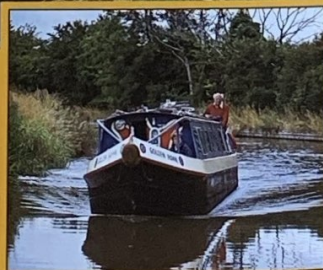




The fun of being afloat!



The medieval walls of Chester City.

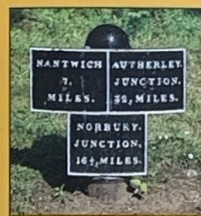


Most forms of boating are fun but it is only with narrowboat cruising that people of all ages, shapes and sizes, can obtain a high degree of enjoyment and relaxation so necessary from time to time in this hectic world.

No matter whether you are part of a group of young people, a mixed family, or retired, you will find something to make your holiday afloat a memorable one.

For a young group of people the canals offer the opportunity to get away from town and city life to enjoy the freedom of the countryside without any of the restrictions associated with a busy community.

They operate from a self-contained holiday unit where they can be com-



pletely self catering or, as most do, take in the scenic beauty from the many attractive waterside pubs and restaurants.

On an English County Cruises narrowboat they can relax and sunbathe whilst they meander through the countryside at a leisurely pace.

The more adventurous can moor-up the boat and investigate the local beauty spots, buildings of historic interest, the highways and byways of rural England and Wales.

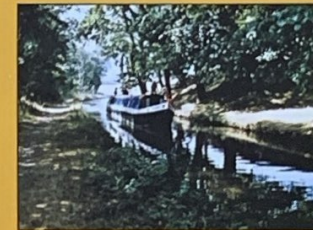
On one of our holiday narrowboat cruisers a couple with a young family can enjoy a relaxing holiday with their children. For Dad, he gets away from the bustle of business life to enjoy a bit of fishing or a pint in the canal inn



View from Wrenbury Mill front door.

without any restrictions. Mum has the excuse for Dad to pay for lunch out without having to worry about the expense of a city restaurant menu.

For the children there is the vast contrast to town life, more freedom of movement, farm animals to see and enjoy, the exciting activity of a narrowboat going through a series of locks, and for the older children the thrill of operating the lock paddles and gates. Canal holidays are one of the safest imaginable with the depth of water very rarely more than three feet or so, and the shore only a few feet away.



Even with a third generation onboard, Grandparents can see new life through the activities of their grandchildren in a totally different environment. For them there is the choice of three worlds, their own, their children's and the children's children's. Our boats are laid out to cope more than adequately for each generation.

Many retired couples often come to English County Cruises for their holidays, year after year. For them the tranquillity of the waterways coupled with pleasant cross country walks and scenic beauty make up a pleasant day. From our base, a converted mill on the edge of the charming Cheshire village of Wrenbury, there are no less than six different cruising holiday routes depending upon the length of your holiday and the type of scenery you wish to discover and enjoy.



Miles away from any noisy motorway Wrenbury is discovered at the junction of a series of country lanes and the Llangollen Canal. On either side of the junction you will find two converted corn mills. One is now the Dusty Miller – an attractive waterside pub and restaurant that serves the boater well both at the beginning and the end of a holiday cruise. The other is our own boatyard where the boathouse, and its modern boat handling machinery, has been blended into the historic mill surroundings by the skilful use of traditional materials.

From Wrenbury you can go on a voyage of discovery through the green woodlands and pastures of Cheshire, the rugged landscape of Celtic Wales, the rolling windswept Pennines or the Heart of England and the Potteries.

We have now published a special full colour supplement of the 'Wrenbury Region' covering the cruising routes from Wrenbury Mill.

No matter which route takes your fancy, your holiday will be that much more enjoyable aboard an English County Cruises narrowboat. Well, even if an English raincloud dulls the sky for a time your holiday will still be great fun – out in the open, full of movement, interest and good fellowship; plus one of the best ways, anywhere, of unwinding and of discarding the stresses of workaday living.

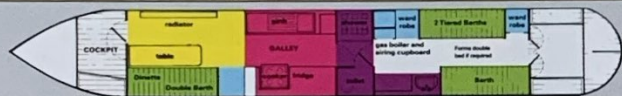


4/5 Berths 14m 46ft

GOLDEN ORIOLE Class

Golden Falcon, Golden Martlet, Golden Oriole, Golden Plover.

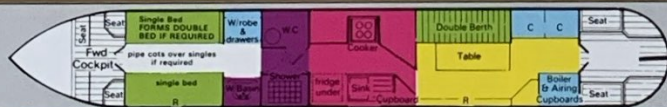
A very versatile class of cruiser with one double berth plus three singles: with a pipe cot§, six can holiday afloat at 5-berth rates. On all boats two couples can have double berths as the rear cabin berths convert to a large low-level bed. They all have carpets and velvet dralon cushioning.



4 Berths 14.6m 48ft

GOLDEN SWAN Class

This class provides roomy accommodation for two couples in separate cabins, both in double beds. An alternative is one double, plus two singles: with the addition of two pipe cots§, six people can be accommodated. Carpets and velvet dralon cushioning in the saloon and sleeping cabin complete the high standard of accommodation.



6 Berths 15m 49ft

GOLDEN PHEASANT Class

Golden Eagle, Goldeneye, Golden Pheasant

This popular class is excellent for families. There is a double bed conversion in the saloon and the two other sleeping cabins have a vanity unit and two single bunks. The rear cabin berth converts to form a second daytime settee. All cabins have carpets and velvet dralon cushioning.



6 Berths 16.8m 55ft

GOLDEN KESTREL Class

Golden Heron, Golden Kestrel

This class provides roomy accommodation for two couples in separate cabins, both with double beds, plus another cabin with two single beds. An alternative is one double, plus four singles: with the addition of two pipe cots§, eight people can be accommodated. Carpets and velvet dralon cushioning in the saloon and sleeping cabin complete the high standard of accommodation.



8 Berths 17m 56ft

GOLDEN HAWK Class

This class has berths for up to eight people in three cabins and is ideal for two family parties and small group holidays. There are two toilets. A good boat for those who like cheerful proximity. It has the friendliest price per berth. Carpets and velvet dralon cushioning add to the comfort of family cruising.



The friendly family firm whose boats always look new!

EXTRACTS FROM COMPLIMENTARY LETTERS

"Our maiden voyage... aboard GOLDEN PLOVER ended a week ago but the memory is still with us and will continue until the next time. We were delighted with the boat and the obvious care which had been taken in its preparation... We very much appreciated the excellent and comprehensive tuition given by Steven in handling the boat. This was one of those trouble-free and thoroughly enjoyable transactions beginning with an excellent brochure, a friendly voice on the phone and no feeling of disappointment at the reality."

Sheila & Leslie Brown
Woking, Surrey.

"It was our first canal holiday and I can only describe it as magnificent. The staff at Wrenbury were incredibly helpful down to the last detail and GOLDEN PHEASANT was a first class boat, well fitted, clean and a pleasure to be in. As an introduction to the canal way of life we could have found no finer company to support us than English County Cruises. Keep up the high standards: they are much appreciated."

G. L. Farniloe
Shrewsbury.

GOLDEN EAGLE once again performed faultlessly and is a credit to your fleet. We had favourable comments from crews of passing boats... and it is easy to see why your boats are "The Best Hire Cruisers."

Tony Cutler
Camberley, Surrey.

"I... just want to send you a little note... saying what a splendid holiday we had through your organisation. We all thought that GOLDEN HERON was an admirable boat, ideally suited to our needs and presented in beautiful condition. I have to say that as the week drew to a close and we were more observant of other boats, your English County Cruises vessels were the best we saw anywhere. I have also to say that the service you gave from our initial request for a brochure right through to the time we drove out of your car park was wonderful. Friendly people throughout your organisation and very efficient. The service and the various systems are excellent..."

E. St. C. Kellaway,
Kenley, Surrey.

"GOLDEN MERLIN was beautiful - we always feel very proud to be in a Wrenbury boat and feel sorry for all the other people who have gone elsewhere for their boats. As usual, GOLDEN MERLIN gleamed with cleanliness from stem to stern and for that would you please pass on our thanks to Muriel and all her team."

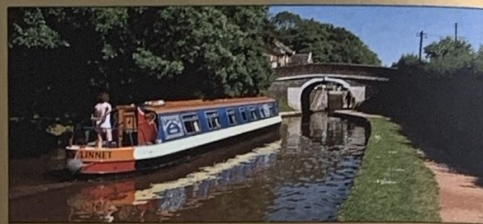
Sylvia & Peter Cox,
Caldy, Wirral, Cheshire.

KEY to Boat Interiors

- Lounge Area
- Kitchen Area
- Sleeping Area
- Shower/Toilet Area
- Storage Area

§ A pipe cot is a removable, canvas bunk supported on tubular rails and positioned above a permanent berth. They are better for children than adults.

4/6 Berths 18.9m 62ft
GOLDFINCH · GOLDEN MERLIN
GOLDEN LINNET · GOLDEN DOVE



The boats on this page are the result of our latest customer research and constant pursuit of excellence and have been built to the highest specifications by some of the best engineers and craftsmen in the trade.

They are finely appointed in discerning taste, with hardwoods, dralon cushioning, carpets, pictures and gleaming brasswork. The long saloons have "relaxer" chairs, colour TV, radio, stereo tape player, book shelves and drinks cabinet – ideal for a house party on water and for elegant relaxation.

The U-shaped galleys enable other crew members to pass without disturbing cook and the main double-bedded cabins, each with en suite toilet, shower and wash basin provide comfort and privacy.

GOLDCREST II has further refinements: there are compact

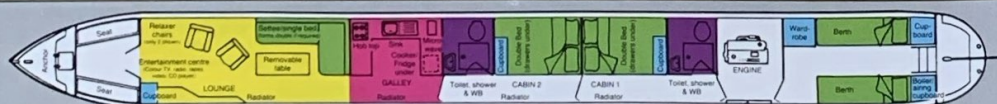
disc and video players in the saloon and an advanced 240v power system supplies a microwave oven and toaster in the galley, where there is also a high level oven and a hob top.

She also meets the demand by many enthusiasts for the "traditional" style of hull with an engine room well forward of a short elliptical steering platform.

The underwater design and well planned control decks make them all a joy to handle and the advanced transmission systems give impressively quiet and vibration-free power - qualities appreciated as much by novices as by experts.

They are truly for discerning skippers who want the best lifestyle available on the canals – the extreme opposite of “messaging about in boats”: indeed, a well known boating journal has called one of the 62ft. craft “a Rolls-Royce of the canals.”

6/8 Berths 21.3m 70ft
GOLDCREST II



**Space,
comfort and
luxury!**

The English County Cruises Experience

All our boats are modern and up-to-date in equipment. They are the best on the canals, being beautifully kept inside and out. It is a memorable experience to sail in one.

Nearly all are powered by 4-cylinder water-cooled Thornycroft diesel engines on special mountings and with advanced-design transmissions which probably make our fleet the quietest of all.

In our uncertain climate it is a comfort to know that the hot water central heating system is also the best on the canals, with large domestic-type radiators supplied from a gas-fired boiler which also heats the tap/shower water and an ample sized airing cupboard.

All the boats have drawers, cupboards and clothes-hanging spaces as can be seen typically in the cutaway drawing on page 3. Each is fitted with a full-sized gas cooker and an electric refrigerator in a modern kitchen. There is a wash basin in most sleeping cabins and some have vanity units. The toilets are white glazed and flushed with fresh water – much like



Morning Tea – Goldcrest II



Evening meal on Golden Hawk



Golden Kestrel – Galley

home (no blue fluid). * All boats have one or more shower cubicles. All saloons have radio, stereo tape players, TV., carpets and velvet dralon cushioning.

Each berth has a foam plastic mattress, blankets, duvet and pillow with freshly laundered sheets and pillow case.

Wall pictures, curtains, bowls of flowers and gleaming varnish – with brass clocks and barometers on some boats – give a final touch of tastefulness and luxury to your floating holiday home.

Apart from Goldcrest II's traditional stern all the control decks are spacious and have safety rails and locker top seats.



Toddler's berth with cot-side

The two high-mounted seats for the skipper and mate become useful tables when the boat is moored and the deck is used for open air meals. The forward cockpit has seats and rails and the whole of the cabin roof becomes an extensive sunbathing deck on sunny days.

We put constant thought, care and dedicated thoroughness into the design and improvement of our fleet because we believe that only the best is good enough for our customers: long years of experience lie behind the whole operation.

* except two boats with blue fluid re-circulatory toilets.



Golden Pheasant – Vanity Unit

"We have by now come to take for granted the superlative standard of the ECC boats, but the exceptionally high standards of courtesy, friendliness and personal attention from everyone at ECC deserve special thanks. As the marketing director of a computer software company I am only too aware of how much hard work goes into building a quality operation such as yours and then maintaining such consistently high standards: it is a pleasure to encounter. (GOLDEN LINNET).
 Mrs. Gabein, Framingham, Middlesex

Alan Colvin, Stanmore, Middlesex

"Thank you for a wonderful holiday on the canals. We all had a very enjoyable time which was due for the most part to the superb accommodations provided on board Goldcrest and to the help and assistance provided by your extremely capable staff. I have never experienced such service anywhere before and it truly made our trip outstanding. We had been on the canals before and while we had enjoyed the countryside and the canals themselves the boat we had hired had many problems... This gave us a good basis for comparison and is the reason we concluded that you were by far the best. The instructions aboard the boat could not have been clearer... It made the actual handling of the boat so easy."

Irving Meredith, Center Sandwich, New Hampshire, USA.

Irving Meredith, Center Sandwich, New Hampshire, USA.

*We take
great care!*



"Turn-round" day at Wrenbury Mill.



A weekly polish.

Pre-Cruise Servicing

To ensure that your holiday is as delightful as possible we take every care in preparing your holiday cruiser for the trip ahead.

Each boat is thoroughly polished and cleaned inside by ladies from the local villages who take great pride in Wrenbury's "golden" boats and in their immaculate condition on hand-over.

When boarding you will find a boat that radiates an air of cleanliness, quality and tastefulness, in keeping with our reputation for providing the best kept boats on the canals.

The English County Cruises' engineering service is unique on the British waterways. Apart from undergoing detailed engine and equipment checks each boat is taken into our modern dry-dock workshop and lifted from the water by a large hydraulically operated gantry so that the hull plating and stern-gear can be methodically examined. At this stage all the exterior paintwork is refurbished. Our rigorous turn-round service takes over five hours and it ensures that every customer goes out in a safe, smart and properly functioning craft which looks like "new".



The hydraulic boat lift.

Quietness

All engines make noise. Many fleet owners make their customers endure bare air-cooled engines because they are easier and cheaper to maintain. Very early in our history we refused to do this and, therefore, install water-jacketed engines which are quieter: we put them on special mountings with GKN Aquadrive transmissions: the result is impressively quiet power with reduced vibration. It all costs us much time and money but is well worth it for the benefit of our customers. We are in the same township as Rolls Royce: although we don't claim the silence of the "best cars in the world" we share a parallel pride in making the "best boats on the canals".

Tuition

We welcome first-timers: we understand that, to them, up to 20 tons and up to 70 feet of narrowboat can look a lot to handle. It is easy, really, given expert tuition and some practice. So we provide, for every newcomer, an expert to explain the controls and correct navigation techniques. He will guide you for the first few miles of your cruise and take you through lift bridges and a lock: he will not leave until you feel ready to be your own skipper. We pride ourselves on this uniquely thorough FREE tuition service because the best boats look even better when handled by considerate and competent crews. Also, competence will enhance your pride and enjoyment. It is surprising how quickly – once the fundamentals are correctly and

unhurriedly demonstrated – a group of novices become a skilled and integrated crew: a delight to watch and the envy of those who never learned properly, because they were sent out with brief and inadequate instruction by a thoughtless boatyard.

Winter Overhauls

Our fleet is a modern one. We have built over a third of it within the last few years and have a programme of regular refurbishment and replacement. However, boats – like houses – should be judged by condition, design and equipment and not by age. A well designed, immaculately maintained older boat will look and function much better than an ill-designed and neglected newer one. Look at any of our boats and you will find it hard to tell how old it is. They all look new – as indeed they are – in the vital aspects of equipment, performance and condition. This is because we expend really large sums on a carefully prepared winter overhaul programme. What some boatyards do every few years – and call a major overhaul – we do EVERY year as a matter of routine, so determined are we to maintain our reputation for operating the "best boats". Every boat is lifted from the water in the best equipped workshop in the industry and undergoes a 10 day programme of intensive overhaul by a 5-man team. Thus do we look after the safety, comfort and trouble-free pleasure of our customers' holidays.



From the outstanding success of our luxury 6/8 berth, 70ft "GOLDCREST II" has evolved our equally luxurious 2/4 berth, 52ft "GOLDEN WREN".

"GOLDEN WREN" has a graceful and spacious control deck, and beneath lies a Leyland Thornycroft 1.5 water cooled engine with Aquadrive couplings and rubber mountings, giving the smoothest and quietest diesel performance available. The immaculate exterior livery in the traditional colours of our fleet, and the unsurpassed quality and luxury of the interior, complete our pride in creating a craft which is truly without equal on the inland waterways.

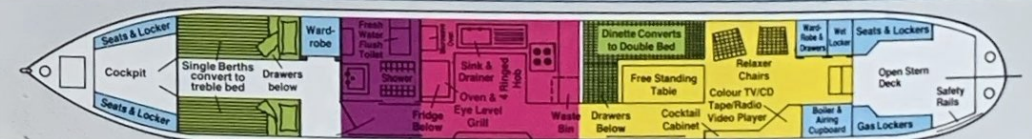


Tasteful furnishings, light, airy interior with polished timbers. Craftsmen built units with velvet dralon upholstery. Comfortable relaxer chairs, central heating and shower.

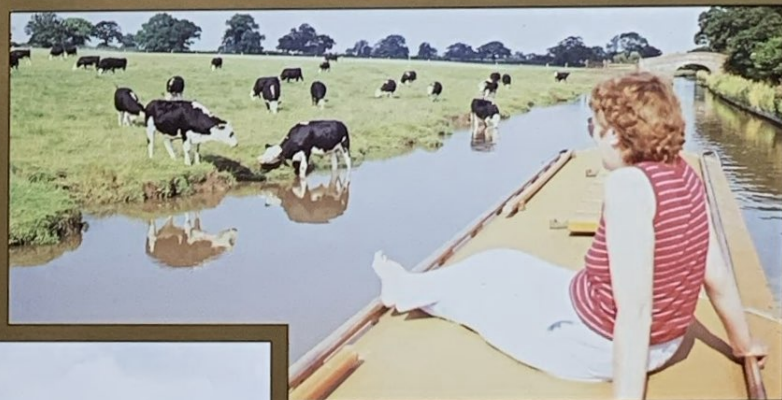
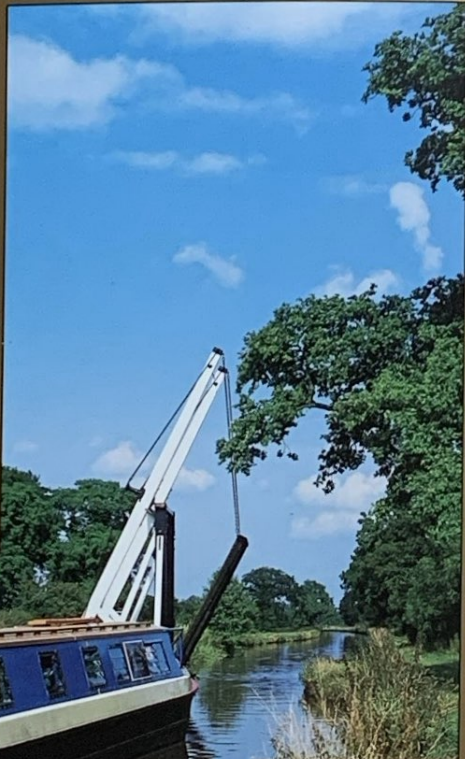
240 Volt system, microwave oven, video recorder, colour television, compact disc player, stereo radio/cassette player, toaster and eye-level grill with oven and hob.



Cruising near to Wrenbury Mill



ENGLISH COUNTY CRUISES, WRENBURY MILL, NEAR NANTWICH, CHESHIRE CW5 8HG. TEL: 0270 780544



HAVE A NICE DAY – and SEE FOR YOURSELF!

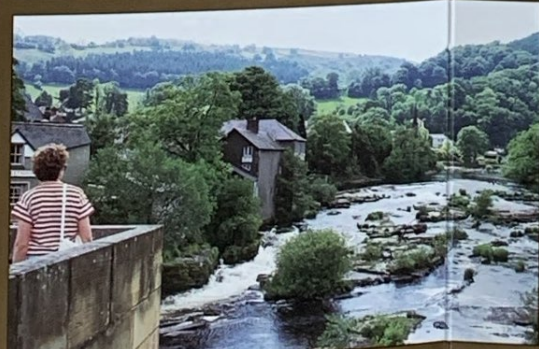
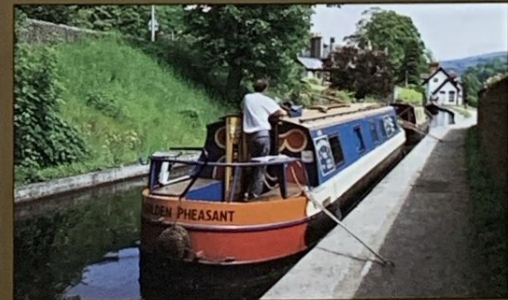
A trip to Wrenbury makes a great day out in the car. There is lovely Cheshire countryside to see, with attractive old towns like Chester and Nantwich, and Wrenbury Mill with its colourful boats, picturesquely sited near an old lift bridge. Nearby are two well-appointed pubs serving good food at sensible prices.

Some visitors get InterCity Saver tickets to Crewe – that famous rail centre where expresses make most of England only an hour or so away – and take a 20 minute taxi drive to our base. (We pay the taxi fares if you book a holiday!)

During the cruising season (April to October inclusive), it is best to visit us between 2.15 p.m. and 3.15 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays because at other times craft are either undergoing turn-round service or are out on the waterways.

From November to March (inclusive), visitors are very welcome at any time. Every day is an open day at ECC – not just a few advertised days as with many boatyards – but please telephone us first (reversing the charge) to ensure personal attention when you arrive. Overhauls will be in progress, but we will proudly show you the boats and the intensive care we take of them.

Whether you come in Summer or Winter, you will receive a warm welcome and have an interesting time.



Llangollen

Goldfrith's gallery

West View at Llangollen

Peniarth

Wrenbury House & gallery

MORE...

Happy Holiday Letters

The continuing flow of kind letters from our customers is very rewarding to all of us at Wrenbury Mill and we are grateful for the trouble taken to write them. Below is a selection from those received during 1992:

We had so great a time you can't imagine. We came home slightly under budget...

Our thanks to English County Cruises for re-creating an experience we will treasure always. We had seen pictures of the Llangollen Canal taken four years ago by friends in Toronto and decided that were we ever in Britain we should do that same canal. I booked with you and arrived hoping for good weather and fair cruising and likely had some mystic pre-conceived notion of what the canal might be like, we were not disappointed in any way. Our boat was clean and the scenery was wonderful; the towns were intriguing and the en route pubs were great.

Jenny was an enormous help to us with assistance in co-ordinating taxi requirements, local accommodation, lining up information for a tour of Granada TV Manchester and suggesting other local tourist options. Thanks also to the rest of the staff, cleaning ladies on the boats, the delightful chap who cruised us through the first lock and the canal shop people where we topped up with books, souvenirs and four English County Cruises coffee mugs now on display and in use in our home.

J. REID
Oshawa Ontario, Canada
(Golden Plover)

We have had a simply marvellous week - all I ever dreamed it would be! Boat, weather and the kindness and friendliness of the people along the way, combined to make this a week we will always treasure memories of. Our friends... were totally thrilled by the experience and we are determined to do another trip. Once again many thanks to... the Wrenbury Mill staff who made this week so good.

GAE & RAY THOMPSON
Auckland, New Zealand
(Golden Heron)

Many thanks for yet another superb holiday. As always we took the boat over in a lovely clean and fresh condition that does credit to you all. Our trip was made better by your efficiency and friendship. We feel that you have made us part of the family. Thanks again - see you next April.

RAY & HELEN DEAN
Dagenham, Essex
(Golden Falcon)

We very much enjoyed our holiday on your narrowboats. We were especially pleased with the design of the boats which allowed all of us to be outdoors at the same time in the nice weather... Most of the other boats we saw were almost completely overbuilt.

We also found the boats very well equipped and it was very convenient to have provisions put aboard. We are also very pleased with the kind treatment we received from all of your staff.

GUNNAR BENGTESSON
Goteborg, Sweden
(Golden Martlet)

We had a lovely holiday, enjoyed the facilities on the boat and the way we were looked after at the yard. We will undoubtedly repeat the holiday in the future.

JOHN PARR
Bradford
(Golden Eagle)

We had a fabulous time on GOLDFINCH. From the time I first wrote to your company everything was handled promptly and without missing any of the small details, like our questions about bicycle hire and train times.

We found the boat as well taken care of as your organisation is run. We heard compliments from people we met and were told English County Cruises has the best hire boats on the canals, as your slogan says.

When we had a small mechanical problem, your engineer Rex promptly took care of it, even though it was late at night. My wife enjoyed listening to his stories so much she said Rex's visit was one of the highlights of her trip to England.

We have a small company and strive to provide the type of service we received from English County Cruises - prompt, friendly and good value for money. Thanks again.

STEPHEN SWIFT
Waterville, Maine, USA

Just to thank you and all your staff for making possible such a lovely week's cruising.

SUE & GILES BATEMAN
Cranbrook, Kent
(Golden Linnet)

Value for Money - All this for one Fee

The English County Cruises range of services and equipment astonishes many visitors. No other boatyard provides so much under one inclusive weekly fee. There are no irritating extras. A full Check List is given below.

A boat created and cared for like no other craft.

- ★ Hydraulic 'lift-out' from the water for hull checking (unique).
- ★ Refurbishment of paintwork before each voyage.
- ★ 5-hours cleaning and servicing work every turn-round.
- ★ Value Added Tax (17½%).
- ★ Diesel Fuel - no matter how far you go.
- ★ Gas for heating and cooking - no matter how much you use.
- ★ Velvet dralon upholstery.
- ★ Freshly laundered sheets and pillow cases.
- ★ Blankets and Duvets.
- ★ Expensively equipped kitchen (full inventory on request).
- ★ Electric fridge.
- ★ Full size 4-burner cooker with grill and oven.
- ★ Vanitory units. Hair Dryers.
- ★ Wash basins to most sleeping cabins.
- ★ White-glazed toilet flushed with fresh water†.
- ★ Boat-wide shower-room.
- ★ Central heating with domestic-type radiators.
- ★ Airing cupboard.
- ★ Carpets.
- ★ Big decks with safety rails and seats fore and aft. (Goldcrest's stern has steering platform only).
- ★ Black and White T.V.
- ★ Water cooled diesel engine for quieter running†.
- ★ GKN Aquadrive transmission for reduced vibration†.

PLUS - FOR GOLDEN WREN, GOLDFINCH CLASS & GOLDCREST II

- ★ En-suite showers and toilet to each double bedded cabin.
- ★ Very high standard of internal woodwork and furnishings.
- ★ "Relaxer" chairs in spacious saloon.
- ★ Brass Barometer and Clock.
- ★ Toilet soap.
- ★ Colour T.V.

PLUS - for GOLDEN WREN and GOLDCREST II ONLY

- ★ 240v Electric system, Microwave Oven, Toaster, Video and CD Players.
- ★ Hob top and high level oven.
- ★ Hand and bath towels.
- ★ Serviettes, doyleys and place mats.
- ★ Kitchen paper roll, foil, cling film.
- ★ Cook's apron and gloves.
- ★ Paper tissues.

- ★ Shaver point 240 volt A.C.
- ★ Radio and stereo tape-player.
- ★ Cleaning fluids, polish, dusters, crockery towels.
- ★ Toilet rolls.
- ★ Hand torch.
- ★ Guide book to the canals.
- ★ Instruction manual.
- ★ Television point: 3-pin 3 amp socket 12v D.C.
- ★ Buoyancy Aids.
- ★ Waterproofs - one set only for the steerer.

PLUS these FREE FACILITIES:

- ★ Dogs and Cats - no charge for Fido and Felix
- ★ Parking - including extra cars and caravan - Free (but at owners risk).
- ★ Hire of buoyancy aids - even for baby - Free.
- ★ Hire of steerer's waterproofs - Free.
- ★ Cot-side for baby - Free.
- ★ Boat handling tuition - an hour with an expert - Free.
- ★ Payment on arrival - on request - better than 'bonding'.
- ★ Payment by instalments - on request.
- ★ Provisions put on board.
- ★ Get-you-back Service (in case of canal stoppage).
- ★ Route Planning Service
- ★ Our boatyard director (Steven Wade) has travelled much of the waterways and is always happy to provide verbal advice or written itineraries.
- ★ 24-hour 'on call' service for emergencies.
- ★ 'Rapid-Response' Technical Service - Engineers are always available 9.00 to 17.00 hours.

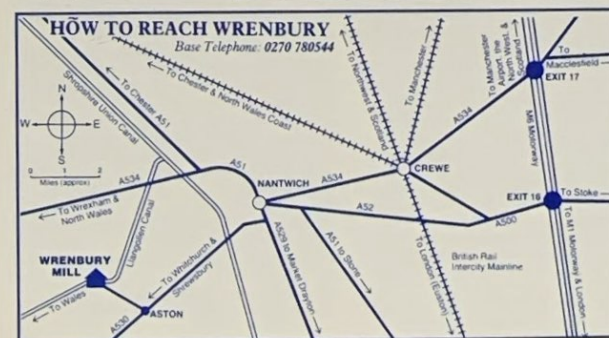
† Except in one boat



The English County Cruises Staff
Very friendly and efficient (please see hirers' letters on page 3 and in brochure).

The Wonderful Routes of the Wrenbury Region
The best on the Inland Waterways.

OPEN: 9.00 to 18.00 hours
every day during season.



Free Cruising for Youngsters Scheme
See page 3.

The Famous Blue Riband Club High Standards
Base and boats are checked each season by an independent inspector.

BOAT SAILING DAYS

FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Golden Martlet	Golden Oriole
Golden Falcon	Golden Plover
Golden Swan	Golden Eagle
Golden Pheasant	Goldeneye
Golden Kestrel	Golden Heron
Golden Hawk	Golden Wren
Golden Dove	Goldfinch
Golden Merlin	Golden Linnet
	Goldcrest II

As you near Wrenbury - look for the church. From there our base is about 400 yards along the road signposted to Cholmondeley.

The Cost for everything - 1994 - There are no extras

All prices are in pounds sterling and are for one boat for one week. Value Added Tax (VAT) is included at the current rate of 17%.

Class	Golden Oriole Golden Falcon Golden Mallet Golden Plover	Golden Pheasant Golden Eagle Goldeneye	Golden Swan	Golden Kestrel Golden Heron	Golden Hawk	Golden Wren	Goldfinch Golden Dove Golden Linnet Golden Merlin	Goldcrest II
Number in Crew	★4 5/6	★4 5/6	4	★4 5/6	8	4	★4 5/6	★6 7/8
February	26	490 515	545 580	545 580	605 635	675 800	785 820	945 990
March	5	490 515	545 580	545 580	605 635	675 800	785 820	945 990
	12	490 515	545 580	545 580	605 635	675 800	785 820	945 990
	19	510 540	570 605	570 605	630 660	705 865	850 890	1020 1075
	26	530 560	590 625	590 625	655 685	730 900	880 925	1060 1115
Easter	April	2	590 625	660 700	660 730	765 815	965 945	1140 1195
	9	530 560	590 625	590 625	655 685	730 900	880 925	1060 1115
	16	530 560	590 625	590 625	655 685	730 900	880 925	1060 1115
	23	530 560	590 625	590 625	655 685	730 900	880 925	1060 1115
Bank Hol.	30	530 560	590 625	590 625	655 685	730 900	880 925	1060 1115
May	7	530 560	590 625	590 625	655 685	730 900	880 925	1060 1115
	14	530 560	590 625	590 625	655 685	730 965	945 995	1140 1195
	21	610 645	685 725	685 725	755 790	845 1030	1010 1060	1215 1280
Bank Hol.	28	775 820	865 920	865 920	955 1005	1070 1295	1275 1335	1530 1610
June	4	630 665	705 750	705 750	780 820	870 930	1065 1100	1255 1295
	11	675 710	750 795	750 830	870 930	1100 1075	1130 1295	1360 1445
	18	715 755	795 845	795 880	925 985	1165 1140	1200 1375	1570 1650
	25	755 795	840 895	840 930	975 1040	1230 1205	1265 1570	1525 1650
July	2	755 795	840 895	840 930	975 1040	1295 1275	1335 1530	1610 1650
	9	775 820	865 915	865 955	1005 1070	1295 1275	1335 1530	1610 1650
	16	795 840	890 945	890 980	1030 1095	1295 1275	1335 1530	1610 1650
	23	815 860	910 965	910 1005	1055 1125	1330 1305	1370 1570	1650 1650
	30	815 860	910 965	910 1005	1055 1125	1330 1305	1370 1570	1650 1650
August	6	815 860	910 965	910 1005	1055 1125	1330 1305	1370 1570	1650 1650
	13	815 860	910 965	910 1005	1055 1125	1330 1305	1370 1570	1650 1650
	20	815 860	910 965	910 1005	1055 1125	1330 1305	1370 1570	1650 1650
Bank Hol	27	755 795	840 895	840 930	975 1040	1230 1205	1265 1455	1525 1525
September	3	675 710	750 795	750 830	870 930	1100 1075	1130 1295	1360 1360
	10	590 625	660 700	660 730	765 815	965 945	995 1140	1195 1195
	17	530 560	590 625	590 655	685 730	865 850	890 1020	1075 1075
	24	490 515	545 580	545 605	635 675	800 785	820 945	990 990
October	1	490 515	545 580	545 605	635 675	800 785	820 945	990 990
	8	490 515	545 580	545 605	635 675	800 785	820 945	990 990
	15	490 515	545 580	545 605	635 675	800 785	820 945	990 990
	22	530 560	590 625	590 655	685 730	865 850	890 1020	1075 1075
Oct. 29 to Dec.	10	575 605	640 680	640 705	740 790	930 915	960 1100	1155 1155
Xmas & New Year		740 780	820 870	820 905	950 1015	1200 1175	1235 1415	1485 1485

Conditions of Hire

1. A boat is booked when the Company has received a completed and signed booking form, with the deposit, and an acknowledgement has been sent to the hirer. The deposit is 20% of the hire fee.
2. The hirer is responsible for the whole of the hire fee and the balance must be paid three weeks before the hire is due to begin (6 weeks for overseas orders) unless later payment has been agreed in writing by the Company. Should the hirer cancel the booking the Company will try to re-let the boat but if unsuccessful the hirer remains responsible for the hire fee.
3. The Company shall not be held responsible for delays caused by damage to its boats or by obstruction or closure of the canal system, nor shall it be responsible for any delays due to late return of the previous hirers.
4. The Company shall not be liable for loss or damage to the hirer's or passengers' property nor

- for personal injury to the hirer or passengers.
5. The hirer shall return the boat in clean condition and shall pay for the repair or replacement of any equipment lost or broken by his party. A deposit of £60.00 (£90.00 for Golden Wren, Goldfinch Class and Goldcrest II) is to be paid in cash on arrival; this will be re-paid after the end of the cruise, provided the boat and its equipment are returned clean and undamaged - and on time.
6. The Company may refuse, at any time, to carry any hirer or passenger, without explanation, and in such case(s) an appropriate proportion of the hire fee will be returned and the hirer will have no further claim.
7. Except when with a Company skipper, the hirer is responsible for safe navigation and the correct operation of locks and moving bridges. The hirer shall at all times show due consideration for the safety and rights of canal users. **In the event of accident the hirer**

- shall tell the Company as soon as possible** and give details and names and addresses of witnesses. **At no time shall the hirer admit liability.**
8. Hirers shall not cruise after dark and shall at all times observe the regulations of the canal and river authorities and obey the reasonable requests of waterways officials.
 9. Like all operators of transport the Company reserves the right to make an oil products surcharge or to allocate supplies. This would be done only under very exceptional circumstances and a surcharge would not be made with 4 weeks of your holiday.
 10. Hirers shall not allow fire-arms or live bait aboard the Company's craft.
 11. If VAT is changed the above prices shall be amended accordingly.
 12. **Cars parked and luggage stored at Wrenbury Mill shall be at owners' risk.**

Bargain Rates and Generous Allowances

MULTI-WEEK DISCOUNTS

If you book more than one week per season the following discounts are allowed:
2nd week ☐ 5% 3rd week ☐ 7% 4th week ☐ 10%

LOYAL FRIENDS DISCOUNT

If you have booked with us before we are delighted to welcome you back with a 5% discount ☐ for your first week in 1994.

GENEROUS ALLOWANCES FOR GOLDFINCH CLASS AND GOLDCREST

If you wish to enjoy the luxury and space of these superb craft, but are unable to make up a crew equal to the full complement, we allow special rates for parties of up to 4 on GOLDFINCH and up to 6 on GOLDCREST, as shown in the first column under each name (marked ★). ☐

CHEAPER for COUPLES

If only two people travel, we allow 15% off all 4-berth rates. (But no other discounts).

FREE CRUISING FOR YOUNGSTERS SCHEME

We want to help families - and particularly children and their friends - to enjoy our boats and the waterways, so we let children under 15 years old have free berths in certain classes of boat.

So -

If your crew totals 5 or 6 - and includes 1 or 2 youngsters - YOU PAY ONLY THE 4-berth rates.

(Marked ★ on the price list) ☐

In Goldcrest, the 6-berth★ rate is charged, instead of the 8-berth. ☐

All pets travel free as well.

Happy Holiday Letters

Many customers take the trouble to write us 'thank you' letters and these are a great encouragement to our hard working staff at Wrenbury Village Mill, who do their best to make sure that all our customers have a happy English County Cruise. Here are some received during the past few seasons - all unsolicited:

I wish to thank you for your effort to give us a nice holiday on the canal. The standard of the Golden Oriole came up to expectations and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Considering the upset... from the previous party I think the condition we found the boat in was wonderful. Your follow-up service, which I unfortunately had to use at Ellesmere, was excellent and I am sorry I had to call you out. Many thanks again. I will definitely recommend you to others as your boats were better than any other companies' that we saw.

J. SANDELL
Netchurch, Isle of Wight

The boat was excellent. Very comfortable and beautifully fitted out. Thank goodness for the efficient radiators! They were much appreciated. May I say how much we appreciated your friendly and efficient service. You have a quality product, unequalled on the canals. It was a pleasure dealing with your company.

I will do my best to recommend your service to some of my contacts and hopefully I will soon be back at Wrenbury.

BRIAN G. BURGESS,
Farnham, Surrey. (Golden Merlin)

Once again we have had a thoroughly enjoyable cruise with Golden Dove. We heard many comments along the way about how well your boats always look and how well you run your business. We are certainly pleased.

W. B. HICKMAN, P.E. Naval Architect
Rockland, Massachusetts, USA.

Needless to say, we four beginners, all about 60 years of age, were slightly apprehensive about managing the 62 foot Golden Linnet and about the condition of the boat. We want you to know that our two weeks on the Llangollen & Shropshire Union canals proved to us that we had no reason for apprehension. The introduction to the boat and its handling by your competent engineer "Rex" gave us confidence and everything on it worked to our satisfaction. We assure you that our selection next time will most definitely be a boat from ECC.

RALPH W. KAUFMANN
Willow Street, Pa. USA.

Thank you for once more making it possible for us to enjoy a really great week on the Shropshire Union. The cleanliness and comfort of GOLDEN PLOVER plus the interest and care afforded to us by you all continues to send us back to Wrenbury to enjoy the lovely countryside of Cheshire.

LEN & NINETTA LOW
Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

Having just spent a most enjoyable week cruising the Llangollen Canal on Golden Falcon I feel I must write and congratulate you on the high standard of service and reliability provided by both your staff and boats. As this was our first experience of canal cruising it was reassuring to talk to someone as pleasant and helpful as Mrs. Monk, your booking secretary, who gave me excellent advice and information on my initial phone enquiry. Golden Falcon was immaculate... and the tuition given by your staff was precise and to the point.

N. BROOKS
Ashton-u-Lyne, Lancs.

May I, say how much we enjoyed the cruise on GOLDFINCH: the boat was absolutely splendid. The luxury of this class has to be seen and enjoyed to be believed. This is our first time with your company but we'll certainly not be the last. We have been with many companies during the 20 odd years on the canals but none can come anywhere near your standards of service on or off the water. The reception and help given by your staff makes one feel really wanted and not just a paying passenger and almost everyone we spoke to, including other boatyard managers... said yours were the best boats afloat and a credit to hire boats.

BERYL & GLEN LEWIS-GOUGH
Prestwich, Manchester

I have travelled in ships of all shapes and sizes but have rarely been so comfortable as I was on your beautiful hired-out Goldcrest II. Many congratulations to everyone for the care and thought which went into the preparation of putting such a lovely craft on to the canals. I enjoyed every moment of the holiday (as a crew guest) and, if age (I am 72) and health allows, I hope I will be able to persuade more of my friends to take holidays on your boats, naturally, with me as a guest!

BERNADINE PICTON-HUGHES
Prest-Glas, Ruthin, N. Wales.

We all had a thoroughly good time on your boat and looking back it seems incredible we did so much. It certainly is a relaxing holiday: we had got the locks off to a T by the end of the week. Your company has been recommended to so many people we must be boring them with our tales. I do believe we are hooked. Thank you very much for all your help.

Mrs. M. BRIGGS
Ascot Berkshire (Golden Kestrel)

My wife and I want you to know how very much we enjoyed our County Cruises boating holiday in late August. All the members of our group were so impressed with your equipment and service and came home filled with wonderful memories of the Llangollen Canal.

Jack D. STEWART
New Orleans Louisiana USA (Golden Linnet)

We all had a truly wonderful New Year cruise thanks to all at English County Cruises... a very caring and understanding boatyard with a reputation you should be very proud of.

DIANE GREEN
Melton Mowbray Leicestershire
(Golden Hawk and Goldcrest II)

We have just returned from a successful week on GOLDENEYE during which the boat performed perfectly: it was clean and fully equipped. It stood out in many ways from a lot of other hire boats. It was behind-the-scenes maintenance in your boatyard for professional organisation.

G. A. SCHOLEY
Hexham Northumberland

We had a wonderful holiday on GOLDEN MARTLET. This was our second holiday with you, and we are hoping in the future to come with you again. It's true what people say, "Your Boats are the Rolls Royce of the River".

Please send your new brochure when it is ready.
Mrs. J. GOWER
Gravesend, Kent.

Tick the
Box ☐ of your
choice!

Truly are
we called the
friendly, family
firm!

Booking Form 1994

Please telephone 0270 780544 or Fax 0270 780146 (9.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.) to make sure that the period you want is available; then complete this form and send it by first-class mail – with initial payments – to:-
ENGLISH COUNTY CRUISES, WRENBURY MILL, near NANTWICH, CHESHIRE CW5 8HG, ENGLAND

Boat Name(s)	Period	Hire Fee(s)
	to	
	to	

Name: (Mr/Mrs/Miss) _____

Address: _____

Post Code _____

Telephone: (Home) _____ (Business) _____

I heard of you through _____

Total number in party:	Pets	1 set of Steerer's Waterproofs	Buoyancy Aids	Boat Handling Instruction
Adults	Children's Ages	One Cotside for baby	Size Large Medium Child Baby	★ see below Tick here if required
		Pipe-Cot(s)	No.	

Initial Payments

(Overseas visitors' cheques drawn on banks in their country and in their currency are readily negotiable in the United Kingdom).



Deposit (20% of the hire fee) £ _____ nearest pound

Simple "Ill-fortune" Cancellation Scheme:

This scheme is offered to free you from worry. Please use it – otherwise, you will be liable for the full hire fee if you have to cancel.

Payment: 40p for each £10 of hire fee: £ _____

Cheques to be made payable to: ENGLISH COUNTY CRUISES. £ _____

Please make the booking detailed above: I am over twenty years old and I agree to the conditions of hire.

Signature _____ Date _____

My intended cruising route is _____

★ Free Boat Handling Instruction

If you have no experience of handling canal boats, we will, on request, arrange free instruction with an expert for the first hour of your cruise. Please tick box above.

Damage Deposit Waiver Scheme: Please tick if required ☐

You may waive the returnable cash deposit under Condition 5 by having a lesser non-returnable payment added to your invoice. You would then be free of deductions for breakages etc. (Damage to rudders on lock cills or due to speeding is excluded). The non-returnable payment is £20.00 instead of £60.00 deposit or £30.00 instead of £90.00 deposit.

Special Requirements:

If you have need of a special service please give details here: _____

For Office use

BF rec'd	Notes	Dep.
Dep. rec'd		C.S.
Inv. dated		Total
F.P. rec'd		V.A.T.
D.D. ret'd	Shopping List Rec'd Ordered	Nett

General Information

Booking

It is wise to book early. Simply make a reversed charge telephone call to ensure that the period you want is available and then send a completed order form the same day by 1st class post.



Cancellation Scheme

We recommend that you use our Cancellation Scheme and send – at the time of booking – a payment of 40p for every £10 of the total hire fee. This small charge will free you of liability under Clause 2 of the Conditions if ill fortune compels you to cancel your booking.

Stereo Tape Players and Radio

Radios and two-track stereo cassette tape players are fitted on all our boats. A few pre-recorded tapes are provided but you will no doubt wish to bring your own favourite cassettes.



Shaver Points

All boats have 240V shaver points.

Lost Property

Property left aboard after a cruise will be kept for four weeks for collection or return by post IF REQUESTED. Please refund postage. Thereafter goods will be disposed of to charity.

Extra Passengers Free

The boat plan shows that Golden Oriole, Golden Swan and Golden Kestrel have provision for pipe-cots so that passengers additional to the normal complement can be accommodated pleasantly, without resort to the customary undesirable method of a mattress and bedding on the cabin floor. Pipe cot needs should be indicated in the box on the booking form. There is no extra charge for this: the additional bedding is free. Extra passengers on our other boats are not allowed except for babies in carrycots.



Embarkation and Return

POINT OF EMBARKATION & RETURN is at Wrenbury Mill at the times stated below.

ALL BOATS are available by 3.15 p.m. on the day of departure and must be vacated on the day of return by 9.30 a.m. If you return late and delay the next party you will be obliged to compensate them.

PLEASE DON'T ARRIVE EARLY in the hope of embarking early. Our thorough turn-round service takes nearly all the time available up to embarkation hour and our staff – much as they would dislike keeping you waiting – would not let you aboard until all items on the check lists were completed.

LATE ARRIVAL. Our staff finish at 6 p.m. on turn-round days but special arrangements can be made for late arrivals providing 48 hours notice has been given, otherwise boat handling instruction will be given the following morning.

Tuition on Boat Handling of Self-Drive Boats

Newcomers to canal holidays are welcomed and need have no qualms about handling our boats. An expert will show you round the boat. He will accompany you for the first part of your trip and take you through at least one lift bridge and a lock and will not leave until you feel able to "go it alone". The throttle and gear controls are combined in a single lever. When navigating, the big rule is **take it slowly**. If you find that the boat will not readily go where wanted in confined waters do not use high propeller revolutions or work the rudder hard. It is better to select neutral gear and punt the boat with the pole at bow or stern – expert boaters do. Every boat carries a full instruction manual. Please read it.



Canal Guides and Maps

Each boat has a canal guide-map on board as part of its essential navigational equipment. However, a selection is on sale at Wrenbury for those who wish to buy their own, either personally or by post.



Taxi Services

Taxis are available at Crewe Rail Station and we will on request, arrange a taxi back to the station after your cruise (approx. cost £12.00 each way). Taxis are similarly available to and from Manchester International Airport (approx. cost £40.00 each way).



Inventories

All boats are fully and expensively equipped. Articles showing wear or diminished appearance are promptly replaced. Everything needed for bright efficiency in the galley and elegant living will be found aboard. A full inventory will be sent on request.



Overseas Visitors

Nearly a third of our visitors come from other countries; many come year after year. We give them all a very special welcome – not only because they are guests in our friendly land but because many will have flown thousands of miles to visit us and may be feeling the strangeness of jet-lag and a new environment. They instantly feel in good hands at Wrenbury and very soon relax to enjoy the uniquely happy adventure of an English County Cruise. If you have a special requirement, like overnight hotel bookings or car hire advice, please tell us in the space provided on the booking form. Touring advice and aid is always available. Do not let towels encroach on your limited air line baggage allowance: bath and hand towels are provided free, except for a small laundry charge. Remember that we accept reversed charge telephone calls for bookings – yes, even from half way round the world!



Pets

Healthy vaccinated dogs and cats are welcome but please keep them off the bedding. Animal hairs are un-hygienic and difficult to remove and a charge will be deducted from the deposit if special cleaning is necessary.



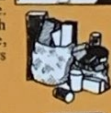
Car Parking

is free, but at owner's risk.



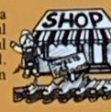
Provisions

These will be ordered, on request, from a local trader and put on board before you arrive. Please use the order form which we send out with our invoice, and let us have it at least ten days before your holiday.



Canal Shop

The shop at our base stocks a wide range of gifts and useful articles connected with canal holidays. It does not stock food. Provisions can be obtained from nearby village shops.



Television Sets

All boats are provided with television sets free of charge: colour sets on GOLDEN WREN, GOLDFINCH class and GOLDCREST: monochrome on all other craft. A few colour sets are available in place of monochrome sets at an extra charge of £12.00 per week. Early application is advisable in the space for "special requirements" on the booking form. TV reception can be disappointing on some parts of the canals, particularly in valleys and woods and near large buildings. If you wish to bring your own set please make sure that it will work from a 12 volt DC supply and that it is fitted with a 3 amp round-pinned plug (3 pins).



Safety

Our boats are fitted out by experienced craftsmen at Wrenbury Mill or by a leading constructor. They all meet the latest safety requirements in construction and equipment, particularly for the sophisticated electrical and propane gas installations. To fine construction we add diligent maintenance in the best equipped workshop in the industry. After each voyage every boat is lifted from the water, so that the hull and stern gear may be checked, and all equipment is tested for correct working. Every year each boat undergoes an intensive 10-day programme of overhaul and refurbishment by a skilled 5-man team. No other operator takes such thorough care of its boats and, therefore, of those who travel in them. All boats carry 3 fire extinguishers and a first aid box: there is even a flame-smothering blanket near each cooker.



Buoyancy Aids

These are available free of charge and should be ordered in the space provided on the booking form.



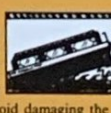
Pump-out Toilet Tanks

All our boats have anti-pollution toilets with holding tanks. If the tanks need pumping out at one of the many pump-out stations we will refund the fee on production of a receipt.



Lock Sills

Each lock has a sill at either end to accommodate the secure closing of the lock gates. Boat hirers are asked to ensure that the boat is kept to the centre of the lock's length in order to avoid damaging the rudder which in turn could prejudice the return of your damage deposit.



Guns on Boats

Hirers are warned that it is a Byelaw offence to "shoot or otherwise propel any stone, shot, bullet or other missile from, into or over any vessel or canal". Canal includes the tow path, land and buildings under the control of the BWB.



What should I take?

Much depends on the weather. Because of our variable climate, be prepared for a heat-wave in summer and a downpour at any time! You should be equipped with rainwear and with waterproof footwear for muddy tow-paths. A warm top garment is needed for the occasional chilly summer evening, and at most times during spring and autumn. Rubber or plastic-soled shoes are essential for a safe grip on deck, and gloves can be a comfort when holding the tiller. A change of clothes for evenings out should not be forgotten, and need not be very formal.



Cotsides

A cot-type railing along the open side of a berth will be fitted to protect a baby if you tick the space on the Booking Form.



Licences – Permits

Our boats are licensed to travel on all BWB cruising waterways but you are responsible for any licences or fees required by other waterway authorities. N.B. Cheshire Ring: Whilst there is no charge for the Bridgewater Canal, the Rochdale Canal Society makes a charge and there is also a charge for the Anderton Lift. Please consult us if in doubt.



Waterproofs

One set of waterproofs per boat (for the steerer) is provided free if requested in advance of arrival by ticking the space on the booking form.



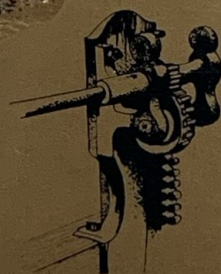


'The Gentle Highways'

For a hundred years and more the canals were commercial highways for horse-drawn narrowboats. This unique system of waterways links England's major rivers to form a network of over 2,000 miles of picturesque cruising waterways the length and breadth of the country. They are not, as some people suspect, just straight and unappealing tracks of water.

They wind through our beautiful countryside, past ancient towns and picturesque villages, rise and descend through interesting lock systems, cross valleys over breath-taking and spectacular aqueducts; nestle in quiet wooded cuttings and pass through dramatic tunnels. For long distances the canals are remote from any main roads, habitations or the hubbub of our modern life.

What better place to keep children both amused and interested? For natural history lovers and photographers there is the abundance of wild life often with rare species that



cannot be found in any other part of the country.

'Go-ahead' people can rise

early, work the boats long and hard

covering as many miles of waterways as possible; but those who wish to slow life down a little can cruise at their leisure and stop frequently to explore the landscape of the English and Welsh border counties taking in the wonderful atmosphere of quaint historic waterside pubs of Olde England.

On the way you will enjoy shopping in friendly village stores, curio shops and the high streets and alley-ways of country towns.

You will be surprised, too, at the satisfaction of your new-found skills at taking your narrowboat gracefully through a lock or under a bridge with barely inches to spare; and you will enjoy the supreme relaxation of drowsily soaking in the sun while the boat glides peacefully through the calm waters and the serene world of the countryside. Whichever way you choose to spend your time aboard, we feel sure that you will go home relaxed and more at ease with life and eager to book with us again.

FOUNDER MEMBER OF THE EXCLUSIVE BLUE RIBAND CLUB



The Blue Riband Club was formed in 1980 by nine privately owned and independent companies to pool their acknowledged expertise in the construction and operation of narrowboats for hire.

To maintain these very high standards, an independent inspector visits each of the member companies twice a year without prior notice. Failure to meet any stated standard would result in loss of Blue Riband Club status.

ENGLISH COUNTY CRUISES

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Our policy is one of continuous development and we reserve the right to amend any details given in this brochure without notice.