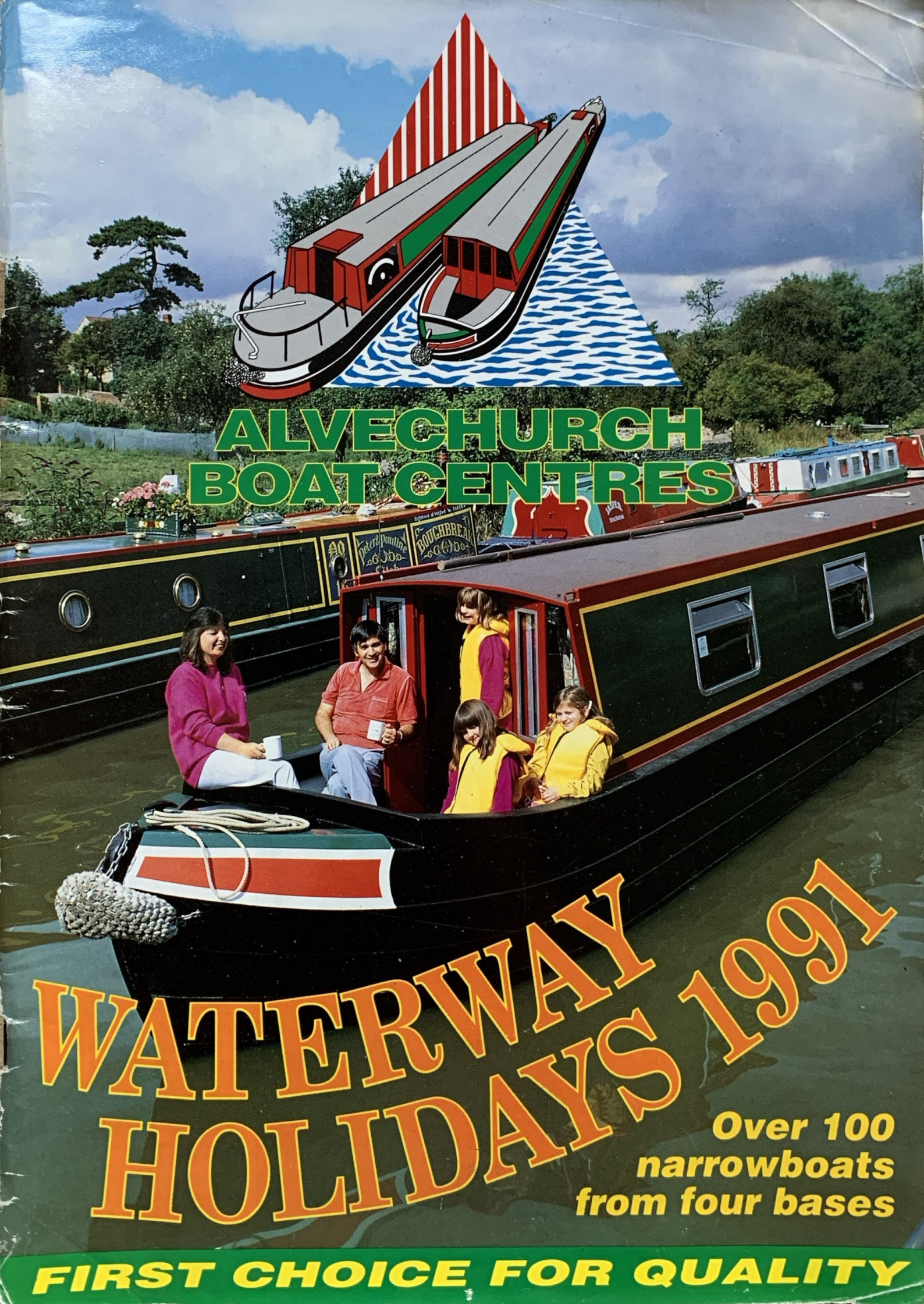
ALVECHURCH
BOAT CENTRES
WATERWAY
HOLIDAYS 1991
Over 100
narrowboats
from four bases
FIRST CHOICE FOR QUALITY

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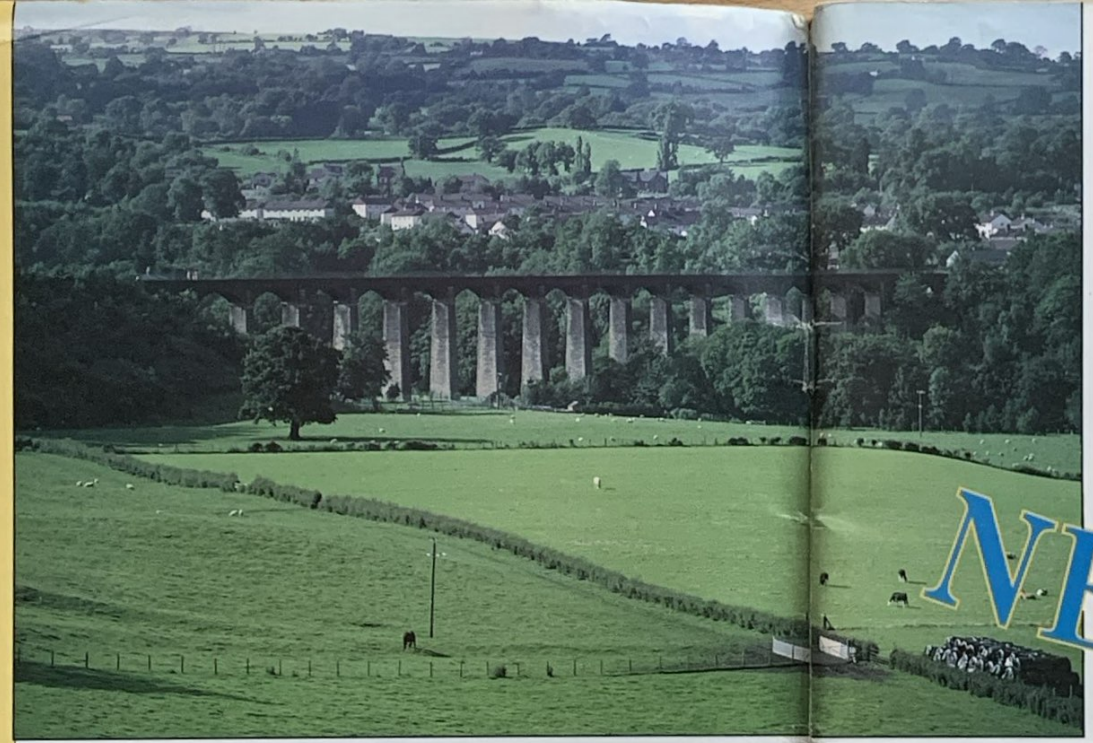
Courtesy of British Waterways Archives





For the 1991 season we have four bases, four new classes of boat and no less than 21 brand new boats. In addition we will be operating a further 30 quality boats from an existing fleet under the name 'Heart of England Narrowboats'. With the opening of a third and fourth base we have become Alvechurch Boat Centres, in the plural. Because we adopt a uniform standard of operation and use only our own staff, each base will be an Alvechurch Boat Centre, part of the family. No other canal hire company gives you so wide a choice of size and layout, to so high a standard. A commitment to personal service remains the guiding principle of our business.

NEW FOR 1991

ANDERTON MARINA

In response to countless enquiries we have opened a base in Cheshire.
It has taken time to find a site that meets the exacting requirements of Alvechurch Boat Centres, but we are delighted to announce that we have now acquired Anderton Marina, near Northwich. Situated on the northern part of the Trent & Mersey canal, it is close to the famous Anderton Boat Lift (now undergoing restoration). It is by the very popular Four Counties and Cheshire Rings. Llangollen and return, with a passage over the spectacular Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, is within a week's cruise.

GOLD STAR BOATS

Provision of 240 volt electrical supply in the Gold Star boats has been one of their most popular features.
Following trials in 1990 we are using the new SuperSilent generator which reduces the need to run the main engine for battery charging purposes to about 2 to 3 hours per day, and allows almost all domestic appliances to run on board.
For 1991 the SuperSilent generator has been installed on all the newest 'Gold Star' boats. The boat descriptions indicate which boats have this facility.



BRUMMAGEM BOATS LIMITED

For several years we have been closely associated with Brummagem Boats. For 1991 our two companies will be completely integrated and the former Brummagem Boats fleet will operate from Sherborne Street Wharf, right in the centre of Birmingham, as 'Heart of England Narrowboats'.

BLYTHE SPIRIT

We have always believed that canal holidays appeal to everyone and should be available to everyone. It is with particular pride that we can now offer holidays to crews with a disabled member. Blythe Spirit has been designed to allow wheelchair access and easy handling, so that a disabled person can control the boat. The interior can easily be modified to suit the needs of particular groups. We will be happy to provide further information on request.

PIPIT CLASS

The introduction of the fixed double berth has proved to be extremely popular. We have therefore introduced a 'Gold Star' four berth boat with two fixed doubles, a saloon with four easy chairs and a fold-away table. At 58' long, there can be few four berth hire craft that offer you so much space. They have the usual 'Gold Star' features and the extra comfort of a semi-traditional stern.

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TERN CLASS

The Tern class represents an update of the 6/7 berth Waterbird class. It has an enlarged dinette, a fixed double berth in the centre of the boat and side-by-side single berths in the rear cabin, retaining the space of the cruiser style stern.

FINCH & SWAN CLASSES

These are completely new designs for this year, updating the very popular Thrush and Wader classes.
The galley has been moved to the middle of the boat, the shower/toilet has been expanded to include a shower/hip bath, and the settee double in the rear cabin has been replaced by side-by-side single berths. The separate dining area with fold down table and chairs remains.

New Readers

A word of warning - canal cruising holidays are addictive!

More than half of our customers come back, year after year.

Many of our new customers come at the recommendation of friends - and then come back, year after year.

Reading this brochure could change your life.



WELCOME ABOARD

Alvechurch Boat Centres' narrowboats set a standard that few other canal fleets can match. The design of our boats has evolved over many years in response to helpful comments from hirers. Our boats have thoughtfully designed living space, good storage space and a comprehensive inventory.
The experienced hirer can step aboard one of our 111 boats and be on their way with the minimum of fuss.
The first time hirer will find that the superb handling qualities of our boats, with a little tuition from our enthusiastic staff, will soon give you the confidence to set off and explore the hidden world of the canals.
It is a holiday that can be enjoyed by all age groups. A canal holiday offers something of interest for everyone. Few, if any, other holidays give the same amount of freedom, adventure and relaxation. Your boat becomes your home.



A SPECIAL WELCOME

First-time hirers are sometimes nervous about the process of booking and taking charge of a boat.

At Alvechurch Boat Centres we:

▲ Give advice on the bookings - give us a call, say when & where you want to go, how many of you there will be, and we'll help you choose and book your holiday.

▲ Give you the chance to visit any of our bases to have a look around the boats and, on our Open Days, try your hand at the tiller.

▲ Send all our customers a Cruising Guide, with confirmation of booking, and offer an extensive briefing before you set out.

▲ Accompany first-time hirers until you are confident that you can manage the boat.

▲ Offer levels of quality, spaciousness and facilities that, from years of experience, we know our customers will need and would have difficulty finding anywhere else.

▲ Have no hidden extras in our costs.

The operation of a narrowboat is very simple. A single lever enables you to select forward or reverse and also to control the engine speed. You will be surprised at how quickly you learn to control your boat.

Each year, during the winter months, we try to exhibit a boat at several exhibitions. The most common remark made as people leave the boat is that they had no idea that a canal hireboat could offer so much comfort.

If you would like to see for yourself, you are welcome to call at any of our bases during the winter months between 9.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. or dusk (whichever is earlier), without an appointment. As this will be our first winter of operation at Anderton and Sherborne Street Wharf, if you wish to call at either base at a weekend, please give us a ring first on 021 445 2909.

We anticipate having one of our new hirecraft on view at the London International Boat Show at Earls Court from January 3rd to 13th and also at the Boat, Caravan and Leisure Show at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham from February 16th to 24th. We shall also have Open Days at all our bases, soon after Christmas, where visitors will be encouraged to try their hand at steering one of our hirecraft.

Canal hireboats have a very good safety record. All our boats have been inspected and certified by an independent marine surveyor. We provide buoyancy aids, which we recommend for children whenever they are on deck or at the lockside. Deck floors, cabin roofs and the gunwales have all been treated with an anti-slip coating.

When you book a canal boat holiday with Alvechurch there are no hidden extras. You do not need a lot of spending money for the travelling, admissions and entertainment that goes with any other form of self-catering. You can budget for your holiday with confidence. The total cost of your canal cruise compares favourably with other holidays.

Let Alvechurch Boat Centres introduce you to the very special activity holiday that is canal cruising.

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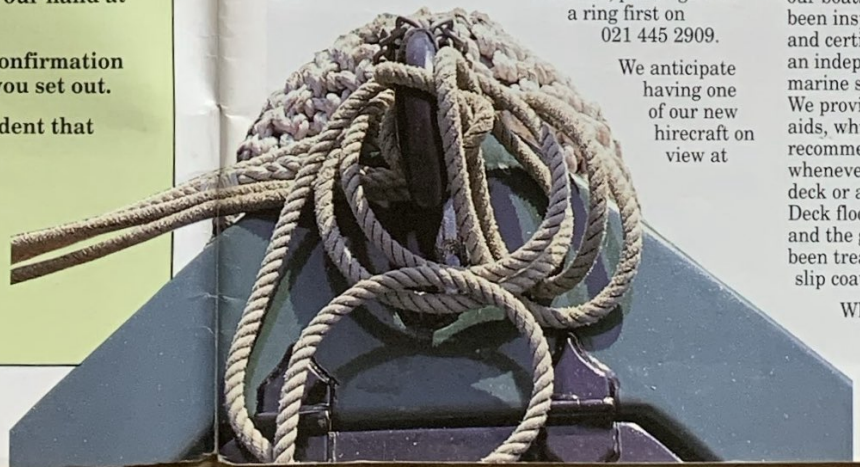
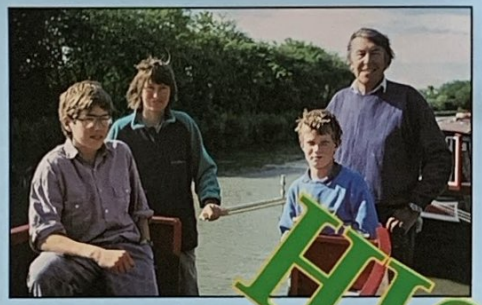


If you can't spare a week, why not try one of our SHORT BREAKS? ***See pages 26/27***

A wild time on the canals

TV ornithologist Tony Soper and his family had a week off with Gayton Marina's Goshawk in early summer. He found the experience fascinating...



OUR DEPARTURE from the marina was noted by a breeding great crested grebe and supervised by an insistent family of young mallards. Lying in wait like footpads the chicks and their mother dash from the bankside cover to accost each passing boat. None of us had worked a narrow-boat before. We found that the new angle on a host of familiar creatures was an unforgettable pleasure. Chugging along at a stately 3-4 miles an hour is rather like going for a walk without the leg-work.

Moorhen chicks - black balls of fluff with red beaks - leave their bankside shelter to investigate the bugs churned up by our passing. We could almost touch the reed basket of an empty moorhen's nest, slung between stems, as we chuntered along. Swallows and swifts hawk for insects over the water, beaks agape. Pied wagtails join in the hunt. The grey heron stands sentinel, knee-deep in water, a familiar sight as he waits for fish. The mute swans attend their bulky nest above a winding hole. Kingfishers make headlong dashes for fish.

A short, sharp whistle is usually the first you know of a kingfisher. Then skin your eyes for a brilliant blue and silver flash flying straight as an arrow over the water. Best of all is the magic view of the kingfisher perched on a branch, waiting, watching, then plunging to catch small fry with its rapier beak.

The most natural - overgrown, I suppose - sections of canal are the most rewarding for wildlife, even if they do increase the risk of running aground! The need to pole off is small payment for a close encounter with a bed of yellow flags or a brush with the tall and stately reed mace.

Walking along the tow-path, ahead of the boat, is a special pleasure and often provides a chance to see shyer birds - reed buntings and willow warblers - or an even closer view of the hunting heron.

Worms from the bankside turf make a favourite meal, so badgers are keen canal enthusiasts. The smell of badger may come before the sight of a sett, or perhaps the neatly excavated droppings pit is the first clue.

Water voles are abundant, but the plopping sound of entry into the water is more likely than a sight of this small mammal. A sight of the mink, black and sinuous, is quite possible, either in the water where it swims well and catches fish or along the waterside where nesting birds and chicks fall prey. Scattered feathers provide the clue to a meal.

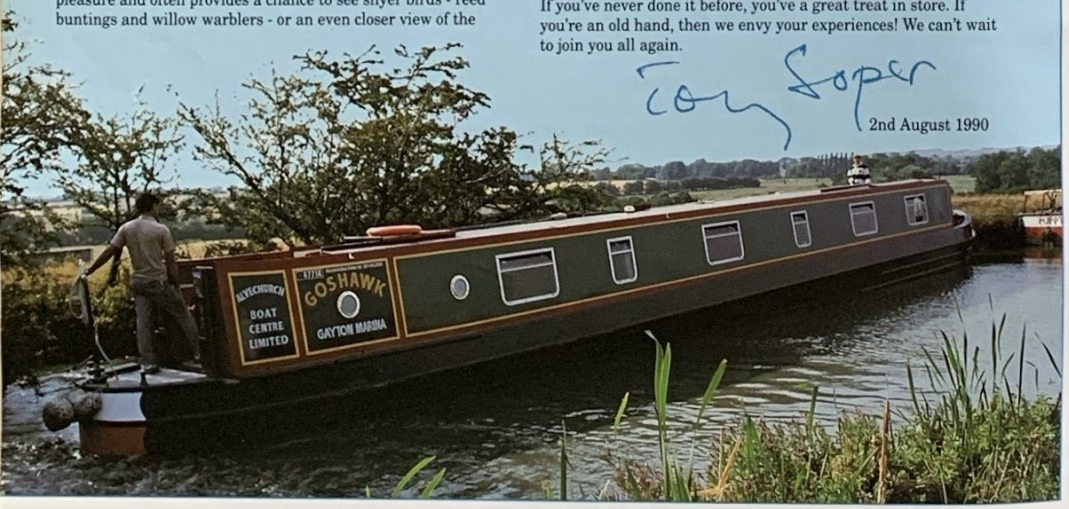
At the end of a day, locks negotiated, tunnels penetrated, a sense of well-being and achievement is capped off with a good mooring. Nothing could be simpler than banging in the stakes, and the only problem is to choose between open country or a wooded stretch; in sight of civilisation or away from it all.

Whether its a spot where the nightingale calls or the badger snuffles alongside in his nightly quest for worms, the early morning mist rising from the surface of the canal is sure to reveal the ducks dashing for bugs, waiting for you to make breakfast and clear away the crumbs.

If you've never done it before, you've a great treat in store. If you're an old hand, then we envy your experiences! We can't wait to join you all again.

Tony Soper

2nd August 1990



HISTORY & HERITAGE

The canals were built in the 18th and 19th centuries as the main commercial traffic arteries for this country, but their trade slowly disappeared to competing railways. Today, with the exception of some larger canals and rivers, commercial carrying activity has long since ceased.

What is left amounts to a 200 year old system of roads that cars cannot use. Like roads, they run through the countryside and into the heart of the cities. Like roads they pass close to villages, churches, towns, museums, and attractions of all kinds.

Unlike roads, canals are peaceful and often hidden, giving a completely different view of countryside and towns alike. You may know an area well, by car. Visit the same area on the canal and it's like seeing the place for the first time.

You can moor your boat almost anywhere along the tow-path. People new to the canals are often amazed to find that they can cruise into the centre of a city and moor. Around you are the muffled sounds of a city, yet it seems too peaceful to be true. Step off the boat and up onto the streets and there is the rest of the world, racing by. Poor souls.

Passing through the locks is a tremendous kind of ritual event. Everyone gathers around for a chat as the lock fills or empties. Sometimes you chat and then pass on. At other times you may meet people going the same direction, and decide to cruise along together for a while.

Regular canal users go on holiday to meet friends they only see on the canals. They don't know for certain who they will meet, where or when. But from time to time there's a familiar face at a lock. Often there's a pub, as well.

Canal pubs are a feature of cruising holidays. Just as the countryside and towns look different from the water, so the pubs take on a new aspect when you come across them round a bend in the canal and can then moor at the end of the garden. Many of the pubs provide food, so you can relax at the top of a flight of locks and decide not to cook, for a change.

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The actual operation of the locks, winding the handle that opens and closes the sluice, or leaning your weight on the beam to move the gates, becomes a pleasure. A lock holds tens of thousands of gallons of water which you control as you open or close the paddles. Everyone on board, including children, join in as a team.



CAUTION.

THE Public are cautioned against believing certain statements which are abroad respecting the effects of the CANAL BILL now before Parliament, whereby the Public are told that they will be at the mercy of the Canal Company, to charge them whatever price they please for Coals. THIS IS UTTERLY FALSE, as the *Canal Company's Powers are limited*, and the very utmost Toll they can levy under their Act, is 2 shillings per Ton. Their present Toll is 1 shilling; so that if they were to do the utmost they are empowered to do by Law, it would only be an increase in price of 1 Shilling per Ton, or not quite *three farthings per hundred* above the present price.

TROOD, Printer, Bookbinder, and Auctioneer, TAUNTON

Courtesy of British Waterway Archives

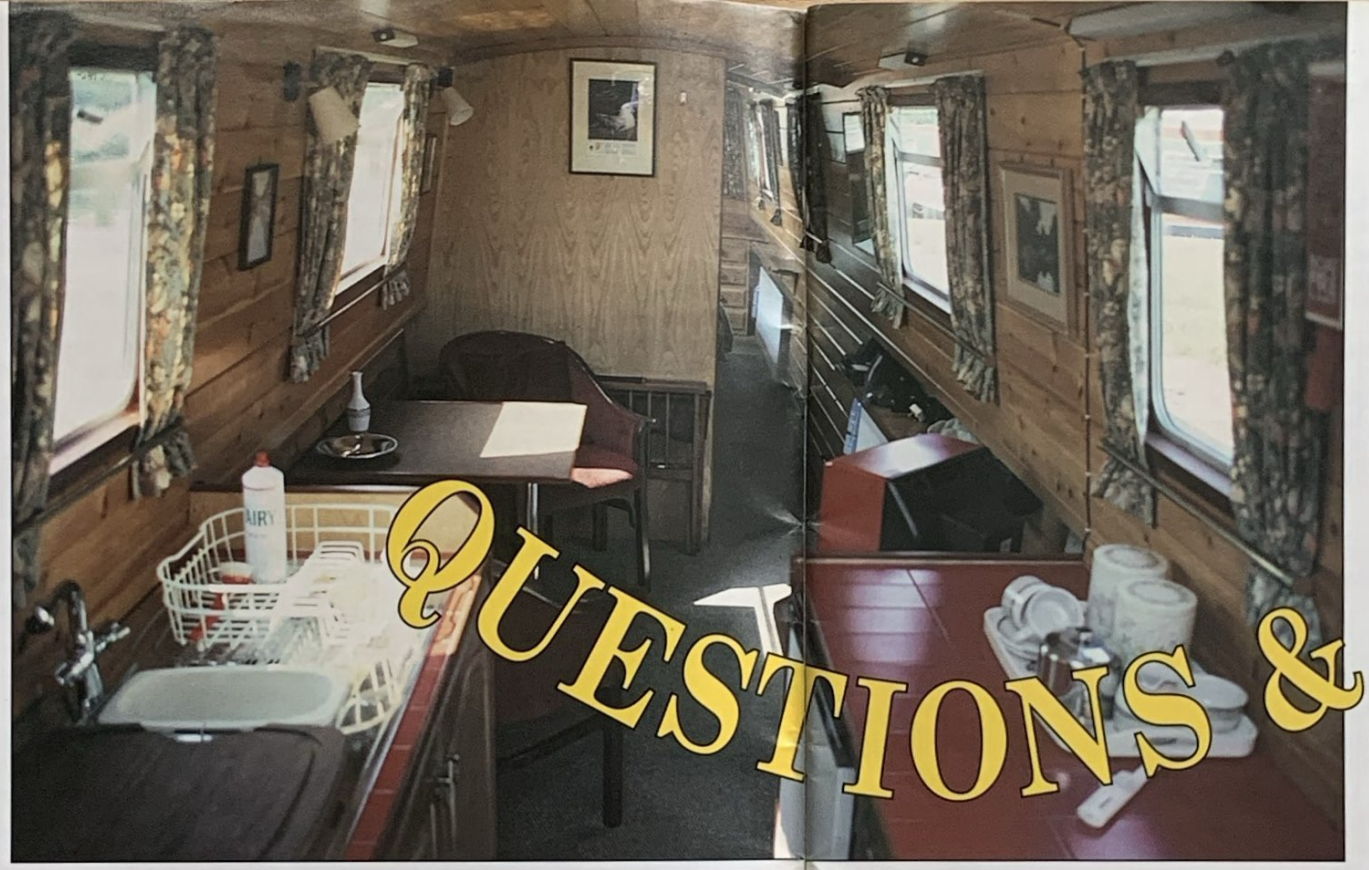
Since there is no point in rushing, settle back and take things as they come.

The network of waterways can provide one of the most relaxing and satisfying holidays available. It is a holiday that gets you away from the hassle and regimentation of most package tours and, instead, allows you to decide what to do and when to do it. There are few restrictions to bother you.

For some people cruising is an end in itself. For others, canals are a pleasure to travel and there is the additional advantage of being able to visit the many villages, towns and places of interest along the way.

Decide for yourself - time is on your side.





QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

We have tried, on this page, to answer some of the questions that are asked most often. If you have any other queries, and almost everybody does, please call Max, Pam or Sally on 021 445 2909. We will be happy to help.

How much experience do I need?

None at all. Narrowboats are easy to steer and control. Alvechurch boats have a higher steering position than most hirecraft, giving a good view of the canal ahead, and the engine and gears are worked by a single lever.

What facilities are provided on a narrow boat?

All Alvechurch boats have ample galleys with four burner cookers, oven and grill, fridge and sink. They have showers (2 on larger boats), flush-toilets and a hand basin. There is hot and cold running water and central-heating throughout. You will also find a b&w television, radio/cassette player and shaver socket. Storage space includes at least two wardrobes - one of which is heated, and a combination of under-berth storage and chests of drawers. Heart of England Narrowboats have similar facilities or, by way of contrast, offer the Traditional Class which more closely resemble the original narrow boats - see details on page 30. All the boats are light, airy and wood-lined throughout. They are laid out with meticulous attention to detail and represent the accumulated experience of our years of using and building canal boats. Boats are cleaned, stem to stern, inside and out, and checked over by our mechanics before being passed as ready for hire.

Can families with babies or young children take a canal holiday?

Certainly. Facilities for children include;

- ▲ cot-sides or free-standing cots
- ▲ PVC mesh netting around the stern in most boats
- ▲ buoyancy aids for children over three years old which we recommend be worn whenever children are out on deck.

All of these can be provided without charge. Please let us know your requirements on the Booking Form.

Where can we cruise?

Choose from 1500 miles of canals and rivers. We provide a British Waterways Licence which allows you to cruise on almost all canals. In the few cases where you need an additional licence (listed in the Route Guides) - we will be happy to advise on requirements and cost. Planning your cruise is made easy with the range of excellent Route Planners and Cruising Guides that are available from our Chandlery. These can be supplied by mail-order. You will find an order form on the back cover of this brochure.



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Are there any extras to pay?

The boat hire charge shown in this brochure includes V.A.T. and covers everything you need to keep the boat running.

There is a deposit of £50*, which is added to your final invoice and refunded in cash, less the cost of any accidental damage or lost equipment, at the end of your holiday**.

The only other charge is optional, and that is the Cancellation Protection Plan (see page 52). We strongly recommend that you take advantage of this and, unless you indicate on the booking form that it is not required, it will be included and the cost deducted from your booking deposit.

* We reserve the right to increase this sum for youth and school groups, all-male or all-female parties.

** We also reserve the right to delay the return of the deposit where we have reason to believe that the boat may have been returned in an unclean condition or sustained damage or caused damage to other boats or property, until we have had an opportunity to inspect the boat and to allow time for the receipt of any third-party claims.

Do I need to bring groceries with me?

The choice is yours. If you request an order form, it will be sent with your final invoice. Return it two weeks before your start date and your order will be waiting for you when you arrive. Alternatively, bring your own groceries or shop on your way to the Boatyard - we will be happy to direct you to the nearest supermarket.

Do I need insurance?

All our boats have 3rd party cover of up to £2 million. Personal insurance is not included and so a Personal Insurance Policy is available as an option (see page 52). You will automatically be included unless you indicate on the booking form that it is not required.

Do I need any kind of driving licence?

No form of driving licence is required for boats carrying less than 12 people. There is also no age restriction for those driving the boat. However, if children are allowed to drive, they must be under the close supervision of an experienced adult. Otherwise, your insurance cover may be invalidated, leaving you to meet the full costs of any accident. Alvechurch follow a voluntary safety code which restricts the maximum number of persons who may be on board at any one time to no more than the number of berths plus two. This does not apply to boats with 11 or 12 berths as the carriage of more than 12 persons on a boat requires special certification of the boat and crew. Allowing more than 12 persons to be on any of our hirecraft could lead to the hirer being prosecuted with the prospect of very heavy fines.

Are pets allowed?

Pets are welcome. We ask only that you keep them away from the bedding and soft furnishings. We do reserve the right to charge customers for extra cleaning or damage caused by pets.

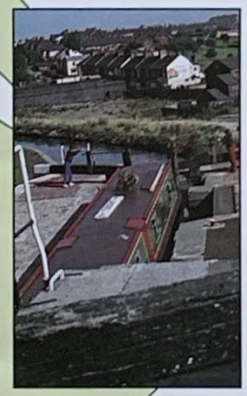
Can we book for a period other than a week or weeks?

Yes. We have boats allocated to short breaks which can be booked for periods of less than a week. By adding a short break to your week or weeks holiday it is possible to book for 10/11 days, 17/18 days, and so on.

When do I pay for my holiday?

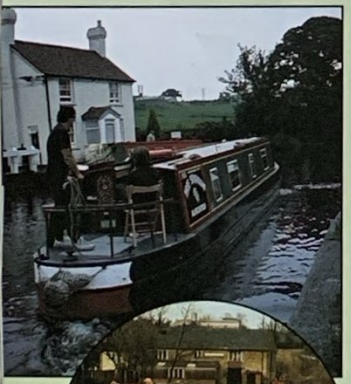
You pay 20% as a deposit when booking. We are happy to accept payment by Mastercard (Access) or Visa. Six weeks prior to your holiday a final account will be sent, payable 4 weeks before, together with information on how to pay, a grocery list (if requested), and an order form for road directions to the relevant boatyard.

PLAN YOUR OWN ROUTE



Even at the peak of the season, some canals can be almost deserted. Why not plan a cruise to visit such places as Whaley Bridge (Peak Forest Canal), Froghall (Caldon Canal), Langley Mill (Erewash Canal), Aylesbury, Welford or Market Harborough (Grand Union Canal)?
Do not overlook the Birmingham Canal Navigations. Many people are beginning to appreciate the varied cruising available on these historic waterways. It is not all industrial dereliction!







N
NOT TO SCALE

Numbers in bold show approximate cruising time in hours.
The Lockmaster Holiday Planner map, price £1.75, shows further details of distances, number of locks as well as cruising times.

Although the Kennet & Avon Canal is now open, because of water supply problems Hire Craft cannot normally be taken beyond Great Bedwyn. Please check with us for details.



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Doug Smith's Maps, which cover the whole of the navigable canal system, and Pearson's Guides, which cover the most popular cruising areas, are all available by mail order, see page 54.

THE RIVER NENE

To Oundle and return:
about 44 hours cruising and 90 locks.

To Peterborough and return:
about 62 hours cruising and 108 locks.



Many experienced canal boaters tend to forget about the pleasures of river navigation. This seems to us a pity, especially with a river as pretty as the Nene so close to Gayton.
River scenery makes a most pleasant alternative to the canals and the pace of the river itself adds an ingredient and a new kind of background sound to the holiday.
We are happy for our boats to cruise the river beyond Northampton as far as Peterborough.
Those who would like to enjoy the River Nene should have some previous experience of canal boats - please check with the office for details, and should be aware that, especially in early and late season, rivers can flood. These precautions are no more than common sense.
An additional licence is required for the River Nene - please ask for details.

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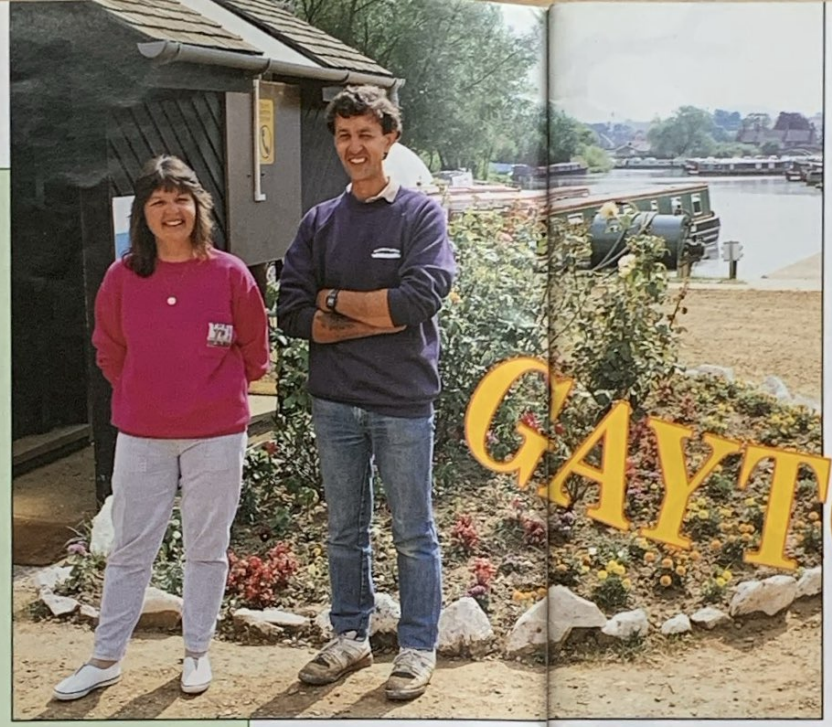
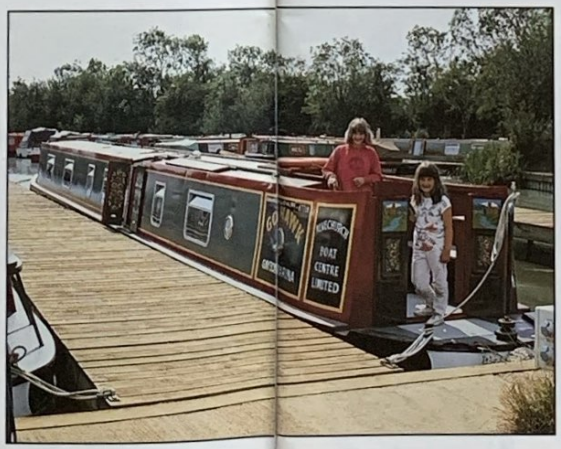






GAYTON MARINA

Gayton Marina is seven miles from Northampton and five miles from junction 15 of the M1. There are good inter-city railway services to Northampton from north and south, and a taxi service from the station. The location is an ideal combination; easy to reach and yet far enough from the city to be a truly rural setting.

Bob and Mandy Southerland and the team welcome you to this picturesque Marina in the Northamptonshire countryside.

Gayton is about 400 yards from the Grand Union Canal, one of the most famous of all England's waterways. The Grand Union is wider than, for example, the Midland narrow canals, and the locks are large enough to accommodate boats side-by-side. This means that the operation of the locks can be shared; another good reason why Gayton is well-suited to first-time hirers.

Of the six out-and-return routes, on the next page, the routes to Aylesbury and Market Harborough have proved the most popular. Aylesbury is the county town of Buckinghamshire, justly famous for the beauty of the countryside. Market Harborough is the route for those who really want to get away from it all, as the Leicester arm of the Grand Union almost goes out of its way to avoid the villages and towns.

On site are a Reception Office, selling maps and guides as well as souvenirs, confectionery, soft drinks and ice cream.

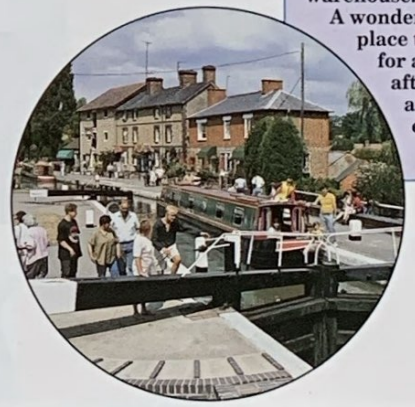


There are pubs serving food around Gayton and a restaurant close by. There are small shops in neighbouring villages, but the best place to stock up is Northampton.

STOKE BRUERNE

Within 1½ hours cruising of Gayton Marina is one of the most celebrated canal-side villages in the country. Built in the heyday of canals, Stoke Bruerne was left stranded in time when the traffic moved to the `new-fangled' railways. Today the village boasts a traditional pub and a Canal Museum sited in a three-storey warehouse.

A wonderful place to pause for an afternoon and evening.



Routes around Gayton

1 To Market Harborough & return:
about 36 hours cruising and 48 locks.

Along the main arm of the Grand Union, with no locks for the first half day. Then up, from Wilton to Norton junction, onto the Leicester line of the Grand Union and up again to the summit. It takes a leisurely day to cross the summit, far from the teeming masses, and then down onto the Market Harborough arm of the canal and its historic Canal Basin.



2 To Coventry & return:
about 36 hours cruising and 34 locks.

Follow the route for (1), above, past the Norton junction and straight on into the Braunston tunnel (2042 yards) then down to Braunston, which is a major canal centre. From here, right onto the North Oxford canal and left at Hawkesbury junction bring you to the Coventry canal which runs into the city centre. The Cathedral and shops are a few minutes walk from the basin.

3 To Snareston & return:
about 48 hours cruising and 34 locks.

A second route with the minimum of locks - for those who have plenty of energy and intend to keep it that way. This is an historic section of canal which passes the site of the Battle of Bosworth Field. The final section, the Ashby canal, runs for 22 lock-free miles and is home to one of the few remaining horse-drawn boats still operating on the canal system.



4 To Banbury & return:
about 42 hours cruising and 70 locks.

Follow route (2) to Braunston then turn left, straight on across Napton junction and you are on the southern Oxford Canal which is an excellent example of an contour canal. The canal avoids the need for locks by following the contours of the landscape, twisting and turning around the curving hills with rather the air of a countryman out for a Sunday walk - or a countryman on his way home after hay-making and cider.



5 To Aylesbury & return:
about 44 hours cruising and 82 locks.

South from Gayton, along the Grand Union and through Blisworth Tunnel (3057 yards, the longest navigable tunnel on the main canal system). A pause at Stoke Bruerne and then the descent through Wolverton, Milton Keynes and Bletchley to Soulbury. The canal then climbs towards and into the Chilterns, moving further away from





Courtesy of British Waterways Archives









Routes from Gayton suit all hirers:

▲ For those on their first cruise we recommend that an out-and-return route is often easier because it takes less experience to judge the timing of your return. Gayton offers no less than six out-and-return cruises, two of which, Coventry and Snareston, offer all the merits of canal cruising with few locks.

▲ For the experienced there is the Grand Ring, the cruise of a life-time best done over three weeks. In addition there is the River Nene which offers a form of narrowboat cruising often overlooked by experienced users. River cruising has its own charms and makes a pleasant alternative to all-canal routes.

Not to Scale

towns and people until, at the Marsworth junction, a right turn leads to a flight of 16 locks and then the bustling county town of Aylesbury.

6 To Rickmansworth & return:
about 64 hours cruising and 138 locks.

Follow route (5), above, to the Aylesbury arm and then, rather than descending, continue the ascent as the canal cuts through the wooded Chiltern hills. At Cowroast the descent to the Thames begins, running through increasingly built-up areas to the margins of London. As is often the case with canals, you have little sense of the urban surroundings until you get off your boat and walk away from the tow-path.

CIRCULAR ROUTES

7 The Warwickshire Ring:
about 65 hours and 120 locks.

Follow route (2) as far as Braunston and then continue on the Grand Union canal to Camp Hill. The return is via the Birmingham and Fazeley canal at Salford Junction.

8 The East Midlands Ring:
about 79 hours cruising and 114 locks.

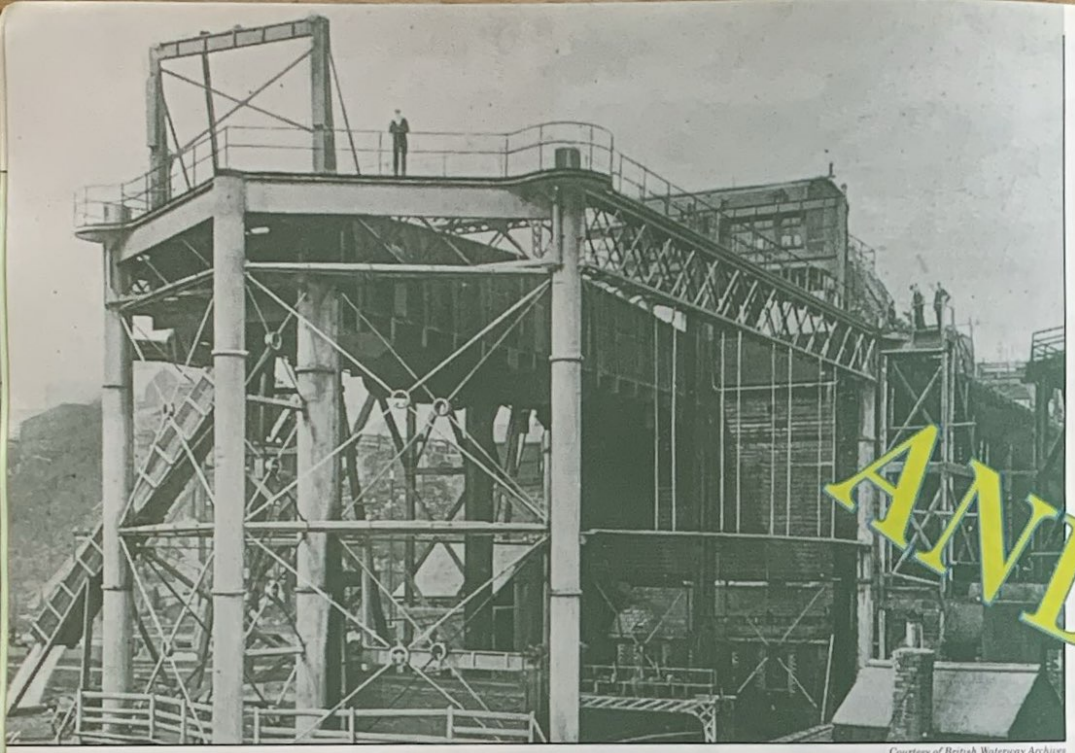
Along route (3) to Marston junction and then continue down the Coventry canal to Fradley junction and the famous Swan pub. A right turn takes you onto the Trent & Mersey canal to Burton on Trent where the canal widens and follows the Trent river to the well preserved canal port at Shardlow. One more lock and you are on the mighty river Trent. Thence onto the river Soar which meanders gently into Leicester. After Leicester, true canal cruising again up the magnificent staircase locks at Foxton where you rejoin route (1) for the return to Gayton.

9 The Grand Ring:
about 114 hours cruising and 175 locks.

Surely the ultimate 2/3 week circular cruise. Down the Grand Union, past Bulls Bridge for the descent to the Thames. This stretch runs through the parks of Osterley and Syon House and then into the river, via two sets of double locks whose opening times vary with the tides - the lock keeper will advise as to the best time to pass through; a passage on the flood tide can be an exhilarating experience.
From Teddington you cruise the non-tidal river, through keeper-operated locks, to Oxford. Once on the Oxford canal you return on route (4).

N.B. The River Thames between Teddington and Oxford is a separate navigation authority. It is necessary to purchase an additional licence before cruising this section of the river. Further details are available on request. Unlike the canal system, moorings and water along the way have to be paid for. At peak periods there can also be queues for the locks.

INFORMATION HOTLINE 021 · 445 2909 OR FAX 021 · 447 712



Courtesy of British Waterway Archives



Anderton Boat Lift dates from 1875. It was designed by Sir Edward Leader Williams, an eminent Victorian engineer also responsible for the Barton Swing Aqueduct near Manchester. The lift was constructed to bridge the 50ft disparity between the Trent & Mersey and the Weaver Navigation below. A massive iron framework supports two water-filled caissons, each of which can carry a pair of narrowboats. Originally hydraulically powered by steam, since early this century the structure has been electrically operated using a system of counterbalance weights.

Tragically, this great monument to our canal heritage has been unworkable since 1983. However a Development Group has ambitious proposals, including a visitor centre and other associated attractions which, in the long term they hope will provide sufficient momentum of interest and associated use for the lift to be fully restored.

Pearson's Canal Companion, the Shropshire Union & Llangollen Canals.







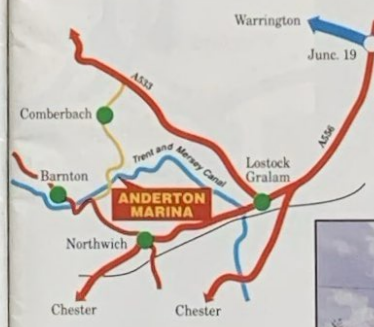
ANDERTON MARINA

The Anderton Boatyard is just outside Northwich, towards the top end of the Cheshire plains.
Although Anderton itself is located in a small, country village, Manchester, Liverpool and Chester are all within easy reach. Road access is good, the boatyard is convenient for both the M6 and the M56.
There are British Rail stations at Northwich, for trains from Manchester, and Hartford, which connects to the south via Crewe. A local taxi service is available to bring passengers to the yard.
Anderton is famous in canal history for the Anderton Lift, sadly no longer in operation but still a magnificent sight. The lift is undergoing restoration and it is to be hoped that it may, one day, be back in use.

This is an historic area for canals, and an area of great contrast. The waterways run through the conurbations of Manchester, Liverpool and Stoke-on-Trent, the industrial heart of the country in the days the canals were built.

From the same base, at Anderton, in some cases on the same circular route, one can get out into the countryside of Cheshire, south into Shropshire and Staffordshire, or south and west across the border into Wales.

The Llangollen canal, a week's out and return cruise from Anderton, is one of the most famous and popular stretches of canal in Britain. It is also busy, but, with the promise of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct at the other end, and several days to practice your Welsh pronunciation, the trip lives up to expectations.



On site, as well as the Reception, is the Moorings Restaurant which is open for lunches and evening meals and for breakfast on Saturdays and Sundays.

INFORMATION 'HOTLINE' 021 - 445 2909 OR FAX 021 - 447 7120





Routes Around Anderton

1 Cheshire Ring:

about 49 hours cruising and 92 locks.

A route which takes you along six canals and covers the county from the agricultural lowlands to the foothills of the Pennines - at one point the canal passes within a mile of the Peak District National Park. From the Macclesfield Canal, with its views across Cheshire, the canal runs north into Manchester and the heart of a great city. It then turns west and south, running parallel to the great Manchester Ship Canal, before bending around once more and heading for home.

N.B. Two of the six canals, the Bridgewater and Rochdale, are not B.W. owned. You only need an additional licence to cruise the Rochdale Canal. Please let us know, before your holiday, if you would like to cruise the Cheshire Ring and we will help arrange the licence.

2 Four Counties Ring:

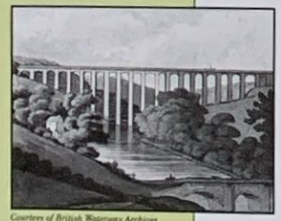
about 61 hours cruising and 102 locks.

A predominantly rural route which can be completed in a week but is best taken more slowly, over 10/11 days or even a fortnight. From Anderton onto the main Shropshire Union canal, which runs south almost to Wolverhampton, passing through countryside and barely touching on the villages and small towns along the way. Then a left turn onto the Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal, around Stafford and onto the Tixall Wide which is more lake than canal and has the reputation of one of the most beautiful places on the canal system. At Great Haywood another left turn onto the Trent and Mersey canal which passes through the Potteries, around Stoke-on-Trent, where the canals formed an essential part of industrial development. Finally through the Harecastle tunnel to Middlewich.

3 Llangollen & Return:

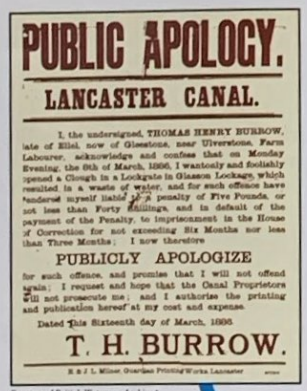
about 56 hours cruising and 58 locks.

As with the Four Counties, a route that can be completed in a week but is best spread over 10/11 days or a fortnight. From Anderton follow route (2) to Hurleston junction then turn right onto the Llangollen canal. The canal manages to avoid all but the tiniest of settlements along the way - it almost breaks this rule at Whitchurch but changes its mind at the last moment. Just before Chirk the canal crosses the border into Wales. The Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, the high-point of the cruise, carries you for nearly a fifth of a mile, 110 feet above the Dee valley. From the aqueduct the canal runs through the Vale of Llangollen and into the town itself.



Courtesy of British Waterways Archives





PUBLIC APOLOGY.

LANCASTER CANAL.

I, the undersigned, THOMAS HENRY BURROW, late of Eliel, now of Gleastone, near Ulverstone, Farm Labourer, acknowledge and confess that on Monday Evening, the 9th of March, 1896, I wantonly and foolishly opened a Clough in a Lockgate in Gleaston Lockage, which resulted in a waste of water, and for such offence have rendered myself liable to a penalty of Five Pounds, or not less than Forty Shillings, and in default of the payment of the Penalty, to imprisonment in the House of Correction for not exceeding Six Months nor less than Three Months; I now therefore

PUBLICLY APOLOGIZE

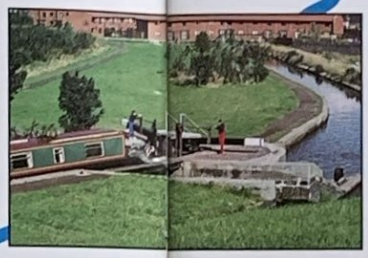
for such offence, and promise that I will not offend again; I request and hope that the Canal Proprietors will not prosecute me; and I authorize the printing and publication hereof at my cost and expense.

Dated this Sixteenth day of March, 1896.

T. H. BURROW.

R & J. L. Milner, Guardian Printing Works, Lancaster

Courtesy of British Waterway Archives















Not to Scale

Skipton
Leeds & Liverpool
Burscough
Wigan
Liverpool
Preston Brook
Bridgewater
Marple
ANDERTON
Whaley Bridge
Winsford
Middlewich
Macclesfield
Leek
Barbridge
Harding's Wood
Shropshire Union
Llangollen
Market Drayton
Trent & Mersey
Great Haywood
Fradley
B'ham Canal Navigations
Autherley
Aldersley
Fazeley
Dudley

4 Chester & Return:

about 32 hours cruising and 44 locks.

Follow route (2) to Barbridge junction and turn right onto the Shropshire Union canal which runs north-west to Chester. This stretch of the country, the Cheshire plain, is a delight to the eye, dominated for much of its length by Beeston Castle which stands on a sandstone outcrop above the canal. The approach to Chester, between the Welsh hills and the Delamere Forest, is charming. At Chester you can moor close to the foot of the city wall, a spectacular site. And Chester itself?

"On Sunday mornings Chester breathes like a sleeping child and footsteps softly echo your progress around the city wall, the perfect introduction to this loveliest of cities."

From Pearson's Canal Companion to the Shropshire Union Canal.

5 Ellesmere Port & Return:

about 40 hours cruising and 52 locks.

The Pearsons guide, quoted above, goes on to say that

"...exploring the northern end of the Shropshire Union canal and stopping short at Chester is akin to not listening to the end of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, or electing not to see the cheese board at the Savoy."

The run into Ellesmere Port is not pretty, the skyline being dominated by the refinery at Stanlow. However, once you reach the basin the twin attractions of the River Mersey and the Boat Museum, where you can rest overnight alongside some of the barges which, by day, form the exhibits, repay the effort of the traveller who has ventured beyond Chester.

INFORMATION 'HOTLINE' 021 - 445 2909 OR FAX 021 - 447 7120

6 Caldon Canal & Return:

about 50 hours cruising and 104 locks.

A connoisseur's cruise, often ignored, but those who go love it. From Anderton, reverse the last stages of the Four Counties ring (2) to Etruria. There turn left onto the Caldon canal and climb up towards the Staffordshire Moorlands, through the upper valley of the Trent River, reaching a summit of 468feet above sea level. At Hazlehurst junction the canal divides, one branch running on to Leek, the other dropping quickly down so that it can turn under the Leek branch and run on to Froghall. The Froghall branch is the hidden jewel at the end of this canal. It runs down the Churnet river valley, through woodlands where time has stood still since the local iron works ran out of business. A horse-drawn boat plys up and down this stretch, adding to the impression of having passed through a time-warp.







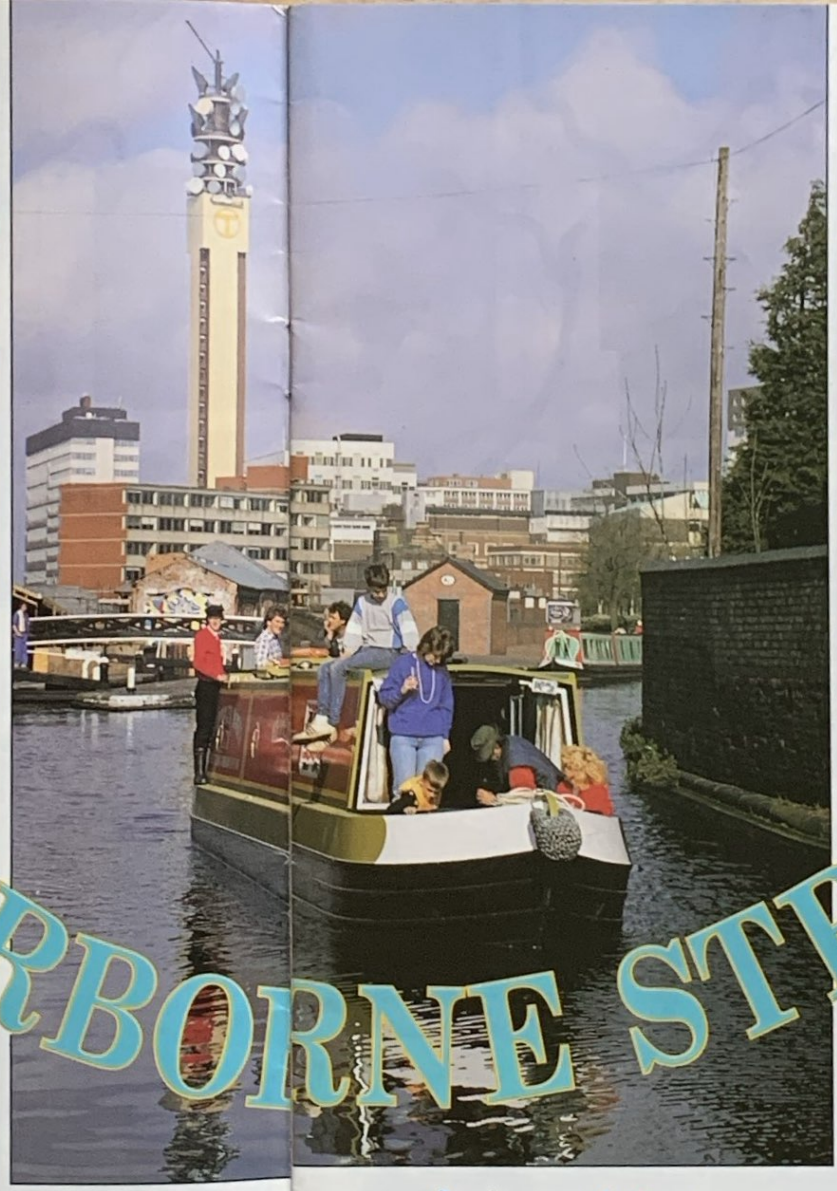






SHERBORNE STREET WHARF

Sherborne Street is in the city Centre of Birmingham. Access is easy by road, rail - 10 minutes taxi ride from New Street station, and air - 30 minute taxi ride from Birmingham International Airport. In canal terms it is on the Oozell Street Loop off the B.C.N. Main Line. In lay terms it is just around the corner from Gas Street Basin and the new International Convention Centre. The Wharf is a busy, bustling scene - a base for trip boats and boat building as well as hire boats.





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Birmingham has more canals than Venice.

Contrast this with the International Convention Centre, now in the last stages of construction. The company who are running the project show the site to visiting VIP's from a small canal boat built at Sherborne Street.

At Sherborne Street there is a shop which sells maps, guides confectionery and souvenirs. For additional shopping or food there is all of Birmingham to choose from; theatres, lots of pubs and restaurants and a large supermarket within ten minutes walk.

There is parking within the wharf for which we have to make a charge of £7/vehicle/week.

Sherborne Street and Alvechurch are on the same sections of the canal network and share many of the same routes. Therefore the Route Planning section is shared between the two sites - see next pages.

As well as the major connections to north and south, some of which are set out in the following pages, Birmingham is a fascinating muddle of smaller canals called the Birmingham Canal Navigations. Many of these would now be described as backwaters, but in their time they would have been vital, commercial routes into works and factories.

In the 18th century it was not unknown for a factory to have no road access. The only way in, for raw materials, or out, for goods, was the canal.

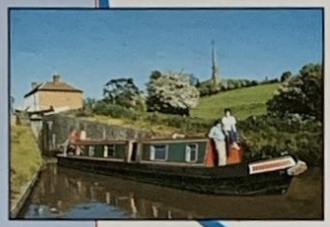
Routes around Alvechurch and Sherborne Street

1 The Stourport Ring:

48 hours cruising and 116 locks.

Probably the most popular of the cruises from these bases, and for good reasons. The route covers a mixture of urban scenes in and around Birmingham, passing the Black Country Museum (where you can moor and pay entry fees at the pub), Cadbury's World at Bournville, and also the beautiful countryside of Worcestershire. Between Stourport and Worcester the route takes you down one of the prettiest sections of the river Severn, past some famous riverside pubs.

For first timers the route is best taken anti-clockwise. There is plenty of time to spend along the way, and plenty to do.



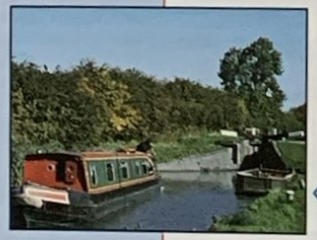


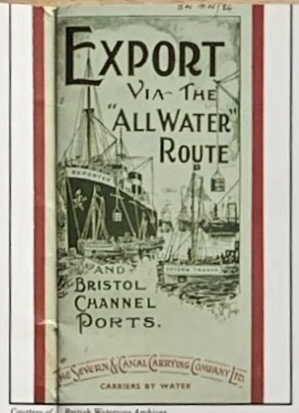
2 The Black Country Ring:

40 hours cruising (48 from Alvechurch) and 80 locks.

Despite the name this is predominantly a rural route - an easy week's cruise with the option of diversions around the Birmingham Canal Navigations. Running clockwise around the ring, you reach the Black Country Museum. This Museum celebrates, in part, a way of life that was flourishing when the canals were at their peak. At Wolverhampton there is a flight of 21 locks leading down to the Staffs & Worcester canal, where a right turn leads to Stafford, the Tixall wide - famous for Kingfishers - and on to Great Haywood Junction. The return journey leads, by way of the Trent & Mersey Canal, round to Fazeley junction and then into Birmingham city centre where you can moor at Gas Street Basin. Within a few minutes walk of Gas Street are the Convention Centre, theatres, restaurants, pubs and night clubs.







Courtesy of British Waterway Archives



3 The Warwickshire Ring:

53 hours cruising (57 from Alvechurch) and 128 locks.

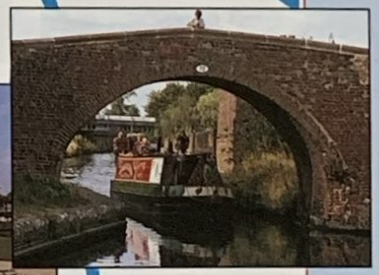
An early start each day and an enthusiastic crew are needed to complete this cruise in a week. It can be made into a more gentle ten or eleven day cruise. Visits to the Jewellery Quarter in Birmingham, Drayton Manor Park, Warwick Castle and the Motor Museum at King's Norton are all possible. The route, travelling clockwise, will take you through Birmingham, down the famous Farmers Bridge flight of locks, then onto the Coventry Canal and to the Oxford Canal at Hawkesbury Junction. Hawkesbury Junction and the next turning point, at Braunston, are both busy canal centres. From Braunston the route turns for home, on the Grand Union through Leamington Spa and Warwick, up the Hatton flight of locks to Kingswood Junction. The final stretch along the Stratford Canal brings you back to King's Norton Junction.

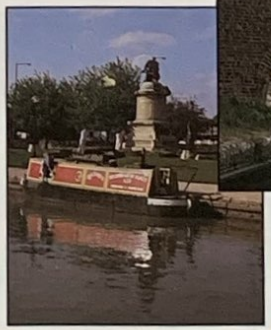


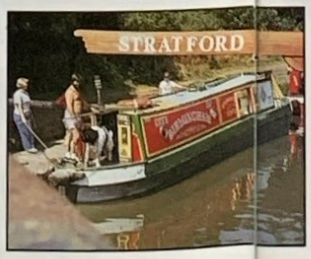
4 The Avon Ring:

62 hours cruising (58 from Alvechurch) and 139 locks.

The most popular two week cruise. As with the Warwickshire Ring, it can be completed in a week if you start early and have an enthusiastic crew. The route covers some of the most historic towns in Worcestershire and Warwickshire; Worcester, Tewkesbury, Evesham and Stratford - all places it is hard to pass through without at least a brief pause. For those with time to spare a short diversion into Gloucester adds another cathedral and the attractions of Gloucester Docks, including the National Waterways Museum. Add to this the Rivers Severn and Avon, fresh vegetables and fruit from the Vale of Evesham, and you have the makings of a glorious itinerary.







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N.B. There is a toll charge to be paid on entry to the River Avon at Tewkesbury or Stratford-on-Avon.

Not to Scale



ALVECHURCH MARINA

The Boat Centre is in rural Worcestershire on the outskirts of Alvechurch village, 10 miles south of Birmingham. By road, we are 2 miles away from junction 2 on the M42 which, in turn, links to the M1, M5, & M6. Alvechurch railway station is but a short walk from the boatyard, with a service every 30 minutes to and from Birmingham (New Street) station.





Facilities at Alvechurch are excellent. The village combines the ancient - it was mentioned in the Domesday book, with the modern, including a supermarket, shops, banks and a fish & chip shop.

At the boatyard itself is the chandlery, which stocks souvenirs, books, maps and cruising guides as well as a limited range of groceries and frozen food.

In addition there is the Weighbridge Club which is open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, at lunchtime and in the evenings, and on Wednesdays and Thursday evenings, throughout the season. There is a licensed bar and a children's room, and bar snacks are available.













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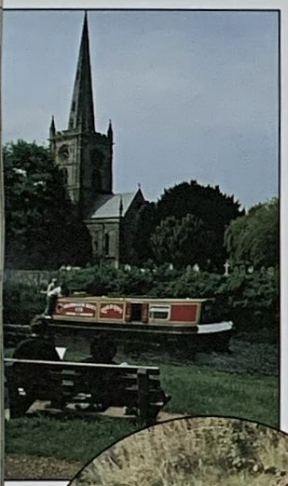










SHORT BREAKS

Do you want to unwind for a few days or just sample life on a narrowboat?

Then book one of our boats for a short break.

Alvechurch boats have so much more to offer.

- ▲ Our boats are among the best that it is possible to hire.
- ▲ Our bases are close to the motorway system and main line rail services,
- ▲ The choice of possible routes for a short break is second to none.

There's no better way to unwind than a few nights on an Alvechurch Boat.

Canal Boats.

WANTED to PURCHASE, or to HIRE, a Number of CANAL BOATS, about SEVENTY Feet Long and SEVEN Feet Wide, capable of carrying THIRTY Tons, or upwards, COALS or STONES.

ALSO,

BOATS adapted for carrying General Goods.

Particulars of the Condition of the Boats, and Prices, to be addressed to Mr. ARCHIBALD DUNLOP, No. 52, Lower Belgrave Place, Pimlico, Westminster.

Courtesy of British Waterway Archives

FLEXIBLE CRUISING

Traditionally narrow boats were only ever available from Saturday to Saturday.
Alvechurch Boat Centres have pioneered flexible booking periods for people who would like to take their holidays at times to suit themselves.
Since 1987, when we introduced this kind of holiday, they have proved to be very popular, and we have had to increase the number of boats available each year. In particular, the 10 and 11 night options have been great favourites.



In essence, you are booking a series of short breaks linked together to make a holiday of the length you require. Short breaks are either three nights long, starting on a Friday, or four nights long, starting on a Monday. You can add as many short breaks as you like to make up the period you want.

Each short break is charged at the rate applicable to the week for the nearest Saturday to its start, e.g. for Mondays the Saturday before, for Fridays the Saturday following.

Decide on the period you would like to spend on the canals, then ring us and we will do the calculation for you.

Short breaks are calculated at 60% of the weekly price, but if you book two or more such breaks then the charge is calculated at only 50% of the relevant weekly price.

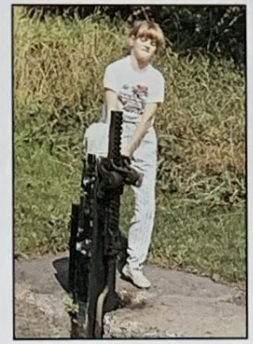
Booking three consecutive breaks (10 or 11 days) entitles you to a 2½% discount. With four (14 days) you get a 5% discount.

Increased discounts are available for longer breaks up to a maximum 10% for 4 weeks

Call Max, Pam or Sally on 021-445-2909 and let them sort out the details for you.

INFORMATION 'HOTLINE' 021 - 445 2909 OR FAX 021 - 447 7120

For either period the boat will be available at 2.30 p.m. on the first day of your holiday and should be returned and vacated by no later than 9.30 a.m. on the last day.

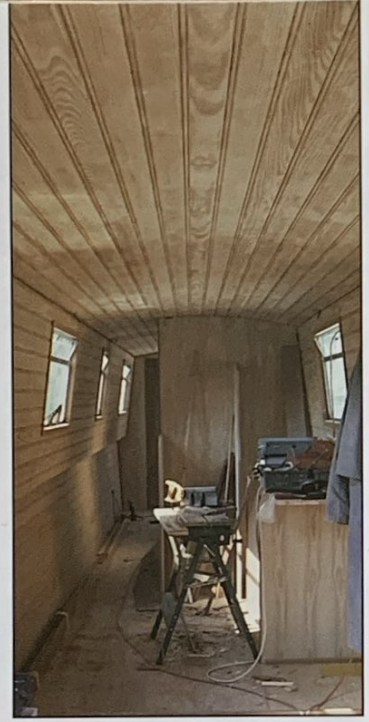


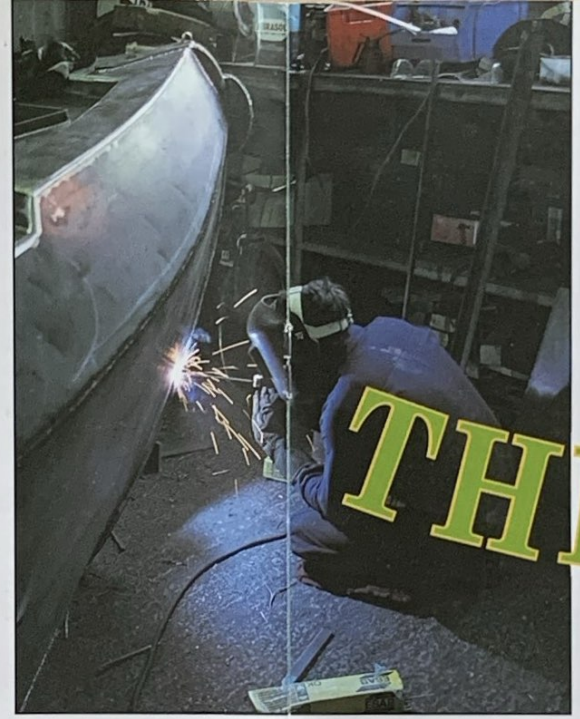
The following boats are available for short breaks throughout the season

CLASS	BERTHS	BOAT NAME	BASE
BALLAD	2	Bard	Sherborne Street
BEAVER	2+1	Bobcat	Sherborne Street
BEAVER	2+1	Beaver	Sherborne Street
WREN	2+2	Jenny Wren	Alvechurch
WREN	2+2	Robin	Gayton
WREN	2+2	Dipper	Anderton
GROUSE	4	Red Grouse	Alvechurch
CLIPPER	4	Cutter	Sherborne Street
BOURNE	4	Bourne	Sherborne Street
BOLERO	4	Bolero	Sherborne Street
AUK	4	Guillemot	Alvechurch
AUK	4	Puffin	Gayton
CROW	4/5	Chough	Alvechurch
CROW	4/5	Jackdaw	Gayton
THRUSH	4/5	Blackbird	Alvechurch
THRUSH	4/5	Nightingale	Anderton
WADER	5/6	Redshank	Alvechurch
WADER	5/6	Curlew	Gayton
BEAU	6	Beau	Sherborne Street
BUCCANEER	6+1	Buccaneer	Sherborne Street
WATERBIRD	6/7	Dabchick	Alvechurch
WATERBIRD	6/7	Crested Crebe	Gayton
WATERBIRD	6/7	Flamingo	Anderton
BASKERVILLE	8	Baskerville	Sherborne Street
DOVE	8/10	Turtle Dove	Alvechurch
DOVE	8/10	Ring Dove	Gayton

Time Charter

A number of Companies have acquired their own narrowboats for use by their employees and this facility is proving to be very popular. Alvechurch Boat Centres can construct boats for clients' specific requirements and can provide moorings and support facilities for their operation.
Alternatively, for those who do not wish to make the considerable investment required, we can make boats available on time charter whereby for one annual payment a boat is reserved exclusively for your use throughout the 33 week cruising season. The payment covers the maintenance and turnround of the boat on a weekly basis, together with the handover and tuition (if necessary) to those taking the boat out. The boat can be painted in the Company livery if requested.
Further details available on request.





THE COMPANY

The core of Alvechurch Boat Centres is the boats. When all is said and done you will find yourself on a boat away from the rush of life enjoying the peace and freedom. The last thing you want is to worry about the boat itself. We have spent a great deal of time, over the years, making sure that our boats are as safe and reliable as possible.

The Executive Directors



Tony Stockwell



Al Harris



Julian Stanton



Alan Green



All boats within the Alvechurch Hirecraft fleet are members of the prestigious Blue Riband Club

Member of Association of Pleasure Craft Operators

APCO, The Association of Pleasure Craft Operators, is the trade organisation for Britain's inland waterways, and represents the most respected companies operating all types of craft on our superb network of canals and rivers. You can put your trust in the APCO sign.

INFORMATION 'HOTLINE' 021 - 445 2909 OR FAX 021 - 447 7120

MEMBER

Member of Inland Waterways Association

Member of The Heart of England Tourist Board

British Marine Industries Federation

Member of British Marine Industries Federation

Alvechurch Boat Centres started life in 1959, as Warwickshire Cruisers. We have had 31 years experience of building and hiring boats.

Over those years we have talked to thousands of people who have hired our boats. As experienced boat builders we know about the technical aspects of canal craft. As people who take canal holidays ourselves we know some of what you need on a boat. But it is the people who have made suggestions, after time on a boat, who add the final touches to our designs.

It is the final touches that make Alvechurch boats special.

Building our boats

Both Alvechurch and Heart of England Narrowboats have a long tradition of boat building. There are small differences between the style of boat built at each yard, but the underlying principles are the same - to build the best boats for holiday hire.

It takes more than 1500 hours of craftsmen's time to create a new boat. Building quality boats is not something you can learn and then keep doing. You have to keep learning.

First come the designers. It is their job to combine the lessons of the past with the technology of the present. Each year there are little ways of improving our boats, and new materials or fittings to be incorporated.

The hull and superstructure are made of steel, partially painted and then handed over to the carpenters and joiners. They line the interiors with wood and fit the bulkheads and other wooden fittings. All the new wood is then given five coats of varnish.

The wood contributes a great deal to the interior look of a finished Alvechurch boat, giving a warm light and a feeling of comfort that surprises people who step onto a boat for the first time.

Next come the engineers, who install the engine, plumbing and electrical fittings. These are tested extensively.

For the final stage of construction the painters come back and finish their work, followed by the signwriter. The art of the signwriter is very important to canal boats. The image of canals that many people hold in their minds is the decorative paintwork on the boats.

Last stages in the process are the checks. We do our own quality control tests throughout the construction and fitting-out. Then the boat itself is tested, as an entity. Finally we pass the boat over to an independent marine surveyor who issues a certificate of compliance with British Waterways standards.



Once it has passed all these stages the boat is added to our hire fleet.

Better by design

Our boats are designed to be comfortable. The lay-out has evolved over the years to make ideal use of the space - nothing wasted. The equipment on board is chosen for its reliability.

Our boats are designed with safety in mind. All the outside surfaces on which you might walk; decks, gunwales, gang-planks and the cabin roof are painted with anti-slip paint. As an additional safety feature, for those with children, boats with cruiser sterns can be fitted with netting.

Our boats are designed to ensure that you have a great holiday.

OVERSEAS VISITORS

Each year we are pleased to welcome visitors from all over the world.
Many are old friends who return year after year, others come for their first holiday on the canals. Each party is given a very warm welcome and we are always pleased to help you prepare for your visit to this country.
We work hard to make sure that your holiday runs smoothly.
Our sales team is pleased to advise and assist with any special requirements that you may have. Whether it is your travel, stopover arrangements or car rental, we should be able to help.
In addition, for overseas visitors we provide, free of charge, hand and bath towels.
Whether you book direct or through a Travel Agent, we will do all that we can to ensure that you have a relaxing and memorable holiday.



Cruiser Stern



Traditional Stern



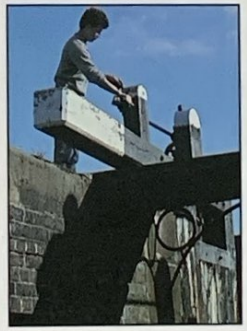
Semi Traditional Stern

This year there are two fleets of boats available from Alvechurch Boat Centres; Alvechurch Hirecraft and Heart of England Narrow Boats.
Regular customers of either fleet will know the facilities available and will be able to book their preferred boat to be certain of getting the details they like. For instance, for extra flexibility, some Alvechurch Hirecraft have additional fold away berths, known as pipecots, which are suitable for children and small adults up to about 10 stones (63kg).
Both fleets have been built by their operators, with the experience of years of boat hiring and building. The differences are slight when set in context of the overall quality of the boats and the standards of service available from all four bases.
People who are unfamiliar with the fleets can book a boat from either fleet in the full confidence of receiving Alvechurch quality and service.
If you have any queries or particular requirements we will be glad to advise.

THE BOATS

There are two main categories of boat available, Standard and Gold Star.

In addition, the Heart of England fleet has a Traditional Class for those who like a flavour of the life-style of those who worked the canals. Details are set out below.



Standard Boats

Our standard boats offer value for money that few other fleets can match. The standard specification has all the benefits of our own designs and is equipped to the highest standard.

Every boat has:

- **3 or 4 burner gas cooker with grill and oven.**
- **Fridge.**
- **Hot and cold water.**
- **Sink and drainer.**
- **Ample work surfaces and storage space in the kitchen.**
- **Shower - 2 showers on larger boats.**
- **Wash-basin - 2 on larger boats.**
- **Flush toilet - 2 on larger boats.**
- **Plenty of wardrobe storage space.**
- **Central heating.**
- **Radio or radio/cassette player.**
- **Black and white television.**
- **240 volt shaver socket.**

INFORMATION 'HOTLINE' 021 - 445 2909 OR FAX 021 - 447 7120

Gold Star

Gold Star boats are designed and equipped to the very highest standards. The boats are even more spacious and luxuriously fitted.

There is a 240 volt power supply which will run certain electrical appliances. if you would like to bring your own appliances, please seek our advice before bringing your own electrical equipment.



In addition to the features found on our standard boats, Gold Star boats include:

- **Fitted carpets.**
- **A fixed double berth with interior-sprung mattresses.**
- **A bathroom with shower/hip bath.**
- **Extended kitchen with microwave oven, electric toaster, filter coffee machine (Alvechurch Hire Craft), teasmade (Heart of England Narrowboats) and 1½ bowl sink unit.**
- **Colour television.**
- **Vacuum cleaner.**
- **Hair dryer.**
- **Stereo radio/cassette player.**





Traditional Class

The Traditional Class Narrowboats are designed to echo the style of the 19th Century boatman's cabin while maintaining the more modern facilities and comforts to which we have become accustomed.

Interior heating is provided by an efficient solid fuel stove which gives the kind of glowing heat that lovers of real fires appreciate. The stove is by the door, below the steering position, so the heat drifts up to warm the helmsman's feet and legs. The flue from the stove stands proud at the rear of the cabin, giving the boats a distinctive look.

The cabins are decorated with the traditional Roses and Castles pattern.

Other facilities on the boats are the same as for the Standard Class, with gas cooker, fridge, hot and cold water and flushing toilet.





BOAT INVENTORY

Our boats are very comprehensively equipped so that other than your holiday leisure wear, personal toiletries* and food, there is very little else you need to bring with you. A typical inventory of equipment supplied with our boats is listed below.

Galley
Bread Bin
Bread Board
Bread Knife
Butter Dish
Carving Set
Colander
Cooks Knives-small
Cooks Knives-large
Grater
Corkscrew
Tin Opener
Potato Peeler
Scissors
Wooden Spoon
Whisk
Casseroles-large
Casseroles-small
Pie Plates-large
Pie Plates-small
Basins-large
Basins-small
Pyrex jugs-large
Pyrex jugs-small
Kettle
Saucepans-large
Saucepans-medium
Saucepans-small
Milk Pan
Frying Pan
Roasting Tin
Baking Tray
Washing Up Bowl and Brush
Dish Drainer
Tea Towels
Oven Gloves
Mugs
Plates-tea
Plates-dinner
Plates-soup
Glasses-large
Glasses-small
Knives-large
Knives-small
Forks-large
Forks-small
Spoons table
Spoons-dessert/soup
Spoons-tea
Egg Cups
Water Jug
Tea and Sugar Caddie
Teapot and Strainer
Milk Jug
Sugar Basin
Tea Tray
Cruet
Fruit Basket
Ash Trays
Torch
First Aid Kit
Tool Kit
Waste Bin
Bath Mat
Pedal Bin
Dustpan and Brush
Toilet Brush
Tooth Mug
Waterproofs (one set)
Stools/chairs
B/w Television set
Padlock and Key
Buoyancy Aids
Broom
Sponge Mop
Deck Mop
Bucket and cloth

Bedding
Sleeping Bags
Blankets
Pillows
Pillow cases
Liners-single
Duvet and fitted bottom sheet for double berths

Outside
Windlasses
Mooring Stakes
Boarding Planks
Boat Hook
Boat Shaft-long
Boat Shaft-short
Life Belt
Side Fenders
Lump Hammers
Water Hose and Connector

**Towels are not normally provided.*

BOAT SELECTOR

SINGLE BERTHS

DOUBLE BERTHS

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Ballad **Petrel** G. Memories **Wren** Beaver Clipper **Sparrow** **Falcon** **Finch** **Woodpecker** Bolero City of Birmingham G. Adventure **Swan** **Crow** **Grouse** **Thrush** **Duck** **Auk** Bourne Badger Querqus Lapworth Foxton Braunston Super Star Blythe Spirit **Wader**	**Wren** Beaver Clipper **Sparrow** **Falcon** **Woodpecker** Bolero City of Birmingham G. Adventure **Wader** **Crow** **Grouse** **Thrush** **Duck** **Auk** Bourne Badger Querqus Lapworth Foxton Braunston Super Star Blythe Spirit **Finch** **Swan**	**Wren** Clipper Shimmer **Crow** **Grouse** **Thrush** **Duck** **Auk** Bourne Badger Querqus Lapworth Foxton Braunston Blythe Spirit **Swan** **Finch** **Wader** Buccaneer Beau G. Hind	**Crow** **Wader** Buccaneer Lapworth Beau G. Hind **Waterbird** **Hawk** **Rail** Baskerville Streak Foxton Shimmer **Tern** **Swan** **Finch** Blythe Spirit	**Swan** Lapworth Beau **Waterbird** Baskerville Streak **Gull** **Tern**	Baskerville Streak Bravado **Gull** **Dove** **Goose**	Bravado **Dove** **Goose** **Owl**	Bravado **Goose** **Owl**	Bravado **Goose** **Owl**	Bravado **Owl**
2	**Pipet** **Grouse** **Thrush** Buccaneer **Falcon** **Woodpecker** Bolero Clipper Super Star G. Adventure Braunston G. Hind **Wader** Badger Querqus City of Birmingham Blythe Spirit Foxton **Auk** **Sandpiper** **Eagle** **Hawk** **Rail** Shimmer	**Tern** **Wader** Badger Querqus Blythe Spirit Foxton **Sandpiper** **Eagle** **Hawk** **Rail** **Martin** **Waterbird** Shimmer G. Hind Buccaneer **Bunting**	**Sandpiper** **Eagle** **Hawk** **Rail** **Martin** **Waterbird** Shimmer G. Hind Buccaneer **Bunting** **Gull** **Dove** **Goose** Baskerville Streak **Tern**	**Bunting** **Gull** **Dove** Baskerville Streak **Lark** **Martin** **Goose**	Bravado **Gull** **Goose** Baskerville Streak **Lark** **Owl** **Dove**	**Goose** **Owl** Bravado	**Goose** **Owl** Bravado	**Owl** Bravado	**Owl** Bravado	
3	**Sandpiper** **Eagle** **Hawk** Shimmer **Gull** **Dove** **Lark** **Martin** **Goose** **Bunting** Buccaneer Streak	**Gull** **Dove** **Goose** **Martin** **Lark** **Bunting** Buccaneer Streak	**Gull** **Dove** **Martin** **Lark** **Goose** **Bunting** Streak	**Goose**	**Goose**	**Goose**	**Goose**			
4	**Bunting** **Martin** Streak									

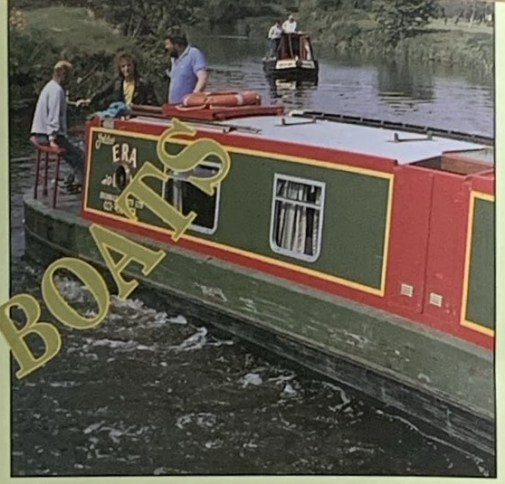
It is not always easy to see at a glance whether the number of berths shown for a particular class of boat will give the combination of single and double berths that you require. The Boat Selector shows which class of boat should be considered for various combinations of berths.

Key to Boat Selector
Bold Type - Alvechurch Hirecraft
Plain Type - Heart of England Narrowboats

INFORMATION 'HOTLINE' 021-445 2909 OR FAX 021-447 7120

HEART OF ENGLAND NARROW BOATS

GOLD STAR BOATS



GOLDEN MEMORIES CLASS
Length 45ft





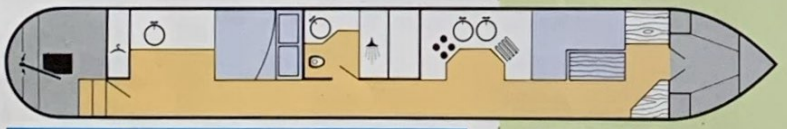
NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 2
Single cabin: Fixed double.

OTHER FACILITIES
Kitchen: Microwave Oven, Teasmade, Toaster.
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Hair Dryer, Heated Airing Cupboard, 'A' size Bath.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, Colour TV, Vacuum Cleaner, Central Heating, Full Carpeting, 150gal Water Tank, 240v Sockets. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

One boat in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Golden Memories' - start day Sunday

GOLDEN ADVENTURE CLASS
Length 54ft





NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4
2 cabins: Fixed double, dinette double.

OTHER FACILITIES
Kitchen: Microwave Oven, Teasmade, Toaster.
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Hair Dryer, 'A' size Bath.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, Colour TV, Vacuum Cleaner, Central Heating, Full Carpeting, 150gal Water Tank, 240v Sockets. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Golden Days' - start day Sunday
'Golden Adventure' - start daySaturday

GOLDEN HIND CLASS
Length 63ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 6
3 cabins: Fixed double, dinette double, two singles.

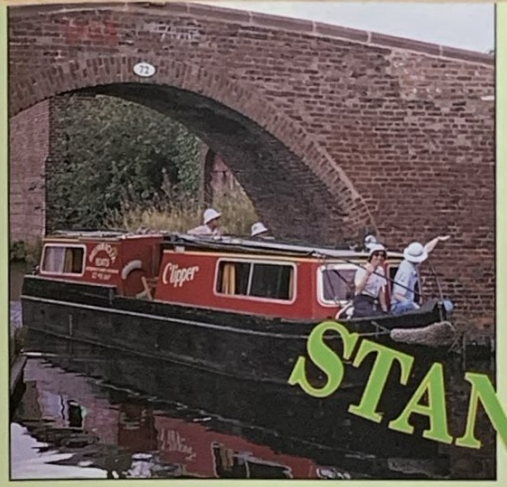
OTHER FACILITIES
Kitchen: Microwave Oven, Teasmade, Toaster.
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Hair Dryer, 'A' size Bath.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, Colour TV, Vacuum Cleaner, Central Heating, Full Carpeting, 150gal Water Tank, 240v Sockets. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Golden Hind' - start day Saturday
'Golden Era' - start day Saturday

HEART OF ENGLAND NARROW BOATS

STANDARD BOATS



Discounts

5% discount for 2 weeks bookings. 7.5% discount for 3 weeks bookings. 10% for 4 weeks bookings.
For discounts on Friday and Monday start boats, please see section on Short Breaks on Pages 26/27.

Second Holiday Discount

Why not join the increasing number of people who are booking more than one canal holiday each year. Book a main season holiday (that is one that commences in June, July or August) for one week or more and we will give you a 25% discount on the hire charge given in this brochure for a booking of one week or more for the early and late season weeks marked with a 'D' in the table of hire charges. (This discount will be instead of, rather than additional to any other discounts that may apply to the discounted week(s).)



CLIPPER CLASS
Length 32ft



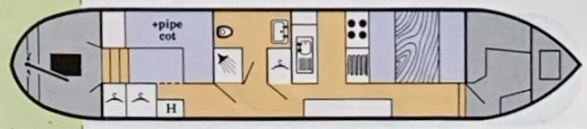
NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4
2 cabins: Dinette double and two singles or two doubles, or four singles.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket,
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, Part Carpeted, 150gal Water Tank. Centre Cockpit with Wheel Steering.

ENGINE 1000cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Cutter' - start days Friday and Monday
'Clipper' - start day Saturday

LAPWORTH CLASS
Length 40ft



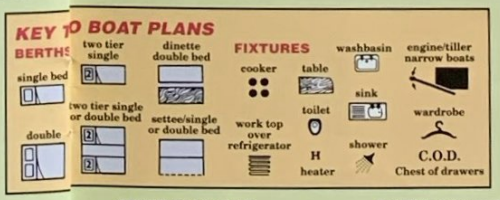
NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4/5
2 cabins: one dinette double, one settee double with pipe cot over.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Heated Airing Cupboard.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

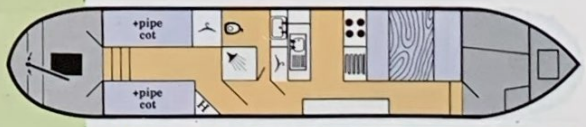
ENGINE 1000cc Diesel

One boat in class:
GAYTON based
'Lapworth' - start day Saturday

KEY TO BOAT PLANS



KNOWLE CLASS
Length 40ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4/6
2 cabins: two settee singles with pipe cots over, one dinette double.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Part Carpeted, Radiator Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1000cc Diesel

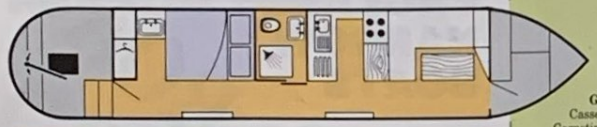
One boat in class:
GAYTON based
'Knowle' - start day Saturday

HEART OF ENGLAND NARROW BOATS

STANDARD BOATS



BALLAD CLASS
Length 40ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 2
Single cabin: Fixed double.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Full Carpeting, Central Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Ballad' - start days Friday and Monday
'Bard' - start day Saturday

Discounts

5% discount for 2 weeks bookings. 7.5% discount for 3 weeks bookings. 10% for 4 weeks bookings.
For discounts on Friday and Monday start boats, please see section on Short Breaks on Pages 26/27.

Second Holiday Discount

Why not join the increasing number of people who are booking more than one canal holiday each year. Book a main season holiday (that is one that commences in June, July or August) for one week or more and we will give you a 25% discount on the hire charge given in this brochure for a booking of one week or more for the early and late season weeks marked with a 'D' in the table of hire charges. (This discount will be instead of, rather than additional to any other discounts that may apply to the discounted week(s).)

BOLERO CLASS
Length 43ft



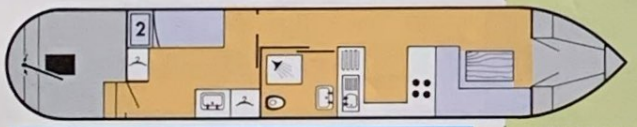
NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4
2 cabins: Fixed double, dinette double.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Heated Airing Cupboard.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Full Carpeting, Central Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

One boat in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Bolero' - start days Friday and Monday

BOURNE CLASS
Length 43ft



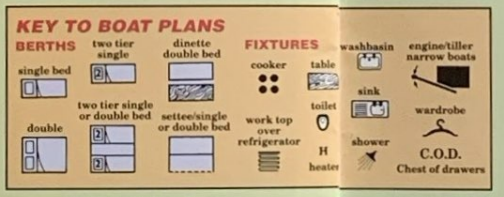
NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4
2 cabins: Dinette double, two singles.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Heated Airing Cupboard.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Part Carpeting, Central Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

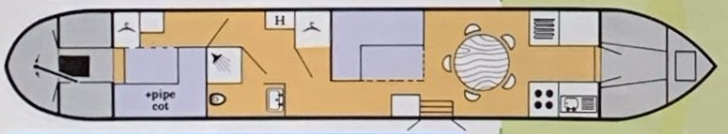
ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

One boat in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Bourne' - start days Friday and Monday

KEY TO BOAT PLANS



BRAUNSTON CLASS
Length 50ft



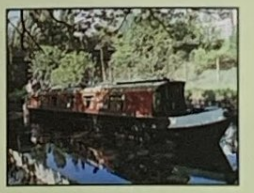
NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4/5
2 cabins: settee double with pipe cot over, settee double.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Heated Airing Cupboard.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Free Standing Table, Central Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Traditional Stern.



ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

One boat in class:
GAYTON based
'Braunston' - start days Friday and Monday



OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Part Carpeting, Central Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

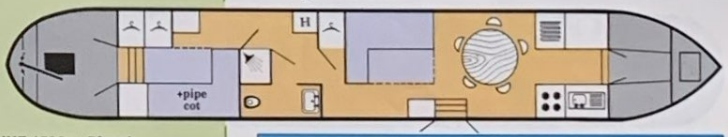
One boat in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Beau' - start days Friday and Monday

BEAU CLASS
Length 50ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 6
3 cabins: Dinette double, 2 x two tier single bunks.

BLISWORTH CLASS
Length 50ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4/5
2 cabins: settee double with pipe cot over, one dinette double.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Heated Airing Cupboard.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Free Standing Table, Central Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

One boat in class:
GAYTON based
'Blisworth' - start day Sunday

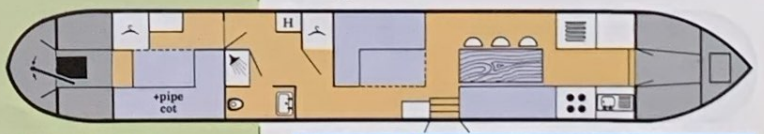


OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Heated Airing Cupboard.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Part Carpeting, Central Heating, Free Standing Table, 250gal Water Tank. Traditional Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

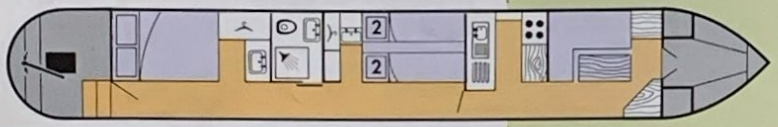
One boat in class:
GAYTON based
'Foxton' - start days Friday and Monday

FOXTON CLASS
Length 52ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 5/6
2 cabins: settee double with pipe cot over, settee double, fixed single.

BUCCANEER CLASS
Length 53ft



OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Heated Airing Cupboard.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Full Carpeting, Central Heating, Drinks Cupboard, 150gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Buccaneer' - start days Friday and Monday
'Blackbeard' - start day Saturday

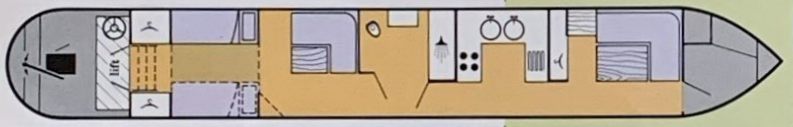
NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 6/7
3 cabins: Fixed double, fixed double with single bunk over, dinette double.

KEY TO BOAT PLANS

BERTHS
single bed · two tier single · dinette double bed · double · two tier single or double bed · settee/single or double bed

FIXTURES
cooker · table · washbasin · engine/tiller narrow boats · sink · toilet · wardrobe · work top over refrigerator · H heater · shower · C.O.D. Chest of drawers

BLYTHE SPIRIT CLASS
Length 54ft



OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, 'A' size bath.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Full Carpeting, Central Heating, Wheelchair Lift, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern with wheel or tiller steering.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

One boat in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Blythe Spirit' - start day Saturday

NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4/5
2 cabins: One dinette double and three singles or one dinette double and one cross double and one single.



SUPER STAR CLASS
Length 54ft



OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, 'A' size Bath.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Full Carpeting, Central Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

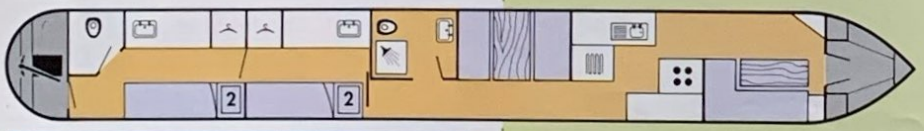
ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Star 4' - start day Sunday
'Saunter 4' - start day Saturday

NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4
2 cabins: Fixed double, dinette double.

Discounts
For full details of discounts available - see over.

BASKERVILLE CLASS
Length 63ft



OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
Bedroom: 2 En-suite Basins.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Partl Carpeting, Central Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

One boat in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Baskerville' - start days Friday and Monday

NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 8
4 cabins: Two dinette doubles, 2 x two tier single bunks.



HEART OF ENGLAND NARROW BOATS
STANDARD BOATS

SHIMMER CLASS
Length 63ft



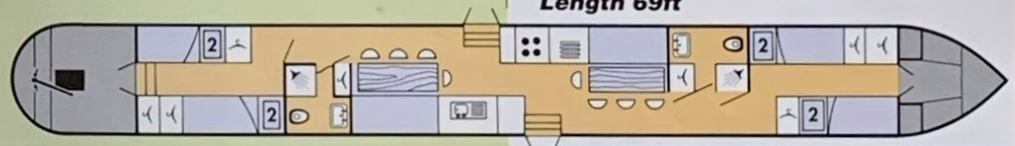
OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, 'A' size Bath.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Full Carpeting, Central Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Three boats in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Shimmer' - start day Saturday
'Shadow' - start day Sunday
'Sunset' - start day Sunday

NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 6
3 cabins: Fixed double, dinette double, two singles or optional cross double.

BRAVADO CLASS
Length 69ft



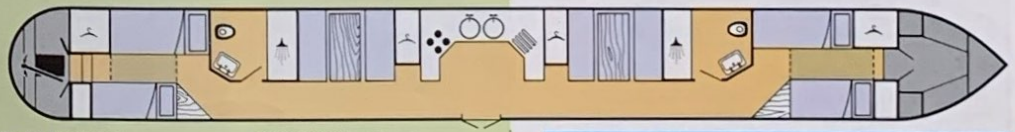
OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Full Carpeting, Central Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

One boat in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Bravado' - start day Saturday

NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 12
4 cabins: Two dinette doubles, 2 x four singles.

STREAK CLASS
Length 69ft



OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: Shaver Socket, 'A' size Bath.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Full Carpeting, Central Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Serenade' - start day Sunday
'Streak' - start day Saturday

NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 8
4 cabins: Two dinette doubles, four singles or optional two cross doubles.

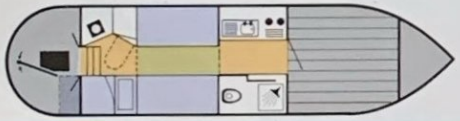
HEART OF ENGLAND NARROW BOATS

TRADITIONAL BOATS





BEAVER CLASS
Length 32ft



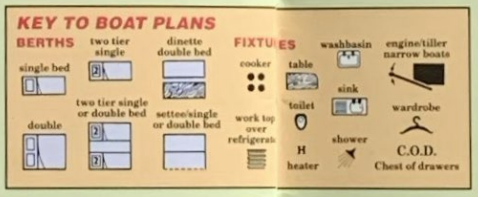
NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 2/3
Single cabin: Cross double and single.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Part Carpeting, Solid Fuel Stove Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Traditional Stern.

ENGINE 1000cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Bobcat' - start days Friday and Monday
'Beaver' - start days Friday and Monday

KEY TO BOAT PLANS



BADGER CLASS
Length 40ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4/5
2 cabins: Dinette double, cross double and single.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Part Carpeting, Solid Fuel Stove Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Traditional Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Brock' - start days Friday and Monday
'Badger' - start day Saturday



Discounts

5% discount for 2 weeks bookings. 7.5% discount for 3 weeks bookings. 10% for 4 weeks bookings.
For discounts on Friday and Monday start boats, please see section on Short Breaks on Pages 26/27.

Second Holiday Discount

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QUERQUS CLASS
Length 33ft



OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Part Carpeting, Solid Fuel Stove Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Traditional Stern.

ENGINE 1000cc Diesel

One boat in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'Querqus' - start day Sunday

NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4/5
2 cabins: Dinette double, cross double and single.



CITY OF BIRMINGHAM CLASS
Length 40ft



OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Part Carpeting, Solid Fuel Stove Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Traditional Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

One boat in class:
SHERBORNE STREET based
'City of Birmingham' - start day Sunday

NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4/5
2 cabins: Dinette double, cross double and single.

35 Brum

Discounts

5% discount for 2 weeks bookings. 7.5% discount for 3 weeks bookings. 10% for 4 weeks bookings.
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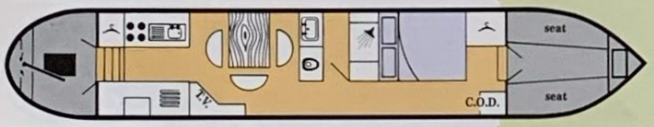
KEY TO BOAT PLANS

BERTHS
single bed · two tier single · dinette double bed · double · two tier single or double bed · settee/single or double bed

FIXTURES
cooker · table · washbasin · engine/tiller narrow boats · sink · toilet · wardrobe · work top over refrigerator · shower · H heater · C.O.D. Chest of drawers

PETREL CLASS
Length 45ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION — **SLEEPS 2**
One fixed double.



OTHER FACILITIES
Kitchen: Microwave Oven, Toaster, Filter Coffee Machine.
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Hair Dryer, Hip Bath/Shower.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, Colour TV, Part Carpeting, Vacuum Cleaner, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank, 240v Sockets. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Three boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Storm Petrel' - start day Saturday*
GAYTON based
'Manx Shearwater' - start day Saturday
ANDERTON based
'Fulmar' - start day Saturday

FALCON CLASS
Length 53ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION — **SLEEPS 4**
2 cabins: one fixed double, one dinette double.



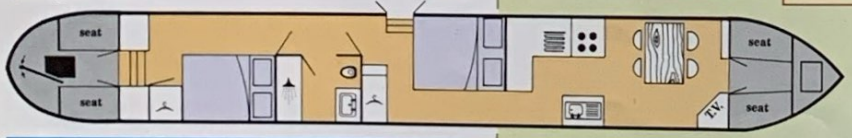
OTHER FACILITIES
Kitchen: Microwave Oven, Toaster, Filter Coffee Machine.
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Hair Dryer, Hip Bath/Shower.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, Colour TV, Part Carpeting, Vacuum Cleaner, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank, 240v Sockets. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Four boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Merlin' - start day Saturday
'Kestrel' - start day Sunday
ANDERTON based
'Peregrine' - start day Saturday
'Hobby' - start day Sunday

Each 'Gold Star' boat marked * is equipped with a separate Lister SuperSilent Diesel generator which can supply up to 3kw of 240 volt electricity when required. These boats need only to run their main engine for 2/3 hours each day to keep batteries charged. All other 'Gold Star' boats use solid state or rotary inverters to provide 240 volt electricity and these require the main engine to be run at least 5 hours per day in order to charge up the batteries.

PIPIT CLASS
Length 58ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION — **SLEEPS 4**
Two fixed doubles.

OTHER FACILITIES
Kitchen: Microwave Oven, Toaster, Filter Coffee Machine.
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Hair Dryer, Hip Bath/Shower.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, Colour TV, Part Carpeting, Vacuum Cleaner, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank, 240v Sockets. Semi Traditional Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Three boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Tawny Pipit' - start day Saturday*
GAYTON based
'Tree Pipit' - start day Saturday*
ANDERTON based
'Meadow Pipit' - start day Saturday*



ALVECHURCH HIRE CRAFT

GOLD STAR BOATS

EAGLE CLASS
Length 64ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION — **SLEEPS 6**
3 cabins: one settee double or one settee single with pipe cot over, one fixed double, one dinette double.

OTHER FACILITIES
Kitchen: Microwave Oven, Toaster, Filter Coffee Machine.
2 Bathrooms: (one with Hip Bath/Shower), Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, Colour TV, Part Carpeting, Vacuum Cleaner, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank, 240v Sockets. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Three boats in class:
ANDERTON based
'Golden Eagle' - start day Saturday
GAYTON based
'Osprey' - start day Saturday
ALVECHURCH based
'Bonelli's Eagle' - start day Sunday*

HAWK CLASS
Length 65ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION — **SLEEPS 6/7**
3 cabins: two low level single berths one with pipe cot over, one fixed double, one dinette double.

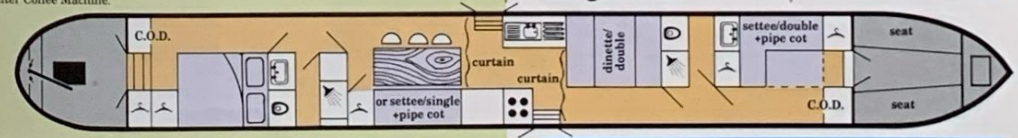
OTHER FACILITIES
Kitchen: Microwave Oven, Toaster, Filter Coffee Machine.

2 Bathrooms: (one with Hip Bath/Shower), Shaver Socket, Hair Dryer.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, Colour TV, Part Carpeting, Vacuum Cleaner, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank, 240v Sockets. Semi Traditional Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Three boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Sparrow Hawk' - start day Saturday
GAYTON based
'Goshawk' - start day Saturday*
ANDERTON based
'Hen Harrier' - start day Saturday*

BUNTING CLASS
Length 69ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION — **SLEEPS 8**
4 cabins: one fixed double, two dinette doubles (one of which can be settee single with pipe cot over), one settee double or settee single with pipe cot over.

OTHER FACILITIES
Kitchen: Microwave Oven, Toaster, Filter Coffee Machine.

2 Bathrooms: (one with Hip Bath/Shower), Shaver Socket, Hair Dryer.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, Colour TV, Part Carpeting, Vacuum Cleaner, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank, 240v Sockets. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Yellowhammer' - start day Saturday
ANDERTON based
'Snow Bunting' - start day Saturday*

WREN CLASS
Length 33ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 2+2
One settee double, one dinette single with pipe cot over.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Warm Air Heating or Radiator Heating, 150gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1000cc Diesel

Five boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Jenny Wren' - start days Friday and Monday
'Goldcrest' - start day Sunday
GAYTON based
'Robin' - start days Friday and Monday
ANDERTON based
'Dipper' - start days Friday and Monday
'Nuthatch' - start day Sunday

Discounts

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SPARROW CLASS
Length 45ft



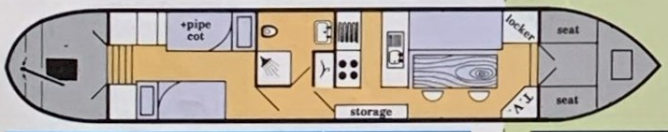
NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 2/3
One fixed double plus optional folding single berth.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Hip Bath/Shower
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Three boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Tree Sparrow' - start day Sunday
GAYTON based
'Hedge Sparrow' - start day Sunday
ANDERTON based
'House Sparrow' - start day Sunday

CROW CLASS
Length 45ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4/5
2 cabins: two low level singles one with pipe cot over, one dinette double.

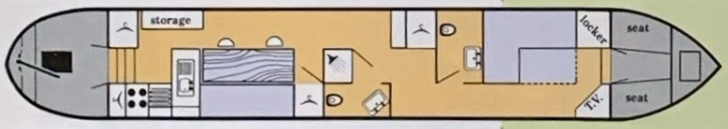


OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Mono Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank.Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Six boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Raven' - start day Saturday
'Chough' - start days Friday and Monday '90
'Jay' - start day Sunday
GAYTON based
'Rook' - start day Saturday
'Jackdaw' - start days Friday and Monday '90
ANDERTON based
'Magpie' - start day Sunday

GROUSE CLASS
Length 50ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4
2 cabins: one settee double, one dinette double or one single with pipe cot over.



OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Mono Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Three boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Red Grouse' - start days Friday and Monday
'Capercaillie' - start day Sunday
ANDERTON based
'Ptarmigan' - start day Saturday



ALVECHURCH HIRE CRAFT

STANDARD BOATS



OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Warm Air Heating or Radiator Heating, Heated Airing Cupboard, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Three boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Blackbird' - start days Friday and Monday
'Redstart' - start day Sunday
ANDERTON based
'Nightingale' - start days Friday and Monday

THRUSH CLASS
Length 50ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4/5
2 cabins: one settee double with pipe cot over, one dinette double. (Cot available)

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Hip Bath/Shower.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, , Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Semi Traditional Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

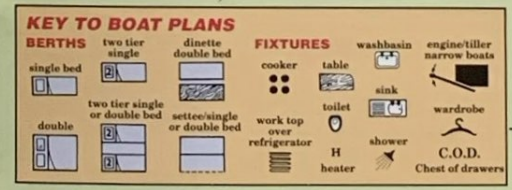
Two boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Siskin' - start day Saturday
'Linnet' - start day Sunday

FINCH CLASS
Length 53ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4/5
2 cabins: two low level singles one with pipe cot over, one dinette double. (Cot available)

KEY TO BOAT PLANS



OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Hip Bath/Shower.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, , Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Green Woodpecker' - start day Saturday '90
GAYTON based
'Wryneck' - start day Saturday '90

WOODPECKER CLASS
Length 53ft

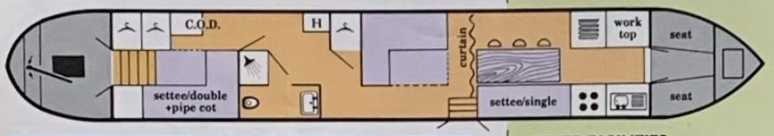


NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4
2 cabins: fixed double, dinette double.

ALVECHURCH HIRE CRAFT

STANDARD BOATS

WADER CLASS
Length 53ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 5/6
2 cabins (plus curtain screen between settee double and settee single) : settee double with pipe cot over, settee double, fixed single. (Cot available).

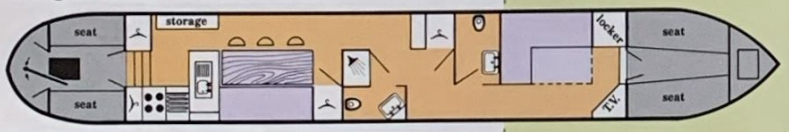
OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
General: Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Warm Air Heating, Heated Airing Cupboard, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1500cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Redshank' - start days Friday and Monday
GAYTON based
'Curlew' - start days Friday and Monday

Discounts
For full details of discounts available - see over.

AUK CLASS
Length 54ft

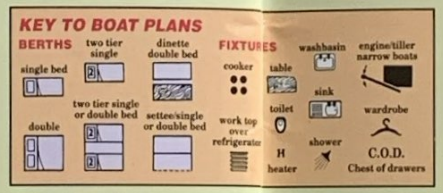


NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 4
2 cabins: dinette double or single with pipe cot over, settee double.

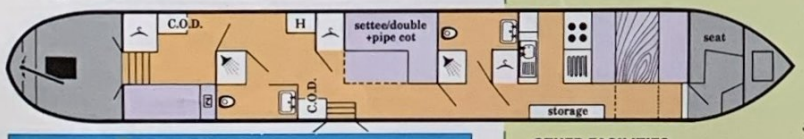
OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket.
Plus extra toilet compartment
General: Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Semi Traditional Stern with extended bow with cratch board and side sheets.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Guillemot' - start days Friday and Monday
GAYTON based
'Puffin' - start days Friday and Monday



WATERBIRD CLASS
Length 55ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 6/7
3 cabins: settee double with pipe cot over, 1 x two tier singles, dinette double.

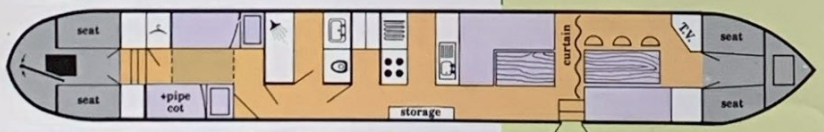
OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: Shaver Socket.
General: Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Warm Air Heating or Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Six boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Dabchick' - start days Friday and Monday
'Water Ibis' - start day Sunday
GAYTON based
'Crested Grebe' - start days Friday and Monday
'Heron' - start day Sunday
ANDERTON based
'Flamingo' - start days Friday and Monday
'Moorhen' - start day Sunday



SWAN CLASS
Length 56ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 5/6
2 cabins (plus curtain screen between settee double and settee single): two low level singles one with pipe cot over (alternatively can be across boat double), settee double, dinette single.

OTHER FACILITIES
Bathroom: Shaver Socket, Hip Bath/Shower.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Semi Traditional Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

One boat in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Mute Swan' - start day Sunday



TERN CLASS
Length 60ft



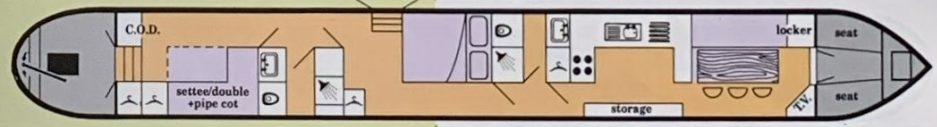
NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 6/7
3 cabins: two low level singles one with pipe cot over, fixed double, dinette double.

OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating,250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Three boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Arctic Tern' - start day Saturday
'Little Tern' - start day Sunday
GAYTON based
'Caspian Tern' - start day Saturday

SANDPIPER CLASS
Length 64ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 6
3 cabins: settee double or single with pipe cot over, fixed double, dinette double.

OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: (one with Hip Bath/Shower), Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Four boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Snipe' - start day Saturday
'Knot' - start day Sunday
GAYTON based
'Woodcock' - start day Saturday
ANDERTON based
'Whimbrel' - start day Saturday

RAIL CLASS
Length 65ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 6/7
3 cabins: two low level singles, one with pipe cot over, fixed double, dinette double.

OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: (one with Hip Bath/Shower) Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Semi Traditional Stern.

ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Two boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Cornerake' - start day Saturday
ANDERTON based
'Coot' - start day Saturday

Discounts

5% discount for 2 weeks bookings. 7.5% discount for 3 weeks bookings. 10% for 4 weeks bookings.
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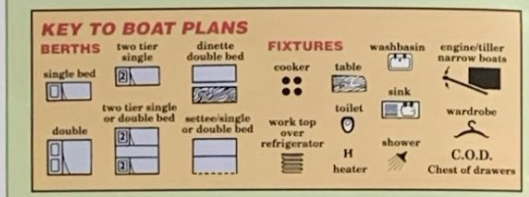
Second Holiday Discount

Why not join the increasing number of people who are booking more than one canal holiday each year. Book a main season holiday (that is one that commences in June, July or August) for one week or more and we will give you a 25% discount on the hire charge given in this brochure for a booking of one week or more for the early and late season weeks marked with a 'D' in the table of hire charges. (This discount will be instead of, rather than additional to any other discounts that may apply to the discounted week(s).)



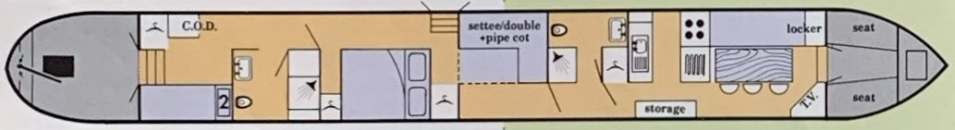




ALVECHURCH HIRE CRAFT

STANDARD BOATS

GULL CLASS
Length 65ft

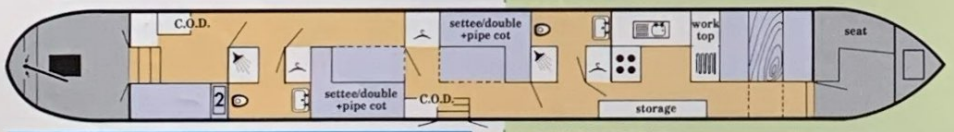


NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 7/9
4 cabins: 1 x two tier singles, fixed double, settee double with pipe cot over, dinette double.

OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: (one with Hip Bath/Shower), Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.
ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Three boats in class
ALVECHURCH based
'Ivory Gull' - start day Sunday
GAYTON based
'Sabine Gull' - start day Saturday
ANDERTON based
'Kittiwake' - start day Saturday

DOVE CLASS
Length 65ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 8/10
4 cabins: 1 x two tier singles, two settee doubles with two pipe cots over, double dinette.

OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Warm Air Heating or Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.
ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Two boats in class
ALVECHURCH based
'Turtle Dove' - start days Friday and Monday
GAYTON based
'Ring Dove' - start days Friday and Monday

LARK CLASS
Length 67ft

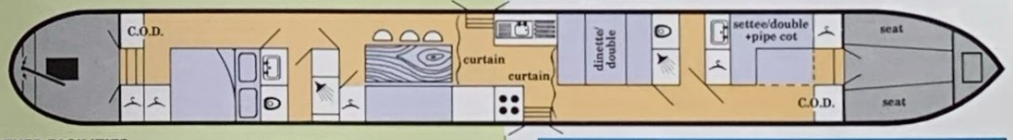


NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 8/10
4 cabins: two low level singles one with pipe cot over, fixed double, settee double with pipe cot over, dinette double.

OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.
ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Three boats in class
ALVECHURCH based
'Crested Lark' - start day Saturday
GAYTON based
'Wood Lark' - start day Saturday
ANDERTON based
'Skylark' - start day Saturday

MARTIN CLASS
Length 69ft

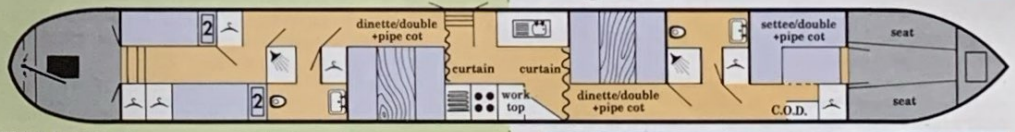


NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 8
4 cabins: fixed double, two dinette doubles, settee double or settee single with pipe cot over.

OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: (one with Hip Bath/Shower), Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating, 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.
ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

One boat in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'House Martin' - start day Saturday '90

GOOSE CLASS
Length 69ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 10/12
5 cabins: 2 x two tier singles, two dinette doubles with pipe cots over, settee double or settee single with pipe cot over (NB the boat comes with two pipe cots only).

OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Warm Air Heating or Radiator Heating, Heated Airing Cupboard 250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.
ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Three boats in class:
ALVECHURCH based
'Barnacle Goose' - start day Saturday
'Brent Goose' - start day Saturday
ANDERTON based
'Canada Goose' - start day Saturday

OWL CLASS
Length 70ft



NIGHT ACCOMMODATION
SLEEPS 12
6 cabins: 4 x two tier singles, two dinette doubles.

OTHER FACILITIES
2 Bathrooms: Shaver Socket.
General: Stereo Radio Cassette, B&W TV, Radiator Heating,250gal Water Tank. Cruiser Stern.
ENGINE 1800cc Diesel

Two boats in class
ALVECHURCH based
'Snowy Owl' - start day Saturday
ANDERTON based
'Tawny Owl' - start day Saturday

LUXURY MOTOR CARAVANS

For those who would like to experience the high-ways and by-ways of England by land, a motor caravan is the ideal way to travel.

There can be few other kinds of holiday that combine the freedom and comfort of a motor caravan. You have the choice of where to go, from day to day, with the assurance of comfortable living space every time you stop.

The Peugeot/Talbot Pilote 470 motor caravans are well designed, incorporating all the practical facilities of hob/grill, fridge, sink, and ample cupboard/wardrobe space.

The living space is spacious, attractive and comfortably furnished.

A neat toilet/washbasin/shower compartment is fitted in the rear of the motor caravan. Calor gas heating provides hot water to the shower and galley and there is efficient hot air central heating. All windows are double glazed and fitted with flyscreens, as are the roof vents.

The dining table and the small table at the rear seat five for meals. At night these areas convert into comfortable beds and, with the double bed over the front cab, provide accommodation for up to four adults and one child.

A full inventory of crockery, cutlery and cookware is provided, as is bedding - duvets, duvet covers, sheets, pillows, and pillowcases. There is a black and white TV and stereo radio cassette.

Full "AA" cover is included in the price of the holiday.

All you need to bring are your personal belongings and towels.

Please note that to hire a motor caravan you must be between 25 and 75 years old and must hold a current, clean driving licence which you will need to bring with you.

For further details contact Pam, Max or Sally on 021-445-2909



WEEKLY HIRE RATES

LOW £340 Up to May 17th & from Sept. 21st
MID £410 May 18th - June 21st and Aug. 30th - Sept. 20th
PEAK £530 June 22nd - August 30th

**Continental hire price on application*

Security Deposit - either a refundable deposit of £250 or a refundable deposit of £50 plus a non-refundable waiver insurance of £5.50 per day.

Initial Booking Deposit - £90 per week

Cancellation Insurance - £15 per week

Unlimited Mileage

For overseas motoring we will arrange a Green Card, but the hirer must arrange to insure the motor caravan for Five-Star Relay Insurance on his own policy.

NB: Conditions of hire on separate booking form supplied on provisional booking.





"The Brummagem Fly" Trip Boat

TRIP BOATS

Passenger boat trips by water are something more usually associated with European cities such as Paris, Venice or Amsterdam. However, Birmingham has more canals than Venice, which makes it a natural place for spending a few hours on the water. The City Waterways are part of the Birmingham Canal Navigations, a maze of waterways that form a network through the city centre and beyond.
A trip can include a look around the city, with a tour past the new Convention Centre, or range further afield to the countryside and attractions around Birmingham.
Sherborne Street Wharf is just around the corner from the new International Convention Centre.

"The Brummagem Fly" Trip Boat

"The Brummagem Fly" is a 70 ft narrow boat which can be hired for parties, receptions, business meetings or educational trips.

A trip by water around the City of Birmingham or out to one of the attractions around the City makes for a fascinating outing and a complete contrast to more conventional days out.

Cruises are available to Bournville, Cadbury's World and the Patrick Motor Museum at Kings Norton. We also run public trips to the Black Country Museum.

The boat can carry up to 48 passengers, with full catering facilities and a bar.

We offer a buffet service with a variety of menus. We would be delighted to discuss your exact catering requirements. Professional staff are on hand to serve you from a well stocked bar of wines, spirits and beers. For background or dance music the boat is equipped with a cassette tape system. The boat has a fresh water flush toilet.

For further details contact Helen on 021-455-6163.

"Euphrates Packet" for Business Entertainment

This beautifully designed boat has been purpose built for business entertainment.

The official boat, used to show visitors around the International Convention Centre site, was built at Sherborne Street. The same standards of design and construction, and the same understanding of the needs of business entertainment, have gone into the making of the "Euphrates".



"Euphrates Packet" interior

Windows run the length of the roof and sides giving the visitors an all-round view from their seats.

Parties of up to 48 people may dine at well-spaced tables elegantly arranged with floral decorations. Buffets or silver service catering can be arranged with a wide choice of menus. A well stocked bar can also serve tea, coffee and soft drinks.

For smaller functions of 30 to 40 people extra space can be created to provide an area for presentations, entertainers /musicians or mingling.

There is a fully equipped sound system on board which can be used to run a PA or to provide background music.

This adaptable boat may be chartered at any time of the year for whatever period of time required.

For further details contact Helen on 021-455-6163.

For peace of mind and

BOOKING DETAILS

Cancellation Protection Plan

Once a deposit has been paid and a booking confirmed, a contract exists and you will be liable for the whole of the hire charge even if you are prevented from taking your holiday.

Alvechurch Boat Centres Ltd. have arranged a Protection Plan which in return for a small extra payment when making the booking will give, in certain circumstances, protection against all or part of this liability. Participation is optional.

IF YOU DO NOT REQUIRE THE CANCELLATION PROTECTION COVER, PLEASE MARK THE APPROPRIATE BOX ON THE BOOKING FORM OTHERWISE THE COST WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR BOOKING DEPOSIT.

THE PROTECTION

1) If the Hirer cancels for any reason and gives more than six weeks notice prior to the commencement of the hire period, the booking deposit is refunded and the Hirer is absolved of any liability under the Conditions of Hire for any balance or charges due and if such charges have already been paid, they will be refunded in full.

2) If for any reason the Hirer cancels and gives more than 3 weeks but less than 6 weeks notice prior to the commencement of the hire period, the Hirer is absolved of all liability under the Conditions of Hire for any balance of charges due and if such charges have already been paid, they will be refunded. However, the booking deposit paid will be forfeited unless the qualifying circumstances are met, in which case the booking deposit will be refunded in full.

3) Given less than 3 weeks notice of cancellation prior to the commencement of the hire period and the *qualifying circumstances* are met all the hire monies paid will be refunded and there will be no liability under the Conditions of Hire for any balance of charges due. If the qualifying circumstances are not met, then the Hirer remains liable for the balance of charges.

4) Where booking deposits and/or balance of charges are liable to be forfeited and the Company manages to re-let the boat for the whole of the booking period, all monies paid will be refunded less a re-booking charge of 15% of the total booking charge.

N.B. Please note that the Protection Plan provides cover only for those named on the booking form and that it only covers complete cancellation. It does not give you a partial refund in tbe event of one or more persons not being able to take their place in the crew.

QUALIFYING CIRCUMSTANCES

i) Death, injury, illness or pregnancy (certified in all cases by a qualified registered medical practitoner), jury service or witness summons of any named member of the party.

ii) Death, injury or illness (certified by a qualified registered medical practitoner) of a near relative (husband, wife, father, mother, parent-in-law, sister, brother or child) or a close business associate of any named member of the party.

iii) The Hirer's own redundancy providing the Hirer qualifies for payment under the Redundancy Payment Act 1965.

PROTECTION FEES

Total Hire Charge	Protection Fee
Up to £200	£5
£201-£300	£7
£301-£400	£10
£401-£500	£13
£501-£600	£16
£601-£700	£19
£701-£800	£22
£801-£900	£25
£901-£1000	£28
Over £1000 - £3 per every extra £100, or part thereof, of the Hire Charge	

CANCELLATION PROTECTION CAN ONLY BE TAKEN OUT AT THE TIME OF MAKING YOUR BOOKING AND COVERS ONLY THOSE NAMED ON THE BOOKING FORM

HOW TO BOOK

Whether you want to make a firm booking, or would like a little help deciding between bases or boats, phone Pam, Max or Sally on 021-445-2909. They are here to help, and the office is open from 9.00 to 5.00, 7 days a week, except for a few days over Christmas.

They can give you up to the minute information about which boats are available, as well as more general advice as to which boat or base might be best for your holiday. They will also be pleased to take your booking over the phone.

Once you are happy about all the details, complete the booking form and post it to us with the relevant booking deposit.

Having made a booking by phone, we would ask you to post the booking form and deposit to reach us within seven days. We cannot guarantee to hold the boat for longer than this.

Within fourteen days of receiving your booking we will send you confirmation, which will include full details of booking, a Cruising Guide, which will be especially useful for first time customers, and any publications you may have ordered. We will send you an invoice for the balance of the cost of your holiday about six weeks before it begins. The final payment and grocery order, if you require one, should reach us at least four weeks before your holiday begins.

We look forward to welcoming you for an Alvechurch holiday.

Alvechurch Personal Holiday Insurance

For further peace of mind we have specially arranged insurance to cover certain risks that fall outside the insurance cover provided for the boat. Participation is optional.

IF YOU DO NOT REQUIRE THE ALVECHURCH PERSONAL INSURANCE, PLEASE MARK THE APPROPRIATE BOX ON THE BOOKING FORM OTHERWISE THE COST WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR BOOKING DEPOSIT.

We regret that clients booking from outside Great Britain and N. Ireland cannot be included in this plan. However, overseas visitors can normally get this cover as part of their travel insurance arranged in their own country.

BENEFITS PER PERSON
UK Holidays

A. Personal Baggage, *subject to the condition of average.*
Limit £150 any one item
Limit £500 in all

B. Personal Accident
£10,000 Capital Sum
Temporary Total Disablement *(payable up to 104 weeks)* £15 per week

C. Personal Money
Limit £150 in all

D. Personal Liability
Up to £500,000

A £5 excess applies in respect of each claim made under items A and C. Benefit under item B is limited in respect of children under 15. A certificate giving full details of the terms and benefits of the Personal Insurance will be sent with your Booking Confirmation or on request any time. The insurance is specially arranged with the General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation PLC.

PREMIUMS PER WEEK

Number of Berths on Boat	(Optional) Personal Insurance Premium
2/3	£7
4/5	£11
6/7	£14
8/9	£16
10/12	£20



Sally, Max and Pam

MAP & GUIDE LIST

	PLEASE TICK	PRICE
Please supply:		
Nicholsons Waterways Guides:-		
Book 1 South **6.95**		
Book 2 Central **6.95**		
Book 3 North **6.95**		
Route Planner map containing mileage, number of locks and average cruising times **1.50**		
Route Planner, coloured **1.75**		
Waterways World Series:-		
Llangollen Canal **2.40**		
Shropshire Union Canal **3.00**		
Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal **2.40**		
Trent and Mersey Canal and Caldon Canals **3.00**		
Coventry, Ashby & N. Oxford Canals **2.40**		
Oxford Canal **3.00**		
Grand Union (North) *Birmingham to Stoke Bruerne* **2.40**		
Grand Union Leicester Section *including R. Soar & Erewash Canal* **3.00**		
Grand Union (South) *Stoke Bruerne to Brentford, Paddington & Regents* **3.00**		
Stratford-upon-Avon Canal Guide for South Stratford-upon-Avon Canal **2.00**		
Gateway to the Avon The Official Handbook on Navigation of the Lower Avon from Tewkesbury to Evesham, published by The Lower Avon Navigation Trust **1.05**		
The Upper Avon Navigation:- Guide by David Hutchings & David Higgins **2.50**		
Maps drawn and published by Douglas Smith:		
The Avon Ring. 109 miles of navigable inland waterways. **1.50**		
Black Country Canals. 260 miles—240 locks. **1.50**		
The Cheshire Ring. 97 miles of navigable inland waterways. **1.50**		
Chester and Llangollen Canal. 140 miles through Cheshire and Welsh Foothills. **1.50**		
The Four Counties Ring. 110 miles of inland waterways through Shropshire, Staffordshire, Cheshire & West Midlands. **1.50**		
East Midlands Canals. 150 miles of navigable inland waterways. **1.50**		
The Grand Union. Braunston to Tring Summit. **1.50**		
The Warwickshire Ring. 100 miles of navigable inland waterways. **1.50**		
Trent Waters **1.50**		
Stourport Ring 85 miles Canals and river. **1.50**		
Ordnance Survey 1:50 000 Series **3.70 each**		
Sheet 117 Chester		
Sheet 126 Shrewsbury		
Sheet 127 Stafford & Telford		
Sheet 138 Kidderminster & Wyre Forest		
Total to be carried forward		

	PLEASE TICK	PRICE
Total carried forward		
Sheet 139 Birmingham		
Sheet 140 Leicester and Coventry		
Sheet 150 Worcester and The Malverns		
Sheet 151 Stratford-upon- Avon		
Sheet 164 Oxford		
Sheet 152 Northampton and Milton Keynes		
Sheet 109 Manchester		
Sheet 128 Derby and Burton Upon Trent		
Sheet 129 Nottingham and Loughborough		
Nicholsons Ordnance Survey Inland Waterways Map of GB **3.50**		
A Guide to the Worcester-Birmingham Canal by H. Hodges **1.50**		
Birmingham Canal Navigations (Cruising and Walking Guide) **4.50**		
Pearson's Guides		
Pearson's Four Counties Ring **4.50**		
Pearson's Midland Rings **4.95**		
Pearson's The Cheshire Ring **4.95**		
Pearson's Shropshire Union and Llangollen **4.50**		
Pearson's Severn and Avon **4.95**		
Pearson's Oxford and G. Union **5.95**		
Pearson's South Midlands and Warwickshire Ring **4.95**		
Pearson's Birmingham Canal Navigations **7.50**		

The above maps and guides are available on request. Prices are correct at time of printing but an extra 30p per item will be charged for postage and packing.

Total

P&P at 30p per item

TOTAL

Please enter total in to 'PAYMENT ENCLOSED' column overleaf.

OVERSEAS POSTAGE
Please remit postage and packing at 30p per item, the difference between that and the actual cost of postage will be added to your final account. Please indicate below method prefered.

Please send by AIR MAIL ☐ SURFACE MAIL ☐

PLEASE SEND MY FRIEND(S) A COPY OF THIS BROCHURE

Name _____ Address _____ Post Code _____

Name _____ Address _____ Post Code _____

HIRE CHARGES

ALVECHURCH HIRE FLEET

Including all the fuel, both gas and diesel, that you use during your holiday.		Petrel	Falcon	Pipit	Eagle	Hawk	Bunting	Wren	Sparrow	Crow	Grouse	Thrush	Finch	Woodpecker
MARCH	D 16	385	420	465	525	545	575	260	345	350	360	360	395	395
	23	530	580	645	725	750	795	360	475	480	495	495	545	545
	30	565	620	690	775	800	850	385	505	515	525	525	585	585
APRIL	6	455	500	555	625	645	685	310	410	415	425	425	470	470
	D 13	420	460	510	575	595	630	285	375	380	390	390	435	435
	D 20	420	460	510	575	595	630	285	375	380	390	390	435	435
	D 27	455	500	555	625	645	685	310	410	415	425	425	470	470
MAY	D 4	500	550	605	685	710	750	340	445	455	465	465	515	515
	D 11	500	550	605	685	710	750	340	445	455	465	465	515	515
	18	535	590	650	735	760	805	365	480	485	500	500	555	555
	25	745	810	900	1015	1050	1115	500	665	675	690	690	765	765
JUNE	1	565	620	690	775	800	850	385	505	515	525	525	585	585
	8	610	670	740	835	865	915	410	545	555	565	565	630	630
	15	645	710	785	885	915	970	435	580	585	600	600	665	665
	22	670	730	810	915	945	1005	450	600	605	620	620	690	690
	29	690	755	840	945	975	1035	465	620	625	640	640	710	710
JULY	6	715	780	865	975	1010	1070	480	635	645	660	660	735	735
	13	730	795	885	995	1030	1090	490	650	660	675	675	750	750
	20	750	820	910	1025	1060	1125	505	670	680	695	695	770	770
	27	750	820	910	1025	1060	1125	505	670	680	695	695	770	770
AUGUST	3	750	820	910	1025	1060	1125	505	670	680	695	695	770	770
	10	750	820	910	1025	1060	1125	505	670	680	695	695	770	770
	17	750	820	910	1025	1060	1125	505	670	680	695	695	770	770
	24	730	795	885	995	1030	1090	490	650	660	675	675	750	750
	31	620	675	750	845	875	925	415	550	560	575	575	635	635
SEPTEMBER	7	590	645	715	805	830	885	395	525	535	545	545	605	605
	14	550	605	670	755	780	830	375	495	500	515	515	570	570
	D 21	505	555	615	695	720	760	345	455	460	470	470	525	525
	D 28	480	525	580	655	675	720	325	430	435	445	445	495	495
OCTOBER	D 5	455	500	555	625	645	685	310	410	415	425	425	470	470
	D 12	455	500	555	625	645	685	310	410	415	425	425	470	470
	19	530	580	645	725	750	795	360	475	480	495	495	545	545
	D 26	455	500	555	625	645	685	310	410	415	425	425	470	470

Sunday start boats, price as nearest Saturday.

Including all the fuel, both gas and diesel, that you use during your holiday.		Auk	Wader	Swan	Waterbird	Tern	Sandpiper	Rail	Gull	Dove	Lark	Martin	Goose	Owl
MARCH	D 16	370	370	410	430	455	485	500	510	515	530	550	560	575
	23	510	510	565	590	625	670	685	700	710	730	755	770	795
	30	545	545	605	630	670	715	735	750	755	785	810	825	850
APRIL	6	440	440	490	510	540	575	590	605	610	630	650	665	685
	D 13	405	405	450	470	500	530	545	555	560	580	600	610	630
	D 20	405	405	450	470	500	530	545	555	560	580	600	610	630
	D 27	440	440	490	510	540	575	590	605	610	630	650	665	685
MAY	D 4	480	480	535	560	595	630	650	660	670	690	715	730	750
	D 11	480	480	535	560	595	630	650	660	670	690	715	730	750
	18	515	515	575	600	635	680	695	710	715	740	765	780	805
	25	715	715	790	825	875	935	960	980	990	1025	1060	1080	1115
JUNE	1	545	545	605	630	670	715	735	750	755	785	810	825	850
	8	585	585	650	680	720	770	790	805	815	845	870	890	915
	15	620	620	690	720	765	815	840	855	865	895	925	940	970
	22	645	645	715	745	790	845	865	885	895	925	955	975	1005
	29	665	665	740	770	815	870	895	915	920	955	985	1005	1035
JULY	6	685	685	760	795	840	900	925	940	950	985	1020	1035	1070
	13	700	700	775	810	860	915	940	960	970	1005	1040	1060	1090
	20	720	720	800	835	885	945	970	990	1000	1035	1070	1090	1125
	27	720	720	800	835	885	945	970	990	1000	1035	1070	1090	1125
AUGUST	3	720	720	800	835	885	945	970	990	1000	1035	1070	1090	1125
	10	720	720	800	835	885	945	970	990	1000	1035	1070	1090	1125
	17	720	720	800	835	885	945	970	990	1000	1035	1070	1090	1125
	24	700	700	775	810	860	915	940	960	970	1005	1040	1060	1090
	31	595	595	660	690	730	780	800	815	825	855	880	900	925
SEPTEMBER	7	565	565	630	655	695	745	760	780	785	815	840	855	885
	14	530	530	590	615	655	695	715	730	735	760	790	800	830
	D 21	490	490	545	565	600	640	660	670	680	700	725	740	760
	D 28	460	460	510	535	565	605	620	635	640	660	685	695	720
OCTOBER	D 5	440	440	490	510	540	575	590	605	610	630	650	665	685
	D 12	440	440	490	510	540	575	590	605	610	630	650	665	685
	19	510	510	565	590	625	670	685	700	710	730	755	770	795
	D 26	440	440	490	510	540	575	590	605	610	630	650	665	685

Sunday start boats, price as nearest Saturday.

CONDITIONS OF HIRE

1) Booking.
a) A boat is booked when a signed booking form, together with a deposit of 20% of the Hire Charge (to the nearest £) has been received and acknowledged by or on behalf of the Company.
b) Bookings cannot be accepted from any person under 18 years of age.
c) The Company reserves the right to alter prices without notice. However, ONCE A BOOKING HAS BEEN CONFIRMED this Company guarantees your Holiday Charge will remain as quoted at the time of booking except for changes in the rate of V.A.T. or any other tax introduced in substitution thereof or in addition thereto and major increases in fuel costs.

2) Balance of hire charge.
The Hirer is responsible for the whole of the hire charge, and the balance must be paid 4 weeks before the commencement of the hire period.

3) Hire periods.
Every effort is made to have all boats ready by **2.30 p.m.**, or as notified on invoice, on the day of departure. Hirers must vacate boats and leave them in a clean and tidy condition by not later than **9.30 a.m**. on the day of return.
Hirers are responsible for allowing sufficient time for unforeseen contingencies during the cruise so as to permit their return at the scheduled time. Breach of this condition will incur an additional charge of £10.00 per hour plus any loss or damage the Company may incur in being unable to fit out and deliver the boat to a subsequent hirer. In the interest of all hirers this rule will be strictly enforced. No boat may normally be occupied by more than the stated number of persons unless special permission has been given by the Company. A trial run will be given to all Hirers to ensure that they can handle the boat. The Company reserves the right to refuse to hand over the boat to anyone who in their opinion is not suitable to take charge.

4) Cancellation.
Should the Hirer wish to cancel the booking, he must confirm in writing within 48 hours of any telephone notification to the Company. If the Company is successful in reletting for the whole of the hire period, all monies paid will be refunded, less a 15% re-letting charge, otherwise the Hirer remains responsible for the total hire Charge unless a protection plan fee has been paid and the cancellation falls within the terms of the plan.

5) Insurance.
Full insurance of the boat and equipment, except for the first £50 of any claim is included in the hire charge. Third party risks are covered up to £2,000,000. A Variable Breakage Security Deposit is required before the commencement of the hire. This will be refunded in full at the end of the hire period provided that no loss or damage has taken place, the boat has not been involved in any accident, and extra cleaning costs have not been incurred. Replacements for loss or damaged equipment cannot be accepted. Please note that it does not cover personal accident or loss or damage to personal effects and hirers are advised to consider taking out their own insurance cover.

6) Accidents, Repairs and Restrictions of Cruising Waters.
The Hirer is responsible for the safe navigation and return of the Boat and must report any accident immediately to the Company with the fullest details, which must include the name of the other boat involved, the name of the owner and the name of her Hirers. The Hirer shall not at any time admit liability for any accident to any third party. In the event of any repairs being necessary during the cruise the hirer must contact the Company and on no account authorise repairs without the Company's prior consent. The Company accepts no responsibility for delays caused by waterways floods or any navigational works or untoward events or other circumstances beyond their control. The Company reserves the right to restrict or vary the location of cruising or require the boat to be used as a houseboat, or to delay the commencement of the holiday altogether, if unusual or hazardous conditions prevail or because of a water shortage and the Hirer shall have no claim on the Company and in particular no right of cancellation by reason of any such restriction, variation or delay. The Hirer shall have no claim upon the Company as a result of breakdown or failure of the boat or failure of its engine or equipment or any delays caused by repairs to boats, or as a result of a reduction in the standards of tidiness and cleanliness where a boat has been abandoned by a previous Hirer at a distance from the Owner's yard or base during adverse weather or river conditions. Where such breakdown is caused by the negligence of the Hirer in failing to carry out instructions given to him by the Company, the Company shall have the right to claim upon the Hirer in respect of any expenses involved in rectifying the matter. The cost of getting boats off mud banks and removing weeds, ropes or other objects from the propellors is the responsibility of the Hirer. If after acceptance of the hiring by the Company fuel becomes restricted or rationed the hire fee will remain as quoted at the time of booking and the Company reserves the right to restrict the range of cruising. In the event of no fuel becoming available the craft shall be treated as a houseboat and the hire fee reduced by one third. If through circumstances not under the control of the Company (e.g. damage, mechanical breakdown, etc.), the boat or a suitable alternative is not available the Company will refund monies paid in full and the Hirer shall have no further claim on the Company.

7) Waterways Bye-laws and Cruising Limitations.
The Hirer shall at all times comply with the instructions given to him by the Company or the Waterway Navigation Authorities. Bye-laws must be observed and boats must give way to laden or unladen cargo boats, hand-propelled or sailing craft. Cruising is not permitted before sunrise or after sunset or at such speed as to inconvenience or endanger other waterway users. On no account must other boats be towed, races entered or the boat taken out to sea. Cruising is restricted to the waterways for which the craft is licenced and navigation of tidal waterways is not permitted without express consent. The Insurance Policy does not provide cover outside this scope and any person not complying with this regulation is liable to the Company in full for any damage sustained. The Hirer may be held responsible for charges made by Waterway Authorities in respect of loss of water or other damage to Waterway Authorities in respect of negligence.

8) Fuel.
The boat is provided with a full tank of fuel, the cost of which is included in the hire charge. This is usually sufficient for 2 weeks of normal usage before refuelling at the Company's expense is required. The Company reserves the right to require refuelling to take place only at the premises of a designated supplier. No refunds to cover the purchase of additional fuel will be made unless the Company's prior agreement for its purchase has been obtained. Hire charges are calculated on fuel costs as at the beginning of July 1990. The company reserves the right to make a fuel surcharge should there be any major increase in fuel prices.

9) Hirer's Property.
Vehicles left in our car park are at owner's risk. No liability for loss or damage of vehicles, baggage or other property, however caused, can be accepted unless such loss or damage was caused by or resulted from our negligence or that of those for whom we are responsible.

10) General.
a) All persons using any part of the premises belonging to the Alvechurch Boat Centres Limited induding slipways, drydocks, jetties and staging, for whatever purpose and whether by our invitation or not, do so at their own risk.
b) Details in all publications are given in good faith but we cannot accept liability for any inaccuracies.

GRAND JUNCTION CANAL CO. LTD. ENTITLED TO ONE PASSENGER TOLL FREE PERSONAL LUGGAGE ONLY
CASTLE NARROW BOAT CHATTERTON

HIRE CHARGES

HEART OF ENGLAND FLEET

Including all the fuel, both gas and diesel, that you use during your holiday.		Beaver	Clipper	Querqus	Ballad	Lapworth	Badger	Bourne	Bolero	City of Birmingham	Braunston	Foxton
MARCH	D 16	258	288	297	324	372	372	372	378	384	402	417
	23	323	360	371	405	465	465	465	473	480	503	521
	30	323	360	371	405	465	465	465	473	480	503	521
APRIL	6	258	288	297	324	372	372	372	378	384	402	417
	D 13	258	288	297	324	372	372	372	378	384	402	417
	D 20	258	288	297	324	372	372	372	378	384	402	417
	D 27	258	288	297	324	372	372	372	378	384	402	417
MAY	D 4	290	324	334	365	419	419	419	425	432	452	469
	D 11	290	324	334	365	419	419	419	425	432	452	469
	18	323	360	371	405	465	465	465	473	480	503	521
	25	409	456	470	513	589	589	589	599	608	637	660
JUNE	1	344	384	396	432	496	496	496	504	512	536	556
	8	344	384	396	432	496	496	496	504	512	536	556
	15	366	408	421	459	527	527	527	536	544	570	591
	22	387	432	446	486	558	558	558	567	576	603	626
	29	409	456	470	513	589	589	589	599	608	637	660
JULY	6	409	456	470	513	589	589	589	599	608	637	660
	13	409	456	470	513	589	589	589	599	608	637	660
	20	430	480	495	540	620	620	620	630	640	670	695
	27	430	480	495	540	620	620	620	630	640	670	695
AUGUST	3	430	480	495	540	620	620	620	630	640	670	695
	10	430	480	495	540	620	620	620	630	640	670	695
	17	430	480	495	540	620	620	620	630	640	670	695
	24	409	456	470	513	589	589	589	599	608	637	660
	31	387	432	446	486	558	558	558	567	576	603	626
SEPTEMBER	7	344	384	396	432	496	496	496	504	512	536	556
	14	323	360	371	405	465	465	465	473	480	503	521
	D 21	290	324	334	365	419	419	419	425	432	452	469
	D 28	258	288	297	324	372	372	372	378	384	402	417
OCTOBER	D 5	258	288	297	324	372	372	372	378	384	402	417
	D 12	258	288	297	324	372	372	372	378	384	402	417
	19	290	324	334	365	419	419	419	425	432	452	469
	D 26	258	288	297	324	372	372	372	378	384	402	417

Sunday start boats, price as nearest Saturday.

Including all the fuel, both gas and diesel, that you use during your holiday.		Beau	Golden Memories	Super Star	Blythe Spirit	Buccaneer	Golden Adventure	Baskerville	Shimmer	Golden Hind	Streak	Bravado
MARCH	D 16	417	432	444	444	468	468	516	552	588	612	696
	23	521	540	555	555	585	585	645	690	735	765	870
	30	521	540	555	555	585	585	645	690	735	765	870
APRIL	6	417	432	444	444	468	468	516	552	588	612	696
	D 13	417	432	444	444	468	468	516	552	588	612	696
	D 20	417	432	444	444	468	468	516	552	588	612	696
	D 27	417	432	444	444	468	468	516	552	588	612	696
MAY	D 4	469	486	500	500	527	527	581	621	662	689	783
	D 11	469	486	500	500	527	527	581	621	662	689	783
	18	521	540	555	555	585	585	645	690	735	765	870
	25	660	684	703	703	741	741	817	874	931	969	1102
JUNE	1	556	576	592	592	624	624	688	736	784	816	928
	8	556	576	592	592	624	624	688	736	784	816	928
	15	591	612	629	629	663	663	731	782	833	867	986
	22	626	648	666	666	702	702	774	828	882	918	1044
	29	660	684	703	703	741	741	817	874	931	969	1102
JULY	6	660	684	703	703	741	741	817	874	931	969	1102
	13	660	684	703	703	741	741	817	874	931	969	1102
	20	695	720	740	740	780	780	860	920	980	1020	1160
	27	695	720	740	740	780	780	860	920	980	1020	1160
AUGUST	3	695	720	740	740	780	780	860	920	980	1020	1160
	10	695	720	740	740	780	780	860	920	980	1020	1160
	17	695	720	740	740	780	780	860	920	980	1020	1160
	24	660	684	703	703	741	741	817	874	931	969	1102
	31	626	648	666	666	702	702	774	828	882	918	1044
SEPTEMBER	7	556	576	592	592	624	624	688	736	784	816	928
	14	521	540	555	555	585	585	645	690	735	765	870
	D 21	469	486	500	500	527	527	581	621	662	689	783
	D 28	417	432	444	444	468	468	516	552	588	612	696
OCTOBER	D 5	417	432	444	444	468	468	516	552	588	612	696
	D 12	417	432	444	444	468	468	516	552	588	612	696
	19	469	486	500	500	527	527	581	621	662	689	783
	D 26	417	432	444	444	468	468	516	552	588	612	696

Sunday start boats, price as nearest Saturday.

ALVECHURCH BOAT CENTRES



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Written by The Tourism Works, Gloucester.
Design and artwork by Macdonald Skeet Limited, Tiverton, Devon.
Printed in Great Britain by Ebenezer Baylis & Son Limited, Worcester.