



Caen Hill, Devizes: Where does the water come from?

The lock flight at Caen Hill lies on the Kennet & Avon Canal and consists of 29 locks.

The water at Caen Hill comes from several sources:

- The main source of water is Claverton Pumping Station, which is actually downstream of the flight. At Claverton near Bath water is back-pumped all the way up to Caen Hill. A distance of 28 km.
- Pumping stations can also pump water up to the Summit Pound, 23 km to the east of Caen Hill.
- Crofton Reservoir (Wilton Water) is a small supply to the Summit Pound. When the groundwater table is high water can cascade in a westerly direction from the Summit Pound towards the Caen Hill flight.
- Feeders (small streams) also bring smaller amounts of water into the system, such as Seend Feeder and Sheepwash Feeder.
- Each of the 15 locks which form the main part of the flight have a balancing pound to the side of them. They are used to reduce the volume of water running down the flight during busy periods.

A lockage is when you fill and empty a lock; this also moves water around the network

- Each of the 11 locks holds approximately 123,000 litres of water, that's the equivalent of 1.3 double decker buses full of water. There are around 1,900 lockages along the lock flight each year.

