Canal & River Trust
Making life better by water

Boaters' Guides

A note about the data

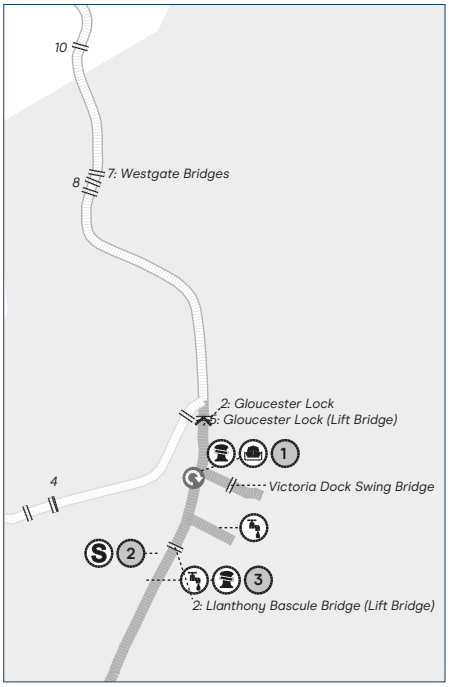
These guides list information we currently have on our facilities, dimensions and navigation guidance, based upon local knowledge and expertise. Whilst we anticipate that this data is reasonably accurate, we cannot guarantee its precision. Therefore, this data should only be used as a helpful guide and you should always use your own judgement taking into account local circumstances at any particular time. If you spot something wrong, please let us know canalrivertrust.org.uk/contact-us

Key to facilities

- Winding hole (length specified)
- Winding hole (full length)
- Visitor mooring
- Information and office
- Dock and/or slipway
- Slipway only
- Services and facilities
- Water point only

Charity no. 1146792
© Canal & River Trust 2021

Navigating through Gloucester



Navigation notes

River Severn

Gloucester Lock to Upper Lode Lock: The River Severn from Gloucester Lock to Upper Lode Lock at Tewkesbury is tidal, therefore, the flow of the river will be reversed at times during the flood tide, and velocities may be increased during the ebb. Obtain advice from the lock keepers at Gloucester or Upper Lode before leaving the lock.

Locks & bridges

Gloucester & Sharpness Canal

Lock 2, Gloucester Lock: Operated by bridgekeeper. Subject to flooding from river severn. Depending on flood/tidal influence Gloucester Lock flood gates will be closed at around 6m above summer level. Gloucester lock is not available for navigation when the flood gates are closed. Craft should proceed with caution keeping close to the quay wall when approaching Gloucester Lock from the River Severn side.

Bridge 5, Gloucester Lock (Lift Bridge): Operated by bridgekeeper. Main road lift bridge,cannot be opened for craft during peak vehicle traffic flows Monday to Friday 08.20 to 09.00hrs and 16.30 to17.30hrs with the exception of commercial boat traffic. Waterway width 24ft 6ins.

Victoria Dock Swing Bridge: Operated by bridgekeeper. 08.30 10.00 11.30 13.00 (daily) 14.45 16.45 18.30 (summer only) 15.00 (winter only). All times are at the discretion of the Bridge Keeper and require 1/2 hour notice.

Victoria Basin (Gloucester Docks): Home of Gloucester Marina .

Bridge 2, Llanthony Bascule Bridge (Lift Bridge): Operated by bridgekeeper. Traffic restrictions as with Gloucester Lock Bridge. Waterway width 38ft.

River Severn

Bridge 7, Westgate Bridges: Please communicate with Gloucester Lock as follows: “Gloucester Lock this is Boat – over.” “Boat this is Gloucester Lock go ahead – over.” “Gloucester Lock this is Boat passing Westgate Bridge – over.” “Boat this is Gloucester Lock – (pass brief information on availability of lock if applicable) – out.” “Gloucester Lock this is Boat – received – out.”

Services & facilities

Gloucester & Sharpness Canal

2 **Llanthony Bridge**: Water, Elsan disposal, pump-out. Canal & River Trust key required. Card type: 30 unit card.

Visitor moorings

Gloucester & Sharpness Canal

1 **Gloucester Docks**: Total 500 metres. Please note the following details when planning a visit to Gloucester Docks.

The dock area is the waterspace between Gloucester Lock in the north and Llanthony Lift Bridge in the south, and includes permanent moorings in Victoria Basin (to the east). Large craft use the main waterspace for turning.

Please note the dock area is still used as a working area mainly associated with access to the two dry docks operated by T Nielson Company. The dock walls adjacent to the dry docks will often have craft moored in transit either to or from the docks. We hope you appreciate the colour and images of times past associated with many of these historic craft.

Please do not obstruct safety ladders, or your vessel may be moved. The north-east of the docks has pontoons laid out in herringbone fashion and are dedicated as 48-hour moorings. Other locations around the dock walls are similarly signed 48-hour moorings. Arrangements can be made to extend moorings by up to 14 days by contacting the Waterways office and making the appropriate payment.

Some locations have electric supplies and again these can be accessed through the Waterways Office. Canal & River Trust Sanitary Station keys and boat licences are also available from here. Disabled moorings only on low quay situated at entrance to Barge Arm. Please notify the Waterways Office if you wish to moor here. Please note that in addition to the craft accessing the dry dock, the main waterspace is a thoroughfare for boats travelling the River Severn and Sharpness Canal. Some of these craft are large and use the main waterspace for turning. In addition, the Canal & River Trust operates boat trips frequently in this area.

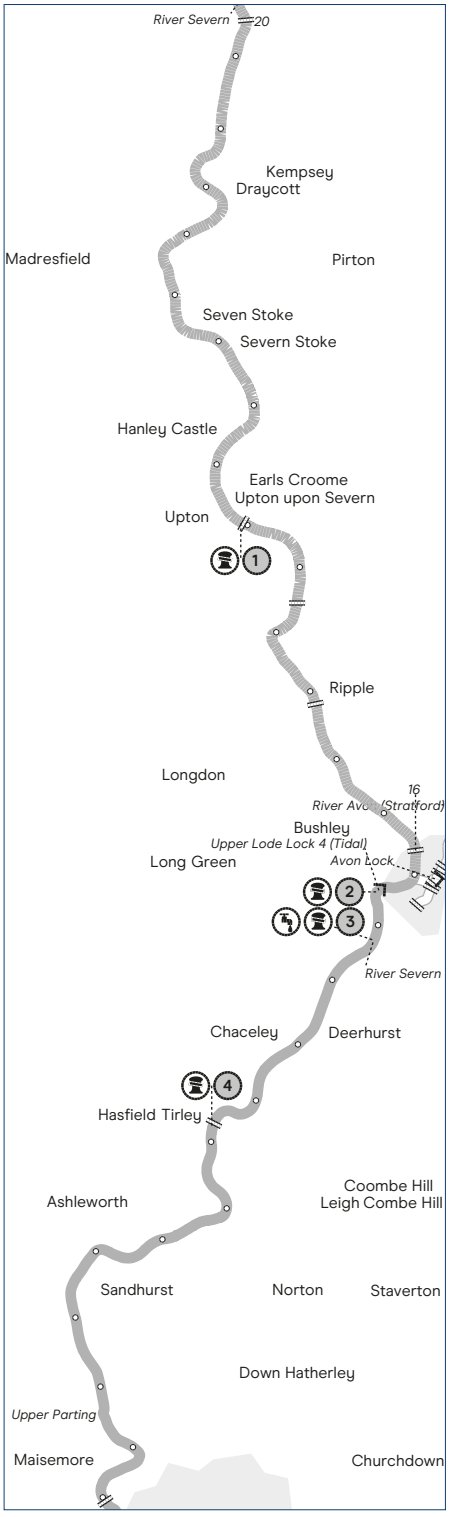
3 **Llanthony Pontoons**: Total 180 metres. Sanitary station and pump-out. Canal & River Trust permanent and visitor pontoon moorings. Bakers Quay Outside the docks at the start of the canal, east side. Limited visitor mooring space. Please check with Llanthony Bridge Keeper.

Slipways & docks

Gloucester & Sharpness Canal

1 **Gloucester Dry Dock**: Dry-dock. Neilsen & Son specializing in Tall Ship repair.

River Severn



Locks & bridges

Upper Parting: Keep yellow marker buoys on right-hand side and take channel to the left. Do not cut the corners – shallow on the inside. Please communicate with Gloucester Lock as follows: "Gloucester Lock this is Boat – over." "Boat this is Gloucester Lock go ahead – over." "Gloucester Lock this is Boat approaching upper parting – over." "Boat this is Gloucester Lock – (pass brief information on availability of lock if applicable) – out." "Gloucester Lock this is Boat – received – out."

Upper Lode Lock 4 (Tidal): On days when the tide reaches Upper Lode, there may be a long wait in the lock. The lock keeper will advise the best time to depart the lock.

At the approach to Gloucester Lock, navigation signs on the right hand bank warn of a split in the river and will direct craft to the navigation channel of the east parting. Craft must slow down and move over to the long quay wall: if the traffic light is red, moor up against the quay wall using the STERN rope first. Proceed only when the traffic-light is green, keeping close to the quay wall. The lock gates will be open and the lock keeper will advise how to moor.

If the traffic lights are red, vessels should moor to the quay wall as far from the lock as possible. Pick up a leaflet from Upper Lode Lock giving safety instructions on approaching Gloucester Lock.

Maximum Dimensions

Gloucester to Worcester

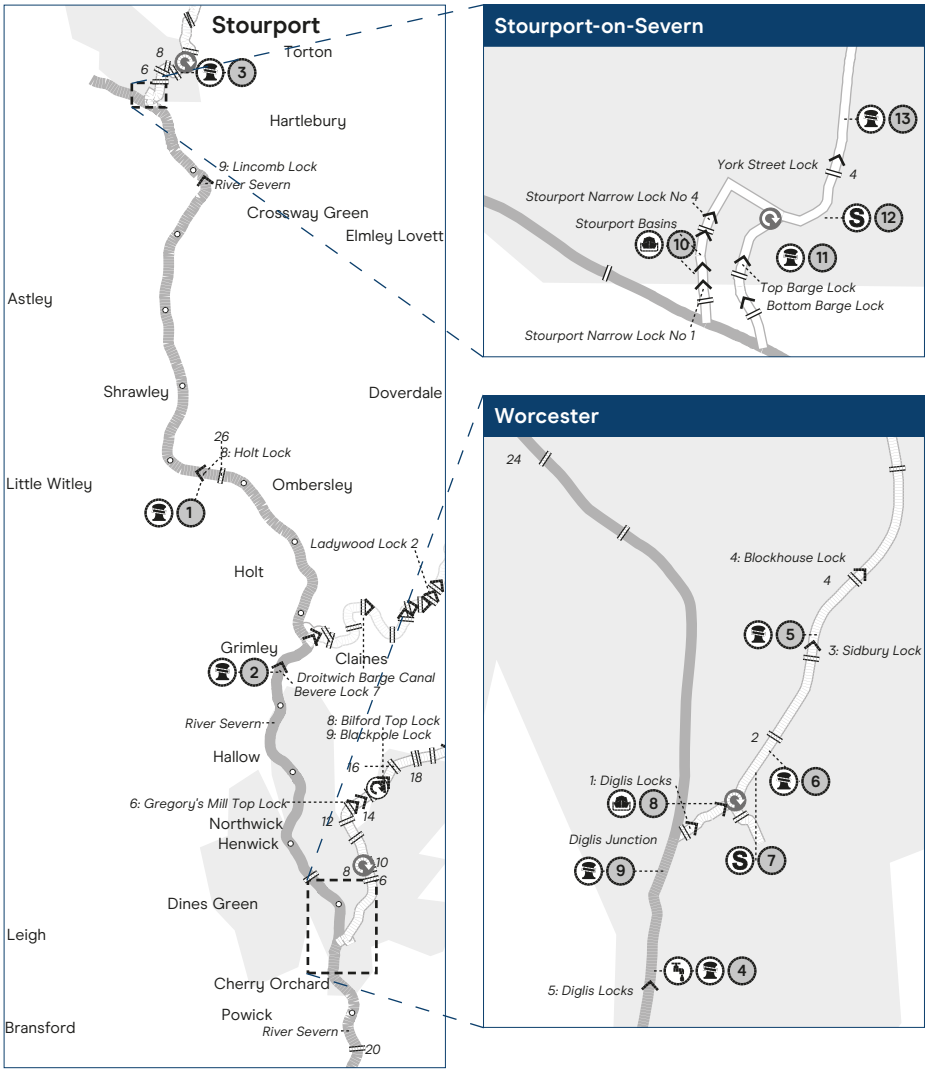
Length:	41.15m (135ft)
Beam:	6.4m (21ft)
Draught:	1.83m (6ft)
Headroom:	7.47m (24ft 6")

Worcester to Stourport:

Length:	27.4m (89ft 11")
Beam:	5.7m (18ft 8")
Draught:	1.83m (6ft)
Headroom:	6.1m (20ft)

Visitor moorings

1. **Upton Upon Severn**: Maximum 48 hours. Upton Marina provides all facilities and overnight moorings for a charge.
2. **Upper Lode Lock**: Maximum 48 hours. Visitor moorings at the discretion of the lock-keeper above and below the lock. No facilities.
3. **Lower Lode**: Maximum 48 hours. Keep yellow marker buoys on right hand side and take channel to the left. Do not cut the corners – shallow on the inside.
4. **Haw Bridge**: Maximum 48 hours.



Navigation notes

Worcester & Birmingham Canal

Diglis Basin to Birmingham:

Entrance to Diglis Basin: Navigation should be possible for boats of up to 75ft, but please consult the waterway office first.

Locks & bridges

River Severn

Lock 9, Lincomb Lock; and
Lock 8, Holt Lock; and
Bevere Lock 7: Subject to flooding. Operated by lock keeper.

Lock 5, Diglis Locks: Operated by bridgekeeper. Subject to flooding, lock keeper operated.

Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal

Bottom Barge Lock: Only use the barge locks with the consent of the lock keepers, All narrowboats should use the narrow staircase locks.

Stourport Basins: The narrow locks in Stourport Basins are sets of staircase locks. Do not enter the lock until the staircase is clear. If in doubt seek advice from the lock keeper. York Street Lock: Boats mooring overnight should moor here rather than in Stourport Basin.

Worcester & Birmingham Canal

Lock 9, Blackpole Lock: Due to vandals causing flooding by tampering with the paddle gear there is only one top end and one bottom end paddle in operation on this lock.

Lock 4, Blockhouse Lock; and
Lock 3, Sidbury Lock:
Deep lock chamber – take care.

Swing Footbridge, Diglis Inner Basin:
The swing bridges in Diglis basin are heavy to operate. See the lock keepers if assistance is required.

Lock 2, Diglis Locks; and
Lock 1, Diglis Locks:
Locks 1 & 2 are not manned. If the traffic light is on amber, take care: the river level is between 1ft and 1ft 6in (300–440mm) above the weir level. Do not pass if the red light is showing. Boaters are advised to seek advice from the lock-keeper if not experienced in navigating the River Severn. He can be contacted on 01905 354280.

Services & facilities

Worcester & Birmingham Canal

7 **Worcester, Diglis Basin**: Water, Elsan disposal, pump-out, toilet, refuse disposal. Canal & River Trust key required. Pump-out is self-operated.

Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal

12 **Stourport Sanitary Station**: Water, Elsan disposal, pump-out, toilet, shower. Canal & River Trust key required. Washing machines and driers and 2 Disabled toilets.

Visitor moorings

River Severn

1 **Holt Lock**: Canal & River Trust visitor mooring at the discretion of the lock keepers. No water point.

1 **Lincomb Lock**: Canal & River Trust visitor mooring at the discretion of the lock keepers.

2 **Bevere Lock**: National Lock and Bridge competition winner. Mooring at the discretion of the lock keeper.

4 **Diglis Lock**: Access to the Worcester & Birmingham Canal through Diglis Basins where all boat facilities are available. Canal & River Trust visitor mooring at the discretion of the Lock keepers. Diglis sanitary station removed during October to Easter. Canal & River Trust key may be obtained from here.

9 **Diglis River**: Maximum 48 hours.

Worcester & Birmingham Canal

5 **Worcester, The Commandery**: Maximum 48 hours.

6 **Worcester, Diglis Basin (Offside)**: Maximum 48 hours.

Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal

3 **Bridge 7, Mitton Chapel Bridge**: Mitton Railway Bridge: Maximum 5 days.

11 **Stourport Basins (Upper)**: Maximum 24 hours.

13 **York Street**: Maximum 5 days. Total 27 metres.

Slipways & docks

Worcester & Birmingham Canal

8 **JL Pinder & Son, Diglis Dock**: Dry-dock. Maximum length: 75ft. Maximum beam: 16ft. Please note these are private facilities provided by JL Pinder & Son, please call 01527 876438 for bookings and information.

Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal

10 **Stourport Basin Canal & River Trust Marina**: tel: 01299 821111.