

Caring for the Kennet & Avon Canal

We're the charity working to protect and bring to life this 250-year-old network of canals and rivers spanning England and Wales. Not so long ago many canals were abandoned, and some lost forever. Today, with your support, wildlife is recovering, history is alive, boats are plentiful and spending time in this environment is contributing to our health and happiness.

Our mission is to keep this extraordinary network of canals and rivers alive, teeming with wildlife, transforming places they run through and enriching all of our lives. Your support today could help us care for Wiltshire's canals and many more places, for today and generations to come.

DONATE



Please support our work & donate today

SCAN ME



The task of protecting the finest examples of working industrial heritage including Bradford-on-Avon Wharf, and the wildlife that calls it home, is growing all the time. As a charity we need you by our side more than ever. Please support our work today.

Registered with



FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR



Canal &
River Trust

Making life better by water

Keeping history alive

The opening of the Kennet & Avon Canal in 1810 provided a new route for boats to travel from Bristol to London. Bradford-on-Avon Wharf was an important transhipment post on this new route.

The lower wharf mainly handled coal from the Somerset coalfield. The upper wharf handled other goods including barley for malhouses and local cheeses.

After the Great Western Railway opened in 1841 the canal gradually fell into decline. In the 20th century, teams of dedicated volunteers successfully restored the waterway, which was officially reopened by Queen Elizabeth II in 1990.

Discover lots of fun things to do with the family by and on the water. Go to canalrivertrust.org.uk/explorers

Enjoy

Take Action

Volunteer

Donate

canalrivertrust.org.uk

Registered charity no. 1146792

March 2024



Canal &
River Trust

Welcome to Bradford-on-Avon Wharf

A treasure trove of waterway history.




We're the charity making life better by water















In the 19th century, this was the busiest wharf on the Kennet & Avon Canal. Today you can still see boats navigating the locks and heading on their travels along the waterway.

Visit us at:

Canal & River Trust car park (P&D),
Baileys Barn, Off Moulton,
Bradford-on-Avon BA15 1BX

 Allow 2–3 hours
for your visit

Find your way around


-  towpath
-  café
-  pub
-  food & drink
-  toilets
-  shopping
-  bench/picnic area
-  play area
-  point of interest
-  boat hire
-  trip boat
-  canoe hire
-  parking
-  railway station

Stay SAFE
Stay **Away From the Edge!**

For more information on visiting safely:
canalrivertrust.org.uk/safety

Details correct at time of print, please check before travelling.



 Map not to scale:
covers approx.
½ mile / 0.8km

5 things to do at Bradford-on-Avon Wharf

- 1** **Cycle** along the towpath to Avoncliff Aqueduct, designed by canal engineer John Rennie (1.4 miles/2.3km).
- 2** **Relax** with a coffee and watch the many colourful canal boats making their way through the locks.
- 3** **Stroll** around the wharf and have a closer look at the historic buildings including the old gauging dock, Wharf Manager's House and Old Lock Keeper's Cottage.
- 4** **Chat** with our friendly volunteer lock keepers at lock 14, they'll tell you more about the history of the waterway.
- 5** **Walk** along the towpath to see the magnificent medieval 14th century Tithe barn.

Did you know?

In 1794, the first sod – area of ground – was cut for the Kennet & Avon Canal here in Bradford-on-Avon.

