

YOUR FREE GUIDE TO



Worcester, Droitwich Spa & Stourport's canals

Connecting me

**with my
smile**



**Canal &
River Trust**

Keeping people, nature & history connected



Step onto the towpath and

connect...

with the great outdoors

Think of your canals and rivers and the surrounding hedgerows as long, winding nature reserves. An ideal habitat for tiny creatures like dragonflies and butterflies, birds such as kingfishers and herons, and even larger mammals such as badgers, stoats or water voles, it's a great way to enjoy the Great British countryside right on your doorstep. In fact, a recent wildlife survey spotted over 60 different species, and that's not including the fish!

So make sure that you keep your eyes peeled as you amble through the scenery.



with great times

If you're looking to break from routine, to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life or to find a peaceful place to enjoy a spot of lunch, your local canal is just a stone's throw away. With so much to do and see, your canal is ideal for meeting friendly, like-minded people or spending quality time with your family and friends. Or just bring yourself and a book for a moment of peaceful solitude.

The handy map inside this leaflet is full of information on the unique activities and attractions that you'll find on your local waterway. So if you're after some fresh air and freedom, grab the kids or grandparents and get out on the towpath!

with your great-great grandfathers

Our canal system is a vital part of the nation's heritage, dating back to the Industrial Revolution. And it still helps make Britain great today. Locks, aqueducts, tunnels and incredible boat lifts are all testament to the golden age of British engineering, and most of it is beautifully preserved.

Get involved, join us

In an increasingly fast-paced and crowded world, our historic canals and rivers are a local haven for people and nature. The Canal & River Trust is the new charity entrusted with the care of 2,000 miles of waterways in England and Wales.

Donate time - volunteer!

Fancy getting involved with the valuable work of the Trust? Whether you want to get stuck in at your local canal or take on more of an office-based role, look at our website to find out what's happening in your area; there's never been a better time to get involved.

Give a bird a home with your mobile

We are undertaking 50 amazing projects to help celebrate our launch. And we promise that 100% of your donation will go directly to your local project.

Text today to help volunteers build homes for threatened wetland birds at Coney Meadow on the Droitwich Canals.

A £3 text from you could help our team cut back overgrown reed beds and build new nest boxes – encouraging birds like reed warblers and kingfishers to breed. You could also help maintain the pretty footpath that runs around the meadow, so that everyone can access and enjoy this stunning part of the Worcestershire countryside.

So please text a gift of £3 today. Every penny you give will help our volunteers make Coney Meadow a very special place to spend time.

Text WORCS to 70007 to give £3 to our Coney Meadow project.*



Open up for your local map

For more information go to canalrivertrust.org.uk



Your local canals & rivers



Worcester

A mixture of river and canal, old and new, urban and rural, Worcester has something for everyone to enjoy.

The Worcester & Birmingham Canal links the two cities across a distance of 29 miles, and ascends 428ft (130m) – demanding one of the largest lock flights in Europe.

The rivers, canals, reservoirs and water meadows create a beautiful landscape – as well as offering plenty of opportunities for boating, walking, cycling and fishing. Views along the waterfront are dominated by the stunning 11th century cathedral, but bringing it bang up-to-date are shops, art venues, restaurants and bars.

Connect with people

Visitors have been welcomed to Worcester for centuries, and in that respect nothing has changed. A tranquil and relaxing waterside stroll or a meander around the city to admire the elegant architecture, will show how friendly the people are.

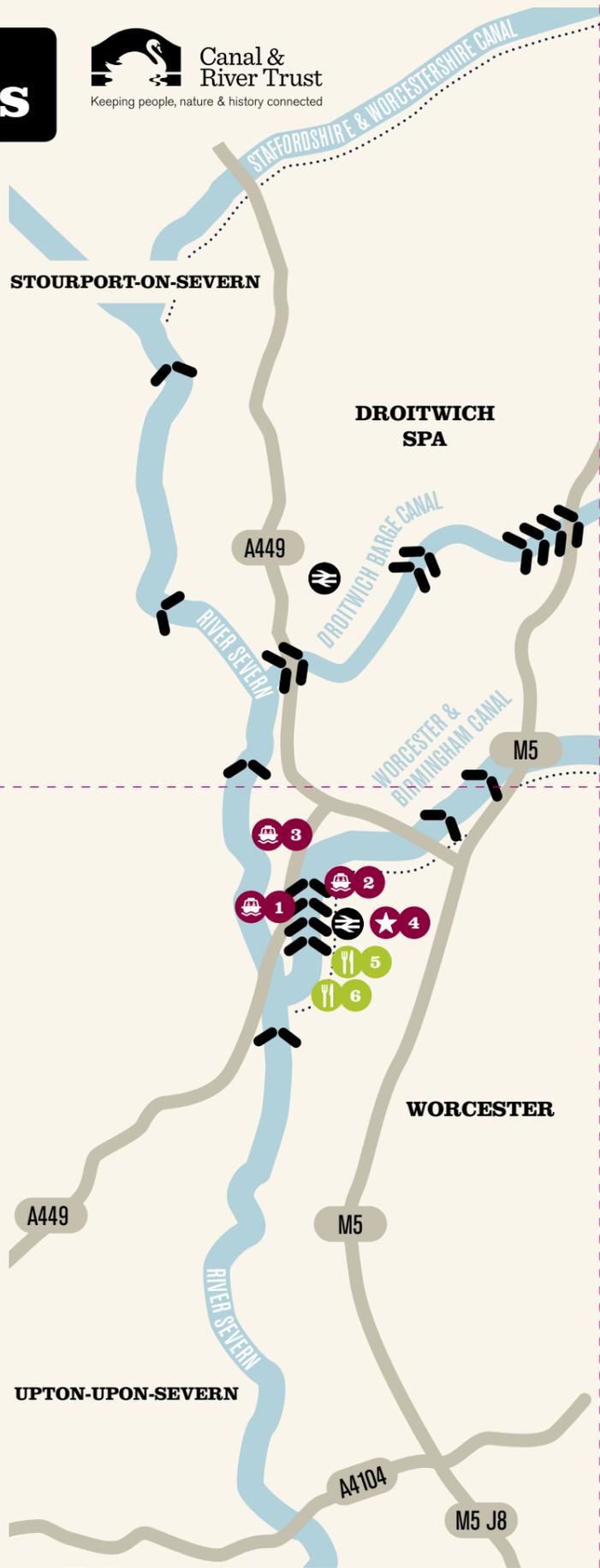
Connect with nature

With a riverbank and canalside environment both in one place, you would expect Worcester to be a haven for wildlife – and you'd be right. The reservoirs along the canal are as popular with the wildlife as they are with anglers, and you can expect to spot kingfishers and herons if you keep your eyes peeled.

Connect with history

The Worcester & Birmingham Canal connects with the River Severn, and with the Birmingham Canal Navigations – though until 1815 that company kept a barrier in place to preserve their own water supply. This means the Worcester & Birmingham had to supply its own water – which is why today you can enjoy the wildlife attracted to the reservoirs they built for that purpose.

Worcester



Sat Nav: WR1 2NX

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Worcester

- 1 Worcester River Cruises
- 2 Viking Afloat
- 3 Pitchcroft Boating Station
- 4 Worcester Cathedral
- 5 Brown's Restaurant
- 6 Diglis Hotel

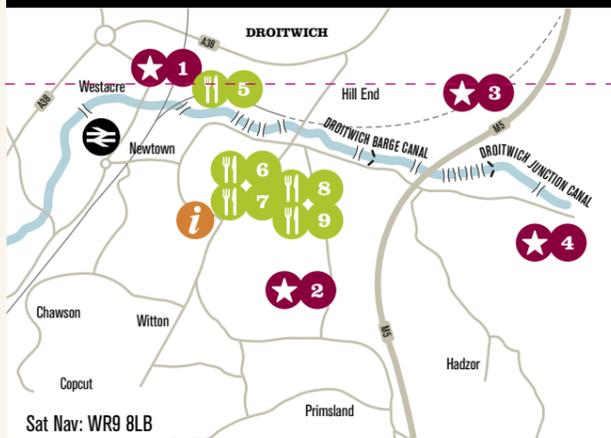
Droitwich Spa

- 1 Vines Park
- 2 Droitwich Spa Lido
- 3 Chateau Impney
- 4 Hanbury Wharf
- 5 Gardeners Arms
- 6 Star and Garter
- 7 Old Cock Inn
- 8 Spinning Wheel
- 9 Hop Pole

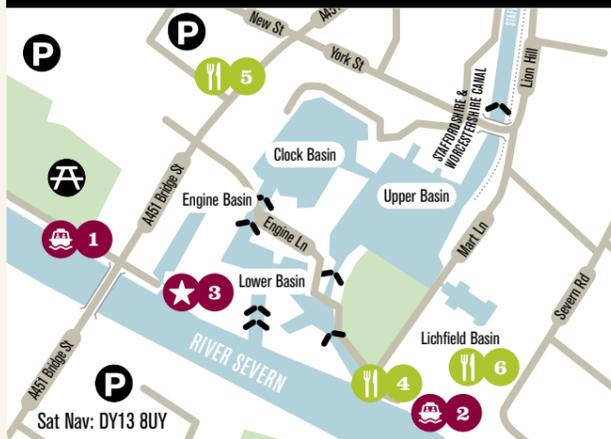
Stourport Basin

- 1 Stourport Steamers Trip Boats
- 2 River Severn Ferry Company
- 3 Treasure Island Amusement Park & Trip Boats
- 4 The Angel
- 5 The Riverside Fish Bar
- 6 The Windlass Café

Droitwich Spa



Stourport Basin



Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk to download family trail maps



Droitwich Spa

Abandoned for over 70 years, the Droitwich Barge Canal and Junction Canal, now fully restored, provide a living link to the past. Natural brine springs for salt production have attracted people to Droitwich from very early times and created wealth for the town's inhabitants and the canal was one way to transport the goods, but once trade started declining, so did the canal. All was not lost as the canals became home to all kinds of flora and fauna which had to be protected and rehomed

when the canals were restored. Natural habitats have been provided for reed buntings and reed warblers, otters, bats, and even the protected great crested newts. You can tread in the footsteps of a bygone era by following the walking trail from Droitwich to Worcester and the Severn. There is an audio trail (canalrivertrust.org.uk) to help explain the sights along the way. A shorter trail in Gateway Park includes a wildflower meadow and a stream, as well as a children's play area.



Stourport Basin

Stourport-on-Severn is a long way from the sea, but has the atmosphere of a true maritime holiday resort. Not surprisingly, people from all over the region have been coming here for many years for a fun day out.

Boat trips and boat hire are readily available, and there's The Treasure Island Amusement Park, and award-winning fish and chip shops too, all adding to that seaside holiday feeling. At its peak, Stourport was one of the UK's busiest inland ports

and to service increased traffic, a complex series of interconnecting basins evolved at the junction of the two waterways. Today, these present a fascinating historic heritage landscape.

Birdlife is plentiful. Kingfishers hunt for fish from perches on convenient trees. Swallows, swifts, house martins and sand martins visit in summer, while mallard, tufted duck, little grebe, coot and moorhen regularly frequent both canal and river.

Key

- Canal, River or Dock
- Lock
- Bridge
- Canal Towpaths
- Railway Station
- Pub, Restaurant or Café
- Place of Interest
- Boat Trip & Hire
- Marina
- Picnic Area
- Information
- Parking

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TRUST™

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find out more at canalrivertrust.org.uk

To the best of our knowledge correct at time of print