



Canal &
River Trust

Making life better by water

East Midlands

Leicestershire | Lincolnshire | Derbyshire
Nottinghamshire | Northamptonshire

Looks fun

Discover little adventures
on your doorstep

Look out for traditional 'roses and castles' decoration on narrowboats

Get afloat, take a boat trip and learn about Lincoln's past and present

Take a picnic and see how many water birds you can spot and name in five minutes

Watch boats go through the locks

Spot the remains of the boat lift from the viewing platform at Foxton Locks

Look for the 'Frank the Plank' sundial in Market Harborough

Keep a look out for top birds such as barn owls, kingfishers, dippers and wagtails

Pop into the Canal Museum at Stoke Bruerne

Go through the ingenious clapper gate, only found along the River Trent

Hire a bike and explore the entire length of the Rufford Branch Canal (7 miles/11 km)

Wow nice plan!

WOAH!
Can I
come?



Me
too!

Bugsworth Basin, Turnerwood, Torksey Lock, Lincoln, Newark, Gunthorpe, Stoke Lock & Woods, Victoria Embankment, Castle Wharf, Trent Lock, Beeston, Langley Mill, Woolsthorpe, Foxton Locks, Market Harborough, Welford Wharf, Braunston, Stoke Bruerne, Boddington Reservoir

Are you looking for inspiring places to visit with the family? Then look no further than your local canal or river. This guide features a selection of our best waterside places to visit in the East Midlands – whatever the weather! Each location includes a map, suggestions of fun-packed activities you can do and useful information on where to park, places to eat, toilets and boat trips.

Where will you explore today?



So many to choose from



Key

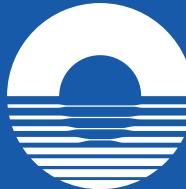
1. Bugsworth Basin
2. Turnerwood
3. Torksey Lock
4. Lincoln
5. Newark
6. Gunthorpe
7. Stoke Lock & Woods
8. Victoria Embankment
9. Castle Wharf
10. Trent Lock
11. Beeston
12. Langley Mill
13. Woolsthorpe
14. Foxton Locks
15. Market Harborough
16. Welford Wharf
17. Braunston
18. Stoke Bruerne
19. Boddington Reservoir

*AINA Waterways

Have a look on our map and find a little adventure on your doorstep!

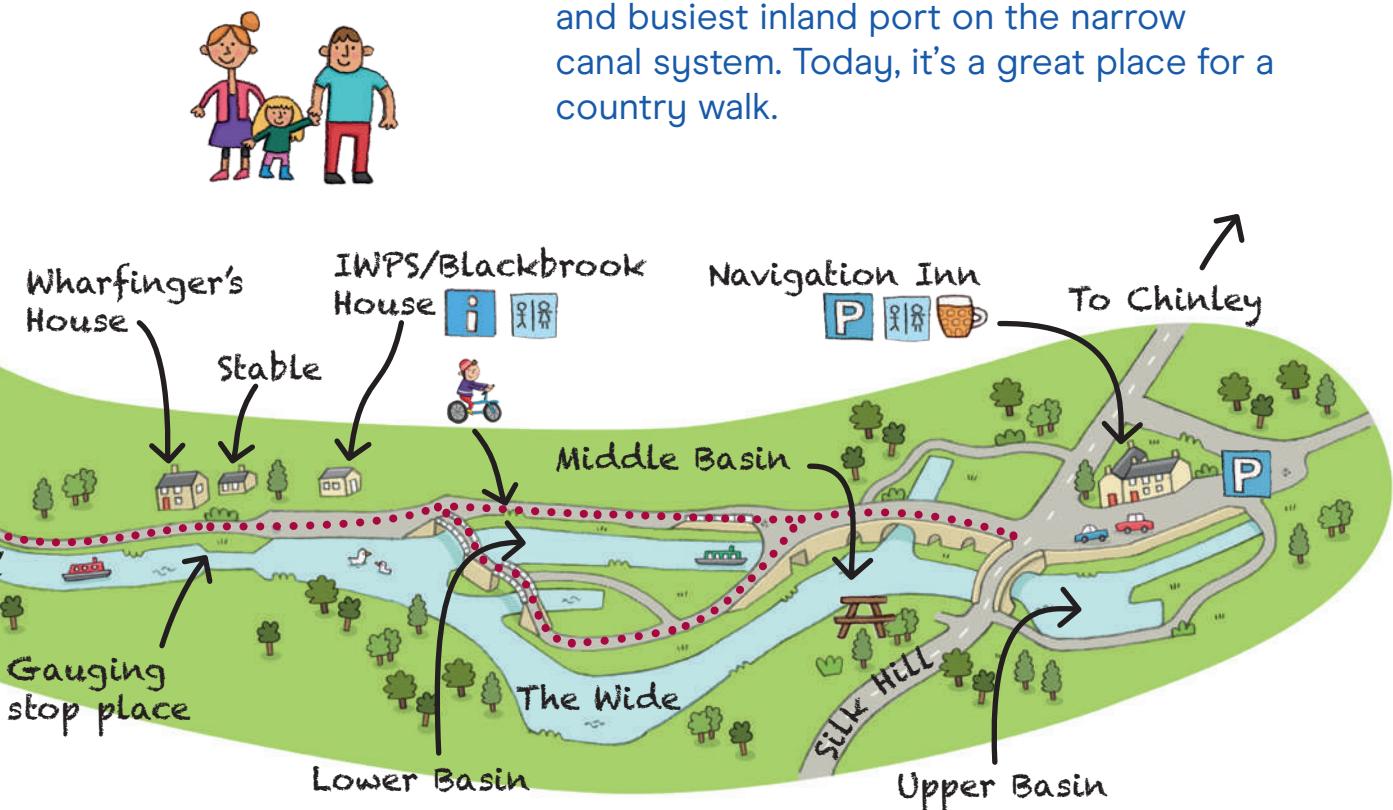


* This map shows waterways managed by members of the Association of Inland Navigation Authorities (AINA). We have not featured places to visit on waterways managed by these organisations. There are other inland waterways that have not been shown, the information on this map is for guidance only, for accurate information please visit our website.



Canal &
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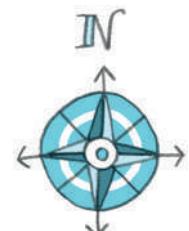
Making life better by water



Little adventures
on your doorstep



STAY **SAFE**:
Stay Away From
the Edge



Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

A little bit of history

Bugsworth Basin was built to transport limestone from nearby quarries. From here stone was delivered to industry in the north west. It's the only inland port to survive intact on the narrow canal system, so it's a great place for spotting clues to the industrial past.



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Bugsworth Canal Basin

- Visit** The Navigation Inn converted from three old buildings, all built at different times.
- Go to** the Inland Waterways Protection Society (IWPS) Visitor Centre and discover more about the Bugsworth Canal.
- Check out** the remains of limekilns where lime was extracted from limestone.
- Spot** the old wooden post which is all that's left of a crane used for loading and unloading goods from boats.
- Take** a picnic and see how many water birds you can spot and name in five minutes.

Information

Bugsworth Basin
Brookside, Buxworth
High Peak SK23 7NE

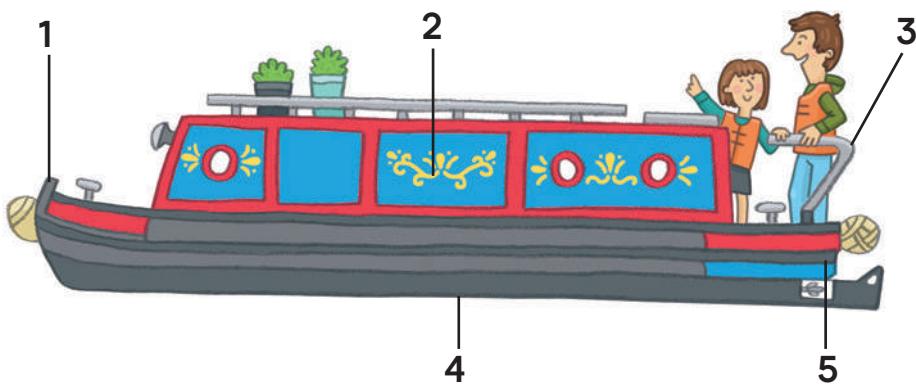
| | |
|-----|---|
| | Parking |
| | Toilets (also at Whaley Bridge) |
| | Café (restaurant boat at Whaley Bridge) |
| | Pub |
| | Information |
| | Picnic |
| | Cycling |
| ... | Path |

Allow 2-3 hours for this visit

* Don't forget:

Although the site is always open the facilities and boat trips may not be and some may be chargeable. Please check with local businesses before setting out.

Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern

Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.



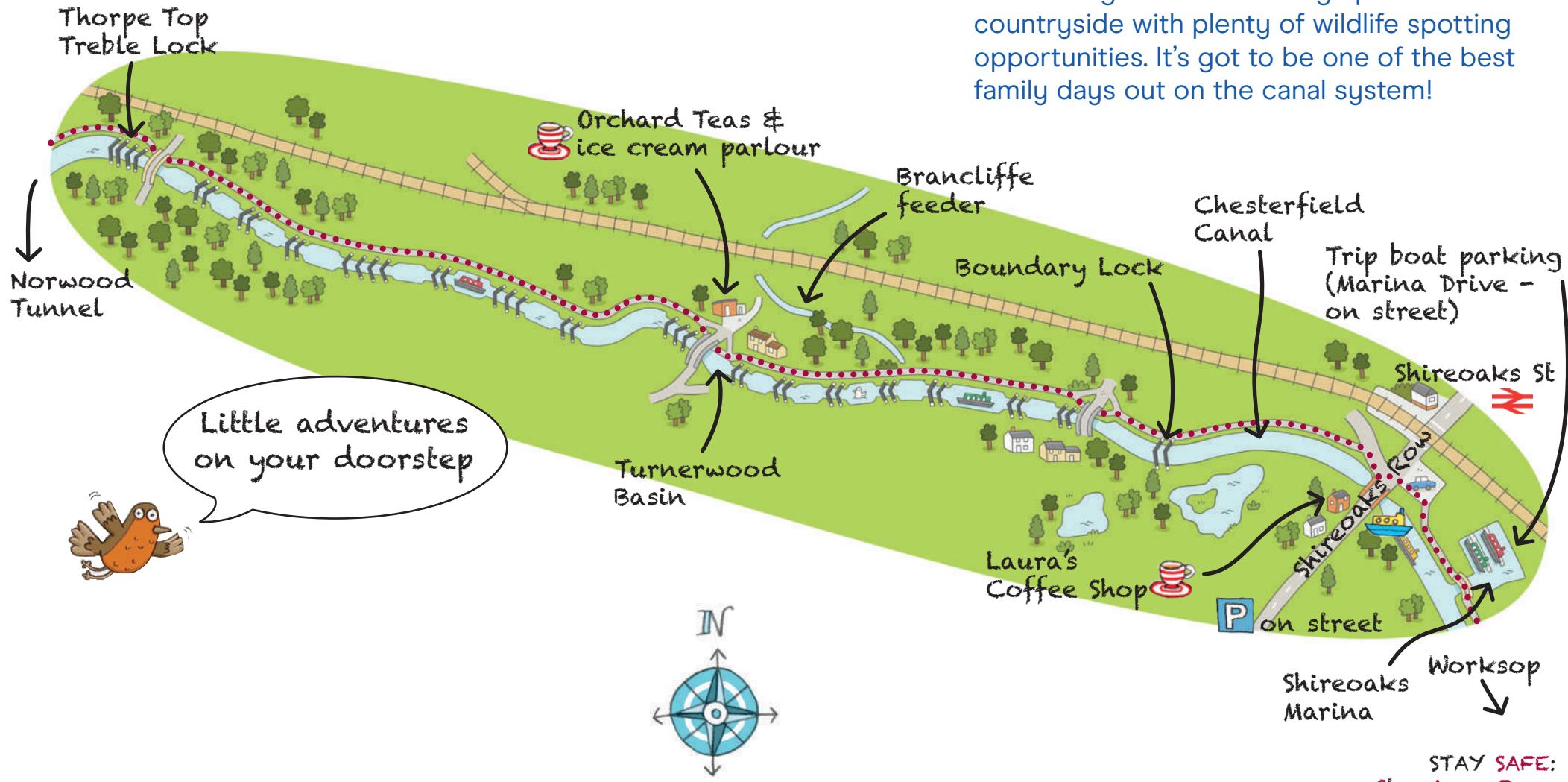
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Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

Visit Turnerwood



Turnerwood is a picture-perfect hamlet on the Chesterfield Canal. There are magnificent locks and great walks through peaceful countryside with plenty of wildlife spotting opportunities. It's got to be one of the best family days out on the canal system!

STAY **SAFE**:
Stay Away From
the Edge

A little bit of history

Turnerwood, on the Chesterfield Canal, linked the River Trent to the centre of Chesterfield to transport coal from the coalfields of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and South Yorkshire. At Turnerwood you can see a run of 22 'staircase' locks built almost 250 years ago by James Brindley, the famous canal engineer.



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Turnerwood

- Watch** boats negotiate James Brindley's double and triple locks
- Explore** Chesterfield Canal on the trip boat Hugh Henshall from Shireoaks. For more information visit chesterfield-canal-trust.org.uk and go to trip boats
- Pack** a camera and photograph the stunning countryside rich with wildlife
- Go fishing** – it's the best canal fishing in the country!
- Walk** the towpath known as The Cuckoo Way as it passes through countryside where scarcely a house is to be seen, or use local rights of way for a longer circular walk.



Information

Turnerwood
Thorpe Salvin
Worksop
S80 3LA



Parking
(Free on-street)



Café (Seasonal opening may apply)



Boat trips



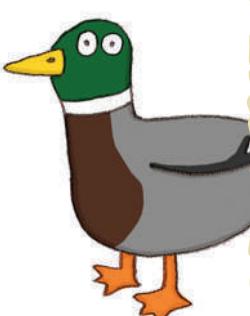
Path



Allow 1-2 hours for this visit

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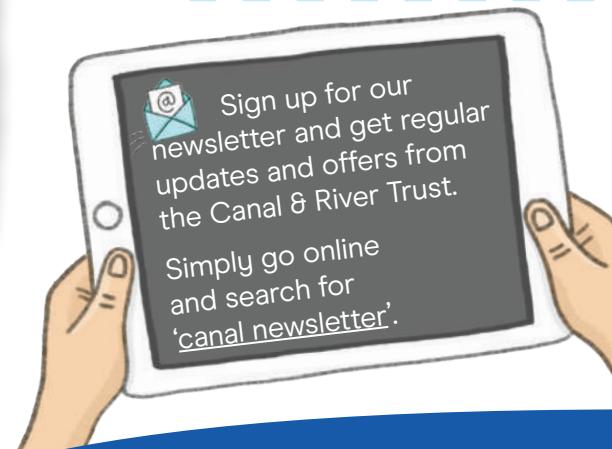
Did you know?...

Our lock gates are handbuilt by skilled carpenters in our workshops in the West Midlands and Yorkshire, from FSC Green Oak. Each one is unique and can take up to a month to make. Once built they last for about 25 years.



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Making life better by water

Discover Torksey Lock

Torksey Lock is built where the mighty River Trent meets the peaceful Fossdyke Canal. It's where advanced engineering meets the oldest canal in Britain.



Best place to cross
! Beware fast traffic!

← Newark

Gainsborough →



Map not to scale: covers approx 1.4 miles/2.4km

A little bit of history

In summer, the Fossdyke Canal is a picture of peace, busy with holiday boats, walkers, bird spotters and cyclists. In winter it's a different story. Check out the huge floodgates that stop Lincoln going under water when really high tides threaten.

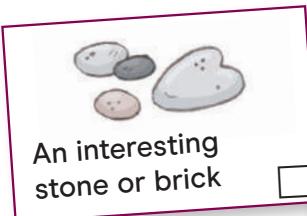
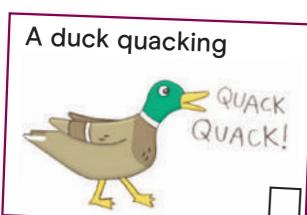
 Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Torksey Lock

- Bird spotting** is a must in the summer. Listen out for peewits (local name – the pyewipe) that love the flat Lincolnshire farmland.
- Spot** boats from barges and narrowboats to converted coastal cruisers.
- Go through** the ingenious clapper gate, only found along the River Trent.
- Check out** Torksey Lock, extra wide and long to take bulky barges with SIX pairs of lock gates – most locks have two.
- Find** the interactive in the Information Centre and discover how the lock works.

What to Spot

Explore the waterside together.
How many of these can you spot?



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Information

Torksey Lock,
Torksey, Lincolnshire
LN1 2EH

 Parking (pay & display)

 Toilets + baby changing

 Café

... Path

 Allow 1-1½ hours for this visit

* Don't forget:

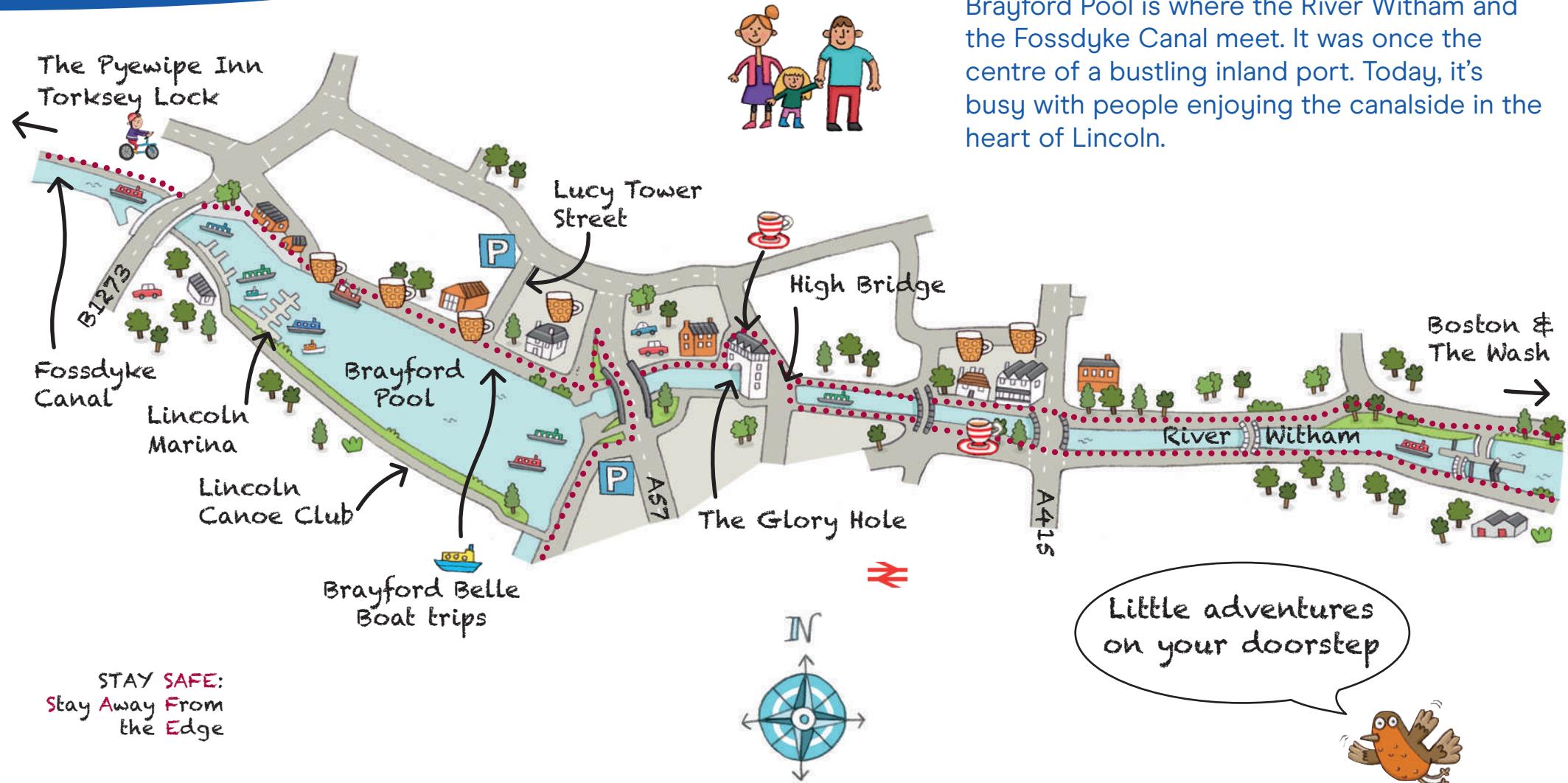
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Making life better by water

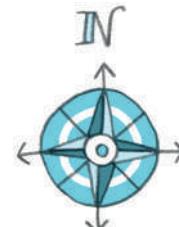


Visit Brayford Pool, Lincoln

Brayford Pool is where the River Witham and the Fossdyke Canal meet. It was once the centre of a bustling inland port. Today, it's busy with people enjoying the canalside in the heart of Lincoln.

Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

STAY **SAFE**:
Stay Away From
the Edge



Little adventures
on your doorstep



A little bit of history

With good routes to the sea, the Midlands and Yorkshire, the River Witham once brought trade and wealth to Lincoln. But transport by rail and road saw trade gradually decline. By the 1960s, Brayford Pool was derelict – and in danger of being filled in! Today, it thrives once more with a marina and waterside pubs and cafés.

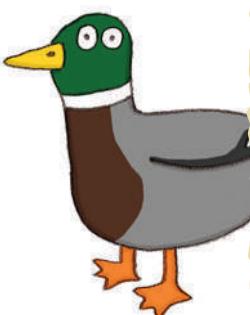


Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Brayford Pool

- Get afloat**, take a boat trip and learn about Lincoln's past and present.
- Look out for** the famous Lincoln colony of mute swans.
- Stroll** along Brayford Pool and watch narrowboats and other pleasure craft in the marina.
- Walk** along to High Bridge built about 1160 AD. The Glory Hole is the name given by boaters to the bridge. It's narrow width and crooked arch means it's difficult to negotiate.
- Visit** Lincoln Cathedral built on the site of a Roman temple.



Did you know?...

It's best to feed ducks tasty treats like:

- porridge oats
- rice
- peas
- chopped lettuce
- birdseed

Whilst they will gobble up white bread, crisps and chips its junk food for you and ducks!



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Information

Brayford Pool,
Lucy Tower Street.
Lincoln LN1 1XW

P Parking (pay & display)

Toilets + baby changing

Café

Pub

Cycling (not in centre of Lincoln)

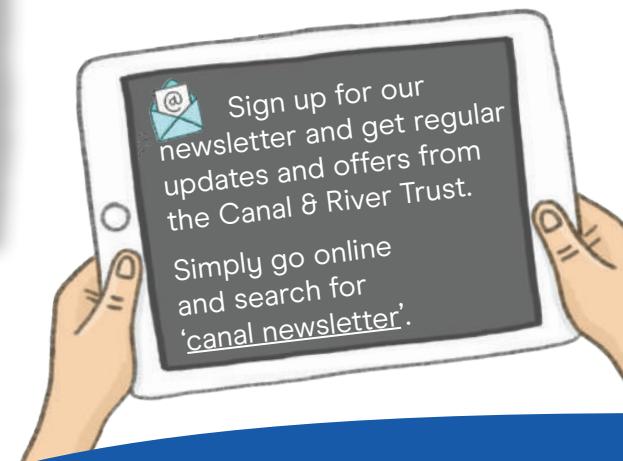
Boat trips

... Path

Allow up to half day for this visit

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Canal & River Trust

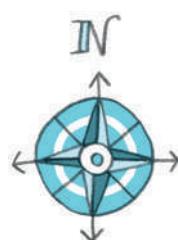
Making life better by water

Discover Newark

Newark was once an important inland port on the mighty River Trent. Today, exploring the lovely old riverside buildings provides a great family day out.



Map not to scale: covers approx 1.4 miles/2.4km



STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge

A little bit of history

The River Trent was a major working river until after the Second World War. It's still used for freight – you may even catch sight of a working barge. Today, many of the old warehouses have been converted into cafes, and the wharves make great places to watch the boats passing through the locks.



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Newark

- Walk** to the locks built to increase the depth of the river and accommodate bigger barges.
- Look for** the haulage path to help dray horses grip as they hauled wagons of grain from the wharf to the breweries.
- Check out** the café in the old lock keeper's house.
- Follow** the Historic Riverside Trail (available from the Information Centre) and discover more about Newark's riverside.
- Visit** Newark Castle built nearly 1000 years ago to defend the River Trent, an important trading route to the north.



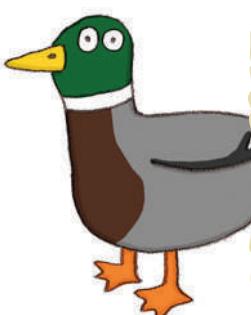
Information

Tolney Lane, Newark
NG24 1BZ

| | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| | Parking |
| | Toilets |
| | Café |
| | Pub |
| | Information centre |
| | Picnic bench |
| | Play area |
| | Boat trips |
| ... | Path |
| | Allow 2-3 hours for this visit |

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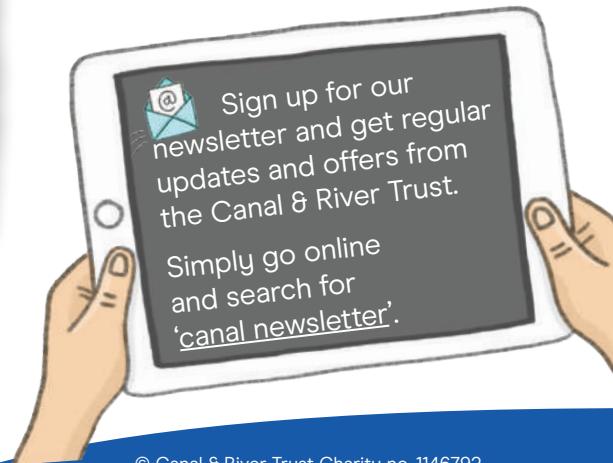
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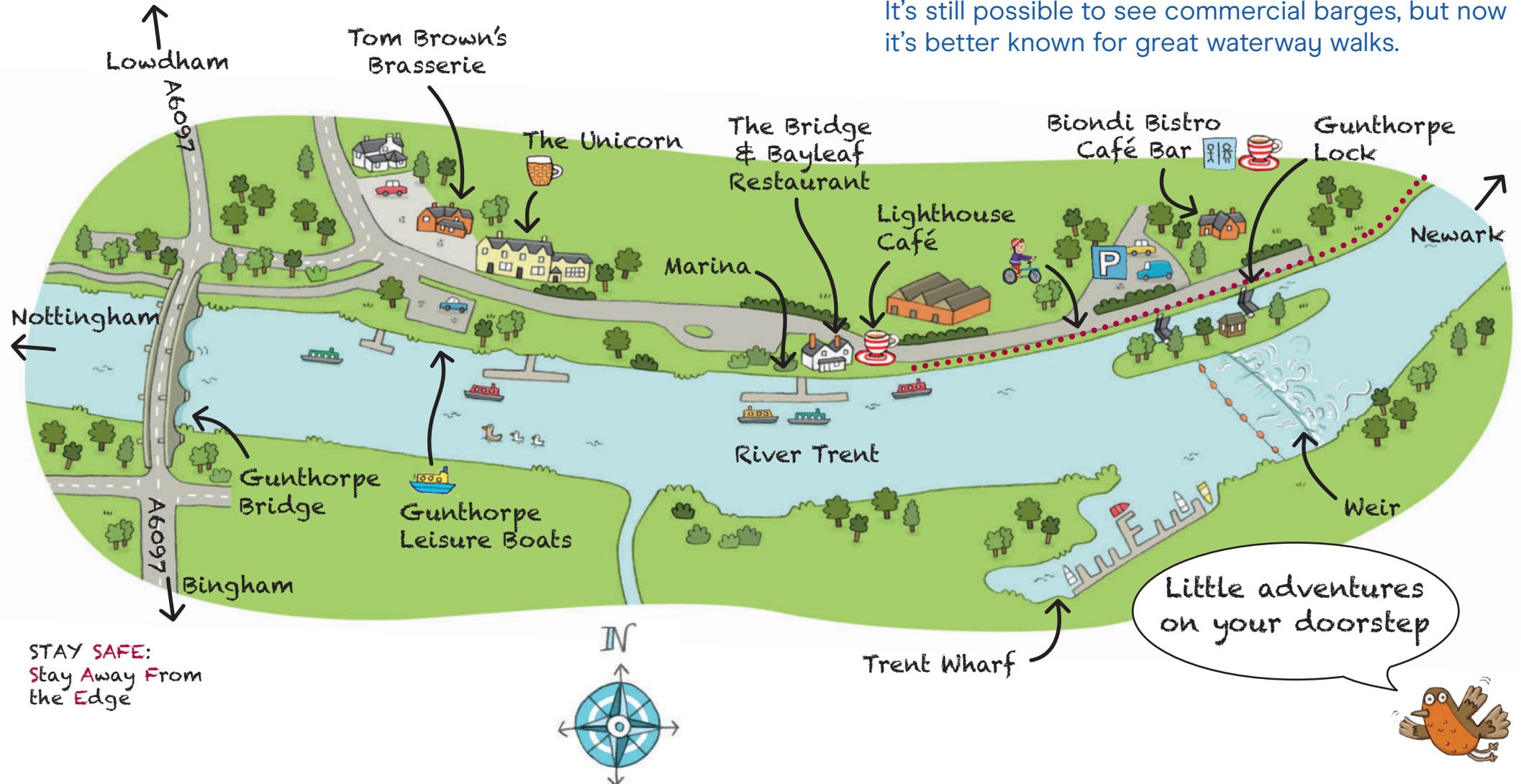
A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.





Canal &
River Trust

Making life better by water



Discover Gunthorpe Lock

Gunthorpe Lock is one of the largest locks on the River Trent which was once a major trading route. It's still possible to see commercial barges, but now it's better known for great waterway walks.

STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge

Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

A little bit of history

The River Trent was an important trading route from earliest times. Goods were transported on flat-bottomed barges called ketches. Gunthorpe Lock was built to take up to four ketches at a time. The River Trent is still a working river but nowadays mainly used for leisure.



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Gunthorpe Lock

- Watch** boats as they pass through the lock. The huge bottom lock gate weighs as much as five adult elephants!
- Take** a boat trip up the river into the centre of Nottingham.
- Walk** to the historic Gunthorpe Bridge. Until it was built in the 1870s, the only way to cross the river was by ferry or ford. The present bridge was built in 1927.
- See** how many water birds you can spot and name in five minutes.
- Spot** different types of boats such as narrowboats, converted coastal cruisers and maintenance barges.



Information

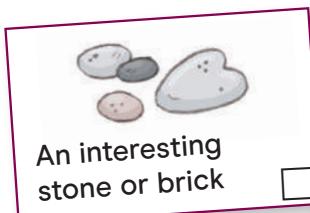
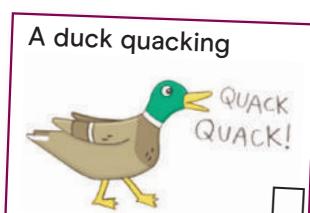
Gunthorpe Lock,
Trentside, Gunthorpe
NG14 7FB

- Parking
- Toilets
- Café
- Pub
- Cycling
- Boat trips
- ... Path

Allow 1-1½ hours for this visit

What to Spot

Explore the waterside together.
How many of these can you spot?



Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.



Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Visit Stoke Lock & Woods

Stoke Lock was once busy with barges bound south for London and Nottingham. Today, it's a wonderful place for a woodland walk.

Little adventures on your doorstep



Map not to scale: covers approx 1.4 miles/2.4km

A little bit of history

Stoke Lock, built in 1923, is one of the largest locks on the mighty River Trent. In the 1920s, the main traffic was diesel barges laden with bulky cargo such as newsprint, petrol, building materials and even beer! Today, Stoke Lock is best known for the beautiful woodland walks alongside the river.

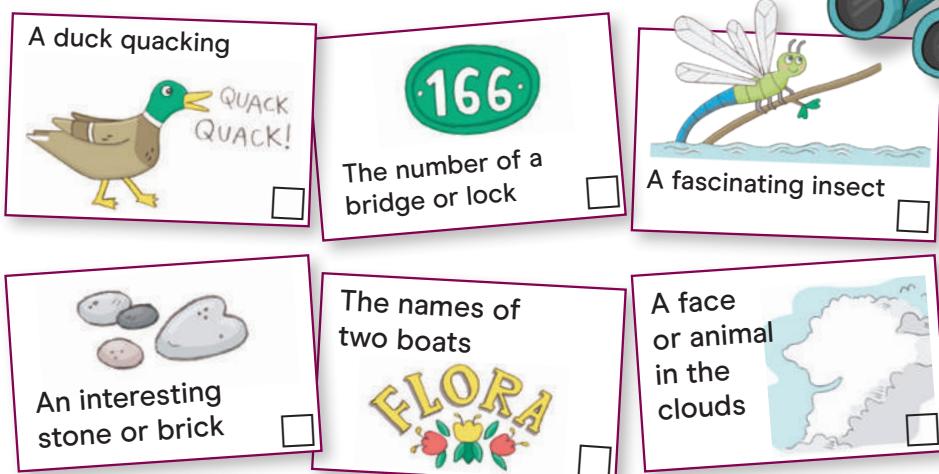
Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Stoke Lock & Woods

- Watch** narrowboats with holiday-makers passing through the locks. Keep an eye open for barges that still occasionally use the River Trent to transport bulky goods.
- Go for a walk** in the woods (signposted) and listen out for woodland birds such as woodpeckers. See how many trees you can name along your walk.
- Take wellies** and splash about in puddles.
- Have a picnic** beside the River Trent and watch for fish – the river is famous for large pike!
- Go through** the ingenious clapper gate, only found along the River Trent. Listen as it 'claps' shut.

What to Spot

Explore the waterside together.
How many of these can you spot?



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A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.

Information

Stoke Lock, Riverside,
Stoke Bardolph
Nottingham NG14 5HX

Parking (one mile to the north)

Toilets (if locked please ask lock keeper April-Oct)

Pub (one mile to the north)

Play area (at pub)

Picnic area (on grass)

Cycling

• • • Path

Allow 1-2 hours for this visit

* Don't forget:

Although the site is always open the facilities and boat trips may not be and some may be chargeable. Please check with local businesses before setting out.





Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Explore Victoria Embankment

Opened in 1901, Victoria Embankment is built alongside the River Trent. This idyllic waterside setting is a great place to watch boats and wildlife in the centre of a great city.



Map not to scale: covers approx 1.4 miles/2.4km

A little bit of history

Victoria Embankment follows a great loop in the River Trent forming a riverside promenade. A flight of steps descends to the water's edge along the whole length of the embankment, which is bordered on the other side by shrubs, trees and lawns. The site includes play areas – so perfect for a family day out.

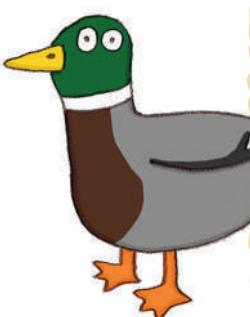


Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Victoria Embankment

- Follow** the footpath round to the Notts – Beeston Canal and watch boats go through the lock.
- Look** out for Trent Bridge, a multi-span arch bridge built in 1906.
- Take a picnic** in the Memorial Gardens and enjoy the peaceful surrounding on the banks of a great river in the middle of a city.
- Check out** the exciting new playground in Memorial Gardens with facilities for toddlers to teenagers.
- Take a boat trip** up the River Trent to Holme Lock, one of the largest locks on the river.



Did you know?...

It's best to feed ducks tasty treats like:

- porridge oats
- rice
- peas
- chopped lettuce
- birdseed

Whilst they will gobble up white bread, crisps and chips its junk food for you and ducks!



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Information

Victoria Embankment
Nottingham NG2 2JY

| | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| | Parking |
| | Toilets |
| | Café |
| | Pub |
| | Picnic |
| | Cycling |
| | Boat trips |
| ... | Path |
| | Allow 1-2 hours for this visit |

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Canal &
River Trust

Making life better by water

Discover Castle Wharf, Nottingham

Castle Wharf, in the centre of Nottingham was once busy with canal boats loading and unloading cargo. Today, trendy pubs and cafes occupy many of the old canal buildings.



Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

A little bit of history

Two minutes from the train and bus station and overlooked by Nottingham Castle is the old canal wharf. Once a grimy industrial area, it's been regenerated into one of the liveliest areas in Nottingham. It's a good place to relax by the water's edge, watch boats, feed the ducks – and watch people too!



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Castle Wharf, Nottingham

- Check out** the waterside cafes and spot how many have been converted from old canal warehouses.
- Watch** boats go through the locks.
- Cycle** up the towpath to where the city gradually fades into the countryside.
- Walk** south to Victoria Embankment and check out the mighty River Trent.
- Visit** Nottingham Castle built in 1067 on the orders of William the Conqueror.

Information

Nottingham Castle
Canal Street
NG1 7HG

Parking

Café

Pub

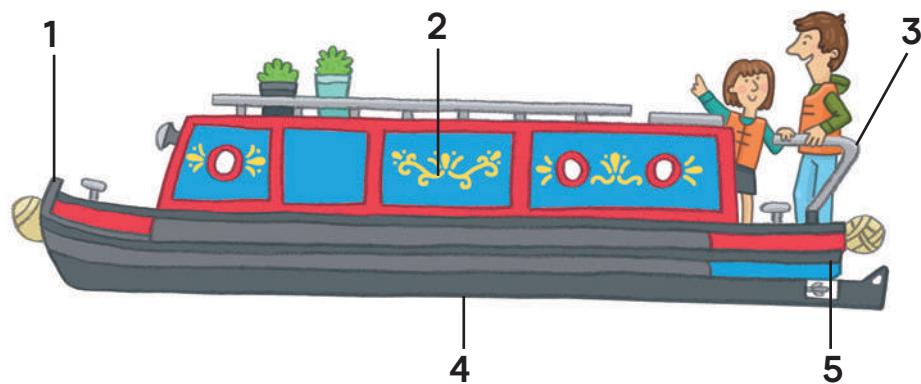
... Path

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Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern



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Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Discover Trent Lock

Trent Lock is a major waterway junction where rivers and canals meet. It's a good spot to view one of England's awesome rivers – and a great place to spot boats too.



A little bit of history

Before the railways were built, ships sailed inland as far as Shardlow. Trent Lock was the scene of much activity as ships and shallow bottomed barges called ketches passed through. Today it is still a working river but now better known as a wonderful place to spot wildlife.



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Trent Lock

- Trent Lock** is a haven for wildlife. Look out for coots, mute swans, moorhens, herons, kingfishers and mallard.
- Watch** boats working the lock. You may even spot a working barge.
- Check out** the building adjoining Lock House café. It was once used as a toll office. Other outbuildings were a shop for boaters and stables for the horses that towed boats in the early days of canals.
- Take a bike ride** along a designated cycle track by the Erewash Canal.
- Walk** to the Cranfleet Cut. It was built so boats didn't have to navigate a short stretch of the River Trent.



Information

Trent Lock
Long Eaton
NG10 2FY

Parking

Toilets

Café

Pub

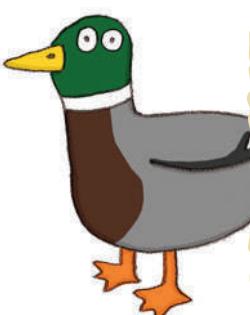
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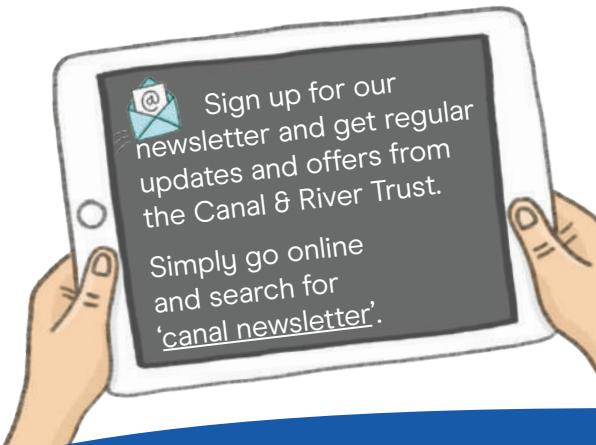


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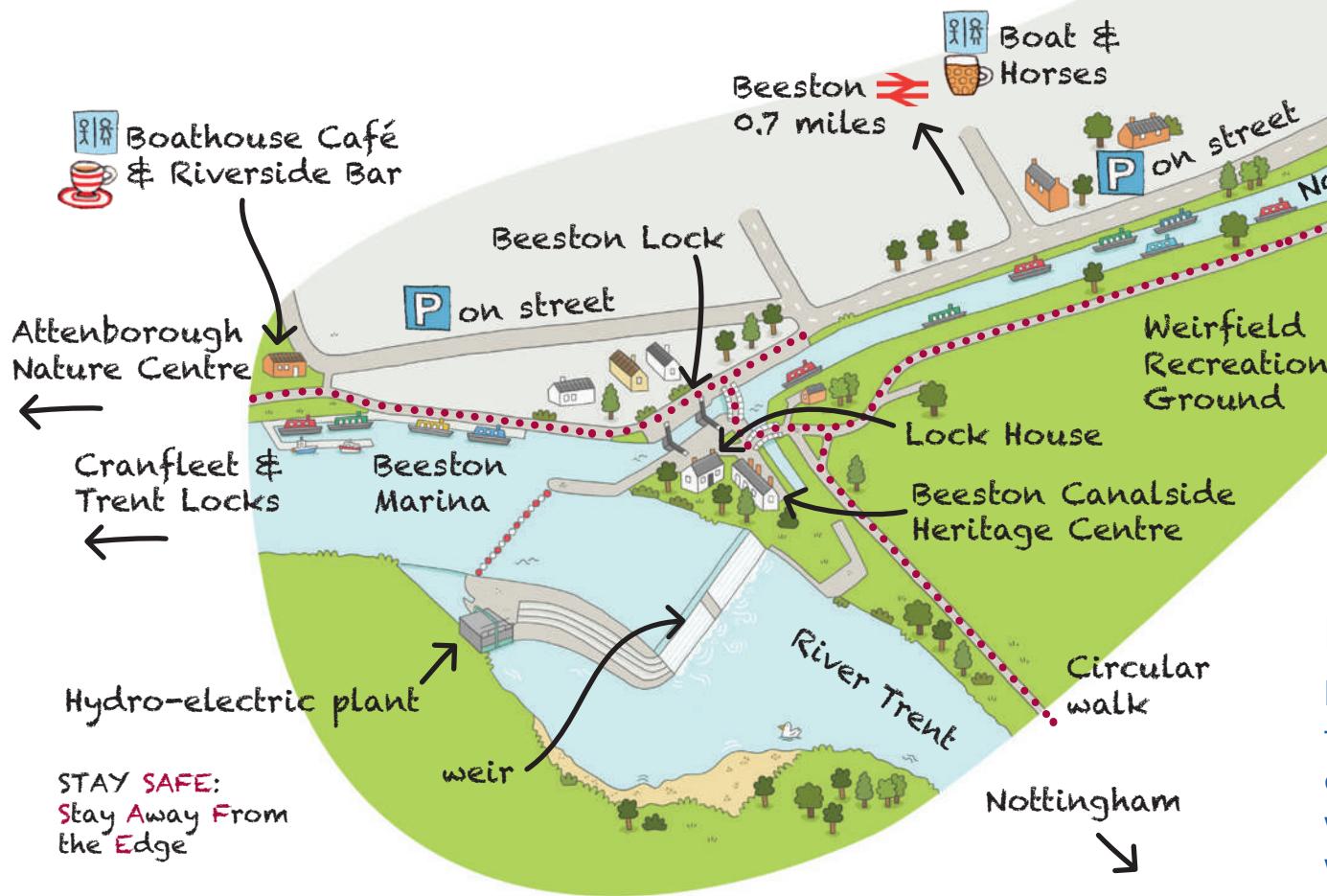
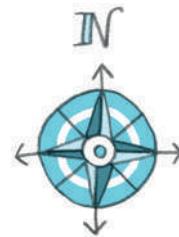
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Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water



Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

Little adventures
on your doorstep



Discover Beeston Lock

Beeston Lock is just an easy cycle ride from Nottingham. It's a great place to escape to the country, watch boats working the lock and see the magnificent weir which generates hydro-electric power.

A little bit of history

Beeston Lock is located where the Nottingham-Beeston Canal bypasses unnavigable parts of the River Trent. The canal was built to provide a through-route for coal so that the citizens of Nottingham didn't miss out on the great wealth it bought to the city. Today it enables boaters to bypass the tricky shallows of the Trent.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Beeston Lock

- Walk** up to the Turnover Bridge designed so that horses could cross the bridge without being unhitched. Genius!
- Find out** more about the Nottingham-Beeston Canal at the Heritage Centre being developed in old converted lock cottages
- Check out** the 2 mile circular route following the canal and the River Trent. It's part of Nottingham's Big Track for walkers and cyclists
- Find** a spot to admire the weir which generates enough electricity for 2000 homes through the hydro-electric plant
- Stop** for a coffee at the boathouse café overlooking the marina.



Information

Riverside Road
Beeston
Nottingham
NG9 1NR

P Parking (free)

Toilets

Café

Pub

••• Path

Allow 1-2 hours
for this visit

What to Spot

Explore the waterside together.
How many of these can you spot?

A duck quacking



166

The number of a
bridge or lock



An interesting
stone or brick



The names of
two boats



A face
or animal
in the
clouds



* Don't forget:

Although the site is always open the facilities and boat trips may not be and some may be chargeable. Please check with local businesses before setting out.

Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk
to discover lots of fun things to
do with the family.



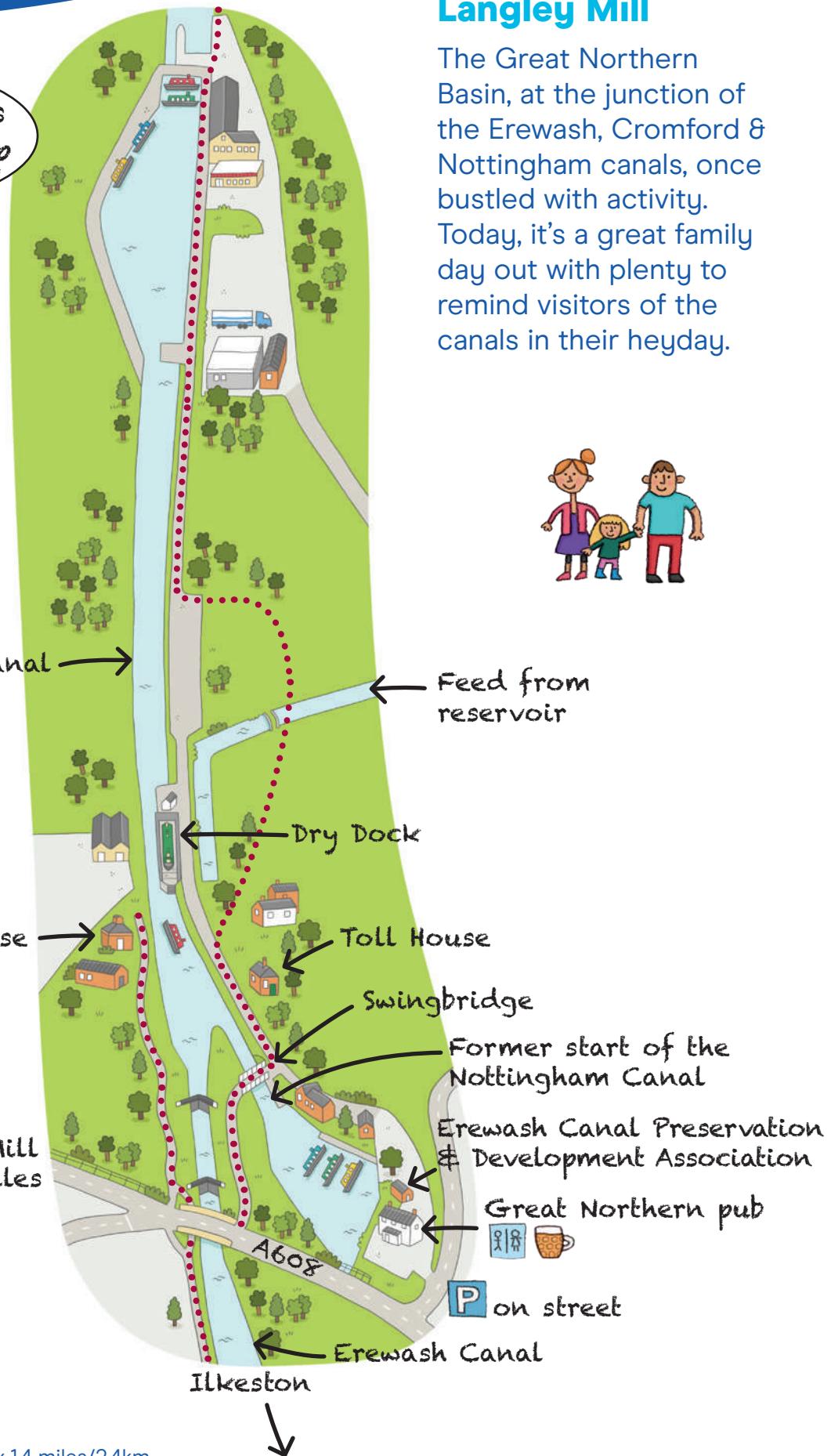
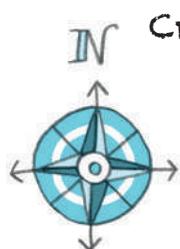
A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.



Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

Little adventures
on your doorstep



Discover Langley Mill

The Great Northern Basin, at the junction of the Erewash, Cromford & Nottingham canals, once bustled with activity. Today, it's a great family day out with plenty to remind visitors of the canals in their heyday.



A little bit of history

200 years ago, the Nottingham Canal was cut to Langley Mill where it joined the Erewash and Cromford canals. It proved a very successful through-route. When the railway arrived, trade decreased and the canals and the Great Northern Basin fell into disuse. Now restored, there's plenty of canal history to explore.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Langley Mill

- Look** out for the dry dock where narrow boats are repaired, and the old lock cottages where the people who worked on the lock once lived.
- Stop** by at the Toll House where tolls were collected for the use of the canal, and the Pump House, originally a sewage pumping station.
- Watch** boats pass into the Basin via the swingbridge, the only one of seven on the Nottingham Canal still working.
- Walk** round the Basin, once the start of the Nottingham Canal.
- Explore** wonderful waterside walks with the Erewash Valley Trail www.broxtowe.gov.uk



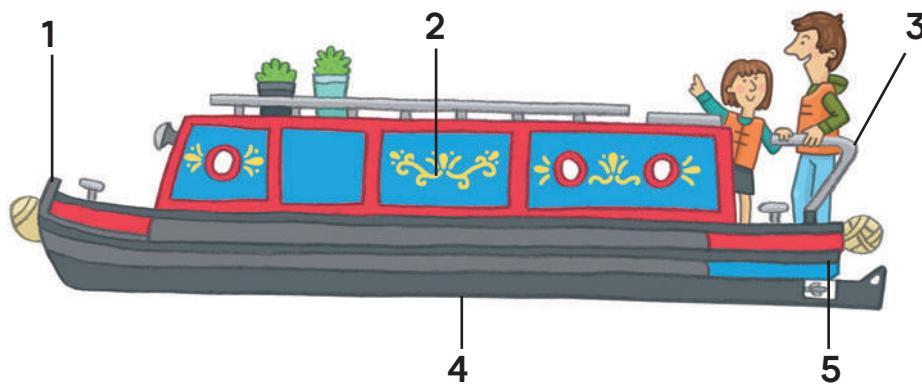
Information

Derby Road
Langley Mill
NG16 4AA

- P** Parking (free)
- Toilets (at the Great Northern, customers only)
- Pub
- ... Path
- Allow 1-2 hours for this visit

Access (steps down to canal; narrow gap next to gate on track between canal and basin)

Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?

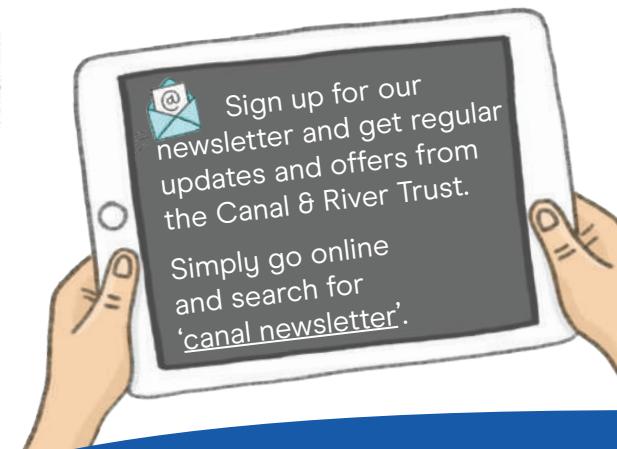


Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern

Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.



A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.





Canal & River Trust

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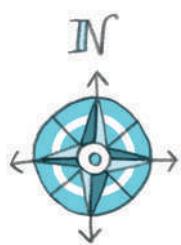


Discover **Woolsthorpe Locks**

Woolsthorpe Locks at Woolsthorpe by Belvoir were designed by William Jessop, one of the finest early canal engineers. After falling into disrepair, these magnificent locks have now been restored. Take a great country walk and check them out!



Little adventures
on your doorstep



Map not to scale: covers approx 1.4 miles/2.4km

STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge

A little bit of history

The Grantham Canal was built 1793 -1798 to link the River Trent to Grantham. A successful canal, narrow boats and barges transported coal, building materials and groceries to Grantham and made the return journey with agricultural produce and wool. Woolsthorpe Locks are just part of the canal currently being restored.



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Woolsthorpe Locks

- Take** a boat trip and explore the Grantham Canal on the Grantham Canal Society's trip boat The Three Shires. It operates from the landing stage at Lock 18, offering 2, 3 or 4 hour cruises www.granthamcanal.org/trip-boat
- Pack** a picnic, sit by the locks and soak up 200 years of canal history
- Explore** the local countryside: the canal features in the Grantham to Bottesford railway walk. Visit canalrivertrust.org for further details and search for 'Grantham Canal'.
- Spot** dragonflies and swallows skimming the water in late spring and summer. In autumn and winter look out for buzzards
- Visit** nearby Belvoir Castle. In 1793, the Duke of Rutland built a private tramway between the wharf at Muston Gorse and Belvoir Castle.



Did you know?...

Coots have a **white spot** on the front of their head and moorhens have a **bright red beak tipped with yellow**, and a white stripe on their side.



Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.

Information

Duck Lane
Woolsthorpe by
Belvoir Grantham
NG32 1NY



Parking (limited - please don't block gates/ access points)



Café



Pub



Boat trips



Path



Allow 1-2 hours for this visit

* Don't forget:

Although the site is always open the facilities and boat trips may not be and some may be chargeable. Please check with local businesses before setting out.



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Simply go online and search for 'canal newsletter'.



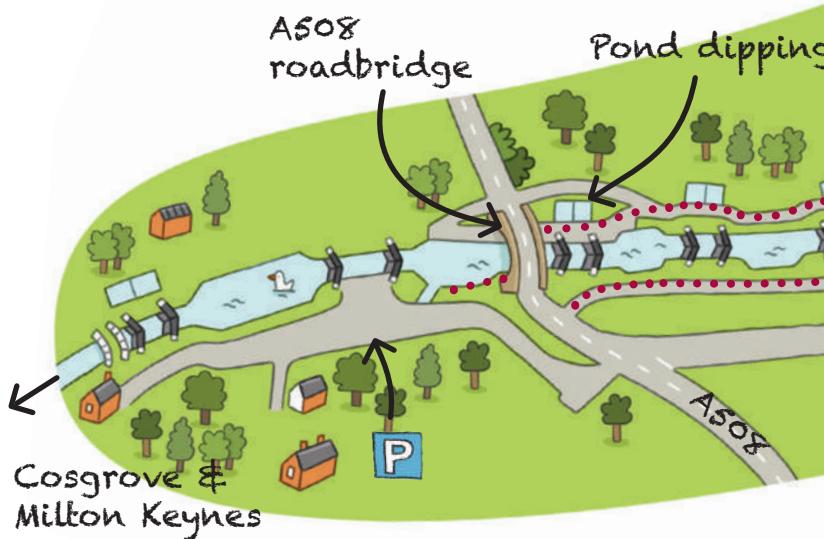


Canal & River Trust

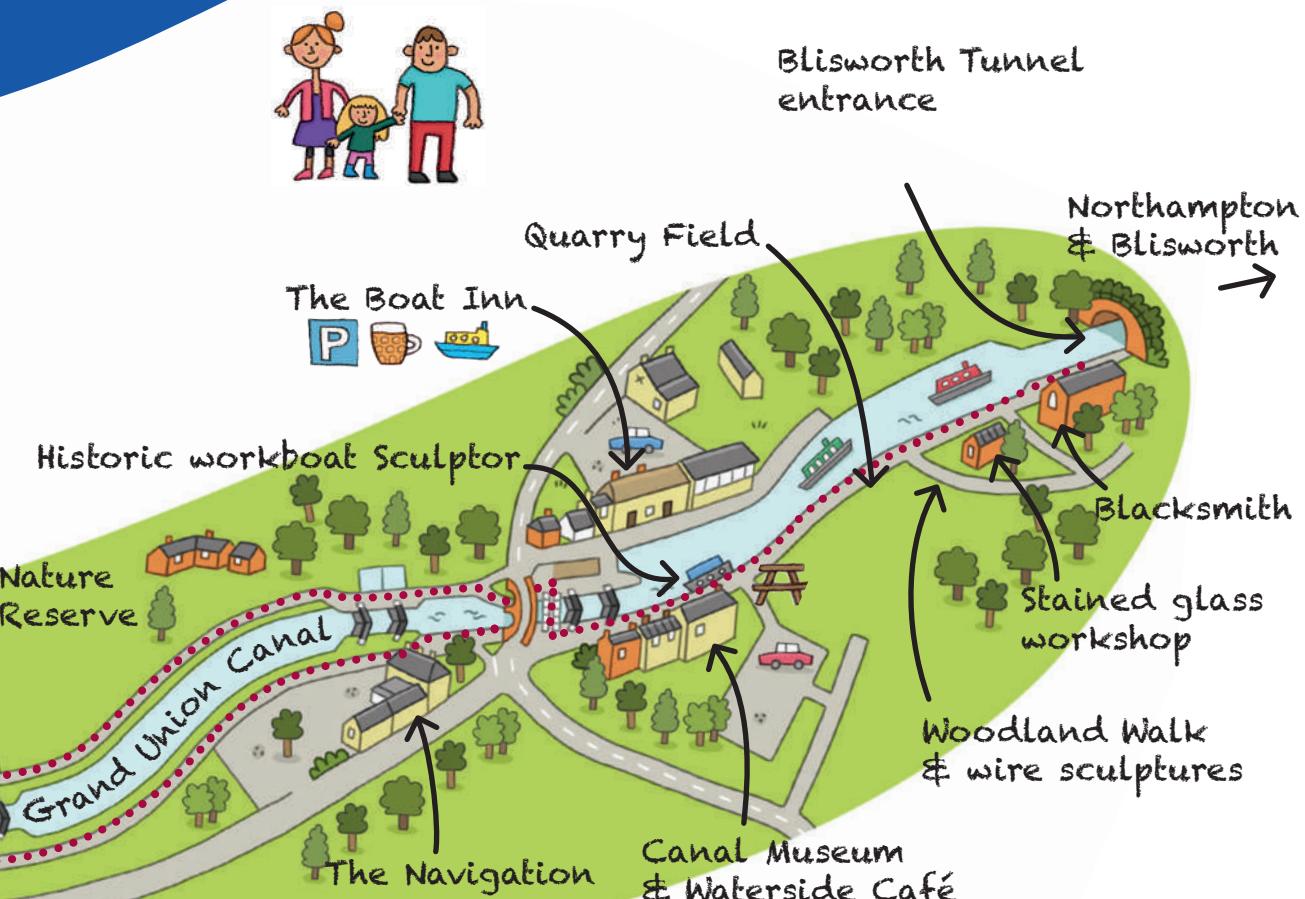
Making life better by water

Discover Stoke Bruerne

Stoke Bruerne is the best place on the canal system to explore canal life in the past. You're sure to find out that it's much more fun on the waterways today!



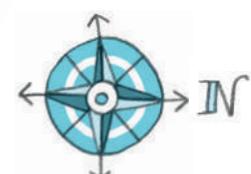
STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge



Little adventures
on your doorstep



Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km



A little bit of history

When work began on the Grand Union Canal at Stoke Bruerne in 1793, the main village street was diverted, cutting the village in half. But, after much grumbling no doubt, the villagers found they could make money by supplying food, drink and trades to the navvies who built the canal, and then to the boaters.



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Six things to do at Stoke Bruerne

- Pop** into the Canal Museum and find out all about narrowboats and the people who worked on them.
- Take** a boat trip into the Blisworth Tunnel. In the early days of canals, boats had to be 'legged' through while the horse was led over the top.
- Stroll** down the towpath and watch the boats working the locks.
- Take** a woodland walk and look out for the wire sculptures of wildlife.
- Go** pond dipping from the special platforms – nets are available to purchase at the Canal Museum or you could bring your own.
- Feed** the ducks – food is available for purchase in the Canal Museum

Information

Stoke Bruerne
nr Towcester
Northants. NN12 7SE

P Parking +

Toilets (in the museum)

Café

Pub

Visitor Centre

Picnic area

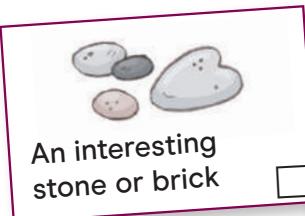
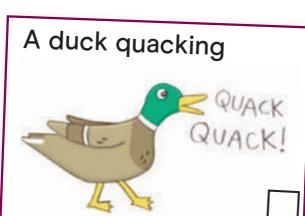
Boat trips

••• Path

Allow half a day for this visit

What to Spot

Explore the waterside together.
How many of these can you spot?



Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.





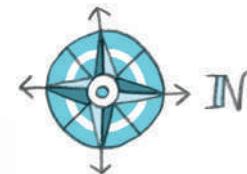
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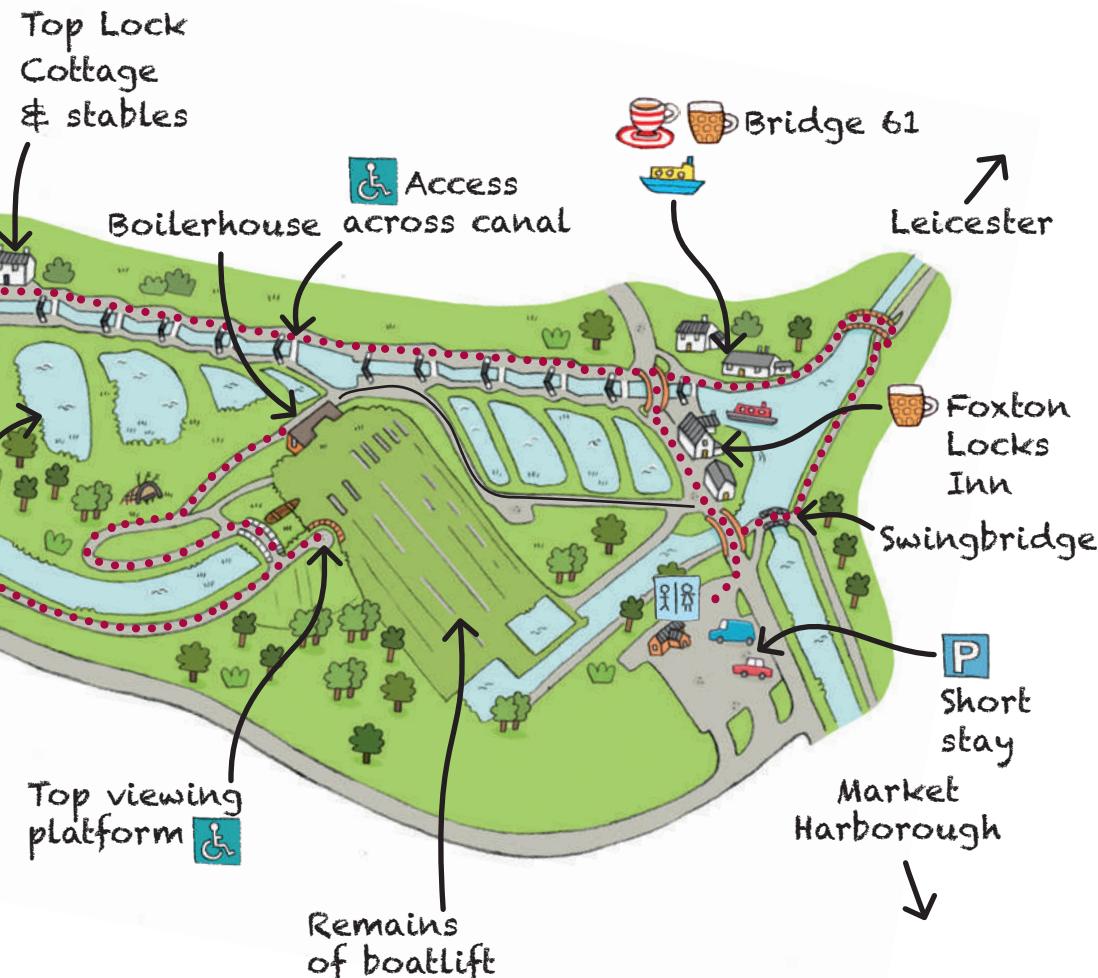
STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge

Little adventures
on your doorstep



Discover Foxton Locks

At Foxton Locks, check out two ingenious ways of getting boats up a steep hill. And find out what happened next!



Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

A little bit of history

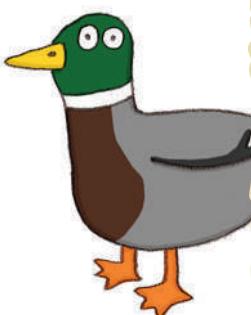
Early canal engineers solved the problem of getting boats up a steep hill at Foxton by building staircase locks. This means they share bottom and top gates. A boat lift was designed to take wider boats up the hill in giant tanks of water. Sadly, it was too expensive to run and closed soon afterwards.



Best of all
it's FREE!*

Five things to do at Foxton Locks

- Spot** the remains of the boat lift from the viewing platform.
- Visit** the Boilerhouse to see how the boat lift worked and discover what a tourist attraction it became in Victorian times.
- Watch** how narrowboats work the locks and find out how they manage to pass each other.
- Take** a boat ride along the Grand Union Canal Leicester Line.
- Find** out about 'Dolly' the canal horse who towed boats along in the early days of canal. Check out her full-size bronze sculpture.



Did you know?...

It's best to feed ducks tasty treats like:

- porridge oats
- rice
- peas
- chopped lettuce
- birdseed

Whilst they will gobble up white bread, crisps and chips its junk food for you and ducks!



Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.

Information

Foxton Locks, Foxton,
Leicestershire
LE16 7RA

Parking (pay & display)

Toilets + baby changing

Café

Pub

Visitor centre

Picnic (on grass)

Boat trips

... Path

Allow half to full day for this visit

* Don't forget:

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Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water



Explore Market Harborough

Market Harborough, on one arm of England's longest canal, is now home to a marina. It's a great place to sit at the water's edge, watch boats and chat to boaters.

A little bit of history

The Market Harborough Arm is one of two branches of the Leicester Line, part of the Grand Union Canal. There are no locks on this stretch of canal just under four miles from Foxton. But there's still plenty to see as boats chug along along the canal to the terminus at Market Harborough.



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Market Harborough

- Watch** boaters prepare to set off on their canal holiday from the marina.
- Visit** craft workshops located in converted canalside buildings.
- Cycle** to Foxton along the towpath and see one of the finest flights of staircase locks in the country.
- Look for** the 'Frank the Plank' sundial and work out the time.
- Explore** the historic town of Market Harborough.



Information

Union Wharf
Leicester Road
Market Harborough
LE16 7UW



Parking
(pay & display)



Café



Pub



Cycling



Path

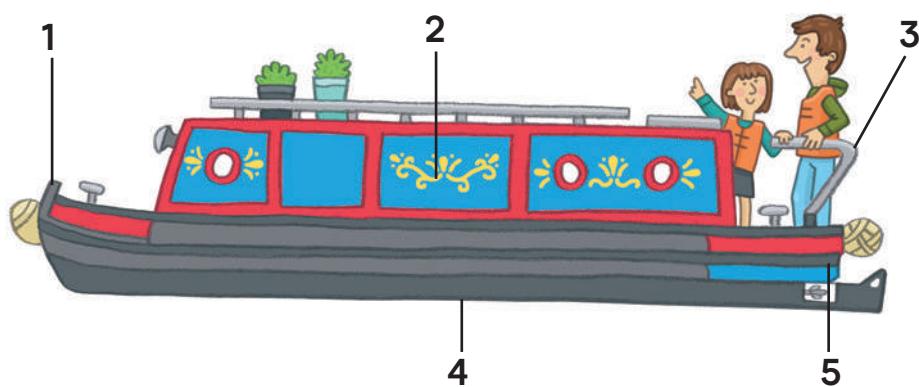


Allow 1-2 hours
for this visit

* Don't forget:

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Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow; 2 cabin; 3 tiller; 4 hull; 5 stern



Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk
to discover lots of fun things to
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A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.





Canal &
River Trust

Making life better by water



Discover Welford Wharf

Once busy with barges laden with limestone for nearby lime kilns, Welford Wharf is now a picture of rural tranquillity. It's a great place for country walks and spotting wildlife.

STAY SAFE:
Stay Away From
the Edge

Map not to scale: covers approx 0.5 miles/0.8km

A little bit of history

Welford Wharf, on the Welford Arm of the Grand Union Canal, was reopened in 1969 after years of neglect. Near the wharf are the remains of old lime kilns, once the largest kiln site on the Grand Union Canal. Limestone was delivered by barge, burnt, turned into lime and used as a fertilizer on the land.



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Welford Wharf

- Put** your walking boots on. Try the Jurassic Way, a long distance walk that passes through Welford Village or the three-mile circular walk around the Welford Arm.
- Wear** wellies and hunt for puddles to splash in.
- Cycle** down the towpath to the lock and stop by the pretty restored canal bridge.
- Pack** binoculars and spot water birds on Welford Reservoir.
- Take** a break in the much-recommended historic canal-side Wharf Inn or the recently opened tearoom in Welford Village.



Information

Welford Wharf
Welford
Northants NN6 6JQ

P Parking (free)

Toilets

Pub

Information point

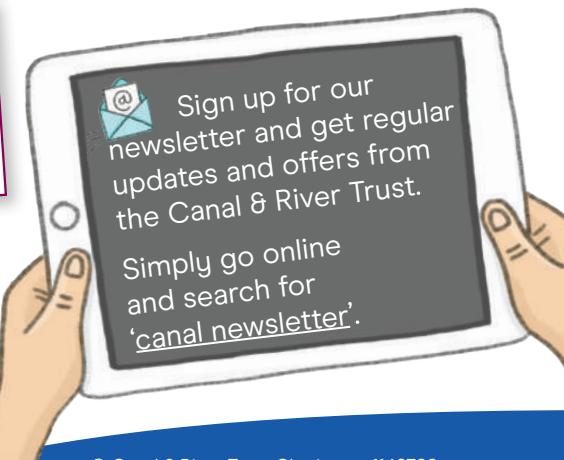
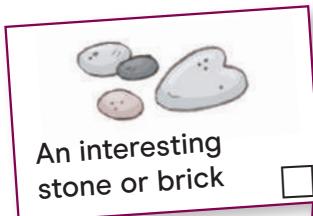
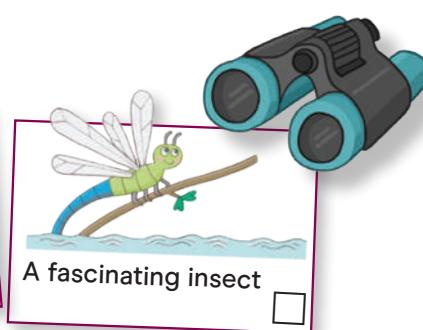
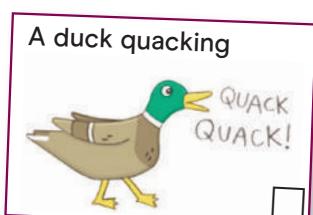
Picnic

••• Path

Allow 1-2 hours for this visit

What to Spot

Explore the waterside together.
How many of these can you spot?



Go to canalriverexplorers.org.uk to discover lots of fun things to do with the family.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.



Canal &
River Trust

Making life better by water



Explore Braunston

Braunston is where the Oxford Canal joins the Grand Union Canal. It's one of the busiest places on the waterways where canals, boats and people meet.

A little bit of history

Braunston was an important depot on the canal system and many former boating families have links to the town. In 1923, a canal boatmen's strike took place here. Hundreds of boats, many carrying perishable goods, were jammed together for fourteen weeks!



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Braunston

- Walk** to Braunston Tunnel past the marina and lock flight. There's no towpath through it so in the early days of canals, boats were 'legged' through and horses led over the top.
- Look out for** traditional 'roses and castles' decoration on narrowboats.
- Check out** quirky canal bridges including the famous iron turnover bridge. Its ingenious design meant the horse didn't have to be unhitched when the towpath changed sides.
- Find** the Stop House where tolls were collected. Charges were based on the amount of cargo carried.
- Visit** All Saints Church known as the Boatman's Church. Many boaters have been christened, married or buried there.

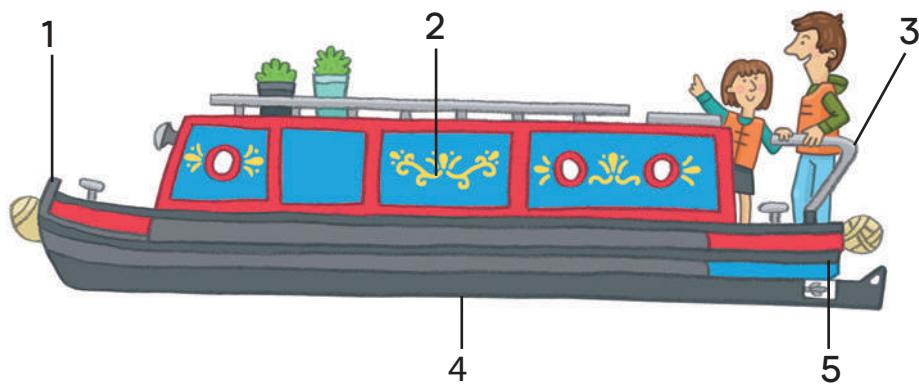


Information

The Wharf, Braunston
Daventry NN11 7JH

- Parking (for pub customers)
- Café
- Pub
- Picnic
- Day hire & holidays
- ... Path
- Allow 2-3 hours for this visit

Can you name the different parts of a narrowboat?



Answers: 1 bow, 2 cabin, 3 tiller, 4 hull, 5 stern

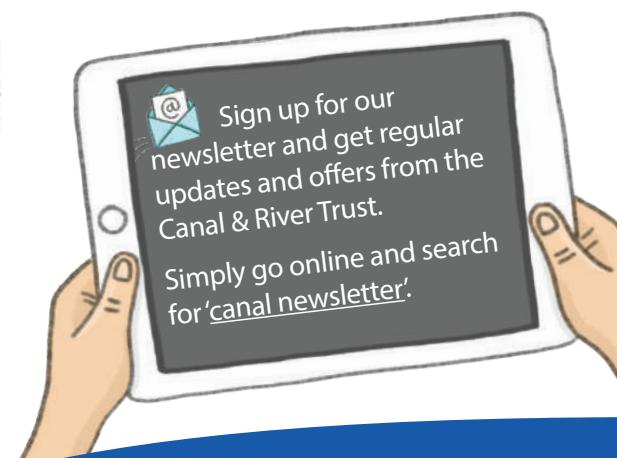


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Discover Boddington Reservoir

Surrounded by lovely Northamptonshire countryside, Boddington Reservoir is an oasis of water, greenery and wildlife. Just the place for family walks and budding nature detectives!



A little bit of history

Boddington Reservoir was completed in 1805 to supply water to the Oxford Canal. Since then, wildlife such as birds, insects and wild flowers have gradually colonised the area. It's famous for some of the best fishing in the country and anglers regularly make the news with record-beating catches.



Best of all
it's FREE!*



Five things to do at Boddington Reservoir

- Pack** a picnic and watch water birds from the banks.
- Walk** round the reservoir and spot insects that thrive near water such as exotic dragonflies and damselflies.
- Take** an early morning walk and bring a camera – it's a great place for taking photographs especially at dawn.
- Go fishing!** It's the perfect place to introduce kids to angling. Fishing permits are available from the Water Bailiff t. 07740 534891.
- Get out** on the water and try sailing.



Did you know?...

Coots have a **white spot** on the front of their head and moorhens have a **bright red beak tipped with yellow**, and a white stripe on their side.



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A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped produce these.

Information

Boddington Reservoir
Boddington Road
Byfield NN11 6XU

Parking (free)

Toilets (in Boddington and Byfield only)

Café (in Boddington and Byfield only)

Pub (in Boddington and Byfield only)

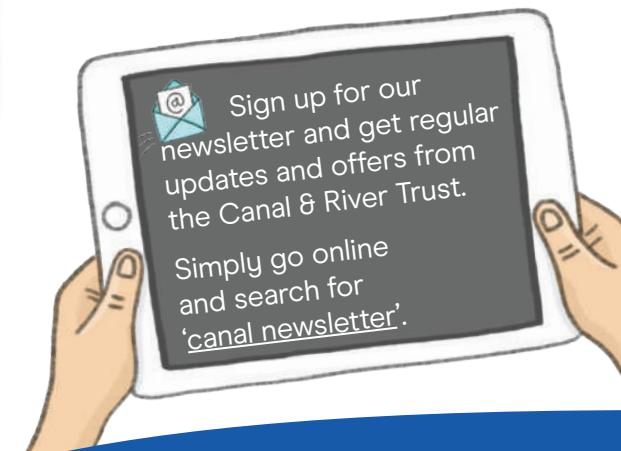
Picnic

••• Path

Allow 2-3 hours for this visit

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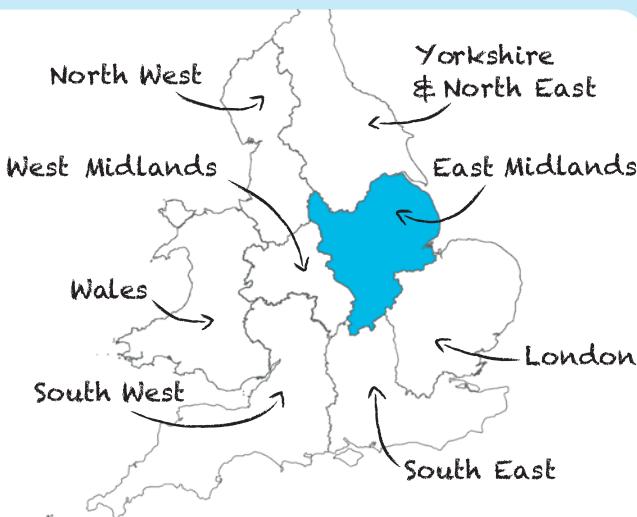




Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

**For more inspiring places
to visit look out for our
other guides.**



A place to walk, somewhere to feed the ducks or a place to simply be. **Life by water is relaxing, friendly and healthy, it makes a difference to how we feel.**

At Canal & River Trust we believe life is better by water. We care for these waterways so they exist for you to enjoy, for free, every day.

Discover, explore, enjoy.



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and get regular updates
and offers from the Canal &
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Simply go online and search
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