

# **Trailable and Portable boat launching locations**

**North Wales & Borders**

**Shropshire Union Middlewich Branch**

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**We would like to thank Derek for kindly putting this  
information together for waterway visitors**

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# Launching Place Grades

## Slipways & Access (Blue numbers: - For large boats on trailers that need slipways)

1. **Excellent.** For 2.3 Mts and wider trailers. Slipways 1.2+ Mts deep at the wet end.
  2. **Good.** For 2.3 Mts wide trailers. Slipways 60 cm to 1 Mtr deep at the wet end.
  3. **Adequate.** For 2.3 Mts wide trailers. The slipway has features requiring very skilful reverse driving, or could have severe launching or retrieving difficulties.
  4. **Poor.** Narrow slipway or shallow at the end. For trailers less than 2.3 Mts wide; or less than 60 cm deep at the wet end.
- .....

## Landing Places & Access (Green numbers: - For boats on roof-racks or trailers that don't need slipways)

1. **Excellent.** For launching all types of portable boats from Kayaks to RIB's with strong crews.
  2. **Good.** For launching kayaks, canoes, small inflatables and sometimes very small dinghies.
  3. **Adequate.** For launching kayaks and canoes.
  4. **Poor.** For launching kayaks only.
- .....

## Parking (Blue or green letters: - For cars, minibuses & trailers)

- a. **Excellent.** Mainly long term booked car parking for vehicles & trailers. Normally has good supervision and spare space. Enclosed and has gates or a barrier and is very secure. Kept locked or locked overnight by staff or users. Pedestrian & vehicle access restricted or monitored.
- b. **Good.** Mainly long or week-end parking for vehicles & trailers. Normally with spare space and sometimes supervised. Mainly enclosed but with no or low gates and not normally locked. Pedestrian & vehicle access at all times.
- c. **Adequate.** Mainly for day or week-end public parking. Long lay-bys/wide verges or small car parks. Sometimes partly enclosed but no supervision. Kerb parking in quiet roads. Sometimes space for trailer parking.
- d. **Poor.** Time limited parking; one day, or 24 hours, or less. Urban street parking. Very small rural lay-bys. Good car parks, but often full in summer. Places with no parking.

**Slipways & Landing Places****Shropshire Union Middlewich Branch****53.10872, 002.57972 Starting at Barbridge Junction**

<b>Index No.</b>	<b>Latitude N</b>	<b>Longitude W</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Grade</b>
<b>01</b>	53.10939,	002.57864	<b>Midway Boats - Barbridge.</b> <i>(Landing)</i> Private, property of the marina and only available during working hours. Suitable for one day use, week-ends or long trips by anyone.	<b>1b</b>
<b>02</b>	53.12289,	002.50795	<b>Aqueduct Marina - Church Minshull.</b> <i>(Slipway)</i> An excellent concrete slipway ~ built into and over the bank. However it has a difficult 1:20 gradient. Best for group canoe launching and medium or long term parking.	<b>3a</b>
<b>03</b>	53.18816,	002.45036	<b>Shropshire Close – Middlewich.</b> <i>(Landing)</i> An adequate well used grit & mud towpath Landing Place with concrete edges. Most suitable for one day use by local residents. Street kerb parking.	<b>4d</b>
<b>04</b>	53.18693,	002.43970	<b>Kings Lock Boatyard - Middlewich.</b> <i>(Slipway)</i> Very challenging. No space to turn a trailer round in the boatyard while attached to a vehicle. The yard is accessed from the rear of the wide Kings Lock pub car park.	<b>3c</b>

**Finishing at the Junction with the Trent & Mersey at Middlewich**

Index No. <b>01</b>	<b>Waterway &amp; Location</b> Shropshire Union Middlewich Branch ~ Wardle; Midway Boats (Landing)	Grade <b>1b</b>
<b>Latitude:</b> - N 53.10939		<b>Longitude:</b> - W 002.57864
<b>Nearest place:</b> - Wardle.		<b>Photo's:</b> - Three
<b>Contact name:</b> - Steve Batty		<b>Region:</b> - Inland England
<b>Phone No:</b> - 01270 528482		<b>Mobile:</b> - 07831 429899
<b>Email:</b> - sales@midwayboats.co.uk		<b>Fax No:</b> -
<b>Website:</b> - www.midwayboats.co.uk		
<p><b>Landing Details:</b> - Grade: - 1b Updated by DMS ~ July 2013</p> <p>Description: - An excellent concrete wharf landing on the bank. (Photo's below)</p> <p>Access: - Private, property of the marina and only available during working hours.</p> <p>Suitability: - Suitable for one day use, week-ends or long trips by anyone.</p> <p>Drop height to the water: - About 30cm.</p> <p>Amount of boat manoeuvring space: - Ample.</p> <p>Distance from vehicle to the water: - Depends on where other vehicles are parked, if you're lucky boats can be lifted off the vehicle and put straight into the water. Small trailers can use the adjacent 3 Mts wide slipway.</p> <p>Quality, surface, and description of boat carrying route: - Wide gravel &amp; grit wharf with good concrete edging. Some of the road has old asphalt mixed in.</p> <p>Notes: - The old canal bridge you have to cross to reach this site has a very acute hump and trailers longer than about 2 Mts won't make it.</p>		
<p><b>Directions:</b> - Post code for SatNav: - CW5 6BE ~ Fairly urban location.</p> <p>Address: - Midway Boats Ltd., Barbridge Marina, Wardle, Nr. Nantwich, Cheshire.</p> <p>Parking location for vehicle: - Several boatyard car parks. (Part of one is on the photo below)</p> <p>Parking spaces available: - Four or five.</p> <p>Options for trailers: - Not a suitable site for canoe trailers; short trailers for inflatables and dinghies may be parked alongside or close to your car.</p> <p>Parking security: - Open private space but hidden from general public view.</p> <p>Wheel clamps, or other trailer securings are: - Strongly recommended if you have any and use a short trailer.</p> <p>Parking period limits: - Negotiable.</p>		
<p><b>Suitable Boats:</b> -</p> <p>Excellent for: - Canoes, dinghies, small inflatables, and other portable boats with paddles, also for rigid inflatables, heavy dinghies, and similar low boats with engines if on a roof rack, but if you have a trailer no longer than about 3 Mts that will cross the acute hump backed bridge you can use the slipway instead.</p>		
<p><b>Local facilities for:</b> –</p> <p>On site there is a water tap and rubbish disposal.</p> <p>Nearby is a pub with good food and toilets.</p> <p>Camp site: - <b>Unknown.</b></p>		

**Charges: -**

Boating licence: - You will need a C&RT licence to use the canal or some alternative.  
A variety of these are available from: - [www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/boating/licensing](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/boating/licensing)

Boat launching each way: - Enquire.

Parking cost: - Enquire.

**Navigational Hazards:-**

None known.

The date of the photo/s below is: - July 2013.



Index No. <b>02</b>	<b>Waterway &amp; Location</b> Shropshire Union Canal Middlewich Branch ~ Church Minshull; Aqueduct Marina (Slipway)	Grade <b>3a</b>
<b>Latitude</b> N 53.12289	<b>Longitude:</b> W 002.50795	
<b>Nearest place:</b> - Church Minshull village	<b>Photo's:</b> - Three	
<b>Contact name:</b> - Robert Parton	<b>Region:</b> - Inland England	
<b>Phone No:</b> - 07850 203631	<b>Mobile:</b> -	
<b>Email:</b> - robert.p@aqueductmarina.co.uk	<b>Fax No:</b> -	
<b>Website:</b> - www.aqueductmarina.co.uk	<i>Nb. The marina was invited to review all the details.</i>	
<p><b>Ramp Description:</b> - Grade: - 3a      Updated by DMS ~ July 2013</p> <p>Slipway access: - Private, property of the marina and available 0800 – 1700 Mon to Fri and Sunday 0900 - 1700 by prior arrangement only, please book.</p> <p>Type: - An excellent concrete constructed slipway ~ built into and over the bank. (Photo's below)</p> <p>Slipway useable width: - 5 Mts.</p> <p>Length of the slope above the water: - 30 Mts.</p> <p>Drop to the water: - 1.45 Mts.</p> <p>Gradient above the water: - 1:20</p> <p>Length of the slope below the water: - 24+ Mts.</p> <p>Depth at the end of the underwater slope: - 1.2+ Mts.</p> <p>Underwater gradient: - 1:20.</p> <p>What's at the end of the concrete: - Unknown.</p> <p>Quality &amp; surface of vehicle manoeuvring area: - A mixture of concrete and compacted gravel &amp; grit of good quality.</p> <p>Amount of long trailer manoeuvring space: - Ample.</p> <p>Crew boarding facility: - None provided alongside the slipway. The nearest wood plank jetty is 3.5 Mts to the port side of the slipway. An excellent place for launching canoes from and is 40cm above the water.</p> <p>Distance for carrying portable boats: - You can reverse a canoe trailer down the ramp, unload your boats and almost lower them straight onto the water.</p> <p>Notes: - From the information given, remember to consider possible retrieval problems. Opened in 2009 this new marina does not yet appear on the Google Earth map above.</p>		
<p><b>Directions:</b> - Post code for SatNav: - CW5 6DX ~ Very rural location.</p> <p>Address: - Aqueduct Marina, The Outlanes, Church Minshull, Nr. Nantwich, Cheshire.</p> <p>Parking location - vehicle: - There are several large car parks; (part of one is shown in the photo below).</p> <p>Parking spaces available: - Plenty of space.</p> <p>Parking for trailer: - May be parked attached to your car or alongside your car.</p> <p>Parking security: - Enclosed, fitted with a coded barrier, only locked overnight but fully staffed daytime.</p> <p>Wheel clamps, or other trailer securings are: - Probably desirable if you have any and use a trailer.</p> <p>Parking period limits: - Negotiable.</p>		

**Suitable Boats: -**

Challenging for: - Residential cabin boats, between about 20ft and 30ft due to the shallow gradient. You would need to reverse a long way into the water, need waders, and perhaps have crew on board as you launch.

Good for: - Groups with canoes.

**Facilities: -**

On-site: - Water, Elsan disposal, rubbish disposal, toilets, showers, Calor gas, chandlery and campsite for groups of canoeists.

**Charges: -**

Boating licence: - You will need a C&RT licence to use the canal. A variety of these are available from: - [www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/boating/licensing](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/boating/licensing)

Slipping Launching cost each way: - Please enquire.

Portable boat launching each way: - Please enquire.

Parking cost: - Please enquire.

**Navigational Hazards:-**

None known.

The date of the photo/s below is: - July 2013.



Index No.	<b>Waterway &amp; Location</b>	Grade
<b>03</b>	Shropshire U Middlewich Branch ~ Middlewich; Shropshire Close (Landing)	<b>4d</b>
<b>Latitude:</b> - N 53.18816		<b>Longitude:</b> - W 002.45036
<b>Nearest place:</b> - Middlewich		<b>Photos:</b> - Three. 08.01.20125 ~ 15.30 pm
<b>Contact name:</b> - N/A		<b>Region:</b> - Inland England
<b>Phone No:</b> - N/A		<b>Mobile:</b> - N/A
<b>Email:</b> - None.		<b>Fax No:</b> - N/A
<b>Website:</b> - None.		
<p><b>Landing Details:</b> - Grade: - 4d                      Compiled by DMS ~ January 2015</p> <p>Description: - An adequate well used grit &amp; mud towpath Landing Place with concrete edges. Most suitable for one day use by local residents. (Left photo below)</p> <p>Access and availability: - Public unrestricted free usage, belongs to the navigation and available any time during daylight hours.</p> <p>Drop height to the water: - About 20 cm.</p> <p>Amount of boat manoeuvring space: - Sufficient.</p> <p>Distance from vehicle to the water: - About 80 Mts. Depending on where you park.</p> <p>Quality, surface, and description of boat carrying route: - From your car carry along the excellent footpath to the bridge and turn right onto the top of the good timber framed and chipping &amp; grit infilled steps. These then turn sharp left and go down to the towpath in line with the bridge. (Center photo below). The launching place is at the foot of the steps.</p> <p>Notes: - Have a look for yourself, zoom in on the map above and switch to satellite view.</p>		
<p><b>Directions:</b> - Post code for SatNav: - CW10 9ES ~ urban location.</p> <p>Address: - Next to 9, Shropshire Close, Middlewich, Cheshire.</p> <p>Parking location for vehicle: - Kerbside, as close to the footpath as you can park. Avoid mid-afternoons when schools close. (Right photo) There are also 2-3 spaces over the bridge in Westbury Close.</p> <p>Parking spaces available: - Four or five.</p> <p>Options for trailers: - Not suitable for this site.</p> <p>Parking security: - Open public space in clear view of anyone passing.</p> <p>Parking period limits: - Unrestricted.</p>		
<p><b>Suitable Boats:</b> -</p> <p>Challenging for: - Kayaks. (Unsuitable for larger boats).</p>		

**Local facilities on-site: -**

None known.

**Nearby: -**

Pub with food: - **Unknown.**

Shops: - **Unknown.**

Supermarket: - **Unknown.**

Camp site: - **Unknown.**

Nearest bus stop/train station: - **Unknown.**

Other: - **Unknown.**

**Charges: -**

Boating licence: - You will need a C&RT licence to use the canal. A variety of these are available from: - [www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/boating/licensing](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/boating/licensing) (Some canoeists may have an alternative permit)

Boat launching each way: - **Free.**

Vehicle Parking: - **Free.**

**Navigational Hazards:-**

None known.

The date of the photo/s below is: - January 2015.



Index No. <b>04</b>	<b>Waterway &amp; Location</b> Shropshire U Middlewich Branch ~ Middlewich; Northwich Boat Company (Slipway)	Grade <b>3c</b>
<b>Latitude:</b> - N 53.18693	<b>Longitude:</b> - W 002.43970	
<b>Nearest place:</b> - Middlewich	<b>Photos:</b> - Three. 08.01.2015 ~ 14.30 pm	
<b>Contact name:</b> - Paul	<b>Region:</b> - Inland England	
<b>Phone No:</b> - 01270 760160	<b>Mobile:</b> - 07970 151996	
<b>Email:</b> - tech@carefreecruising.com	<b>Fax No:</b> -	
<b>Website:</b> - www.thenorthwichboat.com		
<p><b>Ramp Description:</b> - Grade: - 3c                      Compiled by DMS ~ January 2015</p> <p>Slipway Type: - Good concrete slipway dug deep into, and part of, the very wide by-pass culvert for Kings Lock. Fitted with recessed guides for a narrowboat maintenance trolley. Most suitable for week-end use or holiday touring trips. (Left photo below)</p> <p>Access: - Private, property of Elton Moss boatbuilders, and only available by prior arrangement, please phone during working hours and book.</p> <p>Useable width: - 3.2 Mts.</p> <p>Length of the slope above the water: - 24 Mts.</p> <p>Drop to the water: - 2.5 Mts.</p> <p>Therefore gradient above the water: - 9:1</p> <p>Length of the slope below the water: - 12 Mts.</p> <p>Depth at the end of the underwater slope: - 1.2 Mts.</p> <p>Therefore underwater gradient: - 10:1</p> <p>What's at the end of the concrete: - It's uncertain where the concrete ends and the mud starts.</p>		
<p>Quality &amp; surface of vehicle manoeuvring area: - Concrete of excellent quality.</p> <p>Amount of trailer manoeuvring space: - Very challenging. No space to turn a trailer round in the boatyard while attached to a vehicle. The yard is accessed from the rear of the wide Kings Lock pub car park. (Right photo). You will need to turn round in the car park and execute a very long, curving, 180° reverse onto the slipway. The yard will need to be clear of other vehicles and you will need guidance if you have a long trailer.</p> <p>Quality &amp; type of crew boarding facility: - Good quality. Remove your trailer, pull the boat back into the slip and use the wharf in the slip cutting.</p> <p>Height above the water: - About 40 cm.</p> <p>Distance for carrying portable boats: - You can reverse unload your boat at the slipway and lower it straight onto the water.</p> <p>Notes: - From the information given, remember to consider possible retrieval problems. Have a look for yourself, zoom in on the map above and switch to satellite view.</p>		
<p><b>Directions:</b> - Post code for SatNav: - CW10 0JJ ~ urban location.</p> <p>Address: - Kings Lock Boatyard, Booth Lane, Middlewich Cheshire.</p> <p>Parking location - vehicle: - Pub car park. A common practice and they are quite relaxed about it. No need to phone. (Right photo)</p> <p>Parking spaces available for: - Three or four units.</p> <p>Parking for trailer: - May be parked attached to your car or alongside your car. Depending on available space.</p> <p>Parking security: - Open public space in clear view of anyone passing.</p> <p>Wheel clamps, or other trailer securings are: - Strongly recommended if you have any.</p> <p>Parking period limits: - Unrestricted.</p>		

**Suitable Boats: -**

Good for: - Residential shorter cabin boats, up to about 22ft. (Unsuitable for larger boats due to poor manoeuvring space).

Excellent for: - Portable rigid inflatables, heavy dinghies, and similar low boats with engines. (If permitted)

Good for: - canoes, dinghies, small inflatables, and other portable boats with paddles. (If permitted)

**Local facilities on-site: -**

Water tap, Elsan disposal, rubbish disposal, toilets, showers, Calor gas, outboard repairs, launderette, other, overnight moorings

**Nearby: -**

Chandlery: - Excellent chandlery next door.

Petrol: - Unknown.

Nearest bus stop/train station: - Unknown.

Camp site for canoeists: - Unknown.

Supermarket: - Unknown.

Other: - Unknown.

Restaurant: - Unknown.

Shops: - Unknown.

Pub with food: - Pub next door has a snacks menu.

**Charges: -**

Boating licence: - You will need a C&RT licence to use the canal. A variety of these are available from: - [www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/boating/licensing](http://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/boating/licensing). (Some canoeists may have an alternative permit.)

Slipping cost each way: - Please enquire for all prices.

Group & individual canoe launching each way: - Please enquire.

Vehicle Parking: - Free.

Trailer Parking: - Free.

**Navigational Hazards:-**

None known.

The date of the photo/s below is: - January 2015.

