



# Canal & River Trust

Making life better by water

## Explore Crofton

The Kennet & Avon Canal has brilliant examples of early canal engineering. The magnificent Crofton Pumping Station is one of the best!



Little adventures on your doorstep



### Crofton Beam Engines

Access: cross the canal at Lock 60, take the tunnel under the railway line and then go up the staircase to the pumping station

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

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

## A little bit of history

All canals need a water supply. The challenge at Crofton was to get water to the western end of the Kennet & Avon Canal, as it reached the summit. John Rennie, the famous canal engineer, built a pumping station with two steam pumps to lift water 40 feet (12 m) to the summit of the canal. Opened in 1809. It's still going strong today!

Best of all  
it's FREE!\*

### Five things to do at Crofton

- A visit** to the pumping station is always a great day out but it's especially good when the engines are 'in steam'. Check steam days [croftonbeamengines.org](http://croftonbeamengines.org).
- Visit Wilton Water**, a reservoir fed by natural springs – that Rennie created to supply water to the pumping station.
- Watch** boats passing through the locks.
- Have a picnic** overlooking the canal.
- Cycle** along the towpath to Bruce Tunnel (1.3 miles/2 km) named after the Earl of Ailsbury, the local landowner who insisted on a tunnel instead of a deep cut.

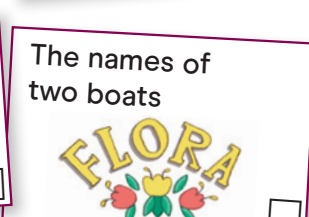
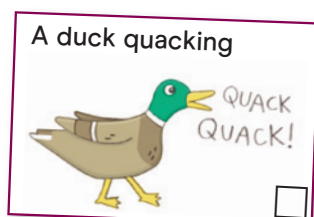
### Information

Off Crofton Road  
Crofton SN8 3DW

-  Parking (pay & display)
-  Toilets
-  Café
-  Information
-  Cycling
-  Path
-  Allow 3-4 hours for this visit

### What to Spot

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



#### \* 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](http://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.